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Brief Descriptions

of Sites Inscribed on the World Heritage List

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1972

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE



WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

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UNESCO World Heritage Centre
7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
France

Tel: +33 (0)1 45 68 15 71
Fax: +33(0)1 45 68 55 70
E-mail: wh-info@unesco.org
<http://www.unesco.org/whc/>

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BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF SITES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE, UNESCO, January 1999

STATE PARTY	
Site Name (C- cultural, N- natural or N/C mixed)	Year of inscription

ALBANIA

Butrinti 1992
(C iii)
Inhabited since prehistoric times, Butrinti has been the site of a Greek colony, a Roman city, and a bishopric. Following a period of prosperity under Byzantine administration, then a brief occupation by the Venetians, the city was abandoned in the late Middle Ages after marshes formed in the area. The present archaeological site is a repository of the ruins representing each period in the city's development.

ALGERIA

Al Qal'a of Beni Hammad 1980
(C iii)
In a mountainous site of extraordinary beauty, the ruins of the first capital of the Hammadid emirs, which was founded in 1007 and demolished in 1152, provide us with an authentic picture of a fortified Moslem city. Its mosque, with its prayer room, containing 13 naves and 8 banks of seats, is one of the largest in Algeria.

Tassili n'Ajjer 1982
(N ii, iii / C i, iii)
Located in a strange lunar landscape of great geological interest, this site holds one of the most important groupings of prehistoric cave art in the world. More than 15,000 drawings and engravings record the climatic changes, the animal migrations and the evolution of human life in the Sahara, from 6000 B.C. to the first centuries of the present era. The geological formations are of outstanding scenic interest with eroded sandstones forming "forests of rock".

M'Zab Valley 1982
(C ii, iii, v)
The landscape of the Valley of M'Zab, created in the 10th century by the Ibadites around their five ksour or fortified cities, appears as though stopped in time. Simple, functional and perfectly adapted to the environment, the architecture of M'Zab was designed for community living, while respecting the family structure. It is a source of inspiration for today's urban planners.

Djémila 1982
(C iii, iv)
Located 900 metres above sea level, Djémila, or Cuicul, with its forum, temples, basilicas, triumphal arches and houses, is a striking example of Roman town-planning adapted to a mountain location.

Tipasa 1982
(C iii, iv)
On the shores of the Mediterranean, Tipasa was an ancient Punic trading-post conquered by Rome and transformed into a strategic base for the conquest of the kingdoms of Mauritania. It comprises a unique group of Phoenician, Roman, early Christian and Byzantine ruins alongside indigenous monuments such as the Kbor er Roumia, the great royal mausoleum of Mauritania.

Timgad 1982
(C ii, iii, iv)
Along the northern slope of the Aures, Timgad was created ex nihilo in 100 A.D. as a military colony by the Emperor Trajan. With its square enclosure and orthogonal design based on the cardo and the

decumanus, the two perpendicular routes running through the city, it is an excellent example of Roman town planning.

Kasbah of Algiers 1992
(C ii, v)
One of the finest coastal sites on the Mediterranean, overlooking the islands where a Carthaginian trading port was established in the 4th century B.C., the Kasbah constitutes a unique kind of medina, or Islamic city. A place where history merges with memory, it has remains of the citadel, the ancient mosques and Ottoman palaces as well as remains of a traditional urban structure associated with a deep-rooted sense of community.

ARGENTINA

Los Glaciares 1981
(N ii, iii)
The Los Glaciares National Park is an area of exceptional natural beauty, with rugged, towering mountains and numerous glacial lakes, including Lake Argentino, a hundred miles long; at its farther end three glaciers meet to dump their effluvia into the milky gray glacial water, launching massive igloo icebergs into the lake with thunderous splashes.

Iguazu National Park 1984
(N iii, iv)
Some 80 metres high and 2,700 metres in diameter, on a basaltic line spanning the border between Argentina and Brazil, the waterfall located in the heart of this site is one of the most spectacular in the world. Made up of many cascades producing vast sprays of water and surrounded by sub-tropical rainforest with over 2,000 species of vascular plants, it is home to typical wildlife of the region: tapirs, giant anteaters, howling monkeys, ocelots, jaguars, caymans.

ARGENTINA and BRAZIL

Jesuit Missions of the Guaranis: San Ignacio Mini, Santa Ana, Nuestra Señora de Loreto and Santa Maria Mayor (Argentina), Ruins of Sao Miguel das Missoes (Brazil) 1983, 1984
(C iv)
At the heart of a tropical forest, the ruins of Sao Miguel das Missoes in Brazil, and those of San Ignacio Mini, Santa Ana, Nuestra Señora de Loreto and Santa Maria la Mayor in Argentina are the striking remains of five Jesuit missions, built in the land of the Guaranis during the 17th and 18th centuries, each one characterized by a specific layout and a different state of conservation.

ARMENIA

Monastery of Haghpat 1996
(C ii, iv)
The Byzantine-style church of the Holy Cross, built in 991, stands at the centre of this monastery in northern Armenia. Up until the 13th century, monastic buildings based on Caucasian wood architecture were added around it. The resulting monastery complex, cleverly marrying two styles, is the best architectural example of Armenian religious art between the 10th and the 13th centuries.

AUSTRALIA

Kakadu National Park 1981, 1987, 1992
(N ii, iii, iv / C i, vi)
A unique archaeological and ethnological reserve, located in the Northern Territory, the region has been inhabited continuously for more than 40,000 years. The cave paintings, rock carvings and

archaeological sites present a record of the skills and lifeways of the region's inhabitants, from the hunters and gatherers of prehistoric times to the Aboriginal people still living there. It is a unique example of a complex of ecosystems, including those of tidal flats, floodplains, lowlands and plateau, providing habitat for a wide range of rare or endemic species of plants and animals.

Great Barrier Reef 1981
(N i, ii, iii, iv)

A site of remarkable variety and beauty on the northeastern coast of Australia, the Great Barrier Reef contains the world's largest collection of coral reefs, with 400 types of coral, 1,500 species of fish, and 4,000 types of mollusc. It also holds great scientific interest, as the habitat of species, such as the dugong and the large green turtle, which are threatened with extinction.

Willandra Lakes Region 1981
(N i / C iii)

Fossil remains of a series of lakes and sand formations that date from the Pleistocene Era can be found in this region, together with archaeological evidence of human occupation dating from 40,000 years ago. It is a unique landmark in the study of human evolution on the Australian continent. Several well-preserved fossils of giant marsupials have also been found here.

Tasmanian Wilderness 1982, 1989
(N i, ii, iii, iv / C iii, iv, vi)

In a region that has been subjected to severe glaciation, these parks and reserves, with their steep gorges, covering an area of over 1,000,000 hectares, constitute one of the last expanses of temperate rainforest in the world. Remains found in limestone caves attest to the occupation of the area for more than 20,000 years.

Lord Howe Island Group 1982
(N iii, iv)

A remarkable example of isolated oceanic islands, born of volcanic activity more than 2,000 metres under the sea, these islands boast a spectacular topography and protect numerous endemic species, especially birds.

Central Eastern Australian Rainforest Reserves 1986, 1994
(N i, ii, iv)

This site, comprising several protected areas, is located predominantly along the Great Escarpment on Australia's East Coast. The outstanding geological features displayed around shield volcanic craters and the high number of rare and threatened rainforest species are of international significance for science and conservation.

Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park 1987, 1994
(N ii, iii / C v, vi)

The park, formerly called Uluru (Ayers Rock - Mount Olga) National Park, features spectacular geological formations that dominate the vast red sandy plain of central Australia. Uluru, an immense monolith, and Kata Tjuta, the rock domes located west of Uluru, form part of the traditional belief system of one of the oldest human societies in the world. The traditional owners of Uluru-Kata Tjuta are the Anangu Aboriginal people.

Wet Tropics of Queensland 1988
(N i, ii, iii, iv)

The area, located in the far northeast of Australia, is made up largely of tropical humid forests. This biotope offers a particularly extensive and varied array of plants, as well as marsupials and singing birds, along with other rare and endangered animals and plant species.

Shark Bay, Western Australia 1991
(N i, ii, iii, iv)

On the far west coast of Western Australia, Shark Bay, with its islands and the land surrounding it, has three exceptional natural features its vast marine herbariums, which are the largest (4,800

square kilometres) and richest in the world, its dugong ('sea cow') population, and its stromatolites (colonies of algae which grow up alongside the mounds are among the oldest forms of life on earth). Shark Bay also shelters five species of endangered mammals.

Fraser Island 1992
(N ii, iii)

Along the eastern coast of Australia lies Fraser Island. At 122 kilometres long, it is the largest sand island in the world. Majestic remnants of tall rainforest growing on sand and half the world's perched freshwater dune lakes are found inland from the beach. The combination of shifting sand dunes, tropic, humid forests and lakes make it an exceptional site.

Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Riversleigh/Naracoorte) 1994
(N i, ii)

Riversleigh and Naracoorte, in the north and south respectively of eastern Australia, are among the world's ten greatest fossil sites. They superbly illustrate the stages of evolution of Australia's unique fauna.

Heard and McDonald Islands 1997
(N i, ii)

Heard Island and McDonald Islands are located in the Southern Ocean, approximately 1700 km from the Antarctic continent and 4100 km south-west of Perth. As the only volcanically active subantarctic islands they "open a window into the earth", thus providing opportunities to observe ongoing geomorphic processes and glacial dynamics. The distinctive conservation value of Heard and McDonald, one of the rare pristine island ecosystems on our globe, lies in the complete absence of alien plants and animals, as well as of human impact.

Macquarie Island 1997
(N i, iii)

Macquarie Island is a 34 km long by 5 km wide oceanic island in the Southern Ocean, 1500 km southeast of Tasmania and approximately half way between Australia and the Antarctic continent. The island is the exposed crest of the undersea Macquarie Ridge, raised to its present position where the Indo-Australian tectonic plate meets the Pacific plate. It is a site of major geoconservation significance, being the only place on earth where rocks from the earth's mantle (6km below the ocean floor) are being actively exposed above sea level. These unique exposures include excellent examples of pillow basalts and other extrusive rocks.

AUSTRIA

Historic Centre of the City of Salzburg 1996
(C ii, iv, vi)

Salzburg has managed to preserve an extraordinarily rich urban fabric developed between the Middle Ages and the 19th century, while it was a city-state ruled by a prince-archbishop. Its striking Gothic art drew many craftsmen and artists before it became even better known through the work of the Italian architects Vincenzo Scamozzi and Santini Solari, to whom the centre of Salzburg owes much of its baroque appearance. This meeting point of northern and southern Europe perhaps sparked the genius of Salzburg's most famous son, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, whose universal renown has shone on the city ever since.

Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn 1996
(C i, iv)

This residence of the Habsburg emperors, from the 18th century until 1918, was built by architects Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach and Nicolaus Pacassi and is full of important decorative art. With its gardens, site of the world's first zoo in 1752, it makes a remarkable baroque ensemble and a perfect example of Gesamtkunstwerk.

Hallstatt-Dachstein Salzkammergut Cultural Landscape 1997
(C iii, iv)
Human activity in the magnificent natural landscape of the Salzkammergut began in prehistoric times, when its deposits of salt began to be exploited as early as the 2nd millennium BC. This resource formed the basis of the prosperity of the area up to the middle of the 20th century, a prosperity that is reflected in the fine architecture of the town of Hallstatt.

Semmering Railway 1998
(C ii, iv)
The Semmering Railway, built over 41 km of high mountains between 1848 and 1854, is one of the greatest feats of civil engineering of this pioneering phase of railway building. The quality of its tunnels, viaducts and other works have ensured the continuous use of the line up to the present day. It runs past a background of a spectacular mountain landscape containing many fine recreational buildings resulting from the opening up of the area with the advent of the railway.

BANGLADESH

Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat 1985
(C iv)
Located within the suburbs of Bagerhat, near the mouths of the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers, this ancient city, formerly known as Khalifatabad, was founded by the Turkish general Ulugh Khan Jahan in the 15th century. The city's infrastructures attest to considerable technical skill, and an exceptional number of mosques and ancient Islamic monuments, many of them brick, can be seen there.

Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur 1985
(C i, ii, vi)
Evidence of the rise of Mahayana Buddhism in Bengal from the 7th century onwards, this monastery, known as Somapura Mahavira, the Great Monastery, was a renowned intellectual centre until the 17th century. Its layout perfectly adapted to its religious function, this monastery-city represents a unique artistic achievement which influenced Buddhist architecture as far away as Cambodia, with its simple and harmonious lines and its many carved decorations.

The Sundarbans 1997
(N ii, iv)
The Sundarbans mangrove forest, one of the largest such forests in the world (140,000 ha), is formed at the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers on the Bay of Bengal. It is located adjacent to the border of India's Sundarbans World Heritage site inscribed in 1987. The site is intersected by a complex network of tidal waterways, mud flats and small islands of salt-tolerant mangrove forests, and presents an excellent example of on-going ecological processes. The area is known for its wide range of fauna including 260 bird species, the Royal Bengal tiger and other threatened species, such as the estuarine crocodile and the Indian Python.

BELARUS and POLAND

Belovezhskaya Pushcha/Bialowieza Forest 1979, 1992
(N iii)
Located on the watershed of the Baltic and Black seas, this immense forest range, consisting of evergreens and broad-leaved trees, is the home of some remarkable animal life, including rare mammals such as the wolf, the lynx, the otter, as well as some 300 European bison, a species which has been reintroduced into the park.

BELGIUM

La Grand-Place, Brussels 1998
(C ii, iv)
The Brussels Grand-Place is a remarkably homogeneous body of public and private buildings, dating mainly from the late 17th century, whose architecture encapsulates and vividly illustrates the social and cultural quality of this important political and commercial centre.

Flemish *Béguinages* 1998
(C ii, iii, iv)
The *Béguines* were women who entered into a life dedicated to God without retiring from the world. In the 13th century they founded the *béguinages*, enclosed communities designed to meet their spiritual and material needs. The Flemish *béguinages* are architectural ensembles composed of houses, churches, ancillary buildings and green spaces organized according to a spatial conception of urban or rural origin, and are built in styles specific to the Flemish cultural region. They bear extraordinary witness to the tradition of the *Béguines* that developed in north-western Europe in the Middle Ages.

The Four Lifts on the Canal du Centre and their Environs, La Louvière and Le Roeulx (Hainault) 1998
(C iii, iv)
The four hydraulic boat-lifts on this short stretch of the historic Canal du Centre are industrial monuments of the highest quality. Together with the Canal itself and its associated structures, they constitute a remarkably well preserved and complete example of a late 19th century industrial landscape. Of the eight hydraulic boat lifts built at the end of the last and the beginning of this century, the only ones which still exist in their original working condition are the four lifts on the Canal du Centre. They are therefore unique in the world.

BELIZE

Belize Barrier-Reef Reserve System 1996
(N ii, iii, iv)
The coastal area of Belize is an outstanding natural system consisting of the largest barrier reef in the northern hemisphere, offshore atolls, several hundred sand cays, mangrove forests, coastal lagoons, and estuaries. The system's seven sites illustrate the evolutionary history of reef development and are a significant habitat for threatened species, including marine turtles, manatee and the American marine crocodile.

BENIN

Royal Palaces of Abomey 1985
(C iii, iv)
From 1625 to 1900 twelve kings succeeded one another at the head of the powerful Kingdom of Abomey. With the exception of King Akaba, who used a separate enclosure, they each had their palaces built within the same cob-wall area, in keeping with previous palaces as regards the use of space and materials. The royal palaces of Abomey are a unique reminder of this vanished kingdom.

BOLIVIA

City of Potosí 1987
(C ii, iv, vi)
Considered, in the 16th century, to be the biggest industrial complex in the world, the extraction of minerals relied on a series of hydraulic mills. The site consists of the industrial monuments, the Cerro Rico, where water is provided by an intricate system of aqueducts and artificial lakes, the colonial town with the Casa de la Moneda, the Church of San Lorenzo, patrician houses and the "barrios mitayos" which were workers' living quarters.

Jesuit Missions of the Chiquitos 1990
(C iv, v)
Ten "reductions" inspired by the ideal cities of 16th-century philosophers, these missions were founded by the Jesuits from 1696 to 1760 on the former territory of the Chiquitos. Combining Catholic and traditional architecture, San Francisco Javier, Concepción, Santa Ana, San Miguel, San Rafael and San José make up a living heritage.

Historic City of Sucre 1991
(C iv)
The former capital of Bolivia, founded by the Spanish in the first half of the 16th century, has many 16th-century religious buildings, such as San Lazaro, San Francisco, and Santo Domingo, which offer a well-preserved illustration of the architectural blending of local traditions and styles imported from Europe.

Fuerte de Samaipata 1998
(C ii, iii)
The archaeological site of Samaipata consists of two elements: the hill with its many carvings, believed to have been the ceremonial centre of the ancient town (14th - 16th centuries), and the area to the south of the hill, which formed the administrative and residential quarter. The enormous sculptured rock, dominating the town below, is a unique testimony to prehispanic traditions and beliefs, without parallel anywhere in the Americas.

BRAZIL

Historic Town of Ouro Preto 1980
(C i, iii)
Founded at the end of the 17th century, Ouro Preto ("Black Gold"), was the focal point of the gold rush and "Brazil's Golden Age" in the 18th century. With the exhaustion of the gold mines in the 19th century, Ouro Preto's influence declined but many churches, bridges and fountains remain as a testimony to its past prosperity and the exceptional talent of the Baroque sculptor Aleijadinho.

Historic Centre of Olinda 1982
(C ii, iv)
Founded in the 16th century by the Portuguese, its history is linked to the sugar cane industry. Rebuilt after its pillage by the Dutch, its essential urban fabric dates from the 18th century. The balance maintained between the buildings, gardens, the twenty Baroque churches, convents and numerous small "passos" (chapels), give Olinda a particular atmosphere.

Historic Centre of Salvador de Bahia 1985
(C iv, vi)
As the first capital of Brazil, from 1549 to 1763, Salvador de Bahia witnessed the blending of European, African and Amerindian cultures. It was also the first slave market in the New World, with slaves arriving in 1558 to work on the sugar plantations. The city has managed to preserve many outstanding examples of Renaissance architecture. A special feature of the old town are the bright, polychromed houses which are often decorated with stucco of high quality.

Sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Congonhas 1985
(C i, iv)
Built in the second half of the 18th century, the sanctuary consists of a church with a sumptuous rococo interior of Italian inspiration, an outdoor stairway decorated with statues of the prophets and seven chapels illustrating the Stations of the Cross, in which polychromed sculptures by Aleijadinho are the showpieces of a highly original, moving and expressive Baroque art.

Iguaçu National Park 1986
(N iii, iv)
The park shares with Iguazu National Park in Argentina one of the world's largest and most impressive waterfalls, extending over some

2,700 metres in length. Many rare and endangered species of flora and fauna are sheltered in the park, among others the giant otter and the giant ant-eater. The clouds of spray produced by the waterfall are conducive to the growth of lush vegetation.

Brasilia 1987
(C i, iv)
Brasilia, a capital created ex nihilo in the centre of the country in 1956, is a landmark in the history of town-planning. Urban planner Lucio Costa and architect Oscar Niemayer intended that everything, from the layout of the residential and administrative districts -often compared with the shape of a bird - to the symmetry in the buildings themselves, should reflect the harmonious design of the city, in which the official buildings are strikingly imaginative.

Serra da Capivara National Park 1991
(C iii)
The numerous rock shelters of the Serra da Capivara National Park are decorated with cave paintings, some of which are more than 25,000 years old. They are an exceptional testimony of one of the oldest human communities of South America.

Historic Centre of São Luis 1997
(C iii, iv, v)
The late 17th-century core of this historic town, founded by the French and occupied by the Dutch before coming under Portuguese control, preserves its original rectangular street pattern in its entirety. Thanks to a period of economic stagnation in the early 20th century, an exceptional number of high-quality historic buildings have survived, making this an outstanding example of an Iberian colonial town.

BULGARIA

Boyana Church 1979
(C ii, iii)
Located in the outskirts of Sofia, Boyana Church is composed of three buildings. The eastern church was built in the 10th and 11th centuries. The middle - Kayolan - church, contains two superimposed sanctuaries. It is covered with frescoes, painted in 1259, making it one of the most important collections of medieval paintings.

Madara Rider 1979
(C i, iii)
Carved into the side of a cliff in the 8th century, this knight triumphing over a lion commemorates the victories of the Bulgarian Khans in an era when their power posed a serious threat to Byzantium. The inscriptions beside the sculpture relate events that occurred between 705 A.D. and 831 A.D.

Thracian Tomb of Kazanlak 1979
(C i, iii, iv)
Discovered in 1944, this tomb dates from the Hellenistic period, around the end of the 4th century B.C. It comprises three rooms built of brick. The dromos and funerary chamber are decorated with frescoes, representing in particular a funeral banquet. The wall paintings by an unknown artist, mainly in red, black, white and green, show a genuine talent which is relatively free of the Greek influence.

Rock-hewn Churches of Ivanovo 1979
(C ii, iii)
Ivanovo is a complex of churches, chapels, monasteries and cells dug into rock near the medieval town of Tchernav and the city of Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the second Bulgarian state. Five of the churches and chapels date back to the 13th and 14th centuries, and are richly decorated with frescoes.

Ancient City of Nessebar 1983

(C iii, iv)

Situated on a rocky peninsula of the Black Sea, the 3000-year-old site of Nessebar was originally a Thracian settlement (Menebria). The city then became a Greek colony and one of the most important strongholds of the Byzantine Empire. The city's monuments date mostly from the Hellenistic period and include the acropolis, an Apollo temple and an agora. Other important monuments are the basilica of Stara Mitropolia and wooden houses built in the 19th-century Plovdiv style.

Rila Monastery 1983

(C vi)

The Convent of Rila, rebuilt between 1834 and 1860, incorporates the legacies of Saint Ivan of Rilski, 10th-century evangelist of the Slavs, and the remains of a medieval monastery into a distinctive neo-Byzantine monument. Characteristic of the Bulgarian Renaissance, this monument symbolises the awareness of a Slavic cultural identity following centuries of occupation.

Srebarna Nature Reserve 1983

(N iv)

The Srebarna Nature Reserve is a fresh-water lake adjacent to the Danube, extending over 600 hectares. It is the breeding home of close to 100 species of birds, many of which are rare or endangered. Some 80 other bird species migrate and seek refuge there every winter.

Pirin National Park 1983

(N i, ii, iii)

The park has a limestone Balkan landscape, with its lakes, waterfalls, caves and pine forests, and a rich flora containing many endemic plant species. The rugged mountains, with around seventy glacial lakes scattered throughout them, are a relic of the ancient glacial days of Europe.

Thracian Tomb of Sveshtari 1985

(C i, iii)

Discovered in 1982, this 3rd-century B.C. Thracian tomb inspired by Greek design has a unique architectural decor with polychromed half-human, half-plant caryatids and painted murals. It is a remarkable reminder of the culture of the Getes, Thracian populations in contact with the Hellenistic and Hyperborean worlds, according to ancient geography.

CAMBODIA**Angkor** 1992

(C i, ii, iii, iv)

Angkor is one of the main archaeological sites of South-East Asia. Stretching over some 400 square kilometres, including forested area, the Angkor Archeological Park contains the splendid remains of the different capitals of the Khmer Empire, from the 9th to the 15th centuries, including the famous temple of Angkor Wat and, at Angkor Thom, the Bayon temple with its countless sculpted decorations. UNESCO has set up a wide-ranging programme to safeguard this symbolic site and its surroundings.

CAMEROON**Dja Faunal Reserve** 1987

(N ii, iv)

This is one of the largest and best protected humid forests in Africa. Almost completely surrounded by the Dja River, which forms its natural boundary, the reserve is especially noted for its biodiversity and a wide variety of primates.

CANADA**L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Park** 1978

(C vi)

This site has the first historic traces of a European presence in the Americas - in a Viking settlement from the 11th century, with the remains of wooden and earth houses similar to those found in Norway.

Nahanni National Park 1978

(N ii, iii)

Located along the Nahanni River, one of the most spectacular wild rivers in North America, this park contains deep canyons, huge waterfalls, as well as a unique limestone cave system. The park is also home to animals of the northern boreal forest, such as mountain goat, Dall sheep, wolf, grizzly and caribou.

Dinosaur Provincial Park 1979

(N i, iii)

In addition to its very beautiful landscapes the park, located in the Province of Alberta, contains some of the most important fossil discoveries ever made from the "Age of Reptiles", in particular, some 60 species, representative of seven families of dinosaurs, dating back some 75 million years.

Anthony Island 1981

(C iii)

With its houses and its 32 totem and mortuary poles, the village of Ninstints, on Anthony Island, which was abandoned towards the end of the 19th century, offers a unique view of the activity of the autochthonous Indian hunters and fishermen who once lived on the North Pacific coast.

Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Complex 1981

(C vi)

In southwest Alberta, the remains of marked trails, remains of an autochthon camp and a tumulus where vast quantities of bison skeletons can be found, bear witness to a custom practised by the autochthons of the North American plains for nearly 6,000 years. Thanks to their excellent understanding of topography and of bison behaviour, they killed the buffalo by chasing them up to a precipice, and subsequently carve up the carcasses in the camp below.

Wood Buffalo National Park 1983

(N ii, iii, iv)

Located in the plains in the north-central region of Canada, this park houses the largest population of wild bison in America and is the natural nesting place of the whooping crane. The largest inland delta in the world, the one of the rivers Peace and Athabasca, is one of the natural attractions of the park.

Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks 1984, 1990

(N i, ii, iii)

The contiguous National parks of Banff, Jasper, Kootenay and Yoho, as well as the Mount Robson, Mount Assiniboine and Hamber Provincial Parks, studded with mountain peaks, glaciers, lakes, waterfalls, canyons and limestone caves, form a striking mountain landscape. The Burgess Shale fossil site, well-known for its fossil remains of soft-bodied marine animals, can also be found there.

Quebec (Historic Area) 1985

(C iv, vi)

Founded by the French explorer Champlain in the early 17th century, the former capital of Nouvelle-France came under English rule from the middle of the 18th century until the middle of the 19th century. Its upper town, built on the cliff, has remained the religious and administrative centre with its churches, convents and other monuments such as the Citadel, the Parliament and Chateau Frontenac. Together with the lower town and its ancient quarters it

forms an urban ensemble which is one of the best examples of a fortified colonial town.

Gros Morne National Park 1987
(N i, iii)

On the west coast of Newfoundland, the park provides a panorama of the geological evolution of an ocean basin and a continental plain, with its fjords, glacial valleys, waterfalls, steep cliffs, a high alpine plateau and many lakes.

Lunenburg Old Town 1995
(C iv, v)

Lunenburg provides the best example of a British colonial city in North America. Established in 1753, it has kept intact its original layout and its overall appearance, based on a rectangular grid pattern drawn up in the home country. The inhabitants managed to safeguard the city's identity throughout centuries by preserving the wooden architecture of its houses, some of which date from the 18th century, but most from the 19th.

CANADA and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tatshenshini-Alsek/Kluane National Park/Wrangell-Saint Elias National Park and Reserve and Glacier Bay National Park 1979, 1992, 1994
(N ii, iii, iv)

These parks comprise an impressive complex of glaciers and high peaks on either side of the frontier between Canada and the United States of America (Alaska). These spectacular natural landscapes are home to many grizzlies, caribou and Dall sheep.

