

A SNAPSHOT OF UK WORLD HERITAGE SITES

- 01. BLAENAVON INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE, Wales**
The area around Blaenavon is evidence of the pre-eminence of South Wales as the world's major producer of iron and coal in the 19th Century. All the necessary elements can still be seen - coal and ore mines, quarries, a primitive railway system, furnaces, workers' homes, and the social infrastructure of their community.

 - visitblaenavon.co.uk
 - bit.ly/unescoblaenavon
- 02. BLENHEIM PALACE, Oxford**
The Palace stands in a romantic park created by the landscape gardener 'Capability' Brown. It was given to John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, for his victory in 1704 over French and Bavarian troops. Built between 1705 and 1722 and characterized by an eclectic style and a return to national roots, it is a perfect example of an 18th Century princely dwelling.

 - blenheimpalace.com
 - bit.ly/unescoblenheim
- 03. CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL AND RELATED SITES, Kent**
Canterbury, in Kent, has been the seat of the spiritual head of the Church of England for nearly five centuries. Related monuments are the Church of St Martin, the oldest church in England; the ruins of the Abbey of St Augustine, and Christ Church Cathedral, a breathtaking mixture of Romanesque and Perpendicular Gothic architecture.

 - bit.ly/canterburycathwhs
 - bit.ly/unescoconterbury
- 04. GWYNEDD CASTLES AND TOWN WALLS OF KING EDWARD, Wales**
The castles of Beaumaris and Harlech and the fortified complexes of Caernarfon and Conwy are extremely well-preserved monuments and are examples of the colonization and defence works carried out in Wales throughout the reign of Edward I (1272-1307) and the military architecture of the time.

 - bit.ly/gwyneddcastles
 - bit.ly/unescowynedd
- 05. CITY OF BATH, South West England**
A well-preserved Roman spa survives at Britain's only hot springs. The City was totally remodelled in the 18th Century with elegant neoclassical Palladian buildings laid out in terraces and crescents, built in harmony with the surrounding countryside. This Georgian spa has a second inscription as a component part of the trans-national 'Great Spa Towns of Europe' inscription.

 - bathworldheritage.org.uk
 - bit.ly/unescobath
- 06. MINING LANDSCAPE OF CORNWALL AND WEST DEVON, South West England**
Radical reshaping of the region's landscape during the 18th and 19th Centuries resulted from rapid growth of copper and tin mining. An extensive legacy of mines, engine houses, ports, canals, railways, industries and settlement remain. These reflect the rapidly developed mining innovation that was exported around the world.

 - cornishmining.org.uk
 - bit.ly/unescomining
- 07. DERWENT VALLEY MILLS, Central England**
The Valley contains a series of 18th and 19th Century intact cotton mills and associated historic industrial landscapes and settlements. Modern factory technology owes its origins to the water driven spinning mills at Cromford, where Richard Arkwright's inventions resulted in the birth of industrial-scale production.

 - derwentvalleymills.org
 - bit.ly/unescoderwent
- 08. DORSET AND EAST DEVON COAST, South West England**
The cliff exposures along the Dorset and East Devon coast provide an almost continuous sequence of rock formations spanning the Mesozoic Era, or some 185 million years of the earth's history. Also known as the 'Jurassic Coast', the area's important fossil sites and classic coastal geomorphologic features have contributed to the study of earth sciences for over 300 years.

 - jurassiccoast.org
 - bit.ly/unescodorset
- 09. DURHAM CASTLE AND CATHEDRAL, Northern England**
The Cathedral was built in the late 11th and early 12th Centuries to house the relics of St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede. It attests to the importance of the early Benedictine monastic community. Foreshadowing Gothic architecture, it is the largest and finest example of Norman architecture in England. The adjacent, ancient Norman castle was the residence of the prince-bishops of Durham.

 - bit.ly/durhamwhs
 - bit.ly/unescodurham
- 10. THE ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT, North West England**
An extensive and self contained mountainous lakeland modelled by glaciers and shaped by particular agro-pastoral landuse systems. The harmony and drama of the landscapes inspired the 18th Century literature and paintings of the Picturesque and late Romantic movements. Awareness of landscape beauty inspired and triggered early preservation efforts.

 - lakesworldheritage.co.uk
 - bit.ly/unescolakes
- 11. THE FORTH BRIDGE, Scotland**
Opened in 1890 and crossing the Forth estuary, the railway bridge had the world's longest spans (541 m). It remains one of the greatest cantilever trussed bridges, marking an important milestone in bridge design and continues to carry rail traffic today. Its innovative style and distinctive industrial aesthetic is the result of a forthright and unadorned display of its structural components.

 - theforthbridges.org
 - bit.ly/unescoforth
- 12. FRONTIERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, Northern England; Scotland**
The Northern border line of the Roman Empire stretched from Britain through Europe to the Red Sea. In the UK, Hadrian's Wall, built c.AD122 (118km in length) is a striking example of the organisation of a Roman military zone. The Antonine Wall/earthworks across Scotland was started in AD142 (60km in length) as defence against the 'barbarians' of the north.

