



# Maritime Greenwich

WORLD HERITAGE SITE **1997**  
**25TH ANNIVERSARY 2022**

PRESS RELEASE

## **MARITIME GREENWICH WORLD HERITAGE SITE INCLUDED IN NEW ILLUSTRATED MAP OF UK UNESCO SITES**

Release Date (embargoed until): 24 July 2023

- New map launched that includes all 58 UK UNESCO sites for the first time
- Map illustration by artist Tom Woolley
- Visitors encouraged to discover new sites and destinations on their doorstep

Ignite your summer adventures and discover **Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site** alongside 57 other unique UNESCO sites in the UK and crown dependencies thanks to a newly illustrated map, now available to download for free from the UK National Commission for UNESCO.

From expansive mountain ranges and stunning coastlines to vibrant cities and rural landscapes - the UK's UNESCO sites are destinations of world-class natural and cultural heritage. For the first time a map, designed by the creative cartographer Tom Woolley, brings together all of the Biosphere Reserves, Creative Cities, Global Geoparks and World Heritage Sites across the British Isles that are waiting to be discovered.

The new map, released online this week, includes 29 World Heritage Sites, 13 Creative Cities, 9 Global Geoparks and 7 Biosphere Reserves that cover 13% of the UK's landmass. Most of the sites are free to enter and conveniently accessible by public transport offering the public new experiences, to discover UNESCO sites in the UK and mark this summer with a visit to one of the world's most special places.

At Maritime Greenwich, famous as the home of time and for the Royal Observatory Greenwich, visitors will enjoy a wealth of experiences and special events this summer including the 'The Van de Veldes' art exhibition at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich + Docklands International Festival and Secret Tours of the Wren Chapel Dome at the Old Royal Naval College.

James Bridge, Chief Executive and Secretary-General of the UK National Commission for UNESCO said: "This new 'UNESCO in the UK' map will inspire people for places to visit. It shows at a glance the breadth of amazing natural, cultural and built heritage designated by UNESCO as internationally significant in the UK. This great map highlights places to explore, on your doorstep and further afield, both the famous and those to discover for the first time."

Stuart McLeod, Director of England - London & South at The National Lottery Heritage Fund, said: "We are delighted to support this project which, thanks to money raised by National Lottery players, will help to inspire more people to visit the fantastic UNESCO sites across the UK. Heritage has a huge role to play in bringing people together and any way that we can enable and inspire this to happen is hugely positive."



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Paddy Rodgers, Chair of the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site Executive and Director of Royal Museums Greenwich, said: “As one of the UK’s 29 remarkable World Heritage Sites, we are delighted to be featured on this fantastic map. We wholeheartedly support the UK National Commission for UNESCO in its mission to showcase the wide range of UNESCO designated sites in the UK, highlighting the richness of our nation’s superb cultural and natural offer and encouraging national and international visitors and local communities alike to embark on a voyage of discovery.”

The map was produced by the UK National Commission for UNESCO as part of its ‘Local to Global’ project, made possible with the GREAT Campaign and The National Lottery Heritage Fund, with thanks to National Lottery players. ‘Local to Global’ aims to develop a resilient network for UNESCO Designated Sites in the UK.

The map can be downloaded from: [unesco.org.uk/our-sites](https://unesco.org.uk/our-sites)

## ENDS

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

### IMAGES

Please see a hi-resolution version of the illustrated MAP for digital use here:

[drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yKUQdb4Ldjz4tm88G1nGPO7JY2Mz1TGO?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yKUQdb4Ldjz4tm88G1nGPO7JY2Mz1TGO?usp=sharing)

Please see a full version of the map with index here:

[drive.google.com/file/d/142dYHZjLlqpee-cdUcz172gGbO7Pnl5d/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/142dYHZjLlqpee-cdUcz172gGbO7Pnl5d/view?usp=sharing)

### LOGOS

- UK National Commission for UNESCO
- National Lottery Heritage Fund
- GREAT

Available here:

[drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H-xB5jSy4xUoLR3jJ\\_zukAWftlKHZPcw?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H-xB5jSy4xUoLR3jJ_zukAWftlKHZPcw?usp=sharing)

### About the UK National Commission for UNESCO

The UK National Commission for UNESCO (UKNC) is a constitutional part of the UK’s membership of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). UNESCO harnesses the power of education, culture, science, communication and information to advance global peace, sustainable development, intercultural dialogue, and poverty eradication.

An independent body, UKNC is funded by the UK Government primarily to bring the benefits of UNESCO programmes and international agreements to the UK government, academic community and broader civil society. It also ensures that these elements fully contribute to and shape UNESCO’s global aims and activities.

[unesco.org.uk](https://unesco.org.uk)



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## Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site

The Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site comprises the historic town centre, Royal Park and related institutional buildings, and was inscribed by the World Heritage Convention in 1997. Its unique architecture, designed landscape and association with the British monarchy over the centuries are just some of the features which make Maritime Greenwich a unique and significant place. Points of interest, all open to visitors, include Royal Museums Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College (also home to University of Greenwich) and the Painted Hall, Greenwich Market, Greenwich Park and St Alfege Church.

[greenwichworldheritage.org](http://greenwichworldheritage.org)

## Biosphere Reserves

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves are 'learning places for sustainable development'. They are sites for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems. Each site promotes solutions reconciling the conservation of biodiversity with its sustainable use.

[en.unesco.org/biosphere/about](http://en.unesco.org/biosphere/about)

## Creative Cities

UNESCO Creative Cities have placed imagination and creative talent at the heart of its strategy for local economic and social development. The United Kingdom counts 13 of these, each with a unique perspective, economy and culture. What these cities have in common is their desire to put creativity at the heart of their future.

[unesco.org.uk/creative-cities](http://unesco.org.uk/creative-cities)

## Global Geoparks

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education, and sustainable development.

[en.unesco.org/global-geoparks](http://en.unesco.org/global-geoparks)

## World Heritage Sites

UNESCO World Heritage Sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific, or other form of significance. The sites are judged to contain cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.

[whc.unesco.org/en/list/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/)

## Further information

For further information, please contact Liam Smyth, Project Implementation Manager, UK National Commission for UNESCO, [liam.smyth@unesco.org.uk](mailto:liam.smyth@unesco.org.uk)

## About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we Inspire, lead and resource the UK's heritage to create positive and lasting change for people and communities, now and in the future.



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[heritagefund.org.uk](https://heritagefund.org.uk)

Follow @HeritageFundUK on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and use #HeritageFund #NationalLottery

Since The National Lottery began in 1994, National Lottery players have raised over £43 billion for projects and more than 635,000 grants have been awarded across the UK.

## **About The GREAT Campaign**

The GREAT Britain and Northern Ireland campaign (GREAT) is the UK's international promotional program. It works closely with UK businesses, not-for-profit organisations and high-profile figures to promote the very best of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, inspiring the world to visit, study, live and do business with the UK.

[greatcampaign.com](https://greatcampaign.com)

Instagram: @greatcampaign

Twitter: @GREATBritain

#SeeThingsDifferently