Waterton Glacier International Peace Park 1995
(N ii, iii)

In 1932 Waterton Lakes National park in Alberta (Canada) was combined with the Glacier National Park in Montana (United States) to form the world's first International Peace Park. Located on the border between the two countries and offering outstanding scenery, the Park is exceptionally rich in plant and mammal species as well as in alpine and glacial features.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park 1988
(N ii, iv)

The importance of this park rests with its wealth of flora and fauna. Its vast savannahs provide shelter for a wide variety of species: black rhinoceroses, elephants, cheetahs, leopards, wild dogs, red-fronted gazelles and buffaloes, while different types of waterfowl are to be found in the northern flood-plains.

CHILE

Rapa Nui National Park 1995
(C i, iii, v)

Rapa Nui, the indigenous name of Easter Island, bears witness to a unique cultural phenomenon. A society of Polynesian origin that settled there in about 300 A.D. established a powerful, imaginative and original tradition of monumental sculpture and architecture, free from any external influence. From the 10th to the 16th century this society built shrines and erected enormous stone figures, moai, which created an unrivalled cultural landscape and which today continue to fascinate the entire world.

CHINA

Mount Taishan 1987
(N iii / C i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi)

The sacred Mount Tai has been the object of an imperial pilgrimage for nearly two thousand years, and the artistic masterpieces

contained within it are in perfect harmony with the natural landscape. It has always been a source of inspiration to Chinese artists and scholars and symbolises ancient Chinese civilizations and beliefs.

The Great Wall 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

In about 220 B.C., under Qin Shin Huang, sections of fortifications which had been built earlier were joined together to form a united defence system against invasions from the north. Construction continued up to the Ming dynasty (1368-1644), when the Great Wall became the world's largest military structure. Its historic and strategic importance is matched only by its architectural value.

Imperial Palace of the Ming and Qing Dynasties 1987
(C iii, iv)

Seat of supreme power for over five centuries, the Forbidden City, with its landscaped gardens and many buildings whose 9,000 rooms contain furniture and works of art, constitutes a priceless testimony to Chinese civilization during the Ming and Qing dynasties.

Mogao Caves 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi)

Situated at a strategic point along the Silk Route, at the crossroads of trade as well as of religious, cultural and intellectual influences, the 492 cells and cave sanctuaries in Mogao are famous for their statues and wall paintings, spanning a thousand years of Buddhist art.

Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor 1987
(C i, iii, iv, vi)

No doubt thousands of statues still remain to be unearthed on this archaeological site, not discovered until 1974. Qin, the first unifier of China, who died in 210 B.C., is buried, surrounded by the famous terracotta warriors, at the centre of a complex designed to mirror the urban plan of the capital, Xianyan. The small figures, all different, with their horses, chariots and weapons, are masterpieces of realism and also hold great historical interest.

Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian 1987
(C iii, vi)

Scientific work at the site, 42 kilometres southwest of Beijing is still underway. So far, it has led to the discovery of the remains of *Sinanthropus pekinensis*, who lived in the middle Pleistocene era, along with various objects, and the remains of *Homo sapiens sapiens*, dating as far back as 18,000 to 11,000 B.C. The site is not only an exceptional reminder of the human societies of the Asian continent very long ago, but also illustrates the process of evolution.

Mount Huangshan 1990
(N iii, iv / C ii)

Huangshan, known as "the loveliest mountain of China", was acclaimed through art and literature during a good part of Chinese history (the Shanshui "mountain and water" style of the mid-16th century). Today it holds the same fascination for visitors, poets, painters and photographers who come in pilgrimage to this enchanting site, renowned for its magnificent scenery made up of many granite peaks and rocks emerging out of a sea of clouds.

Jiuzhaigou Valley Scenic and Historic Interest Area 1992
(N iii)

Stretching over 72,000 hectares in the northern part of Sichuan Province, the jagged Jiuzhaigou Valley reaches a height of more than 4,800 metres, therefore comprising a series of diverse forest ecosystems. Its superb landscapes are specially interesting for their series of narrow conic karst land forms and spectacular waterfalls. Some 140 bird species also inhabit the valley, as well as a number of endangered plant and animal species, including the giant panda and the Sichuan takin.

- Huanglong Scenic and Historic Interest Area** 1992
(N iii)
Situated in the north-west part of Sichuan province, the Huanglong valley is made up of snow-capped peaks and the easternmost of all the Chinese glaciers. In addition to its mountain landscape, diverse forest ecosystems can be found, as well as spectacular limestone formations, waterfalls and hot springs. The area also has a population of endangered animals, including the giant panda and the Sichuan golden snub-nosed monkeys.
- Wulingyuan Scenic and Historic Interest Area** 1992
(N iii)
A spectacular area stretching over more than 26,000 hectares in China's Hunan Province, the site is distinguished by more than 3,000 narrow sandstone pillars and peaks, many over 200 metres high. Between the peaks lie ravines and gorges with streams, pools and waterfalls, some 40 caves, as well as two large natural bridges. In addition to the striking beauty of its landscape, the region is also noted for the fact that it shelters a number of endangered plant and animal species.
- Mountain Resort and its Outlying Temples, Chengde** 1994
(C ii, iv)
The Mountain Resort, the Qing dynasty's summer palace, in Hebei Province, was built between 1703 and 1792. It is a vast complex of palaces and administrative and ceremonial buildings. Temples of various architectural styles and Imperial gardens subtly blend into a landscape of lakes, pasture land and forests. In addition to its aesthetic interest, the Mountain Resort is a rare historic vestige of the final development of feudal society in China.
- Potala Palace, Lhasa** 1994
(C i, iv, vi)
The Potala Palace, an administrative, religious and political complex, is built on the Red Mountain in the centre of the Lhasa valley, at an altitude of 3700 metres. The complex comprises the White Palace and the Red Palace, with their ancillary buildings. The Potala, winter palace of the Dalai Lama since the 7th century A.D., symbolises Tibetan Buddhism and its central role in the traditional administration in Tibet. The beauty and originality of its architecture, its ornate decoration and its harmonious integration in a striking landscape add to its historic and religious interest.
- Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion in Qufu** 1994
(C i, iv, vi)
The Temple, Cemetery and Family mansion of Confucius, the great philosopher, politician and educator of the 6th-5th century B.C., is located at Qufu, in Shandong Province. The Temple built in his commemoration in 478 B.C., destroyed and reconstructed over the centuries, today comprises more than 100 buildings. The Cemetery contains Confucius' tomb, and the remains of more than 100,000 of his descendants. The small house of the Kong Family has become a gigantic aristocratic residence, of which 152 buildings remain. This complex of monuments at Qufu has maintained its outstanding artistic and historic character due to the devotion of successive Chinese emperors over more than 2,000 years.
- Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains** 1994
(C i, ii, vi)
The Complex consists of palaces and temples forming the nucleus of secular and religious buildings exemplifying the architectural and artistic achievements of the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties of China. Situated in the scenic valleys and on the slopes of the Wudang mountains in Hubei Province, the site, built as an organized complex during the Ming dynasty (14th-17th century), contains taoist buildings from as early as the 7th century, and represents the highest standards of Chinese art and architecture over a period of nearly one thousand years.
- Lushan National Park** 1996
(C ii, iii, iv, vi)
Mount Lushan, in Jiangxi, is one of the spiritual centres of Chinese civilization. Buddhist and Taoist temples, along with landmarks of Confucianism, where the most eminent masters taught, blend well into a strikingly beautiful landscape which has inspired countless artists who developed the aesthetic approach to nature found in Chinese culture.
- Mount Emei Scenic Area, including Leshan Giant Buddha Scenic Area** 1996
(N iv / C iv, vi)
The first Buddhist temple in China was built here in Sichuan province in the first century in very beautiful surroundings atop Mt. Emei. The addition of other temples turned the site into one of the main holy places of Buddhism. Over the centuries, the cultural treasures grew in number. The most remarkable was the Giant Buddha of Leshan, carved out of a hillside in the eighth century and looking down on the junction of three rivers. At 71 metres high, it is the largest Buddha in the world. Mt. Emei is also notable for its very diverse vegetation, ranging from sub-tropical to subalpine pine forests. Some of the trees are more than a thousand years old.
- Ancient City of Ping Yao** 1997
(C ii, iii, iv)
Ping Yao is an exceptionally well preserved example of a traditional Han Chinese city, founded in the 14th century. Its urban fabric is an epitome of the evolution of architectural styles and town planning in Imperial China over five centuries. Of special interest are the imposing buildings associated with banking, for which Ping Yao was the centre for the whole of China in the 19th and early 20th centuries.
- Classical Gardens of Suzhou** 1997
(C i, ii, iii, iv, v)
Classical Chinese garden design, which seeks to recreate natural landscapes in miniature, is nowhere better illustrated than in the four gardens in the historic city of Suzhou. They are universally acknowledged to be masterpieces of the genre. Dating from the 16th-18th centuries, the gardens reflect the profound metaphysical importance of natural beauty in Chinese culture in their meticulous design.
- Old Town of Lijiang** 1997
(C ii, iv)
The Old Town of Lijiang, which adapted itself harmoniously to the uneven topography of this key commercial and strategic site, has retained an historic townscape of high quality and authenticity. Its architecture is noteworthy for the blending of elements from several cultures that have come together over many centuries. Lijiang also possesses an ancient water-supply system of great complexity and ingenuity that is still functioning effectively.
- Temple of Heaven: an Imperial Sacrificial Altar in Beijing** 1998
(C i, ii, iii)
The Temple of Heaven, founded in the first half of the 15th century, is a dignified complex of fine cult buildings set in gardens and surrounded by historic pine woods. In its overall layout and in that of its individual buildings, it symbolizes the relationship between earth and heaven which stands at the heart of Chinese cosmogony, and also the special role played by the emperors within that relationship.
- Summer Palace, an Imperial Garden in Beijing** 1998
(C i, ii, iii)
The Summer Palace in Beijing, which was first built in 1750, largely destroyed in the war of 1860, and restored on its original foundation in 1886, is a masterpiece of Chinese landscape garden design, integrating the natural landscape of hills and open water with manmade features such as pavilions, halls, palaces, temples and bridges into a harmonious and aesthetically exceptional whole.

COLOMBIA

Port, Fortresses and Group of Monuments, Cartagena 1984 (C iv, vi)

Situated in a bay of the Caribbean Sea, Cartagena has the most extensive fortifications in South America. A system of zones divides the city into three quarters: San Pedro with the Cathedral and many Andalusian-style palaces, San Diego where merchants and middle-class lived and Gethsemani, the "popular quarter".

Los Katios National Park 1994 (N ii, iv)

Extending over 72,000 hectares in north-western Colombia, Los Katios National Park comprises low hills, forests and humid plains. An exceptional biological diversity can be found in the park, which is home to many threatened animal species, as well as many endemic plants.

Historic Centre of Santa Cruz de Mompox 1995 (C iv, v)

Founded in 1540 on the banks of the River Magdalena, Mompox played a key role in the Spanish takeover of northern South America. From the 16th to the 19th century the city developed in parallel with the river, with the main street acting as a dyke. The historic centre has preserved the harmony and unity of the urban landscape. Most of the buildings are still being used for their original purposes, providing an exceptional picture of what a Spanish colonial city was like.

National Archaeological Park of Tierradentro 1995 (C iii)

The park includes monumental statues of human figures and contains many hypogea dating from the 6th to the 10th century. These huge underground tombs (some death chambers are up to 12 metres wide) are decorated with motifs that reproduce the internal decor of homes of the period. They bear witness to the social complexity and cultural wealth of a pre-Hispanic society in the northern Andes.

San Agustín Archaeological Park 1995 (C iii)

In a wild, spectacular landscape stands the largest group of religious monuments and megalithic sculptures in South America. Gods and mythical animals are skilfully represented in styles ranging from abstract to realist. These works of art display the creativity and imagination of a northern Andean culture that flourished from the 1st to the 8th century.

COSTA RICA

Cocos Island National Park 1997 (N ii, iv)

Cocos Island National Park, located 550 km off the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, is the only island in the tropical eastern Pacific with a humid tropical forest. Its position as the first point of contact with the northern equatorial counter current and the myriad of interactions between the island and the surrounding marine ecosystem make the area an ideal laboratory for the study of biological processes. The underwater world of the national park has become famous due to the attraction it has for divers who rate it as one of the best places in the world to view large pelagic species such as sharks, rays, tuna and dolphins.

COSTA RICA and PANAMA

Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park 1983, 1990 (N i, ii, iii, iv)

The location of this unique site in Central America, where Quaternary glaciers have left their mark, has allowed the fauna and

flora of North and South America to interbreed. Tropical rainforests cover most of the area. Four different Indian tribes inhabit this property, which benefits from close co-operation between Costa Rica and Panama.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Tai National Park 1982 (N iii, iv)

This park is one of the last important remnants of the primary tropical forest of West Africa. Its rich natural flora, and threatened mammal species, such as the pygmy hippopotamus and eleven species of monkeys, are of great scientific interest.

Comoé National Park 1983 (N ii, iv)

One of the largest protected areas in West Africa, this park is characterised by very great plant diversity. Due to the presence of the Comoé River, it contains plants which are normally only found much farther south, such as shrub savannahs and patches of thick rain forest.

CROATIA

Old City of Dubrovnik 1979, 1994 (C i, iii, iv)

Situated on the Dalmatian coast, the "Pearl of the Adriatic", became an important Mediterranean sea power from the 13th century onwards. Although severely damaged by an earthquake in 1667, Dubrovnik managed to preserve its beautiful Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque churches, monasteries, palaces and fountains. Damaged again in the 1990's by armed conflict, it is being repaired as part of a major restoration programme coordinated by UNESCO.

Historical Complex of Split with the Palace of Diocletian 1979 (C ii, iii, iv)

The ruins of Diocletian's Palace, built between the late 3rd century and the early 4th century A.D. can be found throughout the city. The Cathedral was constructed in the Middle Ages out of the ancient mausoleum. Romanesque churches from the 12th and 13th centuries, medieval fortifications, Gothic palaces of the 15th century, and other palaces in Renaissance and Baroque style make up the rest of the protected area.

Plitvice Lakes National Park 1979 (N ii, iii)

The waters which have flowed across the limestone and chalk have, over thousands of years, deposited travertine barriers, creating natural dams which in turn have created a series of beautiful lakes, caves and waterfalls. These geological processes continue today. The forests of the park are a refuge for bears, wolves and many rare bird species.

Episcopal Complex of the Euphrasian Basilica in the Historic Centre of Porec 1997 (C ii, iii, iv)

The group of religious monuments in Porec, where Christianity was established as early as the 4th century, constitutes the most complete surviving complex of this type. The basilica, atrium, baptistery, and episcopal palace are outstanding examples of religious architecture, whilst the basilica itself combines classical and Byzantine elements in an exceptional manner.

Historic City of Trogir 1997 (C ii, iv)

Trogir is a remarkable example of urban continuity. The orthogonal street pattern of this island settlement dates back to the Hellenistic period, and it has been embellished by successive rulers with many fine public and domestic buildings and fortifications. Its fine Romanesque churches are complemented by the outstanding Renaissance and Baroque buildings from the Venetian period.

CUBA

Old Havana and its Fortifications 1982

(C iv, v)

Founded in 1519 by the Spanish, Havana had become, by the 17th century, a prime centre for naval construction in the Caribbean. Although it is today a sprawling metropolis of two million inhabitants, its old centre retains an interesting mix of baroque and neo-classical monuments, and a homogenous ensemble of civilian houses with arcades, balconies, wrought-iron gates and interior courtyards.

Trinidad and the Valley de Los Ingenios 1988

(C iv, v)

Founded in the early 16th century in honour of the Holy Trinity, the city was a bridgehead for the conquest of the American continent. Its 18th- and 19th-century buildings, such as the Palacio Brunet and the Palacio Cantero were built in its days of prosperity from the sugar trade.

San Pedro de la Roca Castle, Santiago de Cuba 1997

(C iv, v)

Commercial and political rivalries in the Caribbean region in the 17th century resulted in the construction of this massive series of fortifications on a rocky promontory, in order to protect the important port of Santiago. This intricate complex of forts, magazines, bastions, and batteries is the most complete and best preserved example of Spanish-American military architecture, based on Italian and Renaissance design principles.

CYPRUS

Paphos 1980

(C iii, vi)

Inhabited since the Neolithic Age, Paphos was a site of worship of Aphrodite and prehistoric fertility deities. Aphrodite's legendary birthplace was on this island, where her temple was erected by the Mycenaeans in the 12th century B.C. The remains of villas, palaces, theatres, fortresses and tombs give the site its exceptional architectural and historic value. The mosaics of Nea Paphos are among the most beautiful in the world.

Painted Churches in the Troodos Region 1985

(C ii, iii, iv)

The region is characterised by one of the largest groups of Byzantine churches and monasteries. The complex of nine monuments, all richly decorated with murals, chosen for inclusion on the World Heritage List, offers a striking view of Byzantine and post-Byzantine painting in Cyprus, from small churches, with rural architectural styles in stark contrast to their highly refined decoration, to monasteries such as that of Saint John Lampadistis.

Choirokoitia 1998

(C ii, iii, iv)

The Neolithic settlement of Choirokoitia, occupied from the 7th to the 4th millennium BC, is one of the most important prehistoric sites in the eastern Mediterranean. Its remains and the finds from the excavations there have thrown much light on the evolution of human society in this key region. Only part of the site has been excavated, and so it forms an exceptional archaeological reserve for future study.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Historic Centre of Prague 1992

(C ii, iv, vi)

Built between the 11th and the 18th century, the Old Town, the Lesser Town and the New Town with their magnificent monuments, such as the Hradcany Castle, the St Vitus Cathedral, the Charles Bridge, numerous churches and palaces, built mostly in the 14th

century under the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles IV, speak of the great architectural and cultural influence this city had since the Middle Ages.

Historic Centre of Cesky Krumlov 1992

(C iv)

Situated on the banks of the Vltava River, the town was built around a 13th-century castle bearing Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque imprints. It is an outstanding example of a small medieval town of central Europe whose architectural heritage has remained intact thanks to its peaceful evolution for more than five centuries.

Historic Centre of Telc 1992

(C i, iv)

Located on a hilltop, its houses were originally built of wood. After a fire in the late 14th century, the town was rebuilt in stone, surrounded by walls and further strengthened by a network of ponds. The town's Gothic castle was reconstructed in High Gothic style in the later 15th century.

Pilgrimage Church of St John of Nepomuk at Zelena Hora 1994

(C iv)

At Zelena Hora, not far from Zdar nad Sazavou in Moravia, lies this pilgrimage church, built in honour of St John of Nepomuk. Constructed at the beginning of the 18th century, in a star-shaped design, it is the most original work of the great architect Jan Blazej Santini, whose highly original style falls between neo-Gothic and Baroque.

Kutná Hora - the Historical Town Centre with the Church of Saint Barbara and the Cathedral of Our Lady at Sedlec 1995

(C ii, iv)

Kutná Hora developed as a result of the exploitation of the silver mines and became, in the 14th century a royal city endowed with monuments that symbolized its prosperity. Saint Barbara Church, a jewel of the late Gothic period, and the Cathedral of Our Lady at Sedlec, which was restored in line with the baroque taste of the early 18th century, influenced the architecture of Central Europe. These masterpieces today form part of a preserved medieval urban fabric with a striking wealth of private homes.

Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape 1996

(C i, ii, iv)

Between the 17th and 20th centuries, the ruling dukes of Liechtenstein transformed their domains in southern Moravia into a striking landscape. It married baroque architecture (mainly the work of Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach) and the classic and neo-Gothic style of the castles of Lednice and Valtice with countryside fashioned according to English romantic principles of landscaping. At 200 square kilometres, it is one of the biggest man-made landscapes in Europe.

Holašovice Historical Village Reservation 1998

(C ii, iv)

Holašovice is an exceptionally complete and well preserved example of a traditional Central European village, containing a number of high-quality vernacular buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries in a style known as the "South Bohemian Folk Baroque", and preserving a ground plan dating from the Middle Ages.

Gardens and Castle at Kromeriz 1998

(C ii, iv)

Kromeriz stands on the site of an earlier ford across the river Morava, at the foot of the Chriby mountain range dominating the central part of Moravia. The gardens and castle of Kromeriz offer an exceptionally complete and well preserved example of a European Baroque princely residence and its associated gardens.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of the CONGO

Virunga National Park 1979 (N ii, iii, iv)

The park of Virunga offers within its 790,000 hectares an incomparable diversity of habitats, from swamps and steppes to the snow fields of Rwenzori at an altitude of over 5,000 metres, and from the lava plains to the savannahs on the slopes of volcanoes. Some 20,000 hippopotamuses live in its rivers, mountain gorillas find refuge there and birds from Siberia spend the winter there.

Garamba National Park 1980 (N iii, iv)

Immense savannahs, grasslands or woodlands, interspersed with gallery forests along the river banks and the swampy depressions, protect four large mammals: the elephant, giraffe, hippopotamus and above all the white rhinoceros. Much larger than the black rhino, it is harmless, and only some thirty individuals remain.

Kahuzi-Biega National Park 1980 (N iv)

A vast area of primary tropical forest dominated by two spectacular extinct volcanoes, Kahuzi and Biega, the park is populated with a diverse and abundant fauna. One of the last groups of mountain gorillas (consisting only of about 250 individuals), lives between 2,100 and 2,400 metres above sea-level.

Salonga National Park 1984 (N ii, iii)

The largest tropical rainforest reserve, at the heart of the central river basin of the Zaire River, Salonga National Park is very isolated and accessible only by water. It is the habitat of many endemic endangered species, such as the dwarf chimpanzee and the Zaire peacock, the forest elephant and the African slender-snouted or "false" crocodile.

Okapi Wildlife Reserve 1996 (N iv)

The Okapi Wildlife Reserve occupies about one-fifth of the Ituri Forest in the northeast of Zaire. The Zaire River basin, of which the reserve and forest are a part, is one of the largest drainage systems in Africa. The wildlife reserve contains threatened species of primates and birds and about 5,000 of the estimated 30,000 okapi surviving in the wild. The reserve also contains dramatic scenic values including waterfalls on the Ituri and Epulu rivers. The reserve is inhabited by traditional nomadic pygmy Mbuti and Efe hunters.

DENMARK

Jelling Mounds, Runic Stones and Church 1994 (C iii)

The Jelling burial mounds and one of the runic stones are striking examples of pagan Nordic culture, while the other runic stone and the church illustrate the christianization of the Danish people towards the middle of the 10th century.

Roskilde Cathedral 1995 (C ii, iv)

Built in the 12th and 13th centuries, this was the first Gothic cathedral built of brick in Scandinavia and it inspired the spread of this style throughout Northern Europe. It became the mausoleum of the Danish royal family from the 15th century onwards. Porches and side chapels were added to it up until the end of the 19th century. It now provides a visible summary of the development of European religious architecture.

DOMINICA

Morne Trois Pitons National Park 1997 (N i, iv)

Luxuriant natural tropical forest blends with volcanic features of high scenic appeal and scientific interest in this national park centered on the 1,342 m high volcano bearing the name Morne Trois Pitons. With its precipitous slopes and deeply-incised valleys, 50 fumaroles and hot springs, freshwater lakes, a "boiling lake" and five volcanoes, located on the park's nearly 7,000 ha, together with the richest biodiversity within the Lesser Antilles, Morne Trois Pitons National Park presents a rare combination of natural features of World Heritage value.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Colonial City of Santo Domingo 1990 (C ii, iv, vi)

After the discovery of the island in 1492 by Christopher Columbus, Santo Domingo became the site of the first cathedral, hospital, customs house and university in the Americas. This colonial town, which was founded in 1498, was laid out on a grid pattern, which became the model for almost all town-planners in the New World.

ECUADOR

Galapagos Islands 1978 (N i, ii, iii, iv)

Located some 1,000 kilometres from the South American continent in the Pacific Ocean, these nineteen volcanic islands have been called a unique "living museum and showcase of evolution". The presence of unusual animal life - such as the land iguana, the giant tortoise, and the many types of finches - inspired Charles Darwin in his theory of evolution, following his visit there in 1835.

City of Quito 1978 (C ii, iv)

Founded in the 16th century on the ruins of an Inca city, at an altitude of 2,850 m, the capital of Ecuador has, despite the 1917 earthquake, the best preserved and least modified historic centre in Latin America. The monasteries of San Francisco and Santo Domingo, and the Church and the Jesuit College of La Compania with their rich interior decorations are pure examples of the "Baroque School of Quito" which is a fusion of Spanish, Italian, Moorish, Flemish and indigenous art.

Sangay National Park 1983 (N ii, iii, iv)

With its outstanding natural beauty and its two active volcanoes, the park illustrates the entire spectrum of ecosystems, ranging in altitude from tropical rainforests to glaciers, with striking contrasts between the snowcapped peaks and the forests of the plains. Its isolation provides protection to the indigenous species found there, such as the mountain tapir and the Andean condor.

EGYPT

Memphis and its Necropolis - the Pyramid fields from Giza to Dahshur 1979 (C i, iii, vi)

Extraordinary funerary monuments remain around the capital of the Old Kingdom of Egypt, including rock tombs, ornate mastabas, temples and pyramids. In ancient times, the site was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis 1979 (C i, iii, vi)

The capital of Egypt during the period of the Middle and New Kingdoms, Thebes was the city of the god Amon. With the temples and palaces at Karnak and Luxor and the necropolises of the Valley

of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens, Thebes is a striking testimony to Egyptian civilization at its height.

Nubian Monuments from Abu Simbel to Philae 1979
(C i, iii, vi)

This exceptional archaeological area is bordered by such magnificent monuments as the temples of Ramses II in Abu Simbel and the Sanctuary of Isis in Philae, which were saved from the Nile's rising waters thanks to an International Campaign launched by UNESCO.

Islamic Cairo 1979
(C i, v, vi)

Tucked away amid the modern urban area of Cairo lies one of the world's oldest Islamic cities, with its famous mosques, medersas, hammams, and fountains. Founded in the 10th century it became the new centre of the Islamic world, reaching its Golden Age in the 14th century.

Abu Mena 1979
(C iv)

The church, baptistry, basilicas, public buildings, streets, monasteries, houses and workshops in this early Christian holy city were built over the tomb of the martyr Menas of Alexandria, who died in 296 A.D.

EL SALVADOR

Joya de Ceren Archaeological Site 1993
(C ii, iv)

Joya de Ceren was a pre-Hispanic farming community that, like Pompeii and Herculaneum in Italy, was buried under a volcanic eruption around 600 A.D. Because of the exceptional condition of the remains, the site provides a view of the daily lives of the Central American populations who worked the land at that time.

ESTONIA

Historic Centre (Old Town) of Tallinn 1997
(C ii, iv)

The origins of Tallinn date back to the 13th century, when a castle was founded by the crusading knights of the Teutonic Order. It developed as a major centre of the Hanseatic League, and its wealth is demonstrated by the opulence of the public buildings (its churches in particular) and the domestic architecture of the merchants' houses, which have survived to a remarkable degree despite the ravages of fire and war in the intervening centuries.

ETHIOPIA

Simen National Park 1978
(N iii, iv)

Massive erosion over the years on the Ethiopian plateau has created one of the most spectacular landscapes in the world, with jagged mountain peaks, deep valleys and sharp precipices as deep as 1,500 metres. The park is the refuge of extremely rare animals such as the Gelada baboon, the Simen fox and the Walia ibex, a goat found nowhere else in the world.

Rock-hewn Churches, Lalibela 1978
(C i, ii, iii)

In a mountainous region in the heart of Ethiopia, the eleven medieval monolithic cave churches of this 13th-century "New Jerusalem" were carved out of rock near a traditional village with circular-shaped dwellings.

