WORLD HERITAGE UK
Supporting our Sites of outstanding global importance

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
World Heritage Sites are outstanding cultural and natural sites which illustrate the common heritage of humanity. They are ours to share, cherish and respect and nations that sign up to the World Heritage Convention make an international commitment to safeguard these sites for future generations. However, these Sites are not just about conservation and protection; they are also important for tourism, regeneration and as an educational and learning resource.

Since 1978, UNESCO has designated over 1,000 World Heritage Sites, 78% being cultural sites. 19% natural sites and less than 3% are mixed. 29 of these Sites are in the UK and its Overseas Territories and they range from iconic landmarks such as Stonehenge in England, former industrial communities like Blaenavon in Wales, to natural landscapes like Giants Causeway in Northern Ireland and urban landscapes like Edinburgh in Scotland.

**World Heritage UK** is a charitable organisation established in 2015 to undertake networking, advocacy and promotion on behalf of all of the UK’s 29 World Heritage Sites, and those which are progressing towards WHS status. The UK’s World Heritage Sites are outstanding, and while in many cases, their assets for culture, education, the environment and the economy, are valued at a local level, at a national level this is not always the case. The UK could do so much more collectively to recognise, promote and resource its Sites and **World Heritage UK** wishes to take a lead in ensuring this happens.

The aim of the organisation is to bring together all the agencies and interested parties involved in looking after the UK’s World Heritage Sites to:

- Raise the profile of World Heritage at home and abroad;
- Advocate for support, resources and policy change; and
- Exchange expertise and good practice, and link culture with nature.

Membership of **World Heritage UK** is a must for any organisation or individual who has an interest in the UK’s outstanding heritage and wishes to be part of this international community.
MEMBERSHIP

Whether you are a Site manager, a local authority, a trust, an academic institution or an interested individual, there is a membership category for you.

**Full Membership** of the CIO is open to any organisation that plays a primary role in managing a UK World Heritage Site or preparing the nomination for a Tentative List Site, and any local authority that contains the whole or part of a World Heritage Site within its administrative area. These members will have full voting rights.

**Associate Membership** is also available for: strategic partners, other local authorities, corporate, academic, individuals and other groups.

WORLD HERITAGE UK

**World Heritage UK** is the only organisation exclusively focused on World Heritage in the UK. It has been registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

**The vision**

“The United Kingdom will have a coherent approach to World Heritage Sites, which will be better known and understood, and supported through sustainable funding so that their Outstanding Universal Values can provide inspiration, learning and enjoyment for society”.

**The mission**

“Raise the profile and secure the future of UK World Heritage Sites by advocating for support and resources, promoting the Sites values, and facilitating networking, training and sharing of good practice”.

The strategic aims are to:

**Undertake effective advocacy** at all levels for the joint benefit of the UK’s World Heritage properties and for the World Heritage Convention.

**Facilitate and encourage networking** between organisations and individuals that play a role in the management of the UK’s 29 WH Sites, be that at the Site, agency, NGO, government, corporate or individual level, for the collective benefit of the Sites’ management.

**Promote the UK’s World Heritage Sites**, in collaboration with key partner agencies, to a national and international market so as to allow more people to experience the Sites in ways that are appropriate to their different situations and pressures.
BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

There are a range of benefits, although some may be more applicable to some groups than others. For example:

**For Site Managers**
- Election of representative to Board of Trustees
- Voting rights at AGM
- Networking opportunities
- Training and CPD opportunities
- Opportunity to contribute to e-newsletter
- Be part of lobbying / campaign groups
- Involvement in collaborative projects
- Information exchange between Sites
- Opportunity to contribute to, and benefit from, national consultation responses
- Involvement in research and promotional projects

**For Local Authorities**
- Election of representative to Board of Trustees (voting members only)
- Voting rights at AGM (voting members only)
- Support for Tentative List Sites
- Opportunity to host conferences and seminars

**For Academic Bodies**
- Research opportunities
- Networking opportunities
- Training and CPD opportunities

**For Individuals**
- Networking opportunities
- Training and CPD opportunities
- Opportunity to contribute to e-newsletter
- Volunteering opportunities

**...and for everyone**
- Use of WH:UK logo
- Link to members website
- Discount on event fees including annual conference
- Free WH publication downloads
- Regular e-newsletter
- Social media opportunities
- Access to WH documentation online
- Access to presentations and materials from events
- Listing in online membership listing
WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN THE UK

1986
Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd
Durham Castle and Cathedral
Giant’s Causeway and Causeway Coast (natural)
Ironbridge Gorge
St Kilda (mixed)
Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites
Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey

1987
Blenheim Palace
City of Bath
Frontiers of the Roman Empire
Palace of Westminster and Westminster Abbey including Saint Margaret’s Church

1988
Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine’s Abbey, and St Martin’s Church
Henderson Island (natural)
Tower of London

1995
Gough and Inaccessible Islands (natural)
Old and New Towns of Edinburgh

1997
Maritime Greenwich

1999
Heart of Neolithic Orkney

2001
Blaenavon Industrial Landscape
Dorset and East Devon Coast (natural)
Historic Town of St George and Related Fortifications, Bermuda
Derwent Valley Mills
New Lanark
Saltaire

2003
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

2004
Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City

2006
Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape

2009
Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal

2015
The Forth Bridge
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2015

• Established Charitable Incorporated Organisation
• Membership increasing and widening
• Development Director appointed
• Website with Facebook and Twitter presence
• Research agenda developed
• Inaugural Conference held at Saltaire WHS
• Networking Meeting in Liverpool WHS
• Endorsement from the UK National Commission for UNESCO
• Support and liaison with Government and heritage agencies

FOR MORE INFORMATION
For membership, fees and an application form please visit the website:

www.worldheritageuk.org

or contact membership@worldheritageuk.org

twitter@worldheritageuk

facebook.com/worldheritageuk


WORLD HERITAGE UK
Registered Charity No. 1163364