 - hadrianswallcountry.co.uk
 - antoninewall.org
 - bit.ly/unescofrontiers
- 13. GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, Northern Ireland**
A spectacular area of geological importance on the sea coast of the Antrim plateau. The most characteristic and unique feature is the exposure of 40,000 massive regularly shaped black basalt columns created 50-60 million years ago and now forming cliffs and a pavement sticking out from the sea. Studies of these formations over the last 300 years greatly contributed to the development of the earth sciences.

 - bit.ly/ntgiants
 - bit.ly/unescoigants
- 14. THE GREAT SPA TOWNS OF EUROPE, Bath and 10 other towns in six more countries**
Representing the heyday of the European spa phenomenon, 11 towns from 7 countries demonstrate the special urban development forms of these settlements which attracted a prestigious clientele. All use natural springs for curative and leisure purposes, complemented by beautiful landscape settings. Bath is the UK component site, joining towns from Austria, Belgium, Czechia, France, Germany and Italy.

 - greatspatownsofeurope.eu
 - bit.ly/unescoapatowns
- 15. HEART OF NEOLITHIC ORKNEY, Scotland**
The group of monuments consists of a chambered tomb (Maes Howe), two ceremonial stone circles (the Stones of Stenness/ the Ring of Brodgar) and a settlement (Skara Brae), together with a number of unexcavated burial, ceremonial and settlement sites. This prehistoric cultural landscape is clear evidence of life in this remote, northern archipelago 5,000 years ago.

 - bit.ly/horskney
 - bit.ly/unescoorkney
- 16. IRONBRIDGE GORGE, Central West England**
Well known as a symbol of the Industrial Revolution, Ironbridge contains all the elements of progress that contributed to the rapid development of this 18th Century industrial region. The Bridge, the world's first constructed of iron, had a considerable influence on developments in the fields of technology and architecture. The blast furnace of Coalbrookdale (1708), is a reminder of the discovery of coke.

 - ironbridgegorgewhs.co.uk
 - bit.ly/unescoironbridge
- 17. JODRELL BANK OBSERVATORY, Central West England**
One of the world's leading radio astronomy observatories. This observatory, still in operation, is an exceptional technological ensemble including several radio telescopes and working buildings, illustrating the transition from traditional optical astronomy to radio astronomy (1940s to 1960s) which led to radical changes in the understanding of the universe.

 - jodrellbank.net
 - bit.ly/unescojodrell
- 18. MARITIME GREENWICH, London**
The ensemble of buildings at Greenwich, and their setting, symbolise English artistic and scientific endeavour in the 17th and 18th Centuries. The Queen's House (by Inigo Jones) was the first Palladian building in England, while the complex that was until recently the Royal Naval College was designed by Christopher Wren. The park, based on an original design by André Le Nôtre, contains the Old Royal Observatory.

 - greenwichworldheritage.org
 - bit.ly/unescogreenwich
- 19. NEW LANARK, Scotland**
New Lanark is a small 18th Century village set in a sublime landscape where the philanthropist and Utopian idealist Robert Owen moulded a model industrial community in the early 19th Century. The imposing cotton mill buildings, the spacious and well-designed workers' housing, and the dignified educational institute and school still testify to Owen's humanism.

 - bit.ly/newlanarkscotwhs
 - bit.ly/unesconewlanark
- 20. OLD AND NEW TOWNS OF EDINBURGH, Scotland**
The City has been the Scottish capital since the 15th Century. It has two distinct areas: the Old Town, dominated by a medieval fortress; and the neoclassical New Town, whose development from the 18th Century onwards had a far-reaching influence on European urban planning. The harmonious juxtaposition of these two contrasting historic areas, each with many important buildings, gives the city its unique character.

 - bit.ly/hsedinburghwhs
 - bit.ly/unescoedinburgh
- 21. PALACE OF WESTMINSTER AND RELATED SITES, London**
Westminster Palace, rebuilt from the year 1840 on the site of important medieval remains, is a fine example of neo-Gothic architecture. The Site - which also comprises the small medieval Church of Saint Margaret, built in Perpendicular Gothic style, and Westminster Abbey, where all the sovereigns since the 11th Century have been crowned - is of great historic and symbolic significance.

 - westminster-abbey.org
 - bit.ly/unescowestminster
- 22. PONTCYSYLLTE AQUEDUCT AND CANAL, North East Wales**
The 18 kilometre long aqueduct and canal is a feat of civil engineering of the Industrial Revolution, completed early in the 19th Century. Challenging topography required bold design solutions. The monumental and elegant aqueduct is a pioneering masterpiece of engineering and metal architecture, conceived by the celebrated civil engineer Thomas Telford.