Fasil Ghebbi, Gondar Region 1979
(C ii, iii)

Residence of Ethiopian emperor Fasilides and his successors during the 16th and 17th centuries, the fortress-city of Fasil Ghebbi,

surrounded by a 900 metre wall, contains palaces, churches, monasteries and unique public and private buildings marked by Hindu and Arabic influences, and transformed by the baroque style brought to Gondar by the Jesuit missionaries.

Lower Valley of the Awash 1980
(C ii, iii, iv)

A reference point in the study of the origins of mankind, the Awash Valley contains one of the most important groupings of palaeontological sites on the African continent.

Tiya 1980
(C i, iv)

Of the roughly 160 archaeological sites discovered so far in the Soddo region, south of Addis Ababa, Tiya is one of the most important. The site contains 36 monuments, including 32 carved stelae covered with symbols, for the most part difficult to decipher, which are the remains of an ancient Ethiopian culture, whose age has not yet been precisely determined.

Aksum 1980
(C i, iv)

The Kingdom of Aksum held political power at the heart of ancient Ethiopia until the 13th century. The massive ruins of the kingdom's capital are dominated by obelisks and enormous stelae.

Lower Valley of the Omo 1980
(C iii, iv)

A prehistoric site near Lake Turkana, the lower valley of the Omo is renowned the world over. The discovery of many fossils there, especially *Homo gracilis*, has been important in the study of human evolution.

FINLAND

Old Rauma 1991
(C iv, v)

Situated on the Gulf of Botnia, Rauma is one of the oldest harbours in Finland. Built around a Franciscan monastery, where the mid-15th-century Holy Cross Church still stands, it is an outstanding example of an old Nordic city constructed in wood. Although ravaged by fire in the late 17th century, it has preserved its ancient vernacular architectural heritage.

Fortress of Suomenlinna 1991
(C iv)

Built in the second half of the 18th century by Sweden on a group of islands located at the entrance of Helsinki's harbour, this fortress is an especially interesting example of European military architecture of the time.

Petäjävesi Old Church 1994
(C iv)

Petäjävesi Old Church, in Central Finland, built from logs between 1763-1765, is a Lutheran country church, typical of an architectural tradition unique to eastern Scandinavia. The church combines the layout of a Renaissance central church conception with older forms deriving from Gothic groined ceilings.

Verla Groundwood and Board Mill 1996
(C iv)

The Verla groundwood and board mill and its associated habitation area is an outstanding and remarkably well preserved example of the small-scale rural industrial settlement associated with pulp, paper and board production that flourished in northern Europe and North America in the 19th and early 20th centuries, of which only a handful survives to the present day.

FRANCE

- Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay** 1979
(C i, iii, vi)
Perched on a rocky islet in the midst of vast sandflats exposed to powerful tides between Normandy and Brittany is the "Wonder of the West", a Gothic-style Benedictine Abbey dedicated to the archangel Saint Michael, and the village that grew up in the shadow of its great walls. Built between the 11th and 16th centuries, the abbey is an extraordinary technical and artistic tour de force, having to adapt to the problems posed by this unique natural site.
- Chartres Cathedral** 1979
(C i, ii, iv)
Partly built starting in 1145 and reconstructed 26 years later after the fire of 1194, Chartres Cathedral is a reference point of French Gothic art. Its vast nave, in pure ogival style, its porches presenting admirable sculptures from the middle of the 12th century, and its sparkling 12th and 13th-century stained-glass windows, all in remarkable condition, make it a masterpiece.
- Palace and Park of Versailles** 1979
(C i, ii, vi)
The principal residence of the Kings of France from Louis XIV to Louis XVI, the Versailles palace, embellished by several generations of architects, sculptors, decorators and landscape architects, has for more than a century provided Europe with the very model of a royal residence.
- Vézelay, Church and Hill** 1979
(C i, vi)
Shortly after its foundation in the 9th century, the Benedictine monastery acquired the relics of St Mary Magdalene and since then has been an important place of pilgrimage. St Bernard preached the Second Crusade there in 1146 and Richard the Lion-Hearted and Philippe Augustus met there to leave for the Third Crusade in 1190. The Madeleine of Vézelay, a monastic 12th-century church, is a masterpiece of Burgundian Romanesque art, by virtue of its architecture as well as its capitals and sculpted portal.
- Decorated Grottoes of the Vézère Valley** 1979
(C i, iii)
The Vézère Valley contains 147 prehistoric sites dating to the palaeolithic era and 25 decorated caves. It is particularly interesting from an ethnological and anthropologic, as well as aesthetic point of view, with its cave paintings, especially those of the Lascaux cave, whose discovery in 1940 was an important date in the history of prehistoric art. Its hunting scenes contain about 100 animal figures, remarkable for their detail, the richness of their colours and their life-like quality.
- Palace and Park of Fontainebleau** 1981
(C ii, vi)
Used by the Kings of France from the 12th century, the hunting residence of Fontainebleau, at the heart of a vast forest in the Ile-de-France, was transformed, enlarged and embellished in the 16th century by François I, who wanted to make a "New Rome" of it. Surrounded by an immense park, the palace, of Italian inspiration, combines Renaissance and French artistic traditions.
- Chateau and Estate of Chambord** 1981
(C i)
Constructed in the midst of a vast forest in the Loire valley, the Chateau of Chambord is a unique masterpiece of the French Renaissance which associates traditional medieval forms with classical Italian structures in an extremely imaginative way.
- Amiens Cathedral** 1981
(C i, ii)
Amiens Cathedral, in the heart of Picardy, is one of the largest "classic" Gothic churches of the 13th century. The coherence of its plan, the beauty of its three-tier interior elevation and the arrangement of an extremely scholarly sculptural programme on its principal façade and on the wing of the southern transept are striking.
- Roman Theatre and its Surroundings and the "Triumphal Arch" of Orange** 1981
(C iii, vi)
Situated in the Rhone valley, the ancient theatre of Orange, with its 103-metre long façade, is one of the best preserved of all the great Roman theatres. Built between 10 and 25 A.D., the Roman arch is one of the most beautiful and most interesting provincial triumphal arches built during the reign of Augustus and known today, decorated with bas-reliefs commemorating the establishment of the Pax Romana.
- Roman and Romanesque Monuments of Arles** 1981
(C ii, iv)
Arles is a good example of the adaptation of an ancient city to medieval European civilization, with its impressive Roman monuments, of which the earliest, the Arena, the Roman Theatre and the Cryptoportica (subterranean galleries) date back to the 1st century B.C. During the 4th century Arles saw a second golden age, as the baths of Constantine and the necropolis of Alyscamps attest to. In the 11th and 12th centuries, Arles once again became one of the most attractive cities in the Mediterranean. Within the city walls, Saint Trophime, with its cloister, is one of the major monuments of Romanesque art of Provence.
- Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay** 1981
(C iv)
This stark Burgundian monastery, founded in 1119 by Saint Bernard, with its church, cloister, refectory, sleeping quarters, bakery and ironworks, is a wonderful illustration of the ideal of self-sufficiency in the earliest communities of Cistercian monks.
- Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans** 1982
(C i, ii, iv)
The Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans, near Besançon, was created by Claude Nicolas Ledoux. Its construction, begun in 1775 during the reign of Louis XVI, is the first important achievement of industrial architecture, reflecting the ideal of progress of the Enlightenment. This vast, semi-circular edifice was conceived to permit a rational and hierarchical organisation of work and was to have been followed by the building of an ideal city, which was never realized.
- Place Stanislas, Place de la Carrière and Place d'Alliance in Nancy** 1983
(C i, iv)
Nancy, the temporary residence of a king without a kingdom - Stanislas Leszczyński, who later became the Duke of Lorraine - is paradoxically the oldest and most typical example of a modern capital where an enlightened monarch proved to be conscious of the needs of the public. Constructed between 1752 and 1756 by a brilliant team under the direction of the architect Héré, this was a project of extreme coherence which succeeded perfectly in linking the desire for prestige with the king's concern for functionality.
- Church of Saint-Savin sur Gartempe** 1983
(C i, iii)
Known as the "Romanesque Sistine Chapel", the abbey of Saint-Savin contains many very beautiful 11th and 12th-century mural paintings, which are still in remarkably pure condition.

Cape Girolata, Cape Porto, Scandola Nature Reserve, and the Piana Calanches in Corsica 1983

(N ii, iii, iv)

The nature reserve, part of the Regional Natural Park of Corsica, occupies the Scandola peninsula, an impressive, porphyritic rock mass. Its vegetation is an example of scrubland. Seagulls, cormorants and sea eagles can be found there. The clear waters, with the islets and inaccessible caves, host a rich marine life.

Pont du Gard (Roman Aqueduct) 1985

(C i, iii, iv)

The Pont du Gard was built shortly before the Christian era to allow the aqueduct of Nîmes, almost 50 kilometres long, to cross the Gard River. The hydraulic engineers and Roman architects who conceived this bridge, which is almost 50 metres high over three levels - the longest measuring 275 metres - created a technical as well as artistic masterpiece.

Strasbourg - Grande Ile 1988

(C i, ii, iv)

Surrounded by two arms of the Ill, the "Grande Ile" (Big Island) is the historic centre of the Alsatian capital which, within a restricted area, contains an outstanding complex of monuments. The Cathedral, the four ancient churches and the Palais Rohan - former residence of the prince-bishops, far from appearing as isolated monuments, form a district which is very characteristic of a medieval town, and representative of the evolution of Strasbourg from the 15th to 18th centuries.

Paris, Banks of the Seine 1991

(C i, ii, iv)

From the Louvre to the Eiffel Tower or the Place de la Concorde to the Grand and Petit Palais, the evolution of Paris and its history can be seen from the river. The Cathedral of Notre Dame and the Sainte Chapelle are architectural masterpieces while Haussmann's wide squares and avenues influenced late 19th and 20th-century urbanism the world over.

Cathedral of Notre-Dame, Former Abbey of Saint-Remi and Palace of Tau Reims

(C i, ii, vi)

1991

The outstanding handling of new architectural techniques in the 13th century, and the harmonious marriage of sculpted decoration with architecture, has made Notre Dame in Reims one of the masterpieces of Gothic art. The former abbey has conserved its very beautiful 9th century nave, in which lie the remains of the Archbishop Saint Remi (440-533), who instituted the Holy Anointing of the kings of France. The Tau Palace, former archiepiscopal palace, important in holy ceremonies, was almost entirely reconstructed in the 17th century.

Bourges Cathedral 1992

(C i, iv)

Admired for its proportions and the unity of its design, the Cathedral of Saint Stephen of Bourges, constructed between the late 12th and late 13th centuries, is one of the great masterpieces of Gothic art. Its tympanum, sculptures and stained-glass windows are particularly striking. Apart from its architectural beauty, it attests to the power of Christianity in medieval France.

Historic Centre of Avignon 1995

(C i, ii, iv)

This city of Southern France was the seat of the papacy in the 14th century. The Palais des Papes, an austere-looking fortress lavishly decorated by Simone Martini and Matteo Giovanetti, dominates the city, the surrounding ramparts and the remains of a 12th-century bridge over the Rhone. Beneath this outstanding example of Gothic architecture, the Petit Palais and the Romanesque Cathedral of Notre-Dame des Doms complete an exceptional group of

monuments bearing witness to the eminent role played by Avignon in Christian Europe in the 14th century.

Le Canal du Midi

(C i, ii, iv, vi)

1996

This 360 kilometre-network of navigable waterways linking the Mediterranean and the Atlantic through 328 structures : locks, aqueducts, bridges, tunnels etc, is one of the most remarkable civil engineering feats of modern times. Built between 1667 and 1694, it opened the way for the Industrial Revolution. The care that its creator, Pierre-Paul Riquet, took in its design and the harmony with its surroundings turned a technical achievement into a work of art.

Historic Fortified City of Carcassonne

(C ii, iv)

1997

Since the pre-Roman period a fortified settlement has existed on the hill where Carcassonne now stands. In its present form it is an outstanding example of a medieval fortified town, with massive defences encircling the castle, its associated houses, streets and the fine Gothic cathedral. Carcassonne is also of exceptional importance because of the long campaign of restoration carried out by Viollet-le-Duc, one of the founders of the modern science of conservation.

Historic Site of Lyon

(C ii, iv)

1998

The long history of Lyon, which was founded by the Romans as the capital of the Three Gauls in the 1st century BC and has continued to play a major role in the political, cultural, and economic development of Europe since that time, is vividly illustrated by its urban fabric and by its many fine historic buildings from all periods.

Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France

(C ii, iv, vi)

1998

Santiago de Compostela was the greatest of all goals for countless thousands of pious pilgrims converging there from all over Europe throughout the Middle Ages. To reach Spain pilgrims had to pass through France, and the group of important historical monuments included in this inscription on the World Heritage List mark out the four routes by which they did so.

FRANCE and SPAIN

Pyrénées - Mont Perdu

(N i, iii / C iii, iv, v)

1997

This outstanding mountain landscape, which spans the contemporary national borders of France and Spain, is centered around the peak of Mount Perdu, a calcareous massif that rises 3,352 metres. The site, with a total area of 30,639 ha., includes two of Europe's largest and deepest canyons on the Spanish side and three major cirque walls on the more abrupt northern slopes with France, classic presentations of these geologic landforms. But the site is also a pastoral landscape reflecting an agricultural way of life that was once widespread in the upland regions of Europe. It has survived unchanged into the 20th century only in this part of the Pyrénées, providing exceptional insights into past European society through its landscape of villages, farms, fields, upland pastures, and mountain roads.

GEORGIA

City-Museum Reserve of Mtskheta

(C iii, iv)

1994

The historical churches of Mtskheta, former capital of Georgia, are striking examples of religious architecture of the Middle Ages in the Caucasus. They bear witness to the high artistic and cultural level that this ancient kingdom achieved.

Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery 1994
(C iv)

The construction of Bagrati Cathedral, named after Bagrat III, the first king of united Georgia, began at the end of the 10th century and was completed in the early years of the 11th century. It was partly destroyed by the Turks in 1691, but its ruins remain in the centre of Kutaisi. The Gelati Monastery, whose main buildings were erected between the 12th and 17th centuries, is a well-preserved complex, rich in mosaics and wall paintings. The cathedral and the monastery represent the blossoming of medieval architecture in Georgia.

Upper Svaneti 1996
(C iv, v)

Preserved by its long isolation, the Upper Svaneti region of the Caucasus is an exceptional example of mountain scenery with medieval-type villages and tower houses. The village of Chazhashi still has more than 200 of these very original houses, which were used both as dwellings and as defence posts against the invaders which plagued the region.

GERMANY

Aachen Cathedral 1978
(C i, ii, iv, vi)

Construction of this Palatine chapel, with its octagonal basilica and cupola, began between 790 and 800 under the Emperor Charlemagne. Originally inspired by eastern churches of the Roman Empire, splendid facings were added in the Middle Ages.

Speyer Cathedral 1981
(C ii)

Founded by Conrad II in 1030 and remodelled at the end of the 11th century, the Speyer Cathedral, a basilica with four towers and two domes, is one of the main Romanesque monuments of the Holy Roman Empire. Its architectural structure strikes a perfect balance between eastern and western influences.

Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square 1981
(C i, iv)

Under the patronage of two successive bishop-princes, this sumptuous Baroque palace, one of the largest and most beautiful in Germany, surrounded by magnificent gardens, was built and decorated in the 18th century by an international corps of architects, painters (including Tiepolo), sculptors and stucco workers, led by Balthasar Neumann.

Pilgrimage Church of Wies 1983
(C i, iii)

Miraculously preserved in the beautiful setting of an alpine valley, the white Church of Wies (1745-54), the work of architect Dominikus Zimmermann, is a masterpiece of Bavarian rococo - exuberant, colourful and joyful.

Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust at Brühl 1984
(C ii, iv)

Set against the idyllic setting of a garden landscape, the Augustusburg Castle - sumptuous residence of the prince-archbishops of Cologne - and the Falkenlust hunting lodge - a small rural folly - are among the first illustrations of rococo architecture in 18th century Germany.

St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Michael's Church at Hildesheim 1985
(C i, ii, iii)

St. Michael's Church was built between 1010 and 1020, following a symmetrical plan with two apses, characteristic of Romanesque Ottoman art in Old Saxony. Its interior, in particular the wooden ceiling and painted stuccowork, along with the treasures of St. Mary's Cathedral, famous for its doors and Bernward bronze

column, are an outstanding testimony to the Romanesque churches of the Holy Roman Empire.

Roman Monuments, Cathedral and Liebfrauen-Church in Trier 1986
(C i, iii, iv, vi)

A Roman colony since the 1st century A.D. and then a trading centre beginning in the next century, Trier, along the Moselle River, became one of the capitals of the Tetrarchy at the end of the 3rd century and was called the "second Rome". It is an excellent testimony to Roman civilization, because of the density and quality of the preserved monuments.

Hanseatic City of Lübeck 1987
(C iv)

The former capital of the Hanseatic League, founded in the 12th century, prospered until the 16th century as the major trading centre for Northern Europe. It remains, even today, a centre for maritime commerce, particularly with the Nordic countries. Despite the damages it suffered during World War II, the structure of the old city, consisting mainly of 15th and 16th-century patrician residences, monuments (the famous Holstentor brick gate), churches and salt storehouses, is still intact.

Palaces and Parks of Potsdam and Berlin 1990, 1992
(C i, ii, iv)

With 500 hectares of parks and 150 buildings constructed between 1730 and 1916, the complex of palaces and parks of Potsdam form an artistic whole, whose eclectic nature reinforces its sense of uniqueness. It extends into the district of Berlin-Zehlendorf, with the palaces and parks which line the banks of the Havel and the Glienicke Lakes. Voltaire stayed in the Sans-Souci Palace, built under Frederick II between 1745 and 1757.

Abbey and Altenmünster of Lorsch 1991
(C iii, iv)

The abbey, together with its monumental entrance, the famous "Torhall", are a rare architectural vestige of the Carolingian era. The sculptures and paintings from this period have remained in remarkably good condition.

Mines of Rammelsberg and Historic Town of Goslar 1992
(C i, iv)

Situated near the Rammelsberg Mines, Goslar held an important place in the Hanseatic League because of the rich Rammelsberg metallic ore deposits. From the 10th to the 12th century it was the seat of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation. Its historic centre, dating from the Middle Ages, is perfectly preserved with some 1,500 semi-timbered houses between the 15th and 19th centuries.

Town of Bamberg 1993
(C ii, iv)

From the 10th century onwards, this town became an important link with the Slav peoples, especially those of Poland and Pomerania. During its prosperity, from the 12th century onwards, the architecture of Bamberg strongly influenced northern Germany and Hungary. In the late 18th century it was the centre of the Enlightenment in Southern Germany with eminent philosophers such as Hegel and Hoffmann living there.

Maulbronn Monastery Complex 1993
(C ii, iv)

Founded in 1147, the Cistercian Maulbronn Monastery is considered the most complete and best-preserved medieval monastery complex north of the Alps. Surrounded by fortified walls, the main buildings were constructed between the 12th and 14th centuries. The monastery's church, built in the transitional Romanesque-Gothic style, had significant influence on the spread of Gothic architecture over much of northern and central Europe. The water management

system at Maulbronn, with its elaborate network of drains, irrigation canals and reservoirs, is exceptional.

Collegiate Church, Castle and Old Town of Quedlinburg 1994
(C iv)

Quedlinburg, in the Land of Sachsen-Anhalt, was the capital of the East Franconian German Empire at the time of the Saxonian-Ottonian ruling dynasty. It has been a prosperous trading town since the Middle Ages. The number and quality of its well-preserved timber-framed buildings make Quedlinburg an exceptional example of a medieval European town. Its collegiate church St Servatius is a Romanesque architectural masterpiece.

Völklingen Ironworks 1994
(C ii, iv)

The ironworks, which cover 6 hectares, lie above the city of Völklingen, in Saarland. They are the only integrated ironworks, built and equipped in the 19th and 20th centuries in Western Europe and North America, that went out of production in the recent past and that have remained intact.

Messel Pit Fossil Site 1995
(N i)

Messel Pit is the richest site for understanding the living environment of the Eocene era, between 57 million and 36 million years B.C. In particular, it provides unique information about the early stages of the evolution of mammals and includes exceptionally well preserved mammal fossils, ranging from fully articulated skeletons to the contents of stomachs of animals of this period.

Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar and Dessau 1996
(C i, ii, iv)

Between 1919 and 1933, the Bauhaus School, based first in Weimar and then in Dessau, revolutionized the architectural and aesthetic concepts and practices inherited from the Renaissance. The buildings put up and decorated by the school's professors (Walter Gropius or Hannes Meyer, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy or Wassily Kandinsky) launched the Modern Movement which has shaped much of the architecture of the 20th century.

Cologne Cathedral 1996
(C ii, iv, vi)

Begun in 1248, the building of this Gothic masterpiece took place in several stages and was not completed until 1880. Over seven centuries, its successive builders were inspired by the same faith and by a spirit of absolute fidelity to the original plans. Apart from its exceptional intrinsic value and the artistic masterpieces it contains, Cologne cathedral bears witness to the strength and endurance of European Christianity. It was damaged during the Second World War and completely restored in the years that followed.

Luther Memorials in Eisleben and Wittenberg 1996
(C iv, vi)

These places in Saxony-Anhalt illustrate the lives of Martin Luther and his disciple Melanchthon. They include Melanchthon's house in Wittenberg, the houses in Eisleben where Luther was born in 1483 and died in 1546, his room in Wittenberg, the local church and the castle church where, on 31 October 1517, Luther posted his famous "95 Theses" which launched the Reformation and a new era in the religious and political history of the world.

Classical Weimar 1998
(C iii, vi)

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries the small Thuringian town of Weimar witnessed a remarkable cultural flowering, attracting to it many writers and scholars, notably Goethe and Schiller. This development is reflected in the high quality of many of its buildings and of the parks in the surrounding area.

GHANA

Forts and Castles, Volta Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions 1979
(C vi)

These fortified trading posts, founded between 1482 and 1786 along the coast of Ghana between Keta and Beyin, are the remains of the trading routes established by the Portuguese throughout the world during their era of great maritime exploration.

Ashanti Traditional Buildings 1980
(C v)

To the northeast of Kumasi, these are the last material remains of the great Ashanti civilization, which reached its peak in the 18th century. The dwellings, made of earth, wood and straw, are gradually being destroyed by the effects of time and weather.

GREECE

Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassae 1986
(C i, ii, iii)

This famous temple to the god of the sun and healing was built towards the middle of the 5th century B.C. in the lonely heights of the Arcadian mountains. The temple, which contains the oldest Corinthian capital that has been found to date, combines the archaic style and the serenity of the Doric style with some daring architectural structures.

Archaeological Site of Delphi 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

The Pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Delphi where the oracle of Apollo spoke, was the site of Omphalos, the "navel of the world". In harmony with its superb natural landscape and charged with sacred meaning, in the 6th century B.C. it was indeed the religious centre and symbol of the unity of the ancient Greek world.

Acropolis, Athens 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

Illustrating the civilizations, myths and religions that flourished in Greece over a period of more than a thousand years, the Acropolis, which contains four of the greatest masterpieces of classical Greek art - the Parthenon, the Propylaea, the Erechtheum and the temple of Athena Nike - can be considered to symbolise the idea of world heritage.

Mount Athos 1988
(N iii / C i, ii, iv, v, vi)

Orthodox spiritual centre since 1054, the "Holy Mountain", forbidden to women and children, and with an autonomous statute since Byzantine times, Mount Athos is also a recognised artistic site. The layout of these monasteries (about twenty of which are presently inhabited by 1,400 monks) exercised its influence as far afield as Russia, and its school of painting influenced the history of Orthodox art.

Meteora 1988
(N iii / C i, ii, iv, v)

In a region of almost inaccessible sandstone peaks, monks settled on these "columns of the sky" from the 11th century on. At the time of the great revival of the eremitic ideal in the 15th century, 24 of these monasteries were built despite incredible difficulties. Their 16th-century frescoes are a fundamental stage in the development of post-Byzantine painting.

Paleochristian and Byzantine Monuments of Thessalonika 1988
(C i, ii, iv)

Founded in 315 B.C., Thessalonika, provincial capital and seaport, was one of the first bases for the spread of Christianity. Among its Christian monuments are distinguished churches, built in the Greek cross-plan and a three-nave basilica plan. Constructed over a long period, from the 4th to 15th centuries, they thus constitute a

diachronic typological series, which had considerable influence in the Byzantine world. The mosaics of the Rotond, Saint-Demetrius and Saint David's are among the great masterpieces of early Christian art.

Archaeological Site of Epidaurus 1988
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

In a small valley in the Peloponnesus, the site of Epidaurus sprawls out over several levels. The cult of Asclepius first began there, in the 6th century B.C., but the main monuments, particularly the Theatre, considered one of the purest masterpieces of Greek architecture, date from the 4th century. The vast site is a tribute to the healing cults of Greek and Roman times, with temples and hospital buildings devoted to its gods.

Medieval City of Rhodes 1988
(C ii, iv, v)

The Knightly Order of St John of Jerusalem occupied the city from 1309 to 1523 and set about transforming the city into a stronghold. It was subsequently under Turkish and Italian rule. Its Upper Town is one of the most beautiful urban ensembles of the Gothic period, with its Palace of the Grand Masters, the Great Hospital and the Street of the Knights. In the Lower Town the Gothic architecture co-exists with mosques, public baths and other buildings built during the Ottoman period.

Mystras 1989
(C ii, iii, iv)

Mystras, the "wonder of the Morea", was built as an amphitheatre around the raised fortress in 1249 by the prince of Achaïe, William of Villehardouin. Reconquered by the Byzantines, then occupied by the Turks and the Venetians, the city was abandoned in 1832, leaving only the medieval ruins, breathtaking against a very beautiful landscape.

Archaeological Site of Olympia 1989
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

The site of Olympia, in a Peloponnesus valley, has been inhabited since prehistoric times. In the 10th century B.C. Olympia became a centre of worship to Zeus. The Altis - the sanctuary to the gods - has one of the highest concentrations of masterpieces in the ancient world. In addition to temples, remains of all the sports structures destined for the Olympic Games, held every four years in Olympia beginning in 776 A.D., can also be seen.

Delos 1990
(C ii, iii, iv, vi)

According to Greek mythology, Apollo is said to have been born on this tiny island in the Cyclades archipelago. Apollo's sanctuary attracted pilgrims from all over Greece and Delos was a prosperous trading port. The island bears traces of the succeeding civilizations in the Aegean world, from the 3rd millennium B.C. to the Paleochristian era. The archeological site is exceptionally extense and rich and conveys the image of a great cosmopolitan port of the Mediterranean.

Monasteries of Daphni, Hossios Luckas, and Nea Moni of Chios 1990
(C i, iv)

These three monasteries, although geographically distant from each other (the first is in Attica, near Athens, the second in Phocide near Delphi and the third on an island in the Aegean sea, near Asia Minor), belong to the same typological series and share the same aesthetic characteristics. The churches are built on a cross-in-square plan with a large dome supported by squinches defining an octagonal space. In the 11th and 12th centuries they were decorated with superb marble works as well as mosaics on a gold background, very characteristic of the "second golden age of Byzantine art".

Pythagoreion and Heraion of Samos 1992
(C ii, iii)

Many civilizations have inhabited this small Aegean island, near Asia Minor, since the 3rd millennium B.C. Remains of Pythagoreion, an ancient fortified port with Greek and Roman monuments and its spectacular tunnel-aqueduct, as well as the temple of Heraion, sanctuary of the Samian Hero, can still be seen.

