

WORLD HERITAGE

2019-2020



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

World Heritage Committee



Coordinated by the National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO

Set amongst rice, tea and tobacco fields, the 46 multi-family homes of Fujian Tulou ("earthen houses") nestle in the green hillsides of southeastern China. From the 15th to the 20th centuries, they were built of wood, stone and mud along an inward-looking, circular or square floor plan as housing for up to 100 people each. In contrast with their plain exterior, the inside of the Tulou were built for comfort, and were often highly decorated. They were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2008 as exceptional examples of a building tradition and function exemplifying a particular type of communal living and defensive organization, and, in terms of their harmonious relationship with the natural environment, an outstanding example of human settlement.

Title photo: U. Wöhring

The World Heritage emblem symbolizes the interdependence of the world's natural and cultural diversity. The central square represents the achievements of human skill and inspiration, and the circle celebrates the gifts of nature. The emblem is round, like the world, a symbol of global protection for the heritage of all humankind.

The Earthen Architecture Conservation Programme works toward conserving and revitalizing earthen architecture, which is threatened by natural disasters and industrialization. Currently, some one hundred properties on the World Heritage List are partially or totally built with earth.

World Heritage sites are inscribed on the List on the basis of their merits as forming a significant contribution to the cultural and natural heritage of the world. Their outstanding universal value is considered to go beyond national boundaries and to be of importance for future generations.

Conserving the diversity of life on Earth is critical to global human welfare. With the support of the World Heritage Convention, the most important biodiversity sites receive international recognition as well as technical and financial assistance to deal with threats such as agricultural encroachment, alien species and poaching.

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, at its General Conference, Paris, 16 November 1972.

EXTRACTS

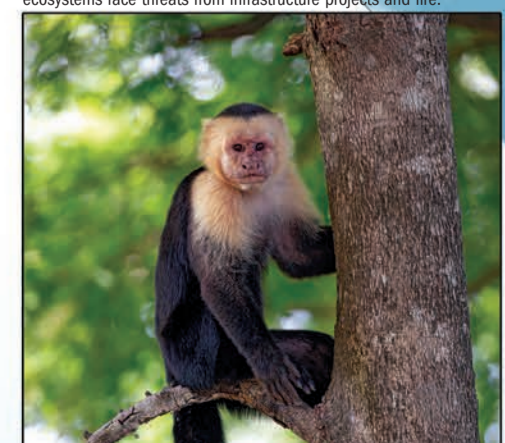
... parts of the cultural or natural heritage are of outstanding interest and therefore need to be preserved as part of the world heritage of humankind as a whole.

... [with] the magnitude and gravity of the new dangers threatening... (the world's heritage), it is incumbent on the international community as a whole to participate in the protection of the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value...

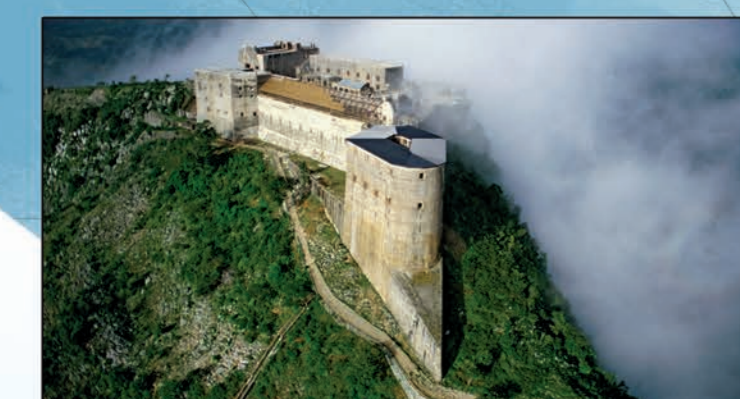
An Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value, called "the World Heritage Committee", is... established within UNESCO.

... the Committee shall establish... under the title of "World Heritage List", a list of the properties forming part of the cultural heritage and natural heritage... which it considers as having outstanding universal value...

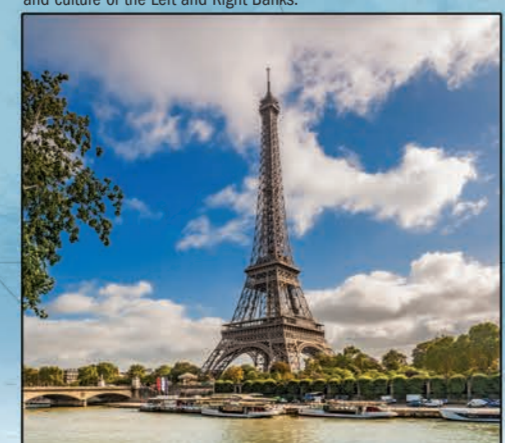
The grand historic landmarks of Paris, from the Eiffel Tower to Notre Dame Cathedral and Sainte Chapelle, overlook the curved banks of the Seine. For centuries, stone and iron bridges across the liquid heart of the city have linked the people, commerce and culture of the Left and Right Banks.