 - pontcysyllte-aqueduct.co.uk
 - bit.ly/unescopontcysyllte
- 23. ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, London**
The historic landscape gardens and features illustrate significant periods of the art of gardens from the 18th to the 20th Centuries. The botanic collections (conserved plants, living plants and documents) have been considerably enriched through the centuries. Since their creation in 1759, the gardens have made a significant and uninterrupted contribution to the study of plant diversity and economic botany globally.

 - bit.ly/kewwhs
 - bit.ly/unescokew
- 24. ST KILDA, Hebrides, Scotland**
The spectacular landscapes of the volcanic archipelago comprise the islands of Hirta, Dun, Soay and Boreray. Including some of Europe's highest cliffs and large colonies of rare and endangered birds, the archipelago has been uninhabited since 1930. They bear evidence of over 2000 years of human occupation adapted to the extreme and exposed conditions of the Hebrides.

 - nts.org.uk
 - bit.ly/unescozilla
- 25. SALTAIRE, West Yorkshire**
A complete and well-preserved industrial village of the second half of the 19th Century. Its harmonious textile mills, public buildings and workers' housing are of high architectural standards and the urban plan survives intact. It is an example of Victorian philanthropic paternalism which had a profound influence on developments in industrial social welfare and urban planning in the UK and beyond.

 - bit.ly/saltairwhs
 - bit.ly/unescosaltaire
- 26. THE SLATE LANDSCAPE OF NORTHWEST WALES**
This post-industrial landscape holds a special place in the hearts of the people who live here and the cultural and social influence is still significant today. The site tells the story of evolution from an agricultural society to an area where industry dominated the landscape; where slate quarries, towns and villages appeared, and transport links carved their way through Snowdonia to ports that exported slate to global markets.

 - llechi.cymru
 - bit.ly/unescoslate
- 27. STONEHENGE, AVEBURY AND ASSOCIATED SITES, Southern England**
Stonehenge is the most architecturally sophisticated prehistoric stone circle in the world, while Avebury is the largest. Together with inter-related monuments, and their associated landscapes, they demonstrate around 2000 continuous years of Neolithic and Bronze Age ceremonial and mortuary practices, and monument building. These were constructed between circa 3700 and 1600 BC.

 - bit.ly/stonehengewhs
 - bit.ly/unescostonehenge
- 28. STUDLEY ROYAL PARK AND THE RUINS OF FOUNTAINS ABBEY, Yorkshire**
An elegant 18th Century water garden in the 'English Style' incorporates the ruins of Fountains Abbey, some of the largest Cistercian abbey ruins in Europe. The water gardens and abbey share the landscape with a deer park, Jacobean mansion Fountains Hall and a magnificent Victorian church designed by William Burges.

 - bit.ly/ntstudleywhs
 - bit.ly/unescostudley

UK OVERSEAS WORLD HERITAGE SITES

- 29. TOWER OF LONDON**
The massive White Tower, with its strategic position on the River Thames, is a typical example of Norman military architecture, whose influence was felt throughout the kingdom. It was built by William the Conqueror in 1066 to protect London and assert his power. A rare survivor of a continuously developing ensemble of royal buildings, The Tower of London is an imposing fortress with many layers of history and has become one of the symbols of royalty.

 - bit.ly/toweroflondonwhs
 - bit.ly/unescotoweroflondon
- 30. GORHAM'S CAVE COMPLEX, Gibraltar**
Four caves with archaeological and paleontological deposits that provide evidence of Neanderthal occupation over a span of more than 100,000 years.

 - bit.ly/gorhamscaevwhs
 - bit.ly/unescoigorhams
- 31. GOUGH AND INACCESSIBLE ISLANDS, South Atlantic**
The Site, located in the south Atlantic, is one of the least-disrupted island and marine ecosystems in the cool temperate zone.

 - bit.ly/goughislands
 - bit.ly/unescoigorhams
- 32. HENDERSON ISLAND, South Pacific**
One of the few atolls in the world whose ecology has been practically untouched by a human presence.

 - bit.ly/hendersonwhs
 - bit.ly/unescohenderson
- 33. TOWN OF ST GEORGE AND RELATED FORTIFICATIONS, Bermuda**
Founded in 1612, the town is an outstanding example of the earliest English urban settlement in the New World.

 - bit.ly/stgeorgetownwhs
 - bit.ly/unescostgeorge

DELISTED SITE
LIVERPOOL - MARITIME MERCANTILE CITY, Northwest England
The buildings and features in the historic centre and docklands of the City reflect the development of one of the world's major trading centres at the heart of the British Empire in the 18th and 19th Centuries. It was the major port for the mass movement of people, from Europe to America, and Liverpool pioneered modern dock technology and management.

- bit.ly/liverpoolwhs
- bit.ly/unescoliverpool

KEY TO SITE TYPE

- Cultural
- Natural
- Mixed

WORLD HERITAGE UK



worldheritageuk.org

UNESCO



bit.ly/ukwhslist