Archaeological Site of Vergina 1996
(C i, iii)

The ancient first capital of the kingdom of Macedonia the city of Aigai was discovered in the last century near Vergina, in northern Greece. The most important remains are the monumental palace, lavishly decorated with mosaics and painted stucco, and the burial ground with more than 300 tumuli, some of which date from the 11th century BC. One of the royal tombs in the Great Tumulus is identified as that of Philip II, who conquered all the Greek cities, paving the way for his son Alexander and the expansion of the Hellenic world.

GUATEMALA

Tikal National Park 1979
(N ii, iv / C i, iii, iv)

In the heart of the jungle, surrounded by lush vegetation, lies one of the major sites of Mayan civilization, inhabited from the 6th century B.C. to the 10th century A.D. Its ceremonial centre contains superb temples and palaces, and ramps leading to public squares. Remains of dwellings are scattered throughout the surrounding countryside.

Antigua Guatemala 1979
(C ii, iii, iv)

Antigua, the capital of the Captaincy-General of Guatemala, was founded in the early 16th century. Built 1,500 metres above sea-level, in an earthquake-prone region, it was largely destroyed by an earthquake in 1773 but its principal monuments are still preserved as ruins. The city, built on a grid plan inspired by the Italian Renaissance, amassed a number of superb monuments in less than three centuries.

Archaeological Park and Ruins of Quirigua 1981
(C i, ii, iv)

Inhabited since the 2nd century, the capital of Cauac Sky (723-784) contains outstanding 8th-century monuments and an impressive series of carved stelae and sculpted calendars that constitute an essential source for the study of Mayan civilization.

GUINEA and CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve 1981
(N ii, iv)

Located between Guinea, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, Mount Nimba rises above the surrounding savannah. Its slopes, covered by dense forest at the foot of grassy mountain pastures, harbour an especially rich flora and fauna, with endemic species such as the viviparous toad and chimpanzees that use stones as tools.

HAITI

National Historic Park - Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers 1982
(C iv, vi)

These monuments of Haiti dating from the beginning of the 19th century when Haiti proclaimed its independence - the Palace of Sans Souci, the buildings at Ramiers and, especially, the Citadel - serve as a universal symbol of liberty, as they were the first to be built by black slaves who had gained their freedom.

HOLY SEE

- Vatican City** 1984
(C i, ii, iii, vi)
One of the most sacred places in Christendom, the Vatican City attests to a great history and a formidable spiritual venture. A unique collection of masterpieces of art and architecture can be found within the boundaries of this small state. At its centre is St Peter's Basilica, with the double colonnade and circular piazza in front and bordered by palaces and gardens. The Basilica, erected over the tomb of St Peter the Apostle, is the largest religious building in the world and the fruit of the combined genius of Bramante, Raphael, Michelangelo, Bernini and Maderna.

HONDURAS

- Maya Site of Copan** 1980
(C iv, vi)
Discovered in 1570 by Diego García de Palacio, the ruins of Copán, one of the most important sites of Mayan civilization, were not excavated until the 19th century. Its citadel and imposing public squares characterize its three main stages of development, before the city was abandoned in the early 10th century.
- Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve** 1982
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
Located in the watershed of the Rio Platano, the reserve is one of the few remains of a humid tropical forest in Central America and contains abundant and varied plant and wildlife. In its mountainous landscape sloping down to the Caribbean coast, over 2,000 indigenous people continue to live in their traditional lifestyles.

HUNGARY

- Budapest, the Banks of the Danube and the Buda Castle Quarter** 1987
(C ii, iv)
This site, with the remains of monuments such as the Roman city of Aquincum and the Gothic castle of Buda, which have exercised considerable architectural influence over various periods, is one of the world's outstanding urban landscapes and illustrates the great periods in the history of the Hungarian capital.
- Hollokö** 1987
(C v)
An outstanding example of a deliberately preserved traditional settlement, this village, which was developed mainly during the 17th and 18th centuries, is a living example of rural life before the agricultural revolution of the 20th century.
- Millenary Benedictine Monastery of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment** 1996
(C iv, vi)
The first Benedictine monks settled here in 996 and went on to convert the Hungarians, to found the country's first school and, in 1055, to write the first document in Hungarian. From the time of its founding, this monastic community has promoted culture throughout central Europe. Its 1,000-year history can be seen in the succession of architectural styles of the monastic buildings the oldest built in 1224 which today still house a school and the monastic community.

HUNGARY and SLOVAKIA

- Caves of the Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst** 1995
(N i)
The variety of formations and the fact that they are concentrated in a restricted area means that the 712 caves currently identified make up a typical temperate-zone karstic system in a. Because they display an extremely rare combination of tropical and glacial climatic effects, they make it possible to study geological history over tens of millions of years.

INDIA

- Ajanta Caves** 1983
(C i, ii, iii, vi)
The Buddhist cave monuments at Ajanta of the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C. were greatly enriched during the Gupta period (5th and 6th centuries A.D.) when many more richly decorated caves were added to the original group. The paintings and sculptures of Ajanta, masterpieces of Buddhist religious art, have had considerable artistic influence.
- Ellora Caves** 1983
(C i, iii, vi)
These 34 monasteries and temples were dug side by side in the wall of a high basaltic cliff, not far from Aurangabad, in Maharashtra, extending over more than 2 kilometres. Ellora, with its uninterrupted sequence of monuments dating from 600 to 1000 A.D., revives the civilization of ancient India. Not only is the complex of Ellora a unique artistic creation and a technological exploit but, with its sanctuaries devoted to Buddhism, Brahmanism and Janism, it illustrates the spirit of tolerance characteristic of ancient India.
- Agra Fort** 1983
(C iii)
Just next to the gardens of the Taj Majal, the Red Fort of Agra, an important Mogul monument of the 17th century, is a powerful fortress of red sandstone which encompasses, within its enclosure walls of 2.5 kilometres, the imperial city of the Mogul rulers. It comprises many fairy-like palaces, such as the Jahangir Palace or the Khas Mahal, built by Shah Jahan, the reception rooms, such as the Diwan-i-Khas, and two very beautiful mosques.
- Taj Mahal** 1983
(C i)
An immense funerary mosque of white marble, built in Agra between 1631 and 1648 by order of the Mogul emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favourite wife, the Taj Mahal is the most perfect jewel of Moslem art in India and is one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage.
- Sun Temple, Konarak** 1984
(C i, iii, vi)
On the shore of the Bay of Bengal, bathed in the rays of the rising sun, the temple at Konarak is a monumental representation of the chariot of the sun god Surya, with its twenty-four wheels decorated with symbolic designs, led by a team of six horses. It is one of India's most famous 13th-century Brahman sanctuaries.
- Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram** 1984
(C i, ii, iii, vi)
This group of sanctuaries, founded by the Pallava kings, was carved out of rock along the Coromandel coast in the 7th and 8th centuries. It is known especially for its rathas (temples in the form of chariots), mandapas (cave sanctuaries), giant open-air reliefs such as the famous "Descent of the Ganges" and the temple of Rivage, with thousands of sculptures to the glory of Siva.
- Kaziranga National Park** 1985
(N ii, iv)
In the heart of the Assam, this park is one of the last areas in northern India undisturbed by man. The largest population of one-horned rhinoceroses in the world inhabits Kaziranga Park, as well many mammals, including tigers, elephants, panthers, bears, and thousands of birds.

Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (N ii, iii, iv)	1985	Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur (C ii, iii)	1987
On a gentle slope in the foothills of the Himalayas, where wooded hills give way to alluvial grasslands and tropical forests, the Manas sanctuary is home to a great variety of wildlife, including many endangered species, such as the tiger, the pygmy hog, and the Indian rhinoceros and elephant.		Under the reign of the great King Rajaraja, founder of the Chola empire which stretched over all of southern India and its neighbouring islands, the great Temple of Tanjore (Thanjavur) was constructed between 1003 and 1010. Surrounded by two rectangular enclosures, the Brihadisvar, built from blocks of granite and, in part, from bricks, is crowned with a pyramidal 13-storey tower, the vimana, 61 metres high and topped with a bulb-shaped monolith. The walls of the temple are covered in rich sculpted decoration.	
Keoladeo National Park (N iv)	1985	Sundarbans National Park (N ii, iv)	1987
This former duck-hunting reserve of the Maharajas remains one of the major wintering areas for large numbers of aquatic birds from Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, China and Siberia. Some 364 species of birds, including the rare Siberian crane, have been recorded in the Park.		The Sundarbans covers 10,000 square kilometres of land and water (more than half of it in India, the rest in Bangladesh), in the Ganges delta. It contains the world's largest region of mangrove forests. A number of rare or endangered species live in the park, including tigers, aquatic mammals, birds and reptiles.	
Churches and Convents of Goa (C ii, iv, vi)	1986	Nanda Devi National Park (N iii, iv)	1988
The former capital of the Portuguese Indies, the churches and convents of Goa illustrate the evangelisation of Asia, particularly the Church of Bom Jesus, which contains the tomb of St Francis-Xavier. These monuments had an influential role in spreading forms of Manueline, Mannerist and Baroque art in all the countries in Asia where missions were established.		The Nanda Devi National Park is one of the most spectacular wilderness areas in the Himalayas, and is dominated by the peak of Nanda Devi, which reaches over 7,800 metres. No humans live in the park, which has remained more or less intact because of its inaccessibility. It is the habitat of several endangered mammals, especially the snow leopard, Himalayan musk deer and bharal.	
Khajuraho Group of Monuments (C i, iii)	1986	Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi (C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)	1989
Built during the Chandella Dynasty, at its height between 950 and 1050, the temples of Khajuraho, of which only about 20 remain and which fall under three distinct groups, belong to two different religions - Brahmanism and Jainism. They strike a perfect balance between architecture and sculpture. The Temple of Kandariya is decorated with a profusion of sculptures that are among the greatest masterpieces of Indian art.		On a hill which overlooks the plain, about 40 kilometres from Bhopal, the site of Sanchi groups Buddhist monuments (monolithic pillars, palaces, temples and monasteries), all in different states of conservation, dating for the most part back to the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C. This oldest existing Buddhist sanctuary was a principle centre of Buddhism in India until the 12th century A.D.	
Group of Monuments at Hampi (C i, iii, iv)	1986	Humayun's Tomb, Delhi (C ii, iv)	1993
Hampi, austere and grandiose, is the site of the last capital of the last great Hindu kingdom of Vijayanagar, whose extremely rich princes built Dravidian temples and palaces which won the admiration of travellers between the 14th and 16th centuries. Conquered by the Moslems in 1565, the city was pillaged over a period of six months, and then abandoned.		This tomb, built in 1570, has a special cultural significance, as it is the first garden-tomb on the Indian sub-continent. It inspired major architectural innovations, which culminated in the construction of the Taj Mahal.	
Fatehpur Sikri (C ii, iii, iv)	1986	Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (C iv)	1993
The "City of Victory", built during the second half of the 16th century by Emperor Akbar, Fatehpur Sikri was the capital of the Moghol Empire for only about 10 years. The complex of monuments and temples, all in a uniform architectural style, includes one of the largest mosques in India, the Jama Masjid.		Built in the early 13th century a few kilometres south of Delhi, the red sandstone tower of Qutb Minar is 72.5 metres high, tapering from 2.75 metres in diameter at its peak to 14.32 metres at its base, and alternating angular and rounded flutings. The surrounding archeological area contains funerary buildings, notably the magnificent Alai-Darwaza gate, the masterpiece of Indo-Moslem art built in 1311, and two mosques, including Quwwatu'l-Islam, the oldest in northern India, made from materials from about 20 Brahmin temples.	
Group of Monuments at Pattadakal (C iii, iv)	1987	INDONESIA	
Pattadakal, in Karnatāka, illustrates the apogee of an eclectic art which, in the 7th and 8th centuries A.D., under the Chālukya Dynasty, achieved a harmonious blend of architectural forms from the north and south of India. An impressive series of nine Hindu temples, as well as a Jain sanctuary can be seen there. In this group one masterpiece stands out - the Temple of Virūpāksha, built around 740 by Queen Lokamahadevi to commemorate her husband's victory over the kings from the south.		Borobudur Temple Compounds (C i, ii, vi)	1991
Elephanta Caves (C i, iii)	1987	This famous Buddhist temple, restored with UNESCO's help, is built in three layers - a pyramidal base with five concentric square terraces, a cone with three circular platforms and at the top, a monumental stupa. The walls and balustrades are decorated with bas-reliefs, covering a total surface of 2,500 square metres. Around the circular platform are 72 openwork stupas, each containing a statue of Buddha.	
On an island in the Oman Sea close to Bombay, the "City of Caves" contains a collection of rock art characteristic of the cult of Siva, where Indian art has found one of its most perfect expressions, particularly in the huge, high reliefs in the main cave.			

Ujung Kulon National Park 1991
(N iii, iv)
This national park, located in the extreme south-west tip of Java on the Sunda Shelf, includes the Ujung Kulon peninsula and several offshore islands, and it encompasses the natural reserve of Krakatoa. In addition to its natural beauty and geological interest - especially for the study of inland volcanoes - it contains the largest remaining area of lowland rainforests in the Java plain. Several species of endangered plants and animals can be found there, the most threatened of all being the Javan rhinoceros.

Komodo National Park 1991
(N iii, iv)
These volcanic islands are inhabited by a population of around 5,700 giant lizards, whose appearance and aggressive behaviour have led them to be called "Komodo dragons". They exist nowhere else and are of great interest for scientists studying the theory of evolution. The rugged hillsides of dry savannah and pockets of thorny green vegetation contrast starkly with the brilliant white sandy beaches and blue waters surging over coral.

Prambanan Temple Compounds 1991
(C i, iv)
Built in the 10th century, this is the largest Shiva compound in Indonesia. Rising above the centre of the last of these concentric squares are three temples decorated in reliefs illustrating the epic of the Ramayana, dedicated to the three great Hindu divinities (Shiva, Vishnu and Rama) and three temples dedicated to the animals who serve them.

Sangiran Early Man Site 1996
(C iii, vi)
Excavations here from 1936 to 1941 led to the discovery of the first hominid fossil at this site. Later, 50 fossils of Meganthropus palaeo and Pithecanthropus erectus/Homo erectus, were found - half of all the world's known hominid fossils. Inhabited for the past one and a half million years, Sangiran is one of the places most important to the understanding of human evolution.

IRAN, Islamic Republic of

Tchogha Zanbil 1979
(C iii, iv)
Within three huge concentric walls, the ruins of the holy city of the Kingdom of Elam can be found at Tchogha Zanbil. Founded around 1250 B.C., the thousands of unused bricks left at the site show that it remained unfinished after it was invaded by Ashurbanipal.

Persepolis 1979
(C i, iii, vi)
Founded by Darius I in 518 B.C., Persepolis, the capital of the Achaemenid Empire was built on an immense half-artificial, half-natural terrace, where the king of kings built an impressive palace complex inspired by Mesopotamian models. The importance and quality of its monumental ruins make it a unique archaeological site.

Meidan Emam, Esfahan 1979
(C i, v, vi)
Built by Shah Abbas I the Great at the beginning of the 17th century and bordered on all sides by monumental buildings linked by a series of two-storeyed arcades, the site is known for its Royal Mosque, the Mosque of Sheyx Lotfollah, the magnificent Portico of Qeyssariyeh and the 15th century Timurid Palace. All bear witness to Persian socio-cultural life during the Safawid era.

IRAQ

Hatra 1985
(C ii, iii, iv, vi)
A large fortified city of the Parthian Empire, Hatra withstood invasions by the Romans in 116 and 198 A.D., because of its high, thick walls with their towers. The remains of the city, especially the temples where Greek and Roman architecture blend with Eastern decorative features, attest to the greatness of Parthian civilization.

IRELAND

Archaeological Ensemble of the Bend of the Boyne 1993
(C i, iii, iv)
This is the largest and most important expression of prehistoric megalithic art in Europe, with its concentration of monuments with social, economic and funerary functions.

Skellig Michael 1996
(C iii, iv)
This monastic complex, perched, since about the seventh century, on the steep sides of the rocky island of Skellig Michael a dozen kilometres off the coast of southwest Ireland, illustrates the very spartan existence of the first Irish Christians. The extreme remoteness of Skellig Michael has until recently discouraged visitation allowing thus an exceptional state of preservation.

ITALY

Rock Drawings in Valcamonica 1979
(C iii, vi)
Valcamonica, in the Lombardy plain, has one of the greatest collection of prehistoric petroglyphs to be found - more than 140,000 signs and figures carved in rock over a period of 8,000 years, depicting themes of agriculture, navigation, war and magic.

The Church and Dominican Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie with "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci 1980
(C i, ii)
An integral part of the architectural complex built in Milan beginning in 1463 and reworked at the end of the 15th century by Bramante, the rectory of the convent of Saint Mary of the Graces still has on its northern wall a masterpiece without equal - The Last Supper, painted between 1495 and 1497 by Leonardo da Vinci, whose work heralded a new era in the history of art.

Historic Centre of Florence 1982
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)
Built on the site of an Etruscan settlement, Florence, the symbol of the Renaissance assumed its economic and cultural predominance under the Medici in the 15th and 16th centuries. Its 600 years of extraordinary artistic creativity can be seen above all in its 13th-century Cathedral, the Santa Maria del Fiore, the Santa Croce Church, the Uffizi Palace and the Pitti Palace which are the work of artists like Giotto, Brunelleschi, Botticelli and Michelangelo.

Venice and its Lagoon 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi)
Founded in the 5th century and spread over 118 small islands, Venice became a major maritime power in the 10th century. It is, as a whole, an extraordinary architectural masterpiece in which even the smallest of its buildings contains the works of some of the world's greatest artists such as Giorgione, Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese and others.

Piazza del Duomo, Pisa 1987
(C i, ii, iv, vi)
On a vast lawn, the Piazza del Duomo houses a group of monuments known the world over. The Piazza contains four of the masterpieces of medieval architecture that considerably influenced monumental art in Italy from the 11th to the 14th centuries - the

cathedral, the baptistry, the campanile (the "Leaning Tower") and the cemetery.

Historic Centre of San Gimignano 1990
(C i, iii, iv)
"San Gimignano delle belle Torri" is situated in Tuscany, 56 km south of Florence. It served as an important relay point for pilgrims on the Via Francigena to and from Rome. The patrician families, who controlled the city, built some 72 tower-houses (up to 50m high) as symbols of their wealth and power. Only 14 have survived but San Gimignano has retained its feudal atmosphere and appearance. The city also contains masterpieces of 14th and 15th-century Italian art.

I Sassi di Matera 1993
(C iii, iv, v)
This is the most outstanding and intact example of a troglodyte settlement in the Mediterranean region, perfectly adapted to its terrain and ecosystem. The first inhabited zone dates from the Palaeolithic period, while later settlements illustrate a number of significant stages in human history.

City of Vicenza and the Palladian Villas of the Veneto 1994, 1996
(C i, ii)
Founded in the 2nd century B.C. in northern Italy, the city prospered under Venetian rule, from the early 15th to the end of the 18th century. The work of Andrea Palladio (1508-1580) based on the intimate study of classical Roman architecture, gave the city its unique appearance. His urban buildings, as well as his villas, scattered throughout the Veneto region, had a decisive influence on the development of architecture. His work inspired a distinct architectural style (Palladian style) which spread to England, other European countries and to North America.

Historic Centre of Siena 1995
(C i, ii, iv)
Siena is the embodiment of a medieval city. Its inhabitants, transposing their rivalry with Florence to the area of urban planning, pursued a Gothic dream throughout the centuries, preserving the appearance their city acquired between the 12th and 15th centuries. During this period Duccio, the Lorenzetti brothers and Simone Martini marked the Italian and, more broadly, European art. The whole city, built around the Piazza del Campo, was devised as a work of art that blends into the surrounding landscape.

Historic Centre of Naples 1995
(C ii, iv)
From the Neapolis founded by Greek settlers in 470 B.C. to the city of today, Naples retains the stamp of the cultures that emerged one after the other in the Mediterranean Basin and in Europe. This makes it a unique site with its remarkable monuments such as the Santa Chiara Church and the Castel Nuovo, to name but two.

Crespi d'Adda 1995
(C iv, v)
Crespi d'Adda is an outstanding example of the 19th and early 20th century "company towns". These were built in Europe and North America by enlightened industrialists to meet the workers' needs. The site is still remarkably intact and partly used for industrial purposes, although changing economic and social conditions threaten its continued survival.

Ferrara: City of the Renaissance 1995
(C ii, iv, vi)
Ferrara, which grew up around a ford over the River Po, became an intellectual and artistic centre that attracted the greatest minds of the Italian Renaissance in the 15th and 16th centuries. Piero della Francesca, Jacopo Bellini and Andrea Mantegna decorated the palaces of the House of Este. The humanist concept of the ideal city came to life here in the quarters built after 1492 by Biagio Rossetti

according to the new principles of perspective. The completion of this project marked the birth of modern town planning and its subsequent development.

Castel del Monte 1996
(C i, ii, iii)
The location, the mathematical and astronomical precision of its layout and its perfect shape reflect the symbolic ambition which inspired Emperor Frederick II when he built this southern Italian castle in the 13th century. A unique piece of medieval military architecture, Castel del Monte is a completely successful blending of classical antiquity, the Islamic Orient and northern European Cistercian Gothic.

The Trulli of Alberobello 1996
(C iii, iv, v)
The *trulli*, limestone dwelling houses in the southern region of Puglia, are remarkable examples of drywall (mortarless) construction, a prehistoric building technique still in use in this region. They are made of roughly worked limestone boulders collected from neighbouring fields. Characteristically, they feature pyramidal, domed or conical roofs built up of corbeled limestone slabs.

Early Christian Monuments of Ravenna 1996
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
Ravenna was the seat of the Roman Empire in the fifth century and then of Byzantine Italy until the eighth century. It has a unique collection of mosaics and early Christian monuments. All eight buildings the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, the Neonian Baptistery, the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, the Arian Baptistery, the Archiepiscopal Chapel, the Mausoleum of Theodoric, the Church of San Vitale, the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare in Classe were constructed in the fifth and sixth centuries. All show great artistic skill, including a wonderful blend of Greco-Roman tradition, Christian iconography and oriental and western styles.

Historic Centre of the City of Pienza 1996
(C i, ii, iv)
It was in this Tuscan town that Renaissance urban ideas were first put into practice after Pope Pius II decided in 1459 to renovate his birthplace. The architect chosen, Bernardo Rossellino, applied the principles of his mentor Leone Alberti and built the extraordinary Pius II Square, around which are built the Piccolomini Palace, the Borgia Palace and the cathedral with its purely Renaissance exterior and an interior in the late Gothic style of south German churches.

18th-Century Royal Palace at Caserta with the Park, the Aqueduct of Vanvitelli, and the San Leucio Complex 1997
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
The monumental complex at Caserta, created by Carlo Borbone in the mid 18th century to rival Versailles and Madrid, is exceptional for the way in which it brings together a sumptuous palace and its park and gardens, as well as natural woodland, hunting lodges, and an industrial establishment for the production of silk. It is an eloquent expression of the Enlightenment in material form, integrated into, rather than imposed upon, its natural landscape.

Residences of the Royal House of Savoy 1997
(C i, ii, iv, v)
When Emmanuel-Philibert, Duke of Savoy, moved his capital to Turin in 1562, he began a series of building projects, carried on by his successors, to demonstrate the power of the ruling house. This complex of buildings of high quality, designed and decorated by the leading architects and artists of the time, radiates out into the surrounding countryside from the Royal Palace in the "Command Area" of Turin to include many country residences and hunting lodges.

Botanical Garden (Orto Botanico), Padua 1997
(C ii, iii)

The first botanical garden in the world was created in Padua in 1545. It still preserves its original layout - a circular central plot, symbolic of the world, surrounded by a ring of water. Subsequently additional elements have been included, both architectural (ornamental entrances and balustrades) and practical (pumping installations and greenhouses). It continues to serve its original purpose as a source of scientific research.

Cathedral, Torre Civica and Piazza Grande, Modena 1997
(C i, ii, iii, iv)

The magnificent 12th-century Cathedral at Modena is a supreme example of Romanesque art, the work of two great artists (Lanfranco and Wiligelmo). With its associated piazza and the soaring tower, it testifies to the strength of the faith of its builders and to the power of the Canossa dynasty who commissioned it.

Archaeological Areas of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Torre Annunziata 1997
(C iii, iv, v)

When Vesuvius erupted on 24 August 79 AD it engulfed the two flourishing Roman towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum, as well as the many rich villas in the area. Since the mid 18th century these have been progressively uncovered and made accessible to the public. The vast expanse of the commercial town of Pompeii contrasts with the restricted but better preserved remains of the holiday resort of Herculaneum, whilst the superb wall paintings of the Villa Oplontis at Torre Annunziata give a vivid impression of the opulent life-style of the wealthier citizens of the early Roman Empire.

Villa Romana del Casale 1997
(C i, ii, iii)

Roman exploitation of the countryside is symbolized by the villa, the centre of the large estate upon which the rural economy of the Western Empire was based. In its 4th century AD form the Villa Romana del Casale is one of the most luxurious examples of this type of monument. It is especially noteworthy for the wealth and quality of the mosaics which decorate almost every room, and which are the finest still *in situ* anywhere in the Roman world.

Su Nuraxi di Barumini 1997
(C iii, iv)

During the late 2nd millennium BC, in the Bronze Age, a special type of defensive structure, known as *nuraghi*, for which no parallel exists anywhere else, developed on the island of Sardinia. The complex consists of circular defensive towers in the form of truncated cones built of dressed stone, with corbel-vaulted internal chambers. The complex at Barumini, which was extended and strengthened in the first half of the 1st millennium under Carthaginian pressure, is the finest and most complete example of this remarkable form of prehistoric architecture.

Portovenere, Cinque Terre, and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto) 1997
(C ii, iv, v)

The Ligurian coastal region between Cinque Terre and Portovenere is a cultural landscape of high scenic and cultural value. The form and disposition of the small towns and the shaping of the landscape surrounding them, overcoming the disadvantages of a steep and broken terrain, graphically encapsulate the continuous history of human settlement in this region over the past millennium.

Costiera Amalfitana 1997
(C ii, iv, v)

The Amalfi coastal strip is one of great physical beauty and natural diversity. It has been intensively settled by human communities since the early Middle Ages. It contains a number of towns such as Amalfi and Ravello which contain architectural and artistic works of great significance, and its rural areas demonstrate the versatility of its

occupants in adapting their utilization of the terrain to suit its diversity, from terraced vineyards and orchards on the lower slopes to wide upland pastures.

Archaeological Area of Agrigento 1997
(C i, ii, iii, iv)

Founded as a Greek colony in the 6th century BC, Agrigento became one of the leading cities of the Mediterranean world. Its supremacy and pride are demonstrated by the remains of the magnificent Doric temples that dominate the ancient town, much of which remains intact under latter-day fields and orchards. Selected excavated areas throw light on the later Hellenic and Roman town and on the burial practices of its palaeochristian inhabitants.

Archaeological Area and the Patriarchal Basilica of Aquileia 1998
(C iii, iv, vi)

Aquileia, one of the largest and wealthiest cities of the Early Roman Empire, was destroyed by Attila in the mid-5th century. Most of it still remains unexcavated beneath fields, and as such it constitutes the greatest archaeological reserve of its kind. Its Patriarchal Basilica, an outstanding building with an exceptional mosaic pavement, also played a key role in the evangelization of a large region of Central Europe.