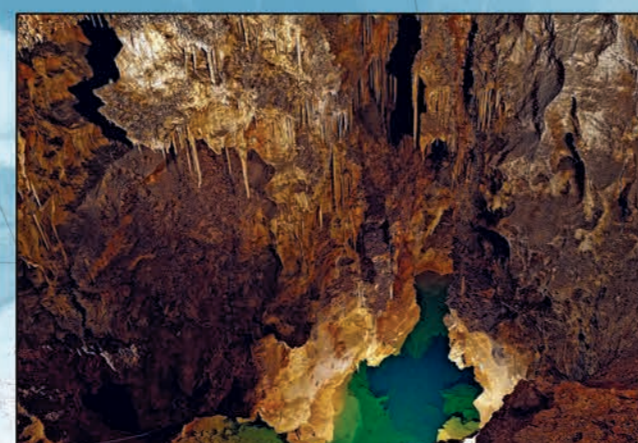
White-faced capuchin monkeys are among 140 species of mammals in Costa Rica's Area de Conservación Guanacosta. From protected waters in the Pacific to lowland forests, the region hosts 570 bird species, including endangered hummingbirds and macaws. Diverse ecosystems face threats from infrastructure projects and fire.



From 1805 to 1820, thousands of formerly enslaved workers constructed the Citadel, the largest fortress in the Americas. The Palace of San Seba and the Banners fortifications in northern Haiti. These massive stone monuments were built to celebrate and defend the nation's independence from France after a 14-year struggle against colonial rule.



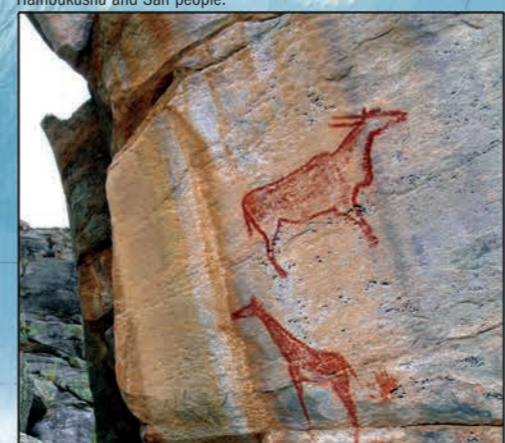
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Tens of millions of years of geological history are visible in the 312 Caves of Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst on the border of Hungary and Slovakia. The extraordinary wonderland of stalactites, stalagmites and lakes draws 300,000 visitors each year, but 99 percent of the caves remain in pristine condition.



Petrified trees from trees stand like sentinels among the red dunes of the Namib Sand Sea. Covering over 20,000 square kilometers along Namibia's coast, the desert is often blanketed in fog, providing moisture for plants and animals adapted to the extreme environment.



A gallery of more than 4,000 paintings covers the gray and copper-colored rocks of the Tsodilo Hills in northern Botswana. The images preserve the history of humans and animals in the area, which spans at least 100,000 years. The quartzite hills are sacred to the indigenous HamarArchie and San people.



Madagascar's Socotra Archipelago is known as the Galapagos of the Indian Ocean because the islands are a haven for unique plants, birds and reptiles, many of which live nowhere else. The red sap of the dragon's blood trees has been prized for its medicinal and other uses since ancient times.



From 626 to 539 a.c., Babylon was the capital of a great empire, through its history stretches back to the third millennium a.c., and it evolved into a center of Mesopotamian civilization from the 19th century a.c. After years of conflict and instability, its archaeological treasures are now better protected.



Over 5,000 Komodo dragons, the largest lizards in the world, roam Indonesia's Komodo National Park. In the tropical waters surrounding the park's islands, sport divers can swim among hundreds of species of fish, corals and sharks—and may glimpse gauging dragons, known as "sea cows".

From the vast plains of the Serengeti to historic cities such as Vienna, Lima and Kyoto; from the prehistoric rock art on the Iberian Peninsula to the Statue of Liberty; from the Kasbah of Algiers to the Imperial Palace in Beijing — all of these places, as varied as they are, have one thing in common. All are World Heritage sites of outstanding cultural or natural value to humanity and are worthy of protection for future generations to know and enjoy.

Key

- 1 Cultural property
- 2 Natural property
- 3 Mixed property (cultural and natural)
- 4 Transnational property
- 5 Property currently inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

See country index on the back side of map for site listings.