Cilento and Vallo di Diano National Park and the archaeological sites of Paestum and Velia and the Certosa di Padula 1998
(C iii, iv)

The Cilento area is a cultural landscape of exceptional quality. Dramatic chains of sanctuaries and settlements along its three east-west mountain ridges vividly portray the historical evolution of the area as a major route for trade and for cultural and political interaction during the prehistoric and medieval periods. It was also the boundary between the Greek colonies of Magna Grecia and the indigenous Etruscan and Lucanian peoples, and so preserves the remains of two very important classical cities, Paestum and Velia.

Historic Centre of Urbino 1998
(C ii, iv)

Urbino is a small hill town that experienced an astonishing cultural flowering in the 15th century, attracting artists and scholars from all over Italy and beyond, and influencing cultural developments elsewhere in Europe. Owing to its economic and cultural stagnation from the 16th century onwards, its Renaissance appearance has been remarkably well preserved.

ITALY and the HOLY SEE
(each according to its jurisdiction)

Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura 1980, 1990
(C i, ii, iii, vi)

Founded, according to legend, by Romulus and Remus in 753 B.C., Rome was first the centre of the Roman Republic, then of the Roman Empire, and it became the capital of the Christian World in the 4th century. The World Heritage Site, extended in 1990 to the walls of Urban VIII, includes some of the major monuments of Antiquity such as the Augustus Mausoleum, the Hadrian Mausoleum, the Pantheon, the Marcus Aurelius Column, as well as the religious and public buildings of Papal Rome.

JAPAN

Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area 1993
(C i, ii, iv, vi)

There are some 48 Buddhist monuments in the Horyu-ji area, in the Nara Prefecture. Masterpieces of wood architecture, they are the oldest of their type in Japan. Eleven of them were constructed before or during the 8th century, and marked an important date in the history of art - illustrating the adaptation of Chinese Buddhist

architecture and layouts to Japanese culture, as well as in the history of religion - since their construction coincides with the introduction of Buddhism to Japan.

Himeji-jo 1993
(C i, iv)

Himeji-jo is the finest surviving example of 16th-century Japanese castle architecture, comprising 83 buildings with highly developed systems of defence and ingenious protection devices. It also adds to our understanding of Japanese feudal culture at the beginning of the Shogun period.

Yakushima 1993
(N ii, iii)

Located in the interior of Yaku Island, at the meeting point of the palearctic and oriental biotic regions, Yakushima exhibits a very rich flora, with some 1,900 species and subspecies, including ancient specimens of the sugi (Japanese cedar). It also contains a remnant of a warm-temperate ancient forest, unique in the region.

Shirakami-Sanchi 1993
(N ii)

Situated in the mountains of northern Honshu, this trackless site includes the last virgin remains of the cool-temperate forest of Siebold's beech trees that once covered the hills and mountain slopes of northern Japan. The black bear, the serow and eighty-seven species of birds can be found in this forest.

Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto (Kyoto, Uji, and Otsu Cities) 1994
(C ii, iv)

Built in 794 A.D. on the model of the capitals of ancient China, Kyoto was the Imperial capital of Japan from its foundation until the middle of the 19th century. As the centre of Japanese culture for more than a thousand years, it spans the development of Japanese wooden architecture, particularly religious architecture, and the art of Japanese gardens, which has influenced garden landscaping the world over.

Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama 1995
(C iv, v)

Located in a mountainous region that was cut off from the rest of the world for a long time, the gassho-style villages owed their existence to the cultivation of mulberry trees and the rearing of silkworms. Their large houses with double, steeply pitched, thatched roofs are unique in Japan. Despite economic upheavals, the villages of Ogimachi, Ainokura and Sukanuma are still exceptional examples of how the traditional way of life was perfectly adapted to its environment and its economical and social function.

Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome) 1996
(C vi)

The Hiroshima Peace Memorial, Genbaku Dome, was the only structure left standing near the site of the explosion of the first atomic bomb on 6 August 1945. It is a stark and powerful symbol of the most destructive force ever created by humankind, as well as a hope for peace.

Itsukushima Shinto Shrine 1996
(C i, ii, iv, vi)

The island of Itsukushima, in the inland sea of Seto, has been the holy place of Shintoism since the earliest times. Its first temples were probably built in the sixth century. The present shrine dates from the 13th century and its harmoniously arranged buildings show great artistic and technical qualities. The shrine plays on the contrasts of colours and shapes between sea and mountains and perfectly illustrates the Japanese idea of scenic beauty, combining nature and human creativity.

Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara 1998
(C ii, iii, iv, vi)

The historic monuments of Nara - temples, shrines, the excavated remains of the great imperial palace - provide a vivid picture of the capital of Japan in the 8th century AD, a period of profound political and cultural change.

JERUSALEM
(proposed for inscription by Jordan)

Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls 1981
(C ii, iii, vi)

As the holy city for Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Jerusalem has always had a high symbolic value. Among the 220 historic monuments, is the stunning Dome of the Rock, built in the 7th century and decorated with beautiful geometric and floral motifs. It is recognized by all three religions as the site of Abraham's sacrifice. The Wailing Wall delimits the quarters of the different religious communities whilst the Resurrection Rotonda protects Christ's tomb.

JORDAN

Petra 1985
(C i, iii, iv)

Inhabited since prehistoric times, this Nabataean caravan city was an important crossroads between Arabia, Egypt and Syria-Phoenicia. Pétra, half-built, half-carved in the rock within a ring of mountains and riddled with passages and gorges, is one of the most famous archaeological sites in the world, where ancient Eastern traditions blend with Hellenistic architecture.

Quseir Amra 1985
(C i, iii, iv)

Built in the early 8th century, this desert castle, which is exceptionally well-preserved, was a fortress that from time to time was used both as a garrison and a residence for the Omayyad caliphs. The most outstanding features of this small pleasure palace are the reception halls and the baths, all richly decorated with figurative murals that reflect the secular art of the time.

KENYA

Mount Kenya National Park / Natural Forest 1997
(N ii, iii)

Mount Kenya, 5,199 m, is the second highest peak in Africa. It is an ancient extinct volcano, during whose period of activity 3.1 - 2.6 million years ago it is thought to have risen to 6,500 m. There are twelve remnant glaciers on the mountain, all receding rapidly, and four secondary peaks that sit at the head of the U-shaped glacial valleys. The area inscribed includes the upper slopes of the mountain, and two salients which make up the National Park and surrounding Forest Reserve. With its rugged glacier-clad summits and forested middle slopes, Mount Kenya is one of the most impressive landscapes in Eastern Africa. The evolution and ecology of its afro-alpine flora also provide an outstanding example of ecological processes.

Sibiloi/Central Island National Parks 1997
(N i, iv)

Sibiloi National Park is situated on the east shore of Lake Turkana in northern Kenya. Lake Turkana's ecosystem, with its diverse bird life and desert environment, offers an exceptional laboratory for studies of plant and animal communities. Discoveries of mammal fossil remains in the site led to the scientific reconstruction of the paleo-environment of the entire Turkana Lake basin of the Quaternary period. The lake is also one of Africa's most important breeding areas for the Nile crocodile.

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

- Town of Luang Prabang** 1995
(C ii, iv, v)
This town reflects the exceptional fusion of traditional architecture and urban structures built by 19th and 20th-century European colonial rulers. Its unique townscape is remarkably well preserved, illustrating a key stage in the blending of these two distinct cultural traditions.

LATVIA

- Historic Centre of Riga** 1997
(C i, ii)
Riga was a major centre of the Hanseatic League and prospered from its trade with central and eastern Europe in the 13th-15th centuries. The urban fabric of its medieval centre reflects this prosperity, although most of its earlier buildings have been destroyed by fire and war. In the 19th century it became a very important economic centre, and the suburbs of the medieval town were built, first in imposing wooden buildings in classical style and then in *Jugendstil*. It is generally recognized that Riga contains the finest concentration of *Art Nouveau* buildings in Europe.

LEBANON

- Anjar** 1984
(C iii, iv)
The ruins of Anjar, a city founded by Caliph Walid I at the beginning of the 8th century, has a very methodical layout, reminiscent of the palace-cities of ancient times. It is a unique testimony to Omayyad city-planning.

- Baalbek** 1984
(C i, iv)
This Phoenician city, the seat of a worship to a triad of deities, was known as Heliopolis during the Greek period. It retained its religious function in Roman times when the sanctuary of Heliopolitan Jupiter drew thousands of pilgrims. Baalbek, with its colossal structures, is one of the most impressive examples of Imperial Roman architecture at its apogee.

- Byblos** 1984
(C iii, iv, vi)
Byblos is the site of the multi-layered ruins of one of the most ancient cities of Lebanon, inhabited since Neolithic times and closely tied to the legends and history of the Mediterranean region for many thousands of years. Byblos is directly associated with the history of the diffusion of the Phoenician alphabet.

- Tyre** 1984
(C iii, vi)
Tyre, where, according to legend, the purple dye was invented, was the great Phoenician city that ruled the seas and founded prosperous colonies such as Cadiz and Carthage. Its historical role declined at the end of the Crusades. It conserves important archaeological remains, mainly from Roman times.

- Ouadi Qadisha (the Holy Valley) and the Forest of the Cedars of God (Horsh Arz el-Rab)** 1998
(C iii, iv)
The Qadisha Valley is one of the most important early Christian monastic settlements in the world, and its monasteries, many of great age, are positioned dramatically in a rugged landscape. Nearby are the remains of the great forest of the Cedars of Lebanon, which were highly prized for the construction of great religious buildings in Antiquity.

LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

- Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna** 1982
(C i, ii, iii)
Leptis Magna was enlarged and embellished by Septimio Severo, who was born there and later became emperor. It was one of the most beautiful cities of the Roman Empire, with its imposing public monuments, man-made harbour, market place, storehouses, shops and residential districts.

- Archaeological Site of Sabratha** 1982
(C iii)
A Phoenician trading-post that served as an outlet for the products of the African hinterland, Sabratha was part of the short-lived Numidian kingdom of Massinissa before being Romanized and rebuilt in the 2nd and 3rd centuries A.D.

- Archaeological Site of Cyrene** 1982
(C ii, iii, vi)
A colony of the Greeks of Thera, Cyrene was one of the principal cities in the Hellenic world. It was Romanized, and remained a great capital until the earthquake of 365. A thousand years of history is written in its ruins, famous since the 18th century.

- Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus** 1985
(C iii)
On the border of Tassili N'Ajjer in Algeria, also a World Heritage site, this rocky massif contains thousands of cave paintings in very different styles, dating from 12,000 B.C. to 100 A.D. They bear witness to marked changes in the fauna and flora and to the different ways of life of the populations that succeeded one another in this Saharan region.

- Old Town of Ghadamès** 1986
(C v)
Built in an oasis, Ghadamès, "the pearl of the desert", is one of the oldest pre-Saharan cities and an outstanding example of a traditional settlement. Its architecture is characterised by the different functions assigned to each storey - the ground floor used to store supplies, another floor extending over dark enclosed passages forming a system of passageways, and the open-air terraces reserved for women.

LITHUANIA

- Vilnius Historic Centre** 1994
(C ii, iv)
Political centre of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania from the 13th to the end of the 18th century, Vilnius has had a profound influence on the cultural and architectural development of much of Eastern Europe. Despite invasions and partial destruction, it has preserved an impressive complex of historic Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings.

LUXEMBOURG

- City of Luxembourg: Its Old Quarters and Fortifications** 1994
(C iv)
Because of its strategic position, Luxembourg was from the 16th century until 1867, when it became neutral, one of Europe's greatest fortresses. Repeatedly fortified as it passed from one great European power to another (the House of Burgundy, the Habsburgs, the French and Spanish Kings, and the Holy Roman Emperors), its fortifications were, until their partial dismantlement, an epitome of military architecture spanning several centuries.

MACEDONIA, Former Yugoslav Republic of

Ohrid Region with its Cultural and Historical Aspect and its Natural Environment 1980 (N iii / C i, iii, iv)

Located on the shores of Lake Ohrid (inscribed as a natural World Heritage property since 1979), the town of Ohrid is one of the oldest human settlements in Europe. Built mostly between the 7th and the 19th century, it has the most ancient Slav monastery (St Pantelejmon) and more than 800 icons of Byzantine style, painted between the 11th and the end of the 14th century, which are considered to be, after those of the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, the most important collection in the world.

MADAGASCAR

Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve 1990 (N iii, iv)

Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve is made up of karstic landscapes and limestone uplands cut into impressive "tsingy" peaks and a "forest" of limestone needles, the spectacular canyon of the Manambolo River, rolling hills and high peaks. The undisturbed forests, lakes and mangrove swamps are the habitat for rare and endangered lemurs and birds.

MALAWI

Lake Malawi National Park 1984 (N ii, iii, iv)

Located at the southern end of the immense Lake Malawi, with its deep and clear waters and background of mountains, Lake Malawi National Park protects many hundreds of fish species, nearly all endemic. Its importance in the study of evolution is comparable to that of the finches of the Galapagos Islands.

MALI

Old Towns of Djenné 1988 (C iii, iv)

Inhabited since 250 B.C., Djenné developed into a market centre and a link in the trans-Saharan gold trade. In the 15th and 16th centuries, it became one of the spiritual centres for the dissemination of Islam. Its traditional houses, of which close to 2000 have survived, are built on hillocks (toguere) and adapted to the environment of seasonal floods.

Timbuktu 1988 (C ii, iv, v)

Home of the prestigious Koranic Sankore University and other médersas, Timbuktu was in the 15th and 16th centuries an intellectual and spiritual capital and a centre for the expansion of Islam throughout Africa. Its three great mosques, the Djingareyber, Sankore and Sidi Yahia, speak of Timbuktu's Golden Age. Although restored in the 16th century, these monuments are today threatened by the encroachment of sand.

Cliff of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons) 1989 (N iii / C v)

These cliffs protect architectural structures of great beauty (houses, granaries, altars, sanctuaries and toguna meeting places), which have been for centuries the soul of traditional, secular Dogon culture. The Bandiagara plateau is one of the most impressive geological and landscape features in West Africa.

MALTA

Hal Saflieni Hypogeum 1980 (C iii)

An enormous subterranean structure excavated with cyclopean rigging to lift huge blocks of coralline limestone around the year 2500 B.C., the Hypogeum, possibly conceived as a sanctuary, has been a necropolis since prehistoric times.

City of Valletta 1980 (C i, vi)

The capital of the Republic of Malta is irrevocably linked to the history of the military and charitable order of St John of Jerusalem. Ruled successively by the Phoenicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs and the Order of the Knights of St John, its 320 monuments, confined within an area of 55 hectares, make it one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world.

Megalithic Temples of Malta 1980, 1992 (C iv)

Seven megalithic temples are to be found on the islands of Malta and Gozo, each a result of an individual development. The Ggantija complex on the island of Gozo is remarkable for its superhuman achievements dating from the Bronze Age. On the island of Malta, the temples of Hagar Qin, Mnajdra and Tarxien are unique architectural masterpieces, given the very limited resources of their builders. The Ta'Hagrat and Skorba complexes bear witness to the development of the temple tradition in Malta.

MAURITANIA

Banc d'Arguin National Park 1989 (N ii, iv)

Fringing the Atlantic coast, the park is made up of sand dunes, coastal swamps, small islands and shallow coastal waters. The austerity of the desert and the biodiversity of the marine zone result in a land and seascape of exceptional contrasting natural value. A wide variety of migrating birds spend the winter there. Several species of sea turtle and dolphin, which fishermen use to attract shoals of fish, can also be found.

Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata 1996 (C iii, iv, v)

These towns were founded in the 11th and 12th centuries as trading and religious centres serving the caravans crossing the Sahara, and became focal points of Islamic culture. They have ably preserved an urban fabric built up between the 12th and 16th centuries. Houses with patios crowd along narrow streets around a mosque with a square minaret. They illustrate a traditional way of life centred on the nomadic culture of the people of the western Sahara.

MEXICO

Sian Ka'an 1987 (N iii, iv)

In the language of the Mayan peoples who once inhabited this region, Sian Ka'an means "origin of the sky". Located on the east coast of the Yucatan peninsula, this biosphere reserve contains tropical forests, mangroves and marshes, as well as a large marine section intersected by a barrier reef, and provides a habitat for an abundance of fauna and flora.

Pre-Hispanic City and National Park of Palenque 1987 (C i, ii, iii, iv)

A prime example of a Mayan sanctuary of the classical period, Palenque was at its height between 500 and 700 A.D. and had a great influence in the entire basin of the Usumacinta River. The elegance and craftsmanship of the construction, as well as the lightness of the sculpted reliefs illustrating Mayan mythology, attest to the creative genius of this civilization.

Historic Centre of Mexico City and Xochimilco 1987 (C ii, iii, iv, v)

Built in the 16th century by the Spanish upon the ruins of Tenochtitlan, the old Aztec capital, the city is today one of the largest and most densely populated cities of the world. Besides the five Aztec temples, there is also the cathedral, and 19th- and 20th-century public edifices such as the Palacio de las Bellas Artes. Xochimilco, 28 km south of the city, with its network of canals and

artificial islands is an exceptional testimony of the efforts of the Aztec people to build a habitat amid an unfavourable environment.

Pre-Hispanic City of Teotihuacan 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

A holy city built between the 1st and 7th centuries A.D., Teotihuacan, "the place where the gods were created", is known for the geometrical and symbolic arrangement of its monuments, and for their enormous size - in particular, the pyramids to the Sun and the Moon. It is an exceptional archaeological site by virtue of its beauty as well as what it teaches about the ceremonial centres and pre-urban structures of ancient Mexico.

Historic Centre of Oaxaca and Archaeological Site of Monte Alban 1987
(C i, ii, iii, iv)

Inhabited over a period of 1500 years by a succession of peoples - Olmecs, Zapotecs and Mixtecs - the terraces, dams, canals, pyramids and artificial mounds of Monte Alban were literally carved out of the mountain and are the symbols of a sacred topography. Nearby, the checkerboard design of Oaxaca is a good example of the Spanish colonial architecture.

Historic Centre of Puebla 1987
(C ii, iv)

About 100 kilometres east of Mexico City, at the foot of Popocatepetl volcano, Puebla was founded ex nihilo in 1531. The great religious buildings of Puebla, such as the Cathedral (16th and 17th centuries), superb palaces like the old Archbishop's Palace, as well as a host of houses whose walls are covered in tiles (azulejos), have been preserved.

Historic Town of Guanajuato and Adjacent Mines 1988
(C i, ii, iv, vi)

Founded by the Spaniards in the early 16th century, it became the world's leading silver extraction centre in the 18th century. This past can be seen in its "subterranean streets" and the "Boca del Infierno", a mineshaft that plunges a breathtaking 600 meters. Its churches, La Compañía and La Valenciana, are considered to be among the most beautiful examples of Baroque architecture in Central and South America.

Pre-Hispanic City of Chichen-Itza 1988
(C i, ii, iii)

This site is one of the most impressive testimonies to the Mayan-Toltec civilization of the Yucatan (10th to 15th centuries). It contains some of the most outstanding examples of Central American architecture, combining Mayan construction techniques and Toltec sculpted decoration.

Historic Centre of Morelia 1991
(C ii, iv, vi)

Constructed in the 16th century around a Franciscan monastery, Morelia's 249 historic monuments are built mostly in warm pink stone following a strict chessboard design. All have retained their structure and show the vital cultural and economic life that flourished in the city in the 17th century.

El Tajin, Pre-Hispanic City 1992
(C iii, iv)

Located in the state of Veracruz, the pre-Hispanic site of El Tajin was inhabited from the early 9th to the early 13th centuries and so dates from between the great empires of Teotihuacan and Mexico-Tenochtitlan. It is composed of a series of richly decorated public squares and pyramids, the best known of which is the so-called "Pyramid of the Niches". The well-preserved site, by virtue of its artistic and architectural importance, attests to the grandeur of the pre-Colombian cultures of Mexico.

Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino 1993
(N iv)

Located in the central part of the peninsula of Baja California, the sanctuary contains exceptionally interesting ecosystems. The coastal lagoons of Ojo de Liebre and San Ignacio are very important reproduction and wintering sites for the grey whale, harbour seal, California sea-lion, northern elephant-seal and blue whale. The lagoons also offer shelter to four species of the endangered marine turtle.

Historic Centre of Zacatecas 1993
(C ii, iv)

Founded in 1546 after the discovery of a very rich silver lode, Zacatecas' prosperity reached its height in the 16th and 17th centuries. Built on the steep slopes of a narrow valley, the town offers a breathtaking panorama. Many old buildings, both religious and civil, remain. The Cathedral, built between 1730 and 1760, dominates the centre of the town. It is outstanding in its design and in its façades, which are decorated in both European and indigenous styles.

Rock Paintings of the Sierra de San Francisco 1993
(C i, iii)

In the reserve of El Vizcaino, in Baja California, the Sierra de San Francisco, from about 100 B.C. to 1300 A.D., was home to a population now disappeared, which left one of the most outstanding collections of rock paintings in the world. Remarkably well-preserved because of the dry climate and the inaccessibility of the site, the paintings illustrate people and many animal species (mammals, fish, reptiles and birds), using extremely varied colours and techniques.

Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl 1994
(C ii, iv)

This site consists of fourteen monasteries built on the slopes of Popocatepetl, to the south-east of Mexico City. Perfectly preserved, they are very representative of the architectural model followed by the first missionaries - Franciscans, Dominicans and Augustinians - who introduced Christianity to the native populations at the beginning of the 16th century.

Pre-Hispanic Town of Uxmal 1996
(C i, ii, iii)

The Mayan town of Uxmal, in the Yucatan, was founded in about 700 and had about 25,000 inhabitants. Its buildings, which date from between 700 and 1000, are arranged according to knowledge of astronomy. The Pyramid of the Soothsayer, as the Spanish called it, dominates the ceremonial centre which comprises carefully-designed buildings richly decorated with symbols and with sculptures depicting Chaac, the god of rain. The ceremonial sites of Uxmal, Kabáh, Labná and Sayil together represent the height of Mayan art and architecture.

Historic Monuments Zone of Querétaro 1996
(C ii, iv)

The old colonial town of Querétaro is unusual in retaining side by side the original street patterns of both the native Indian inhabitants and the Spanish conquerors. The twisting streets of the Indian quarters contrast with the geometrically laid out section of the Spanish. The Otomi, the Tarasco, the Chichimeca and the Spanish lived peacefully together in the town, notable for its many extravagantly adorned civil and religious baroque monuments from its golden age in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Hospicio Cabañas, Guadalajara 1997
(C i, ii, iii, iv)

In the early years of the 19th century the Hospicio was built in Guadalajara to provide care and shelter for the disadvantaged - orphans, old people, the handicapped, and chronic invalids. This

remarkable complex, which incorporates many original features designed to ease the life of its inmates, was unique for its time. In the early 20th century its chapel was decorated with a series of superb paintings from the hand of José Clemente Orozco, one of the great Mexican muralists of the period.

Archaeological zone of Paquimé, Casas Grandes 1998
(C iii, iv)

Paquimé Casas Grandes, which reached its apogee in the 14th and 15th centuries, played a key role in trade and cultural contacts between the Pueblo culture of the south-western USA and northern Mexico and the more advanced civilizations of Mesoamerica. Its extensive remains, only part of which have been excavated, bear eloquent testimony to the vitality of this culture, well adapted to its physical and economic environment, which would disappear abruptly at the time of the Spanish Conquest.

Historic Monuments Zone of Tlacotalpan 1998
(C ii, iv)

Tlacotalpan, a Spanish colonial river port on the Gulf coast of Mexico, founded in the mid-16th century, has preserved its original urban fabric to an exceptional degree. Its qualities are to be found in its outstanding townscape of wide streets, colonnaded houses built in an exuberant variety of styles and colours, and many mature trees in the public open spaces and private gardens.

MOROCCO

Medina of Fez 1981
(C ii, v)

Founded in the 9th century, Fez reached its height first in the 14th century under the Marinides and again in the 17th century. In 1912, when France established Rabat as the new capital, its political importance declined, but its religious and cultural role continues today, centered as it is around the two famous mosques of Al-Qarawiyyin and Al-Andalus in the heart of the medina.

Medina of Marrakesh 1985
(C i, ii, iv, v)

Marrakesh, founded in 1071-1072, was the capital of the Almoravids and later the Almohades. The lively medina contains an impressive number of architectural masterpieces, including the walls and the monumental gates, the Kutubiya Mosque with its 77-metre-high minaret, the Saadian tombs and characteristic old houses.

Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou 1987
(C iv, v)

The Ksar, a group of earthen buildings surrounded by high walls, is a traditional pre-Saharan habitat. Ait-Ben-Haddou is a striking example of the architecture of southern Morocco.

Historic City of Meknes 1996
(C iv)

Founded in the 11th century by Almoravid rulers as a military town, Meknes became a capital under Sultan Moulay Ismail (1672-1727), the founder of the Alaouite dynasty. The Sultan turned it into an impressive place in Spanish-Moorish style surrounded by high walls with great doors which show today the harmonious blending of Islamic and European styles of the 17th-century Maghreb.

Archaeological Site of Volubilis 1997
(C ii, iii, iv, vi)

The Mauritanian capital, founded in the 3rd century BC, became an important outpost of the Roman Empire and was graced with many fine buildings. Substantial remains of these survive in the archaeological site, located in a fertile agricultural area. It was later to become briefly the capital of Idris I, founder of the Idrissid dynasty, who is buried at nearby Moulay Idriss.

Medina of Tétouan (formerly known as Titawin) 1997
(C ii, iv, v)

Tétouan was of special importance in the Islamic period, from the 8th century onwards, since it served as the main contact between Morocco and Andalusia. After the Reconquista the town was rebuilt by refugees from that region after being sacked by the Spanish. This is well illustrated by its architecture and art, which have strong Andalusian influences. It is one of the smallest of the Moroccan medinas, but it is unquestionably the most complete and is largely untouched by subsequent external influences.

MOZAMBIQUE

Island of Mozambique 1991
(C iv, vi)

The fortified city of Mozambique is located on this island, which was a former Portuguese trading post on the route to India. Its astonishing architectural unity is due to the consistent use, since the 16th century, of the same building techniques, the same building materials (stone or macuti) and decorative principles.

NEPAL

Sagarmatha National Park 1979
(N iii)

Sagarmatha is an exceptional area with dramatic mountains, glaciers and deep valleys, dominated by Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world (8,848 metres). The park shelters several rare species, such as the snow leopard and the lesser panda. The presence of the Sherpas, with their unique culture, add further interest to this site.

Kathmandu Valley 1979
(C iii, iv, vi)

At the crossroads of the great civilizations of Asia, seven groups of Hindu and Buddhist monuments, as well as the three residential and palace areas of the royal cities of Kathmandu, Patan and Bhadgaon, illustrate Nepalese art at its height. Among the 130 monuments are pilgrimage centres, temples, shrines, bathing sites and gardens - all sites of veneration by both religious groups.

Royal Chitwan National Park 1984
(N ii, iii, iv)

At the foot of the Himalayas, Chitwan is one of the few undisturbed areas of the Terai region which formerly extended over the foothills of India and Nepal, with its very rich flora and fauna. One of the last populations of single-horned Asiatic rhinoceros lives in the park, which is also among the last refuges for the Bengal tiger.

Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha 1997
(C iii, vi)

Siddharta Gautama, the Lord Buddha, was born in 623 BC at the famous gardens of Lumbini, which soon became a place of pilgrimage. Among the pilgrims was the Indian Emperor Ashoka, who erected one of his commemorative pillars there. The site is now being developed as a Buddhist pilgrimage centre, where the archaeological remains associated with the birth of the Lord Buddha form a central feature.

NETHERLANDS

Schokland and Surroundings 1995
(C iii, v)

Occupied and then abandoned as the sea encroached, Schokland, a peninsula that by the 15th century had become an island, had to be evacuated in 1859. But following the draining of the Zuider Zee, it has since the 1940s formed part of the land won back from the sea. With its remains of human habitation going back to prehistoric times, Schokland symbolizes the unrivalled struggle the people of the Netherlands have waged against water.

Defence Line of Amsterdam 1996
(C ii, iv, v)
Extending 135 kms around the city of Amsterdam, this defence line, built between 1883 and 1920, is the only example of a fortification based on the control of water. Since the 16th century, the people of the Netherlands have used their special knowledge of hydraulic engineering for defense purposes. The protection of the centre of the country was ensured by a network of 45 forts and their artillery acting in concert with temporary flooding from polders and an intricate system of canals and locks.

Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout 1997
(C i, ii, iv)
The contribution made by the people of "the low countries" to the technology of handling water is enormous, and this is admirably demonstrated by the installations in the Kinderdijk-Elshout area. Hydraulic works to drain the land for agriculture and settlement began in the Middle Ages and have continued uninterrupted to the present day. The site contains all the relevant elements of this technology - dikes, reservoirs, pumping stations, administrative buildings, and a series of impeccably preserved windmills.

Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City, and Harbour, Netherlands Antilles 1997
(C ii, iv, v)
The Dutch established a trading settlement at a fine natural harbour on the Caribbean island of Curaçao in 1634. The town developed continuously over the succeeding centuries. The modern town consists of several distinct historic districts whose architecture reflects both the European planning and styles of the Netherlands and the Spanish and Portuguese colonial towns with which Willemstad engaged in trade.

Ir.D.F. Woudagemaal (D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station) 1998
(C i, ii, iv)
The Wouda Pumping Station at Lemmer in the Province of Friesland opened in 1920. It is the largest steam-pumping station ever built and is still in operation. It represents the apogee of the contribution made by Dutch engineers and architects to the protection of people and their lands against the natural forces of water.

NEW ZEALAND

Te Wahipounamu – South West New Zealand 1990
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
In southwest New Zealand, this park offers a landscape shaped by successive glaciations into fjords, rocky coasts, towering cliffs, lakes and waterfalls. Two-thirds of the park is covered with southern beech and podocarps, some of which are over 800 years old. The kea, the only alpine parrot in the world, lives in the park, as does the rare and endangered takahe, a large flightless bird.

Tongariro National Park 1990, 1993
(N ii, iii / C vi)
In 1993 Tongariro became the first property to be inscribed on the World Heritage List under the revised cultural criteria describing cultural landscapes. The mountains at the heart of the park have cultural and religious significance for the Maori people and symbolize the spiritual links between this community and its environment. The park contains active and extinct volcanoes, a diverse range of ecosystems and highly scenic landscapes.

New Zealand Sub-Antarctic Islands 1998
(N ii, iv)
The New Zealand Sub-Antarctic Islands consist of five island groups (the Snares, Bounty Islands, Antipodes Islands, Auckland Islands, and Campbell Island) in the Southern Ocean south-east of New Zealand. The islands, lying between the Antarctic and Sub-tropical Convergences and the seas, have a high level of productivity, biodiversity, wildlife population densities and endemism among birds, plants and invertebrates. They are particularly notable for the large

number and diversity of pelagic seabirds and penguins that nest there. There are 126 bird species in total including 40 seabirds of which 5 breed nowhere else.

NIGER

Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves 1991
(N ii, iii, iv)
This is the largest protected area in Africa, covering some 7.7 million hectares. The area considered as a protected sanctuary is only one-sixth of the total area. It includes the volcanic rock mass of the Air, a small Sahelian pocket, isolated as regards its climate and flora and fauna in the Saharan desert of Ténéré. The reserve boasts an outstanding variety of landscapes, plant species and wild animals.

W National Park of Niger 1996
(N ii, iv)
The portion of the "W" National Park in Niger is in a transition zone between savanna and forest lands and represents important ecosystem characteristics of the West African Woodlands/Savana Biogeographical Province. The site reflects the interaction between natural resources and humans since Neolithic times and illustrates the evolution of biodiversity in this zone.

NORWAY

Urnes Stave Church 1979
(C i, ii, iii)
Set in the natural landscape of Sogn og Fjordane, the wooden church of Urnes (the "stavkirke"), built during the 12th and 13th centuries, is an exceptional vestige of Scandinavian wooden architecture. The church brings together traces of Celtic art, Viking traditions and Romanesque spatial structures.

Bryggen 1979
(C iii)
Bryggen, the old wharf of Bergen, is a reminder of the town's importance as part of the Hanseatic League's trading empire from the 14th to the mid-16th century. Many fires, the last in 1955, have ravaged the beautiful wooden houses of Bryggen but its main structure has been preserved. Many of the remaining 58 buildings are now used as artists' studios.

Røros 1980
(C iii, iv, v)
Located on a mountainous site, its history is linked to the exploitation of copper mines, discovered in the 17th century and used for 333 years until 1977. Completely rebuilt after its destruction by Swedish troops in 1679, the city includes some eighty wooden houses, most of which are grouped around courtyards. Many of them still retain their dark pitch log façades which give the town a medieval aspect.

Rock Drawings of Alta 1985
(C iii)
This group of petroglyphs in the Alta Fjord, near the Arctic Circle, bears the traces of a settlement dating from 4200 to 500 B.C. The thousands of paintings and engravings add to our understanding of the environment and human activities at the boundaries of the Far North in prehistoric times.

OMAN

Bahla Fort 1987
(C iv)
The Oasis of Bahla owes its prosperity to the Banu Nebhan which dominated other tribes in the area from the 12th to the end of the 15th century. The ruins of the immense fort, with walls and towers of earthen brick and foundations of stone, provides a remarkable example of this type of fortification and attests to the power of the Banu Nebhan.

Archaeological Sites of Bat, Al-Khutm and Al-Ayn 1988
(C iii, iv)
The protohistoric site of Bat, near a palm grove within the Sultanate of Oman, constitutes, along with the neighbouring sites, the most complete collection of settlements and necropolises of the 3rd millennium B.C.

Arabian Oryx Sanctuary 1994
(N iv)
The Arabian Oryx Sanctuary is an area in the biogeographical province of Arabian Desert. This region is noted for its viable population of Arabian Gazelle as well as being a habitat for several species, such as the endangered houbara bustard, a species of wader, as a part of its highly diverse avifauna. It is one of the largest protected areas in the region and includes the only free-ranging herd of Arabian Oryx in the world. The successful re-introduction of the oryx has been part of a process to rehabilitate a diverse and unique desert ecosystem.

PAKISTAN

Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro 1980
(C ii, iii)
The ruins of an immense city in the valley of the Indus, Moenjodaro was built entirely of unbaked brick in the 3rd millennium B.C. The site contains an acropolis, built on large embankments, ramparts, and a lower town laid out according to strict rules, evidence of an early system of town-planning.

Taxila 1980
(C iii, vi)
From the ancient neolithic tumulus of Saraikala to the ramparts of Sirkap, (200 B.C.), to the city of Sirsukh, dating from the 1st century A.D., Taxila illustrates the different stages in the development of a city on the Indus, alternately influenced by Persia, Greece and Central Asia and which, from the 5th century B.C. to the 2nd century A.D., was an important Buddhist centre of learning.

Buddhist Ruins of Takht-i-Bahi and Neighboring City Remains at Sahr- i-Bahlol 1980
(C iv)
The "throne of origins", a beautifully-preserved 1st-century Buddhist monastery, can be seen on the top of a high hill, close to the ruins of Sahr-i-Bahlol, a small fortified city, dating from the same period.

Historical Monuments of Thatta 1981
(C iii)
The capital of three successive dynasties and later ruled by the Mogul emperors of Delhi, Thatta was constantly embellished from the 14th to the 18th centuries. The remains of the city and its necropolis provide a unique view of the Sind civilization.

Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore 1981
(C i, ii, iii)
These are two exceptional examples of the brilliant Mogul civilization, at its height during the reign of the Emperor Shah Jahan. The fort contains palaces and marble mosques decorated with mosaics and gilt. Near the city of Lahore, the elegance of the splendid gardens, built on three terraces with lodges, waterfalls and large ornamental ponds is unequalled.

Rohtas Fort 1997
(C ii, iv)
Following his defeat of the Mughal Emperor Humayun in 1541, Sher Shah Suri built a strong fortified complex at Rohtas, a strategic site in the north of what is now Pakistan. It was never taken by assault and survives intact to the present day. The main fortifications consist of the massive walls, which extend for more than 4km; they are lined with bastions and pierced by monumental gateways. Rohtas Fort, also called Qila Rohtas, is an exceptional example of early Muslim military architecture in Central and South Asia.

PANAMA

Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo - San Lorenzo 1980
(C i, iv)
Magnificent examples of 17th- and 18th-century military architecture, these Panamanian forts on the Caribbean coast form part of the defence system built by the Spanish Crown to protect transatlantic trade.

Darien National Park 1981
(N ii, iii, iv)
Forming a bridge between the two continents of the New World, Darien National Park offers an exceptional variety of habitats - sandy beaches, rocky coasts, mangroves, swamps and lowland and upland tropical forests containing remarkable wildlife. Two Indian tribes live in the park.

Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar 1997
(C ii, iv, vi)
Panamá was the first European settlement on the Pacific coast of the Americas, founded in 1519 by the *conquistador* Pedrarias Dávila. The Historic District, which developed after 1671, preserves in its street pattern the early layout; the architecture is an unusual mixture of Spanish, French, and Early American styles. The Salón Bolívar was the venue for the unsuccessful effort made by *El Libertador* in 1826 to establish a multi-national continental congress.

PARAGUAY

Jesuit Missions of La Santísima Trinidad de Parana and Jesus de Tavarangue 1993
(C iv)
In addition to their artistic interest, these missions represent the social and economic initiatives which accompanied the christianization of the Río de la Plata basin by the Society of Jesus in the 17th and 18th centuries.

PERU

City of Cuzco 1983
(C iii, iv)
Located in the Peruvian Andes, Cuzco developed, under the Inca ruler Pachacutec, into a complex urban centre with distinct religious and administrative functions. It was surrounded by clearly delineated areas for agricultural, artisan and industrial production. When the Spaniards conquered it in the 16th century, they maintained its structure but built Baroque churches and palaces over the ruins of the Indian city.

Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu 1983
(N ii, iii / C i, iii)
At 2,430 metres above sea level, on a mountain site of extraordinary beauty, in the middle of a tropical mountain forest, Machu Picchu was probably the most amazing urban creation of the Inca Empire at its height, with its giant walls, terraces and ramps, which appear as though they have been cut naturally in the continuous rock escarpments. The natural setting on the eastern slope of the Andes encompasses the upper Amazon basin with its rich diversity of species.

Chavin (Archaeological Site) 1985
(C iii)
This archaeological site gave its name to the culture that developed in this high valley of the Peruvian Andes between 1500 and 300 B.C. The architecture of this complex of terraces and squares, surrounded by structures of dressed stone, and its largely zoomorphic ornamental structure, give a striking appearance to this former place of worship, one of the earliest and best-known pre-Colombian sites.

Huascarán National Park 1985
(N ii, iii)
On the Cordillera Blanca, the world's highest tropical mountain range, Mount Huascarán rises to 6,768 metres above sea level. The deep ravines watered by numerous torrents, the glacial lakes and the variety of the vegetation make it a site of spectacular beauty, the home of such species as the spectacled bear and the Andean condor.

Chan Chan Archaeological Zone 1986
(C i, iii)
The Chimu kingdom, of which Chan Chan was the capital, reached its peak in the 15th century, not long before falling under the Incas. The planning of this huge city, the biggest in pre-Columbian America, reflects a strict political and social strategy, marked by its division into nine "citadels" or "palaces" forming independent units.

Manu National Park 1987
(N ii, iv)
This immense 1.5 million-hectare park has successive tiers of vegetation rising from 150 to 4,200 metres above sea-level. The tropical forest in the lower tiers contains an unrivalled variety of animal and plant species. Some 850 species of birds have been identified and rare species such as the giant otter and the giant armadillo have found refuge there. Jaguars are often sighted in the park.

Historic Centre of Lima 1988, 1991
(C iv)
Although severely damaged by earthquakes (in 1940, 1966, 1970 and 1974), this "City of Kings" was, until the middle of the 18th century, the capital and most important city of the Spanish dominions in South America. Many of its buildings, such as the San Francisco Convent (the biggest in this part of the world) are the result of joint creations between local craftsmen and masters from the Old Continent.

Rio Abiseo National Park 1990, 1992
(N ii, iii, iv / C iii)
The park was created in 1983 to protect the fauna and flora of the humid forests characteristic of this part of the Andes. There is a high level of endemism among the fauna and flora species of this park. The yellow-tailed woolly monkey, previously thought extinct, is found only in this area. Research undertaken since 1985 has already uncovered 36 archaeological sites unknown until then, at altitudes of between 2,500 and 4,000 metres, which give a very good picture of pre-Inca society.

Lines and Geoglyphs of Nasca and Pampas de Jumana 1994
(C i, iii, iv)
Located in the arid Peruvian coastal plain, some 400 km south of Lima, the geoglyphs of Nasca and the Pampas of Jumana cover about 450 square km. These lines, which were drawn between 500 B.C. and 500 A.D., are among the most impenetrable enigmas of archaeology by virtue of their quantity, nature and size, as well as their continuity. Some of the geoglyphs depict living creatures, plants or imaginary figures, as well as geometric figures several kilometres long. They are believed to have had ritual functions connected with astronomy.

PHILIPPINES

Tubbataha Reef Marine Park 1993
(N ii, iii, iv)
The park covers 33,200 hectares, including the North and South Reefs, and is a unique example of an atoll reef with a very high density of marine species. The North Islet serves as a nesting site for birds and marine turtles. The site is an excellent example of a pristine coral reef with a spectacular 100-metre perpendicular wall, extensive lagoons and two coral islands.

Baroque Churches of the Philippines 1993
(C ii, iv)
These churches, located in Manila, Santa Maria, Paoay and Miag-ao, the first of which was built in the late 16th century by Spain, are unique. They represent the fusion of European Baroque as reinterpreted by Chinese and Philippine craftsmen.

Rice Terraces of the Philippines Cordilleras 1995
(C iii, iv, v)
For 2,000 years, the high rice fields of the Ifugao have followed the contours of the mountain. The fruit of knowledge passed on from one generation to the next, of sacred traditions and a delicate social balance, they helped form a landscape of great beauty that expresses conquered and conserved harmony between humankind and the environment.

POLAND

Cracow's Historic Centre 1978
(C iv)
Located at the foot of the Wawel, 250 km south-east of Warsaw, Cracow, the former capital of Poland, has a rich historic centre made up of the medieval site of Kazimierz in the southern part of the town with remnants of the 14th-century fortifications, the 13th-century site of Cracow with the largest market square in Europe, the City Hall, the Jagellonian University, the Royal Castle and the Cathedral of San Wacław where the kings of Poland are buried.

Wieliczka Salt Mine 1978
(C iv)
Mined since the 13th century, this deposit of rock salt in Wieliczka-Bochnia is still actively worked. With over nine levels and 300 kilometres of galleries with famous works of art, altars, and statues sculpted in salt, it constitutes a fascinating pilgrimage into the past of a major industrial undertaking.

Auschwitz Concentration Camp 1979
(C vi)
The fortified walls, the barbed wire, the platforms, the barracks, the gallows, the gas chambers and the cremation ovens all bear witness to the conditions within which the Hitlerian genocide took place in the former concentration and extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the most extensive of the Third Reich. Four million persons, among them a great number of Jews, were systematically starved, tortured and assassinated in this camp, symbol of the cruelty of man to his fellow-men in the 20th century.

Historic Centre of Warsaw 1980
(C ii, vi)
In August 1944, during World War II, more than 85 per cent of Warsaw's 18th-century historic centre was destroyed by Nazi occupation troops. After the war, a five-year reconstruction campaign by its citizens resulted in today's meticulous reproduction of the churches, palaces and the market-place. It is an exceptional example of a total reconstruction of a span of history from the 13th to the 20th century.

Old City of Zamosc 1992
(C iv)
Zamosc was founded in the 16th century by the hetman (head of the army) Jan Zamojski on the trade route linking western and northern Europe with the Black Sea. Modelled on the Italian trading cities and built during the Baroque period by the architect Bernardo Morando, a native of Padua, Zamosc remains a perfect example of a Renaissance town of the late 16th century which retains its original layout and fortifications and a large number of buildings blending Italian and central European architectural traditions.

Medieval Town of Torun 1997
(C ii, iv)
Torun owes its origins to the Teutonic Order, which built a castle there in the mid 13th century as a base for the conquest and evangelization of Prussia. It quickly developed a commercial role as part of the Hanseatic League, and many of the imposing public and private buildings from the 14th and 15th centuries that survive in its Old and New Towns are striking testimony to its importance.

Castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork 1997
(C ii, iii, iv)
When the seat of the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order moved from Venice to what was then known as Marienburg, the earlier castle was greatly enlarged and embellished. It became the supreme example of the medieval brick castle. It fell into decay later, but in the 19th and early 20th century was meticulously restored; it was here that many of the conservation techniques now accepted as standard were evolved. Following severe damage in World War II it was once again restored, using the detailed documentation prepared by the earlier conservators.

PORTUGAL

Central Zone of the Town of Angra do Heroísmo in the Azores 1983
(C iv, vi)
Situated on one of the islands of the Azores archipelago, this was an obligatory port of call from the 15th century until the advent of the steam ship, in the 19th century. Its 400 year old San Sebastian and San Juan Baptista fortifications are a unique example of military architecture. Damaged by an earthquake in 1980, Angra is being restored.

Monastery of the Hieronymites and Tower of Belem on Lisbon 1983
(C iii, vi)
Standing at the entrance to Lisbon's harbour, the Monastery of the Hieronymites - construction of which began in 1502 - exemplifies Portuguese art at its best, while the nearby Tower of Belem, built to commemorate Vasco de Gama's expedition, is a reminder of the great maritime discoveries that laid the foundations of the modern world.

Monastery of Batalha 1983
(C i, ii)
Built to commemorate the victory of the Portuguese over the Castilians in the Battle of Aljubarrota in 1385, the Monastery of the Dominicans of Batalha remained for two more centuries the main workshop of the Portuguese monarchy in which an original, national Gothic style was formed, profoundly influenced by Manueline art, as the masterpiece, the Royal Cloister, demonstrates.

Convent of Christ in Tomar 1983
(C i, vi)
Originally designed as a monument symbolizing the Reconquista, the Convent of the Knights Templar of Tomar, transferred in 1344 to the Knights of the Order of Christ, came to symbolise just the opposite during the Manueline period - the opening up of Portugal to other civilizations.

Historic Centre of Evora 1986
(C ii, iv)
This museum-city, whose roots go back to Roman times, reached its Golden Age in the 15th century, when it became the residence of the Portuguese kings. Its unique quality stems from its white-washed houses decorated with azulejos and wrought iron balconies, 16th to 18th century. Its monuments decisively influenced Portuguese architecture in Brazil.

Monastery of Alcobaça 1989
(C i, iv)
The Monastery of Santa Maria d'Alcobaça, north of Lisbon, was founded in the 12th century by King Alfonso I. Its size, the clarity of its architectural style, the beauty of the materials used and the care with which it was built make it a masterpiece of Gothic Cistercian art.

Cultural Landscape of Sintra 1995
(C ii, iv, v)
In the 19th century Sintra became the first centre of European Romantic architecture. Ferdinand II turned a ruined monastery into a castle where this new sensitivity was displayed in the use of Gothic, Egyptian, Moorish and Renaissance elements and in the creation of a park blending local and exotic species of trees. Other prestigious homes, built along the same lines in the surrounding *serra*, created a unique combination of parks and gardens which influenced the development of landscapes in Europe.

Historic Centre of Oporto 1996
(C iv)
The city of Oporto, built along the hillsides which overlook the mouth of the Douro river, forms an exceptional urban landscape with a thousand-year history. Its continuous growth, linked to the sea (the Romans gave it the name Portus, or port), can be seen in its many and varied monuments from the Cathedral with its Roman choir, via the neo-Classical Stock Exchange to the typically Portuguese Manueline-style church of Santa Clara.

Prehistoric Rock-Art Sites in the Côa Valley 1998
(C i, iii)
The exceptional concentration of rock engravings from the Upper Palaeolithic period, from 22,000 to 10,000 BC, is the most outstanding example of the early manifestation of human artistic creation in this form anywhere in the world.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Sokkuram Grotto 1995
(C i, iv)
Established on the slopes of Mount T'oham in the 8th century, the Sokkuram cave contains a monumental statue of Buddha looking at the sea in the bhumisparsha mudra position. With the surrounding portrayals of gods, Bodhisattvas and disciples, realistically and delicately sculpted in haut-relief and bas-relief, it makes up a masterpiece of Buddhist art in the Far East. The Temple of Pulguksa, built in 752, and the cave form a body of religious architecture of exceptional significance.

Haeinsa Temple Changgyong P'ango, the Depositories for the Tripitaka Koreana Woodblocks 1995
(C iv, vi)
The Temple of Haeinsa, on Mount Kaya, is home to the Tripitaka Koreana, the most complete collection of Buddhist texts, engraved on 80,000 woodblocks between 1237 and 1249. The buildings of Changgyong P'ango, which date from the 15th century, were constructed to house the woodblocks, which are also revered as an exceptional work of art. As the oldest depository of the Tripitaka, they reveal an astonishing mastery of the invention and the implementation of conservation techniques used to preserve these woodblocks.

Chongmyo Shrine 1995
(C iv)
Chongmyo is the oldest and most authentic of the Confucian royal shrines that have been preserved. Consecrated to the forefathers of the Choson dynasty (1392-1910), it has existed in its current form since the 16th century and houses tablets bearing the teachings of members of the former royal family. Ritual ceremonies linking music, song and dance still take place there, perpetuating a tradition that goes back to the 14th century.

Ch'angdokkung Palace Complex 1997
(C ii, iii, iv)
In the early years of the 15th century the Emperor T aejong ordered the construction of a new palace at an auspicious site. A Bureau of Palace Construction was set up to create the ensemble, which consists of a number of official and residential buildings set in a garden that closely conforms with the uneven topography of the 58ha site. The result is an exceptional example of Far Eastern palace architecture and design, harmoniously integrated with its surrounding natural landscape.

Hwasong Fortress 1997
(C ii, iii)
When the Choson Emperor Chongjo moved his seat of government to Suwon at the end of the 18th century, he encircled it with strong defensive works, laid out according to the precepts of an influential military architect of the period, who brought together the latest developments in the field from both east and west. The massive walls, extending for nearly 6 km, pierced by four gates and equipped with bastions, artillery towers, and other features, still survive.

ROMANIA

Danube Delta 1991
(N iii, iv)
The waters of the Danube, which flow into the Black Sea, form the largest and best preserved of European deltas. The Danube Delta hosts over 300 species of birds as well as 45 fresh water fish species in its numerous lakes and marshes.

Biertan and its Fortified Church 1993
(C iv)
Founded by the Saxons of Transylvania, in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains, Biertan has retained its medieval elements which include the church, built in the 16th century, a number of old houses around the central square, and the triple layer fortification system of the church, which is one of the best preserved in Europe and still stands in its original urban context.

Monastery of Horezu 1993
(C ii)
Founded in 1690 by Prince Constantine Brancovan, the monastery of Horezu, in Walachia, is a masterpiece of "Brancovan" style, known for its architectural purity and balance, the richness of its sculpted detail, its treatment of religious compositions, its votive portraits and its painted decorative works. The school of mural and icon painting established at the monastery of Horezu in the 18th century was very well-known throughout the Balkan region.

Churches of Moldavia 1993
(C i, iv)
With their painted exterior walls, decorated with 15th and 16th century frescoes, masterpieces of Byzantine art, these seven churches are unique in Europe.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments 1990
(C i, ii, iv, vi)
The "Venice of the North" with its numerous canals and more than 400 bridges is foremost the result of a vast urban project begun in 1703 under Peter the Great. Known later as Leningrad (in the former USSR), it is closely associated with the October Revolution. Its architectural heritage reconciles the opposite styles of baroque and pure neo-classicism, as seen in the Admiralty, the Winter Palace, the Marble Palace and the Hermitage.

Kizhi Pogost 1990
(C i, iv, v)
The "pogost" of Kizhi - the Kizhi enclosure - is located on one of the many islands on Lake Onega, in Karelia. Two wooden 18th-century churches, and an octagonal clock tower, also in wood, made in 1862, can be seen there. These unusual constructions, in which the science of carpentry led to a bold visionary architecture, perpetuate an ancient model of parish space and are in total harmony with the surrounding landscape.

Kremlin and Red Square, Moscow 1990
(C i, ii, iv, vi)
Inseparably linked to all of the most important historical and political events in Russia since the 13th century, the Kremlin, built between the 14th and 17th centuries by outstanding Russian and foreign architects, was the residence of the Great Prince and a religious centre. At the foot of its ramparts, on Red Square, the Saint Basil Basilica is one of the most beautiful monuments of Russian Orthodox art.

Historic Monuments of Novgorod and Surroundings 1992
(C ii, iv, vi)
Situated on the ancient trade route between central Asia and northern Europe, Novgorod was Russia's first capital in the 9th century. Surrounded by churches and monasteries, it was a centre for Orthodox spirituality as well as a centre for Russian architecture. Its medieval monuments and the 14th-century frescoes of Theophane the Greek (Andre Roublov's teacher), depict the development of its remarkable architecture and cultural creativity.

Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands 1992
(C iv)
The Solovetsky archipelago is composed of six islands in the western part of the White Sea, covering 300 square kilometres. Inhabited since the 5th century B.C., important traces of human life from as far back as the 3rd millennium B.C. can be found there. Since the 15th century, the archipelago has been the site of fervent monastic activity, and several churches, constructed between the 16th and 19th centuries still remain.

White Monuments of Vladimir and Suzdal 1992
(C i, ii, iv)
These two centres of art in central Russia, Vladimir and Suzdal, with their magnificent 12th and 13th-century public and religious buildings, above all the masterpieces of the Saint Demetrios collegiate church and the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin, hold an important place in Russian architectural history.

Architectural Ensemble of the Trinity Sergius Lavra in Sergiev Posad 1993
(C ii, iv)
This is a striking example of a working Orthodox monastery, with military features typical of the 15th to 18th centuries, the period during which it developed. The main church of the Lavra, the Cathedral of the Assumption, echoing the Kremlin Cathedral of the same name, contains the tomb of Boris Godunov. Among the treasures of the Lavra is the famous icon "The Trinity" by Andrei Rublev.

Church of the Ascension, Kolomenskoye 1994
(C ii)
The Church of the Ascension was built in 1532, in the Imperial estate of Kolomenskoye, near Moscow, to celebrate the birth of the prince who was to become Tsar Ivan IV "the Terrible". One of the earliest examples of traditional wooden tent-roofed churches on a stone and brick sub-structure, it has had a great influence on the development of Russian ecclesiastical architecture.