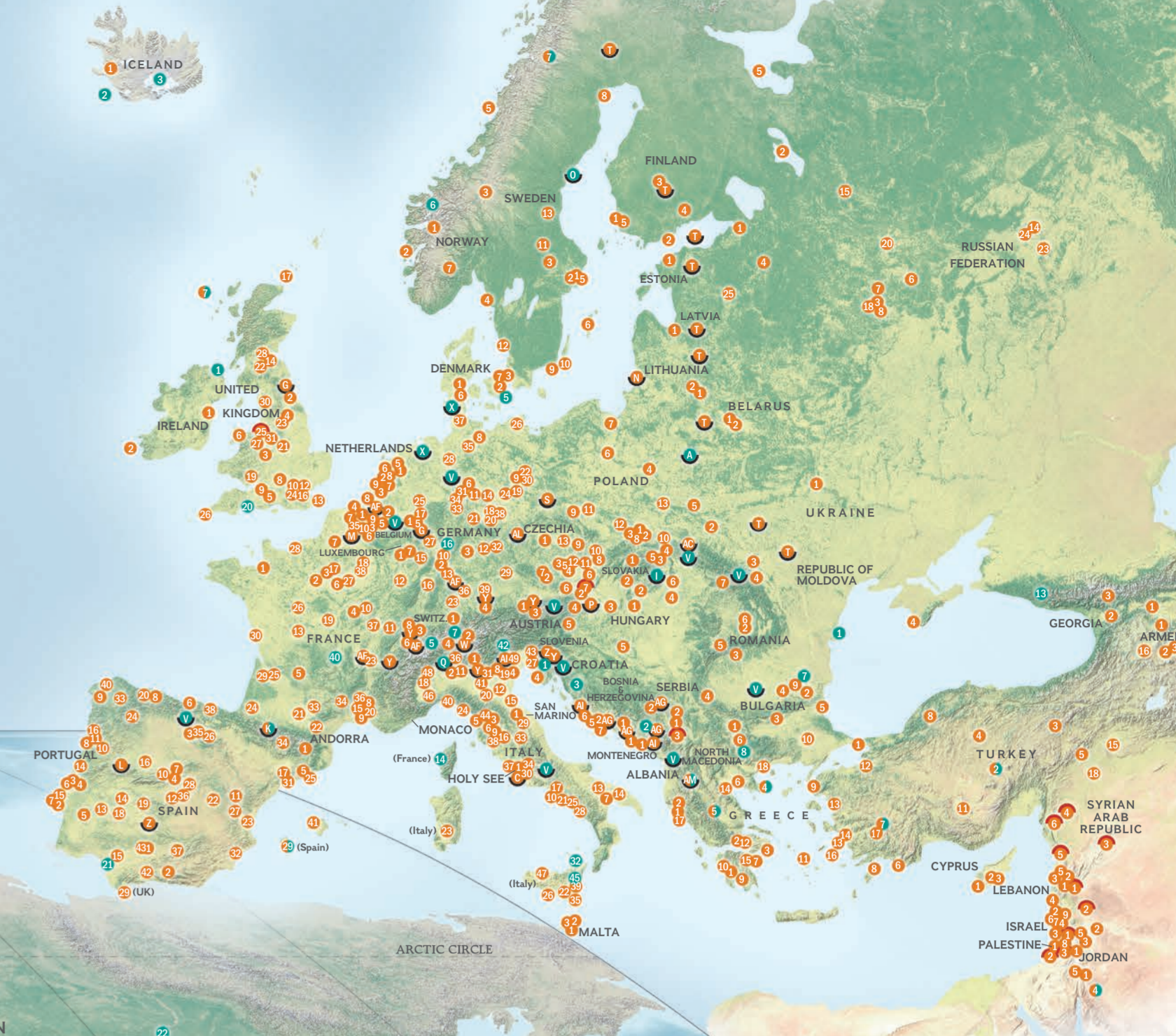
Number indicates site order by year of inscription within each country.

Letters are assigned to transnational properties in the order of their inscription on the List.

Only States Parties to the World Heritage Convention are labeled on this map.

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The World Heritage Cities Programme seeks to protect living historic city centres and their cultural and architectural heritage from threats such as uncontrolled development or inappropriate construction.

The World Heritage Marine Programme helps countries nominate marine sites and manage them effectively to ensure that they will thrive for future generations. There are currently 50 marine sites on the World Heritage List.

Cultural heritage refers to monuments, buildings and sites with historical, aesthetic, archaeological, scientific, ethnological or anthropological value. Natural heritage refers to outstanding physical, biological or geological features and includes habitats of threatened species, as well as areas with scientific, environmental or aesthetic value. Mixed sites have both cultural and natural values.

The World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme helps visitors discover World Heritage sites while encouraging respect of the environment and local cultures and enhancing community livelihoods.

Robinson Projection
SCALE 1:43,720,000

The reduced scale of the map and the cartographic projections have resulted in approximate locations of some properties.

Land cover data: Tom Patterson
Global States National Park Service
Tree: Shelley Sperry
Design and production: National Geographic Maps

Albers Conic Equal Area Projection

The Small Islands Programme focuses on preserving heritage on the islands of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.