Virgin Komi Forests 1995
(N ii, iii)
The Virgin Komi Forests cover 3.28 million hectares of tundra and mountain tundra in the Urals, as well as one of the most extensive areas of still-virgin boreal forest in Europe. This vast area of conifers, aspens, birches, peat bogs, has rivers and natural lakes, monitored and studied for more than 50 years. It provides valuable evidence of the natural processes affecting biodiversity in the taiga.

Volcanoes of Kamchatka 1996
(N i, ii, iii)
The Kamchatka Volcanoes are one of the most outstanding volcanic regions in the world with both a high density of active volcanoes, a variety of types, and a wide range of related volcanic features. The five sites included in the serial designation collectively bring together the majority of volcanic features of the Kamchatka Peninsula and form an area of exceptional beauty with major concentrations of wildlife.

Lake Baikal 1996
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
Situated in south-east Siberia in the Russian Federation, the 3,15 million ha. Lake Baikal is the oldest (25 million years) and deepest (1 700 m) of the world's lakes. It contains 20% of the world's total unfrozen freshwater reserve. Known as the "Galapagos of Russia", its age and isolation have produced one of the world's richest and most unusual freshwater faunas which is of exceptional value to evolutionary science.

Golden Mountains of Altai 1998
(N iv)
The Altai Mountains in southern Siberia form the major mountain range in the western Siberia bio-geographic region and provide the source of its greatest rivers - the Ob and the Irtysh. Three separate areas are inscribed: Altaisky Zapovednik and a buffer zone around the Teletskoye Lake, Katunsky Zapovednik and a buffer zone around Mt. Belukha and the Ukok Quiet Zone on the Ukok Plateau, the total area representing 1,611,457 ha. The region represents the most complete sequence of altitudinal vegetation zones in central Siberia from steppe, forest-steppe, mixed forest, sub-alpine vegetation and alpine vegetation. The site is also an important habitat for endangered animal species, such as the snow leopard.

SENEGAL

Island of Gorée 1978
(C vi)
Off the coast of Senegal, facing Dakar, Gorée was, from the 15th to the 19th century, the largest slave trading centre on the African coast. Ruled, in succession, by Portuguese, Dutch, English and French powers, its architecture is characterized by the contrast between the dark slave-quarters and the elegant houses of the slave traders. Today it continues to serve as a reminder of human exploitation and as a sanctuary for reconciliation.

Niokolo-Koba National Park 1981
(N iv)
Located in a well-watered area, along the banks of the Gambia River, the gallery forests and savannahs of Niokolo-Koba National Park protect a very rich fauna, among them the Derby eland (largest of the antelopes), chimpanzees, lions, leopards, a large population of elephants as well as many birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary 1981
(N iii, iv)
In the Senegal River delta, the Djoudj Sanctuary is a wetland of 16,000 hectares, comprised of a large lake surrounded by streams, ponds and backwaters, which form a living but fragile sanctuary for one and a half million birds, such as the white pelican, the purple heron, the African spoonbill, the great egret and the cormorant.

SEYCHELLES

Aldabra Atoll 1982
(N ii, iii, iv)
The atoll is comprised of four large coral islands which enclose a shallow lagoon; the group of islands is itself surrounded by a coral reef. Due to difficulties of access and the atoll's isolation, Aldabra has been protected from human influence and has as such become a refuge for some 152,000 giant tortoises, the world's largest population of this reptile.

Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve 1983
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
In the heart of the small island of Praslin, the reserve shelters the vestiges of a natural palm forest preserved in close to its original state. The famous "coco de mer" (palm tree), once believed to come from a tree growing in the depths of the sea, bears the largest seed in the plant kingdom.

SLOVAKIA

Vlkolínec 1993
(C iv, v)
In the centre of Slovakia, Vlkolínec is a remarkably intact settlement of 45 buildings with the traditional features of a central European village. It is the most complete grouping of its kind in the region, with traditional log houses, often found in mountainous areas.

Banska Stiavnica 1993
(C iv, v)
Over the centuries the town was visited by many outstanding engineers and scientists who contributed to its fame. The old medieval mining centre grew into a town with Renaissance palaces, 16th-century churches, elegant squares and castles. The urban centre blends into the surrounding landscape which contains vital relics of the mining and metallurgical activities of the past.

Spissky Hrad and its Associated Cultural Monuments 1993
(C iv)
One of the largest ensembles of 13th- and 14th-century military, political and religious buildings in eastern Europe, its Romanesque and Gothic architecture has remained remarkably intact.

SLOVENIA

Skocjan Caves 1986
(N ii, iii)
This exceptional system of limestone caves contains collapsed dolines, about 5 kilometres of underground passages, caves more than 200 metres deep and many waterfalls. This is one of the most famous sites in the world for the study of karstic (limestone) phenomena.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

East Rennell 1998
(N ii)
East Rennell makes up the southern third of Rennell Island, the southernmost island in the Solomon Island group in the western Pacific. Rennell, 86 km long and 15 km wide, is the largest raised coral atoll in the world. The site includes approximately 37,000 ha and a marine area extending three nautical miles to sea. A major feature of the island is Lake Tegano which was the former lagoon on the atoll. The lake, the largest in the insular Pacific (15,500 ha), is brackish and contains many rugged limestone islands and endemic species. Rennell is mostly covered with dense forest with a canopy averaging 20 m in height. Combined with strong climatic effects of frequent cyclones, the site is a true natural laboratory for scientific study. The site is under customary land ownership and management.

SPAIN

- Historic Centre of Cordoba** 1984, 1994
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
Cordoba's glorious period began in the 8th century when, conquered by the Moors, some 300 mosques, innumerable palaces and public buildings were constructed to rival the splendours of Constantinople, Damascus and Baghdad. In the 13th century, under Ferdinand III the Saint, Cordoba's Great Mosque was turned into a Cathedral and new defensive structures, particularly the Alcazar de los Reyes Cristianos and the Torre Fortaleza de la Calahorra, were erected.
- Alhambra, Generalife and Albayzin, Granada** 1984, 1994
(C i, iii, iv)
Rising above the modern lower town, the Alhambra and the Albayzin placed on two adjacent hills, form the medieval part of Granada. To the east of the Alhambra fortress and residence are the magnificent gardens of the Generalife, the former rural residence of the Emirs who ruled this part of Spain in the 13th and 14th centuries. The Albayzin, a residential quarter, is a rich repository of Moorish vernacular architecture, into which the traditional Andalusian architecture blends harmoniously.
- Burgos Cathedral** 1984
(C ii, iv, vi)
Begun in the 13th century, at the same time as the great cathedrals of the Ile-de-France, and completed in the 15th and 16th centuries, Our Lady of Burgos sums up Gothic architecture in all its beauty with a unique collection of rebedos, tombs, choir, stalls, stained glass, etc.
- Monastery and Site of the Escorial in Madrid** 1984
(C i, ii, vi)
Built at the end of the 16th century on a plan in the form of a grill, the instrument of the martyrdom of Saint Lawrence, the Escorial Monastery sits on an exceptionally beautiful site in Castile. The austere style of its architecture, a break with previous styles, had a considerable influence on Spain for more than half a century. It was the retreat of a mystic King and was, in the last years of Philippe II's reign, the centre of the greatest political power of the time.
- Parque Güell, Palacio Güell and Casa Mila in Barcelona** 1984
(C i, ii, iv)
Truly universal works in view of the diverse cultural sources from which they are inspired, the creations of Antonio Gaudí (1852-1926) in Barcelona represent an eclectic as well as very personal architectural style which led to new styles, not only as regards architectural style but also for gardens, sculpture and all forms of decorative art.
- Altamira Cave** 1985
(C i, iii)
This prehistoric site in the province of Santander was inhabited in the Aurignacian period and then in the Solutrean and Magdalenian periods. Most of the stone implements and, in particular, the famous paintings in the great chamber, in ochre, red and black tones and depicting a variety of wild animals - bison, horses, fawns and wild boars, date from this latter period.
- Old Town of Segovia and its Aqueduct** 1985
(C i, iii, iv)
The Roman aqueduct of Segovia, probably built around 50 A.D., is remarkably well preserved. This impressive construction, with its two tiers of arches, forms part of the setting of the magnificent historic city of Segovia, where one can also visit the Alcazar, begun around the 11th century, and the 16th-century Gothic cathedral.
- Monuments of Oviedo and the Kingdom of the Asturias** 1985, 1998
(C i, ii, iv)
In the 9th century the flame of Christianity was kept alive in the Iberian peninsula in the tiny Kingdom of the Asturias, where an innovative form of pre-Romanesque architectural style was created that was to play a significant role in the development of the religious architecture of the peninsula. Its highest achievements can be seen in the churches of Santa Maria del Naranco, San Miguel de Lillo, Santa Cristina de Lena, the Cámara Santa, and San Julián de los Prados, in and around the ancient capital city of Oviedo. Associated with them is the remarkable contemporary hydraulic engineering structure known as La Foncalada.
- Santiago de Compostela (Old Town)** 1985
(C i, ii, vi)
This famous pilgrimage site in the North-West of Spain became a symbol in the Spanish Christians' struggle against Islam. Destroyed by the Muslims at the end of the 10th century, it was completely rebuilt in the following century. The Old Town of Santiago forms one of the world's most beautiful urban areas with Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque buildings. The oldest monuments are grouped around St James' tomb and the Cathedral which contains the remarkable Pórtico de la Gloria.
- Old Town of Avila with its Extra-Muros Churches** 1985
(C iii, iv)
Founded in the 11th century to protect the Spanish territories from the Moors, this "City of Saints and Stones", the birthplace of Saint Theresa and the burial ground of the Great Inquisitor Torquemada, has kept its medieval austerity. This purity of form can still be seen in its Gothic cathedral and its fortifications which, with 82 semi-circular towers and 9 gates, are the most complete in Spain.
- Mudejar Architecture of Teruel** 1986
(C iv)
Remains of an era where, until the 15th century, Christian, Jewish and Moslems lived in harmony, the four towers of Teruel - especially San Salvador and San Martin, built respectively at the end of the 12th and the beginning of the 13th centuries - form a characteristic complex of mudéjar architecture following the Reconquest. The Christian churches used the structure and decor of Almohades minarets, adapting them to their new functions.
- Historic City of Toledo** 1986
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
Successively a Roman municipium, the capital of the Visigothic kingdom, a fortress of the Emirate of Cordoba, an outpost of the Christian kingdoms fighting the Moors and, in the 16th century, the temporary seat of the supreme power under Charles V, Toledo is the keeper of more than two millenia of history. Its masterpieces are the product of heterogeneous civilisations in an environment where the existence of three major religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam - was a major factor.
- Garajonay National Park** 1986
(N i, iii)
Laurel forest covers some 70% of the park located in the centre of the Island of La Gomera in the Canary Islands archipelago. The presence of springs and numerous streams assures a lush vegetation resembling that of the Tertiary period which, due to climatic changes, has largely disappeared from southern Europe.
- Old Town of Caceres** 1986
(C iii, iv)
The city's history of battles between Moors and Christians is reflected in its architecture which is a blend of Roman, Islamic, Northern Gothic, and Italian Renaissance styles. From the Moslem period remain about 30 towers, of which the Torre del Bujaco is the most famous.

- Cathedral, Alcazar and Archivo de Indias, in Seville** 1987
(C i, ii, iii, vi)
Together these three buildings comprise a remarkable monumental complex at the heart of Seville. The Cathedral and the Alcazar are an exceptional testimony to the civilization of the Almohades as well as of Christian Andalusia, dating from the reconquest of 1248 to the 16th century and thoroughly imbued with Moorish influences. The Giralda minaret, masterpiece of Almohad architecture, next to the cathedral with five naves, is the largest Gothic edifice in Europe, and contains the tomb of Christopher Columbus. The ancient Lonja, which became the Archivo de Indias, contains valuable documents from the archives of the colonies in the Americas.
- Old City of Salamanca** 1988
(C i, ii, iv)
This ancient university town north-west of Madrid was first conquered by the Carthaginians in the 3rd century B.C. It then became a Roman settlement before being ruled by the Moors until the 11th century. The University, one of the most ancient in Europe, reached its height during Salamanca's Golden Age. The city's historic centre has important Romanesque, Gothic, Moorish, Renaissance and Baroque monuments. The Plaza Mayor, with its galleries and arcades, is particularly impressive.
- Poblet Monastery** 1991
(C i, iv)
Located in Catalonia, this Cistercian abbey, one of the largest in Spain, surrounds its 12th-century church. The majestic severity of the monastery, which is associated with a fortified royal residence and contains the pantheon of the kings of Catalonia and Aragon, is an impressive sight.
- Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida** 1993
(C iii, iv)
The colony of Augusta Emerita, which became present-day Mérida in the Extremadura, was founded in 25 B.C., at the end of the Spanish Campaign, and was the capital of Lusitania. The remains of the old city, complete and well-preserved, include, in particular, a large bridge over the Guadiana, an amphitheatre, a theatre, a vast circus and an exceptional water supply system. It is an excellent example of a provincial Roman capital during the Empire and in the years following.
- Royal Monastery of Santa Maria de Guadalupe** 1993
(C iv, vi)
The monastery, an exceptional illustration of four centuries of Spanish religious architecture, symbolizes two significant events in world history that occurred in 1492: the reconquest of the Iberian peninsula by the Catholic kings and Christopher Columbus' arrival in the Americas. Its famous statue of the Virgin became a powerful symbol of the christianization of much of the New World.
- Route of Santiago de Compostela** 1993
(C ii, iv, vi)
Proclaimed the first European Cultural Capital by the Council of Europe, this is the route, from the French-Spanish border, which was - and still is - taken by pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela. Some 1800 buildings along the route, both religious and secular, are of great historic interest. The route played a fundamental role in facilitating cultural exchanges between the Iberian peninsula and the rest of Europe during the Middle Ages. It remains a testimony to the power of Christian faith in people of all social classes and all over Europe.
- Doñana National Park** 1994
(N ii, iii, iv)
Located in Andalusia, Doñana National Park occupies the right bank of the Guadalquivir River at its estuary on the Atlantic Ocean. It is notable for the great diversity of its biotopes, especially lagoons, marshlands, fixed and mobile dunes, scrub woodland and "maquis".
- It is home to five threatened bird species. It is one of the biggest heronries in the Mediterranean region and is the wintering site for more than 500,000 water fowls each year.
- Historic Walled Town of Cuenca** 1996
(C ii, v)
Built by the Moors on a defensive position in the heart of the Caliphate of Córdoba, Cuenca is a very well-preserved fortified medieval city. Conquered by the Castilians in the 12th century, it became a royal town and bishopric rich with major buildings, such as Spain's first Gothic cathedral, and the famous *casas colgadas* (hanging houses), suspended from sheer cliffs overlooking the Huécar River. Admirably making the most of its location, the city crowns the magnificent countryside surrounding it.
- La Lonja de la Seda de Valencia** 1996
(C i, iv)
Built between 1482 and 1533, this group of buildings, originally used for trading in silk (hence its name, The Silk Exchange), has especially in its strikingly grandiose Sala de Contratación always been a place of commerce. A masterpiece of Late Gothic, it illustrates, (Contract or Trading Hall), the power and wealth of a major Mediterranean mercantile city of the 15th and 16th centuries.
- Las Médulas** 1997
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
In the 1st century AD the Roman Imperial authorities began to exploit the gold deposits of this region in north-west Spain, using a technique based on the utilization of hydraulic power. After two centuries of working the deposits, the Romans withdrew, leaving a devastated landscape. Since there was no subsequent industrial activity, the dramatic traces of this remarkable ancient technology are everywhere visible, in the form of sheer faces in the mountainsides and vast areas of tailings, now in use for agriculture.
- The Palau de la Música Catalana and the Hospital de Sant Pau, Barcelona** 1997
(C i, ii, iv)
These are two of the finest contributions to the architecture of Barcelona by the Catalan *Art Nouveau* architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner. The Palau de la Música Catalana is an exuberant steel-framed structure full of light and space, and decorated by many of the leading designers of the day. The Hospital de Sant Pau is equally bold in its design and decoration, while at the same time perfectly adapted for the needs of the sick.
- San Millán Yuso and Suso Monasteries** 1997
(C ii, iv, vi)
The monastic community founded by St Millán in the mid 6th century became a place of pilgrimage, and a fine Romanesque church was built in honour of the holy man, which still survives at the Suso site. It was here that the first literature was produced in the Castilian tongue, from which one of the most widely spoken languages in the world today is derived. In the early 16th century the community was housed in a fine new monastery, Yuso, below the older complex, and continues in active use up to the present day.
- Rock-Art of the Mediterranean Basin on the Iberian Peninsula** 1998
(C iii)
The late prehistoric rock-art sites of the Mediterranean seaboard of the Iberian peninsula form an exceptionally large group in which the way of life in a critical phase of human development is vividly and graphically depicted in paintings that are unique in style and subject matter.
- University and Historic Precinct of Alcalá de Henares** 1998
(C ii, iv, vi)
Alcalá de Henares is the first planned university city in the world, founded by Cardinal Ximénez de Cisneros in the early 16th century.

It was the original model of the Civitas Dei (City of God), the ideal urban community which Spanish missionaries brought to the Americas, and also for universities in Europe and beyond.

SRI LANKA

Sacred City of Anuradhapura 1982
(C ii, iii, vi)

This sacred city was established around a cutting from the "tree of enlightenment", Buddha's fig tree, brought there in the 3rd century B.C. by Sanghamitta, the founder of an order of Buddhist nuns. Anuradhapura, a Ceylonese political and religious capital that flourished for 1,300 years, was abandoned after an invasion in 993. Hidden away in thick jungle for a long time, the splendid site, with its palaces, monasteries and monuments, is once again accessible.

Ancient City of Polonnaruwa 1982
(C i, iii, vi)

The second capital of Sri Lanka after the destruction of Anuradhapura in 993, Polonnaruwa comprises, besides the Brahmanic monuments built by the Cholas, the monumental ruins of the fabulous garden-city created by Parakramabahu I in the 12th century.

Ancient City of Sigiriya 1982
(C ii, iii, iv)

On the steep slopes and the summit of a granitic peak some 370 metres high - the "Lion's Rock", which dominates the jungle from all sides - lie the ruins of the capital built by the parricidal King Kassapa I (477-495). A series of galleries and staircases which emerge from the mouth of a gigantic lion constructed of bricks and plaster provide access to the site.

Sinharaja Forest Reserve 1988
(N ii, iv)

Located in southwest Sri Lanka, Sinharaja is the last viable area of primary tropical rainforest of the country. More than 60 per cent of the trees are endemic and many of them are considered rare. There is much endemic wildlife, especially birds, but the reserve is also home to 50 per cent of the endemic species of mammals and butterflies, as well as many kinds of insects, reptiles and rare amphibians.

Sacred City of Kandy 1988
(C iv, vi)

This sacred Buddhist site known as the city of Senkadagalapura, was the last capital of the Sinhala kings whose patronage enabled the Dinahala culture to flourish for more than 2500 years until the occupation of Sri Lanka by the British in 1815. It is also the site of the Temple of the Tooth Relic (the sacred tooth of Buddha) which is a famous pilgrimage site.

Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications 1988
(C iv)

Founded in the 16th century by the Portuguese, Galle reached the height of its development in the 18th century, before the arrival of the British. It is the best example of a fortified city built by Europeans in South and South-East Asia, illustrating the interaction of European architecture and South Asian traditions.

Golden Temple of Dambulla 1991
(C i, vi)

A sacred pilgrimage site of Sri Lanka for 22 centuries, this cave-monastery contains five sanctuaries and is the largest and best preserved cave-temple complex in Sri Lanka. Of particular value are the Buddhist mural paintings, covering an area of 2,100 square metres, and 157 statues.

SWEDEN

Royal Domain of Drottningholm 1991
(C iv)

On an island in Lake Mälaren in a suburb of Stockholm, the Royal Domain of Drottningholm, with its castle, its perfectly-preserved theatre, built in 1766, its Chinese pavilion and its gardens, is the best example of a northern European 18th-century royal residence inspired by the model of the Palace of Versailles.

Birka and Hovgården 1993
(C iii, iv)

The Birka archaeological site, located on Björkö Island in Lake Mälaren and occupied in the 9th and 10th centuries, and Hovgården, on the neighbouring island of Adelsö, make up an archaeological complex which illustrates the elaborate trading networks of Viking-Age Europe and their influence on the subsequent history of Scandinavia. Birka was also important as the site of the first Christian congregation in Sweden, founded in 831 by Saint Ansgar.

Engelsberg Ironworks 1993
(C iv)

This site is the best preserved and most complete example of a Swedish ironworks, which produced the superior grades of iron that made Sweden a leader in this field in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Rock Carvings in Tanum 1994
(C i, iii, iv)

The rock carvings in Tanum, in the north of Bohuslän, represent a unique artistic achievement due to their rich and varied motifs (depictions of humans and animals, weapons, boats and other objects) as well as their cultural and chronological unity. Their abundance and outstanding quality illustrate the life and beliefs of the people in the Bronze Age in Europe.

Skogskyrkogården 1994
(C ii, iv)

This cemetery in Stockholm was built between 1917 and 1920 by two young architects, Asplund and Lewerentz, in former gravel quarries overgrown with pine trees. The design, which combines plant materials and architectural features with irregularities of the ground and its landscape, is in perfect harmony with its function. It has had a profound influence in many countries of the world.

Hanseatic Town of Visby 1995
(C iv, v)

A former Viking site on the island of Gotland, Visby was the main centre of the Hanseatic League of the Baltic from the 12th to the 14th century. Its 13th-century ramparts and more than 200 warehouses and trading establishments from the same period make it the best preserved fortified commercial city in northern Europe.

Laponian Area 1996
(N i, ii, iii / C iii, v)

The Arctic Circle region of northern Sweden is the home of the Saami, or Lapp people. It is the biggest and one of the last places with an ancestral way of life based on the seasonal movement of livestock. Every summer, the Saami lead their immense herds of reindeer toward the mountains through a natural landscape hitherto preserved, but now threatened by the advent of motor vehicles. Historic and on-going geological processes can be seen in the glacial moraines and changing water courses.

Church Village of Gammelstad, Luleå 1996
(C ii, iv, v)

Gammelstad, at the head of the Gulf of Bothnia, is the best-preserved example of a unique kind of town found in northern Scandinavia - the church town. Its 424 wooden houses crowded around the early 15th-century stone church were only used on Sundays and religious festivals to lodge worshippers who came in from the surrounding countryside and who could not return home in

a single day because of the distance and difficult travelling conditions.

Naval Port of Karlskrona 1998
(C ii, iv)
Karlskrona is an outstanding example of a European planned naval city of the late 17th century in which the original plan and many of the buildings have survived intact, along with installations that illustrate its subsequent development up to the present day.

SWITZERLAND

Convent of St Gall 1983
(C ii, iv)
The perfect example of a great Carolingian monastery, this convent, rebuilt during the period of Abbot Gozbert (816-837), contains precious manuscripts in its Baroque library, including the earliest-known architectural plan drawn on parchment.

Benedictine Convent of St John at Müstair 1983
(C iii)
Characteristic of Christian monastic renovation during the Carolingian period, the Convent of Müstair, located in a valley in the centre of les Grisons, contains the greatest series of figurative murals in Switzerland, painted around 800 A.D., along with frescoes and stuccos from Romanesque times.

Old City of Berne 1983
(C iii)
Founded in the 12th century on a hill site surrounded by the Aar River, Berne became the Swiss capital in 1848. The buildings in the old city, from a variety of periods, include 16th-century arcades and fountains. The major part of the Medieval town was renovated in the 18th century but its original character was preserved.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Ancient City of Damascus 1979
(C i, ii, iii, iv, vi)
Founded in the 3rd millennium B.C. it is one of the oldest cities in the Middle East. In the Middle Ages Damascus was the centre of a flourishing artisan industry (swords and laces). Amongst the 125 monuments from the different periods of its history, the 8th-century Great Mosque of the Umajjades is one of the most spectacular, built on the site of an Assyrian sanctuary.

Ancient City of Bosra 1980
(C i, iii, vi)
Once the capital of the Roman province of Arabia, an important stopover on the ancient caravan route to Mecca, Bosra has conserved within its thick walls a magnificent Roman theatre from the 2nd century, early Christian ruins and several mosques.

Site of Palmyra 1980
(C i, ii, iv)
An oasis in the Syrian desert, north-east of Damascus, Palmyra contains the monumental ruins of a great city that was one of the most important cultural centres of the ancient world. The art and architecture of Palmyra, at the crossroads of several civilizations from the 1st to the 2nd century, married Graeco-Roman techniques with local traditions and Persian influences.

Ancient City of Aleppo 1986
(C iii, iv)
Located at the crossroads of various trade routes since the 2nd millennium B.C., Aleppo was ruled successively by the Hittites, Assyrians, Arabs, Mongols, Mamelouks and Ottomans. Its 13th-century citadel, its 12th-century Great Mosque and various 17th-century médersas, palaces, caravanserais and hammams give it a cohesive and unique urban fabric, now threatened by overpopulation.

THAILAND

Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns 1991
(C i, iii)
Capital of the first Kingdom of Siam in the 13th and 14th centuries, a number of notable monuments, which illustrate the beginnings of Thai architecture, can be seen in Sukhothai. The great civilisation which evolved in the kingdom of Sukhothai was a tributary of numerous influences and ancient local traditions, but the rapid assimilation of all these elements forged what is known as the "Sukhothai style".

Historic City of Ayutthaya and Associated Historic Towns 1991
(C iii)
Founded in about 1350, Ayutthaya became the second Siamese capital after Sukhothai. It was destroyed by the Burmese in the 18th century. Its remains, characterized by its prang or reliquary towers, and gigantic monasteries, give an idea of its past splendour.

Thungyai-Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuaries 1991
(N ii, iii, iv)
Stretching over more than 600,000 hectares along the Myanmar border, the sanctuary, which is relatively intact, contains examples of almost all the forest types of continental South-East Asia. It is home to a very diverse array of animals, including 77% of the large mammals (especially elephants and tigers), 50% of the large birds and 33% of the land vertebrates to be found in this region.

Ban Chiang Archaeological Site 1992
(C iii)
Considered the most important prehistoric settlement so far discovered in southeast Asia, Ban Chiang was the centre of a remarkable phenomenon of human cultural, social and technological evolution. The site presents the earliest evidence of farming in the region and of the manufacture and use of metals.

TUNISIA

Medina of Tunis 1979
(C ii, iii, v)
Under the reign of the Almohaves and the Hafside dynasties, from the 12th to the 16th century, Tunis was considered one of the greatest and wealthiest cities of the Islamic world. Some 700 monuments including palaces, mosques, mausoleums, médersas and fountains speak of this remarkable past.

Site of Carthage 1979
(C ii, iii, vi)
Founded in the 9th century B.C. on the Gulf of Tunis, Carthage developed, from the 6th century, into a great trading empire covering much of the Mediterranean and was home to a brilliant civilization. In the course of long Punic wars, Carthage occupied territories belonging to Rome, which finally destroyed its rival in 146 B.C. A second - Roman - Carthage was then established on the ruins of the first.

Amphitheatre of El Jem 1979
(C iv, vi)
The impressive ruins of the largest coliseum in North Africa, a huge amphitheatre which could hold up to 35,000 spectators, can be found in the small village of El Jem. This 3rd-century construction illustrates the extent and grandeur of Imperial Rome.

Ichkeul National Park 1980
(N iv)
The Ichkeul lake and wetland are a stopover point for hundreds of thousands of migrating birds, such as ducks, geese, storks, pink flamingoes, among others, who come to feed and nest there. The lake is the last one remaining in a chain of lakes which once extended across northern Africa.

Punic Town of Kerkuane and its Necropolis 1985, 1986
(C iii)
This Phoenician city, probably abandoned during the First Punic War (around 250 B.C.), and as a result not rebuilt by the Romans, constitutes the only remains of a Phoenicio-Punic city, which has survived. Its houses were built to a standard plan in accordance with a very developed form of town-planning.

Medina of Sousse 1988
(C iii, iv, v)
Sousse, an important commercial and military port in the times of the Aghlabites (800-909), is a typical example of a town dating from the first centuries of Islam. With its kasbah, its ramparts, its medina (with the Great Mosque), the Bu Ftata Mosque and its typical ribat, at the same time a fort and religious building, Sousse formed part of a coastal defence system.

Kairouan 1988
(C i, ii, iii, v, vi)
Founded in 670, Kairouan flourished under the Aghlabide dynasty in the 9th century. Despite the transfer of the political capital to Tunis in the 12th century, Kairouan remained the first holy city of the Maghreb. Its rich architectural heritage includes the Great Mosque with its columns in marble and porphyry and the 9th-century Mosque of the Three Gates.

Dougga/Thugga 1997
(C ii, iii)
Before the Roman annexation of Numidia, the town of Thugga, built on an elevated site overlooking a fertile plain, was the capital of an important Libyco-Punic state. It flourished under Roman and Byzantine rule, but declined in the Islamic period. The ruins visible today bear impressive witness to the resources of a small Roman town on the edges of the Empire.

TURKEY

Historic Areas of Istanbul 1985
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
Strategically located on the Bosphorus peninsula between the Balkans and Anatolia, the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, Istanbul has been associated with major political, religious and artistic events for more than two thousand years. Its masterpieces include the ancient Hippodrome of Constantine, the 6th-century Hagia Sophia and the 16th-century Suleymaniye Mosque, which are now jeopardized by overpopulation, industrial pollution and uncontrolled urbanization.

Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia 1985
(N iii / C i, iii, v)
In a spectacular landscape, entirely sculptured by erosion, the Göreme Valley and its surroundings contain sanctuaries hewn into the rock, providing irreplaceable evidence of Byzantine art of the post-iconoclastic period. Dwellings, troglodyte villages and underground towns representing a traditional human habitat, dating back to the 4th century, can also be seen there.

Great Mosque and Hospital of Divrigi 1985
(C i, iv)
In this region of Anatolia, conquered by the Turks at the beginning of the 11th century, Emir Ahmet Shah founded a mosque in 1228-1229 containing a single prayer room and crowned by two cupolas, with a hospital adjoining it. A highly elaborate technique of vault construction, and a creative, imaginative type of decorative sculpture - particularly on the three doors, in contrast to the unadorned walls of the interior - are the unique features of this masterpiece of Islamic architecture.

Hattusha 1986
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
The former capital of the Hittite Empire, Hattusha is a remarkable archaeological site for its urban organisation, the types of construction that have been preserved (temples, royal residences, fortifications), the rich ornamentation of the Lions' Gate and the Royal Gate, and the ensemble of rock art of Yazilikaya. The city exercised a considerable influence in Anatolia and northern Syria in the 2nd century B.C.

Nemrut Dag 1987
(C i, iii, iv)
The mausoleum of Antiochus I (69-34 B.C.) who reigned over Commagene, a kingdom founded north of Syria and the Euphrates after the breakup of Alexander's empire, is one of the most ambitious constructions of Hellenic times. The syncretism of its pantheon, and the lineage of its kings, which can be traced back through two sets of legends, Greek and Persian, is evidence of the dual origin of this kingdom's culture.

Xanthos-Letoon 1988
(C ii, iii)
The capital of Lycia, this site illustrates the mixture of Lycian traditions and Hellenic influence, especially through its funeral art. The epigraphic inscriptions are crucial for understanding the Indo-European language and the history of the Lycian people.

Hierapolis-Pamukkale 1988
(N iii / C iii, iv)
From springs in a cliff almost 200 metres high overlooking the plain, calcite-laden waters have created at Pamukkale ("cotton palace" in Turkish) an unreal landscape, made up of mineral forests, petrified waterfalls and a series of terraced basins. At the end of the 2nd century B.C. the dynasty of the Attalides, the kings of Pergame, set up the thermal station of Hierapolis. The site includes the ruins of the baths, temples and other Greek monuments.

City of Safranbolu 1994
(C ii, iv, v)
From the 13th century to the advent of the railway in the early 20th century, Safranbolu was an important caravan station on the main east-west trade route. Its Old Mosque, Old Bath and Suleyman Pasha medersa were built in 1322. During its apogee in the 17th century, its architecture influenced urban development in a large part of the Ottoman Empire.

Archaeological Site of Troy 1998
(C, ii, iii, vi)
Troy, with its four thousand years of history, is one of the most famous archaeological sites in the world. The first excavations at the site were started in 1871 by the famous archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann. In scientific terms, its extensive remains are the most significant and substantial demonstration of the first contact between the civilizations of Anatolia and the Mediterranean world. Moreover, the siege of Troy by Spartan and Achaean warriors from Greece in the 13th or 12th century BC, immortalized by Homer in The Iliad, has inspired great creative artists throughout the world since that time.

UGANDA

Rwenzori Mountains National Park 1994
(N iii, iv)
Covering nearly 100,000 hectares in western Uganda, the park comprises the main part of the Rwenzori mountain chain, which includes Africa's third highest peak (Mount Margherita at 5,109 metres). The region's glaciers, waterfalls and lakes make it one of Africa's most beautiful alpine areas. The park protects many natural habitats, endangered species and an unusual flora, comprising, among other species, the giant heather.

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park 1994
(N iii, iv)
Located in south-western Uganda, at the junction of the plain and mountain forests, Bwindi Park covers 32,000 ha and is known for its exceptional biodiversity, with more than 160 species of trees and more than 100 species of ferns. Many types of birds and butterflies can also be found there, as well as many endangered species, including the mountain gorilla.

UKRAINE

Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra 1990
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
Designed to rival Saint Sophia of Constantinople, Kiev's Saint Sophia Cathedral symbolises the "new Constantinople", capital of the Christian Principality of Kiev created in the 11th century, in a region evangelised after the baptism of Saint Vladimir in 988. The spiritual and intellectual influence of Kiev-Pechersk Lavra contributed to the spread of Orthodox thinking and faith in the Russian world in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

L'viv - the Ensemble of the Historic Centre 1998
(C ii, v)
The city of L'viv, founded in the later Middle Ages, flourished as an administrative, religious, and commercial centre for several centuries. It has preserved virtually intact its medieval urban topography, and in particular evidence of the separate ethnic communities who lived there, along with many fine Baroque and later buildings.

UNITED KINGDOM

Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast 1986
(N i, iii)
At the foot of the basaltic cliffs along the sea coast at the edge of the Antrim Plateau in Northern Ireland, the Giant's Causeway is made up of some 40,000 massive black columns sticking out of the sea. The dramatic sight has inspired legends of giants striding over the sea to Scotland. The study of these formations by geologists for 300 years has greatly contributed to the development of the earth sciences, and shown that this striking landscape was caused by volcanic activities during the Tertiary Period some 50-60 million years ago.

Durham Castle and Cathedral 1986
(C ii, iv, vi)
Built in the late 11th and early 12th centuries to house the relics of St. Cuthbert, the evangelist of Northumbria, and the Venerable Bede, the Cathedral attests to the importance of the early Benedictine monastic community and is the largest and best example of Norman-style architecture in England. The innovative audacity of its vaulting foreshadowed Gothic architecture. Behind the Cathedral is the Castle, an ancient Norman fortress which was the residence of the prince-bishops of Durham.

Ironbridge Gorge 1986
(C i, ii, iv, vi)
In Ironbridge, known worldwide as the symbol of the Industrial Revolution, all the elements of progress developed in an 18th century industrial region can be found, from the mines themselves to the railway lines. Nearby, the blast furnace of Coalbrookdale, built in 1708, is a reminder of the discovery of coke, which, together with the bridge at Ironbridge, the first metallic bridge in the world, had considerable influence on the evolution of technology and architecture.

Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey 1986
(C i, iv)
A striking landscape was created around the ruins of the Cistercian abbey of Fountains and Fountains Hall Castle, in Yorkshire. The

landscaping, the gardens and canal dating from the 18th century, the plantations and vistas from the 19th century and the neo-Gothic castle of Studley Royal Park make this a site of exceptional value.

Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites 1986
(C i, ii, iii)
Stonehenge and Avebury, in Wiltshire, are among the most famous groups of megaliths in the world. These two sanctuaries are formed of circles of menhirs arranged in a pattern whose astronomical significance is still unexplained. These holy places and the various nearby neolithic sites offer an incomparable testimony to prehistoric times.

Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd 1986
(C i, iii, iv)
In the former principality of Gwynedd, in northern Wales, the castles of Beaumaris and Harlech, thanks largely to the greatest military engineer of the time, James of Saint George, and the fortified complexes of Caernarfon and Conwy, all extremely well-preserved, bear witness to the works of colonisation and defense carried out throughout the reign of Edward I, King of England (1272-1307), and to the military architecture of the time.

St Kilda 1986
(N iii, iv)
This volcanic archipelago, comprising the islands of Hirta, Dun, Soay and Boreray, with its spectacular landscapes along the coast of the Hebrides, includes some of the highest cliffs in Europe, which provide a refuge for impressive colonies of rare and endangered species of birds, especially puffins and gannets.

Blenheim Palace 1987
(C ii, iv)
Near Oxford, in a romantic park created by the well-known landscape gardener "Capability" Brown, is Blenheim Palace, given by the English nation to John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, in recognition of his victory in 1704 over French and Bavarian troops. Built between 1705 and 1722, characterised by eclectic inspiration and a return to national roots, it is a perfect example of an 18th-century princely home.

City of Bath 1987
(C i, ii, iv)
Founded by the Romans as a thermal spa, Bath became an important centre of the wool industry in the Middle Ages. In the 18th century, under George III, it developed into an elegant town with neo-classical buildings inspired by Palladio, which blended harmoniously with the Roman thermal complex.

Hadrian's Wall 1987
(C ii, iii, iv)
Built under the orders of Emperor Hadrian in about 122 A.D. on the border between England and Scotland, the 118-kilometre long wall is a striking example of the organisation of a military zone, which illustrates the techniques and strategic and geopolitical views of the Romans.

Westminster Palace, Westminster Abbey and Saint Margaret's Church 1987
(C i, ii, iv)
Rebuilt starting in 1840 around striking medieval remains, Westminster Palace is an eminent example, coherent and complete, of the neo-Gothic style. With the small medieval church of Saint Margaret, built in a perpendicular Gothic style, and the prestigious Westminster Abbey, where all the sovereigns since the 11th century have been crowned, the historic and symbolic significance of this site is unmistakable.

Henderson Island 1988
(N iii, iv)
In the eastern South Pacific, Henderson Island is one of the few atolls in the world with its ecology practically unaltered by man. Its isolated location permits the study of the dynamics of insular evolution and natural selection. It is particularly notable for ten plants and four land birds, endemic to the island.

Tower of London 1988
(C ii, iv)
The massive White Tower, typical of Norman military architecture whose influence was felt throughout the Kingdom, was built by William the Conqueror along the Thames to protect London and to assert his power there. The Tower of London, an imposing fortress rich with history that has become one of the symbols of royalty, was built around the White Tower.

Canterbury Cathedral, Saint Augustine's Abbey, and St Martin's Church 1988
(C i, ii, vi)
For three hundred years the seat of the spiritual leader of the Church of England, Canterbury, in Kent, houses the modest church of Saint Martin, the oldest in England, the ruins of the abbey of Saint Augustine, a reminder of the evangelising role of the saint in the Heptarchie from 597, and the superb Christ Church Cathedral, a breathtaking mixture of Romanesque and Gothic perpendicular styles, where the Archbishop Thomas Becket was assassinated in 1170.

Old and New Towns of Edinburgh 1995
(C ii, iv)
Edinburgh, capital of Scotland since the 15th century, presents the dual face of an old city dominated by a medieval fortress and a new neoclassic city whose development from the 18th century onwards exerted a far-reaching influence on European urban planning. The harmonious juxtaposition of these two highly contrasting historic areas, each containing many buildings of great significance, is what gives the city its unique character.

Gough Island Wildlife Reserve 1995
(N iii, iv)
Gough Island, in the South Atlantic, is one of the least-disrupted island and marine ecosystems in the cool temperate zone. One of the largest colonies of sea birds in the world lives there, amidst spectacular scenery of cliffs towering above the ocean. The island is also home to two endemic species of land birds, the gannet and the Gough booby, as well as to twelve endemic species of plants.

Maritime Greenwich 1997
(C i, ii, iv, vi)
The ensemble of buildings at Greenwich, near London, and the park in which they are set, are distinguished symbols of English artistic and scientific endeavour in the 17th and 18th centuries. The Queen's House of Inigo Jones was the first Palladian building in the British Isles, whilst the complex that was until recently the Royal Naval College was designed by Christopher Wren. The Park, laid out on the basis of an original concept of André Le Nôtre, contains the original Royal Observatory, the work of Wren and the scientist Robert Hooke.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Ngorongoro Conservation Area 1979
(N ii, iii, iv)
A large permanent concentration of wild animals can be found in the huge and perfect crater of Ngorongoro. Nearby, the crater of Empakaai, filled by a deep lake, and the active volcano of Oldonyo Lengua can be seen. Excavations carried out in the Olduvai Gorge, not far from there, have resulted in the discovery of one of man's more distant ancestors, *Homo habilis*.

Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara 1981
(C iii)
On two small islands near the coast, the remains of two great East African ports admired by early European explorers can be found. From the 13th to the 16th centuries, the merchants of Kilwa traded gold, silver, pearls, perfumes, Arabian crockery, Persian earthenware and Chinese porcelain, much of the trade in the Indian Ocean thus passing through their hands.

Serengeti National Park 1981
(N iii, iv)
In the vast plains of Serengeti, comprising 1.5 million hectares of savannah, immense herds of herbivores - wildebeests, gazelles and zebras - followed by their predators in their annual migration to permanent water holes, offer a sight from another age, one of the most impressive in the world.

Selous Game Reserve 1982
(N ii, iv)
Elephants, black rhinoceroses, cheetahs, giraffes, hippopotamuses and crocodiles live in large numbers in this immense sanctuary - 50,000 square kilometres relatively undisturbed by man. The park has a variety of vegetation zones from dense thickets to open wooded grasslands.

Kilimanjaro National Park 1987
(N iii)
The highest point in Africa, Kilimanjaro is a volcanic massif 5,963 metres high which stands, isolated, above the surrounding plains, with its snowy peak looming over the savannah. The mountain is encircled by mountain forest, and numerous mammals, many of which are endangered, live in the park.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mesa Verde 1978
(C iii)
A great concentration of Anasazi Indian dwellings, built from the 6th to the 12th centuries, can be found on the Mesa Verde plateau in southwest Colorado, at an altitude of more than 2,600 metres. Some 3,800 sites have been recorded, including villages built on the plateau, and imposing cliffside sites, built of stone and comprising more than 200 houses.

Yellowstone 1978
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
In a vast natural forest in Wyoming, Yellowstone National Park covers more than 9,000 square kilometres. An impressive collection of geothermal phenomena can be observed there, including more than 3,000 geysers, fumaroles and hot springs. Established in 1872, Yellowstone is equally known for its wildlife, such as grizzly bears, wolves, bison and wapiti.

Grand Canyon National Park 1979
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
Carved out by the Colorado River, the Grand Canyon, nearly 1,500 metres deep, is the most spectacular gorge in the world. Located in the state of Arizona, it cuts across the Grand Canyon National Park. Its horizontal strata retrace the geological history of the past 2 billion years. Prehistoric traces also remain of human adaptation to a particularly harsh environment.

Everglades National Park 1979
(N i, ii, iv)
This site at the southern tip of Florida has been called "a river of grass flowing imperceptibly from the hinterland into the sea". The exceptional variety of its water habitats has made it a sanctuary for a considerable number of birds and reptiles, as well as for threatened species such as the manatee.

Independence Hall 1979
(C vi)
The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were signed in this hall in the heart of Philadelphia, in 1776 and 1787 respectively. Since then, the universal principles set forth in these two documents of fundamental importance to American history have continued to guide lawmakers all over the world.

Redwood National Park 1980
(N ii, iii)
A region of coastal mountains bordering the Pacific Ocean north of San Francisco, Redwood National Park is covered with a magnificent forest of sequoia - redwood - trees, which are the tallest and most impressive in the world. The marine and land life are equally remarkable, in particular the sea lions, bald eagle and the endangered California brown pelican.

Mammoth Cave National Park 1981
(N i, iii, iv)
Mammoth Cave National Park, located in the state of Kentucky, contains the largest network of natural caves and underground passageways in the world, characteristic examples of limestone formations. The park and its underground network shelter a varied flora and fauna, including a number of endangered species.

Olympic National Park 1981
(N ii, iii)
Located in the northwest corner of Washington state, Olympic National Park is dominated by Mount Olympus (2,428 metres high), which gave the park its name. A great variety of landscapes and ecosystems can be found there, with a great wealth of marine life along its rocky coast, forests of giant conifers in the valleys where huge herds of wapiti roam, and craggy peaks overhanging some sixty active glaciers.

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site 1982
(C iii, iv)
About 15 kilometres north of St Louis (Missouri), Cahokia provides the most complete source of information on pre-Columbian civilizations in the regions of the Mississippi. It is a striking example of a pre-urban sedentary structure that allows for the study of a kind of social organisation about which no written traces exist.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park 1983
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
Stretching over more than 200,000 hectares, this exceptionally beautiful park is home to more than 3,500 plant species, almost as many trees (130 natural species) as in all of Europe. Many endangered animal species can also be found there, including what is probably the greatest variety of salamanders in the world. Relatively untouched, it gives an idea of temperate flora before the influence of humankind.

La Fortaleza and San Juan Historic Site in Puerto Rico 1983
(C vi)
A vital strategic point in the Caribbean Sea, the defensive structures built over four centuries (15th to 19th) to protect the city and the Bay of San Juan have left a rich display of European military architecture adapted to the harbours of the American continent.

Statue of Liberty 1984
(C i, vi)
Made in Paris by the French sculptor Bartholdi, with help on the metalwork from Gustave Eiffel, this symbolic monument to liberty was a gift from France on the centenary of American independence. Standing at the entrance of New York Harbor it has welcomed millions of immigrants to the United States of America since it was inaugurated in 1886.

Yosemite National Park 1984
(N i, ii, iii)
Located in the heart of California, Yosemite National Park, with its "hanging" valleys, many waterfalls, cirque lakes, polished domes, moraines and U-shaped valleys, offers a view of all kinds of granite reliefs fashioned by glaciation. At 600 to 4,000 metres high, a great variety of flora and fauna can also be found here.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park 1987
(C iii)
This national park, in north-west New Mexico, contains the most important remains of the Chaco culture, which was at its height between about 1020 and 1110. It was characterized by a very elaborate system of urban dwellings surrounded by villages and linked by a network of roads.

Monticello and University of Virginia in Charlottesville 1987
(C i, iv, vi)
Excellent examples of Neoclassicism, seen in the relationship of the buildings with nature and the blending of functionalism and symbolism, the mansion of Monticello and the University of Virginia reflect the design of their architect, Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), who was strongly influenced by the Enlightenment.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park 1987
(N ii)
Two of the most active volcanoes in the world, Mauna Loa (4,170 metres high) and Kilauea, tower over the Pacific Ocean at this site. Volcanic eruptions have created a continually-changing landscape, and the lava flows reveal surprising geological formations. Rare birds and endemic species can be found there, as well as forests of giant ferns.

Pueblo de Taos 1992
(C iv)
Situated in the valley of a small tributary of the Rio Grande, this adobe settlement consists of dwellings and ceremonial buildings, representing the culture of the Pueblo Indians of Arizona and New Mexico.

Carlsbad Caverns National Park 1995
(N i, iii)
In the state of New Mexico, this karstic network comprises 81 currently recognized caves. Among this high concentration of caves, outstanding because of their size and the profusion, diversity and beauty of their mineral formations, the Lechuguilla cave stands out among the rest, forming as it does an underground laboratory where geological processes can be studied in a virtually intact setting.

URUGUAY

Historic Quarter of the City of Colonia del Sacramento 1995
(C iv)
Founded by the Portuguese in 1680 on the Rio de la Plata, the city fulfilled a strategic function in resisting the Spanish. Disputed for a century, it was finally lost by its founders. Its preserved urban landscape, a mixture of solemnity and intimacy, is an example of the successful fusion of the Portuguese, Spanish and post-colonial styles.

UZBEKISTAN

Itchan Kala 1990
(C iii, iv, v)
Itchan Kala is the inner town, protected by brick walls about 10 metres high, of the old Khiva oasis, which was the last resting place of caravaneers before crossing the desert to Iran. Although few very old monuments still remain there, it is a coherent and well-preserved example of Moslem architecture of Central Asia, with outstanding structures such as the Djuma Mosque, the mausoleums and the médersas and the two magnificent palaces built in the beginning of the 19th century by Alla-Kulli-Khan.

Historic Centre of Bukhara 1993
(C ii, iv, vi)
Situated on The Silk Road, Bukhara is more than two thousand years old. It is the most complete example of a medieval city in Central Asia, with an urban fabric that has remained largely intact. The monuments of interest include the Ismail Samani's famous tomb, a masterpiece of 10th-century Moslem architecture, and a number of 17th-century médersas.

VENEZUELA

Coro and its Port 1993
(C iv, v)
Built in an earthen style unique to the Caribbean, the city is the only surviving example of a rich fusion of local traditions, Spanish mudejar and Dutch architectural techniques. One of the first colonial towns, it was founded in 1527 and contains some 602 historic buildings.

Canaima National Park 1994
(N i, ii, iii, iv)
Canaima National Park is spread over three million hectares in south-eastern Venezuela along the border between Guyana and Brazil. Roughly 65 per cent of the park is covered by table mountain (tepui) formations. The tepuis constitute a unique biogeological entity and are of great geological interest. The sheer cliffs and waterfalls, including the world's highest (1,000 metres), form a spectacular landscape.

VIETNAM

Complex of Hué Monuments 1993
(C iii, iv)
Established as the capital of unified Vietnam in 1802, Hué was not only the political but also the cultural and religious centre under the Nguyen Dynasty until 1945. The Perfume River winds its way through the Capital City, the Imperial City, the Forbidden Purple City and Inner City, adding natural beauty to this unique feudal capital.

Ha Long Bay 1994
(N iii)
Ha Long Bay, located in the Gulf of Tonkin, includes some 1600 islands and islets forming a spectacular seascape of limestone pillars. Because of their precipitous nature, most of the islands are uninhabited and unaffected by man. The exceptional esthetic values of this site are complimented by its great biological interest.

YEMEN

Old City of Sana'a 1986
(C iv, v, vi)
Located in a mountain valley at an altitude of 2200 m, Sana'a has been inhabited for more than 2500 years. In the 7th and 8th centuries the town became a major centre for the spread of Islam. This religious and political heritage can be seen in its 106 mosques, 12 hammams and 6500 houses, all built before the 11th century. Sana'a's many-storeyed tower or pisé houses add to the beauty of the site.

Old Walled City of Shibam 1982
(C iii, iv, v)
Surrounded by a fortified wall, the 16th-century city of Shibam is one of the oldest and best examples of urban planning based on the principle of vertical construction. Its impressive tower-like structures rise out of the cliff and have given the city the nickname of "the Manhattan of the desert".

Historic Town of Zabid 1993
(C ii, iv, vi)
The domestic and military architecture of this city and its urban plan make it a site of outstanding archeological and historical value. Besides being the capital of Yemen, from the 13th to the 15th

century, Zabid was of great importance in the Arab and Muslim world for many centuries because of its Islamic university.

YUGOSLAVIA

Stari Ras and Sopocani 1979
(C i, iii)
On the outskirts of Stari Ras, the first capital of Serbia, there is an impressive group of medieval monuments, fortresses, churches and monasteries. The monastery at Sopocani is a reminder of the contacts made between Western civilizations and the Byzantine world.

Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor 1979
(C i, ii, iii, iv)
This natural harbour on the Adriatic coast in Montenegro was an important artistic and commercial centre with famous masonry and iconography schools in the Middle Ages. A large number of its monuments, among which four Romanesque churches and the town walls, were heavily damaged by an earthquake in 1979 but the town has been restored, mostly with UNESCO's help.

Durmitor National Park 1980
(N ii, iii, iv)
Formed by glaciers and cut by rivers on the surface and underground, Durmitor is a strikingly beautiful natural park. Along the Tara River Canyon, with the deepest gorges in Europe, the dense pine forests are interspersed with clear lakes and harbour a wide range of endemic flora.

Studenica Monastery 1986
(C i, ii, iv, vi)
Founded in the late 12th century shortly after the abdication of Stevan Nemanja, creator of the medieval Serb State, the Studenica Monastery is the largest and richest of the Orthodox monasteries in Serbia. Its two main monuments, the Church of the Virgin and the Church of the King, constructed out of white marble, make up a veritable conservatory of 13th and 14th century Byzantine painting.

ZAMBIA and ZIMBABWE

Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls 1989
(N ii, iii)
These are among the most spectacular waterfalls in the world. The Zambezi River, more than two kilometres wide at this point, plunges noisily down a series of basalt gorges and raises an iridescent mist that can be seen more than 20 kilometres away.

ZIMBABWE

Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas 1984
(N ii, iii, iv)
On the banks of the Zambezi River, great cliffs overhang the river and the flood-plains where a remarkable concentration of wild animals can be found, including elephants, buffaloes, leopards and cheetahs. An important concentration of Nile crocodiles can be found in the area.

Great Zimbabwe National Monument 1986
(C i, iii, vi)
The ruins of Great Zimbabwe, which, according to an age-old legend, was the capital of the Queen of Sheba, are a unique testimony to the Bantu civilization of the Shona between the 11th and 15th centuries. This city, covering an area of nearly 80 hectares, was an important trading centre, renowned since the Middle Ages.

Khami Ruins National Monument 1986
(C iii, iv)
Khami, developed after the capital of Great Zimbabwe had been abandoned in the mid-16th century, is of great archaeological interest. The discovery of objects from Europe and China reveals that Khami has long been a centre for trade.

Criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List

The criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List should always be seen in relation to one another and should be considered in the context of the definition set out in Article 1 of the Convention which is reproduced below:

monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and of man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological points of view."

A monument, group of buildings or site - as defined above - which is nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List will be considered to be of outstanding universal value for the purpose of the Convention when the Committee finds that it meets one or more of the following criteria and the test of authenticity. Each property nominated should therefore:

- (i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius; or
- (ii) exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design; or
- (iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared; or
- (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history; or
- (v) be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement or land-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; or
- (vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance (the Committee considers that this criterion should justify inclusion in the List only in exceptional circumstances and in conjunction with other criteria cultural or natural);

Criteria for the inclusion of natural properties in the World Heritage List

In accordance with Article 2 of the Convention, the following is considered as "natural heritage":

"natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from the aesthetic or scientific point of view;

geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation;

natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty."

A natural heritage property - as defined above - which is submitted for inclusion in the World Heritage List will be considered to be of outstanding universal value for the purposes of the Convention when the Committee finds that it meets one or more of the following criteria and fulfils the conditions of integrity set out below. Sites nominated should therefore:

- (i) be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of land forms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features; or
- (ii) be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals; or
- (iii) contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance; or
- (iv) contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.