

# MANKIND

THE STORY OF ALL OF US™

UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) works with countries around the world to identify and protect cultural and natural places that merit recognition as part of the common heritage for humankind. HISTORY® is proud to join the effort to raise awareness about the importance of World Heritage sites across the globe. All of these sites are important to preserve as part of our shared human story.



**GRANADA:** One of the Alhambra's many courtyards.  
©UNESCO/Francisco Bandieri



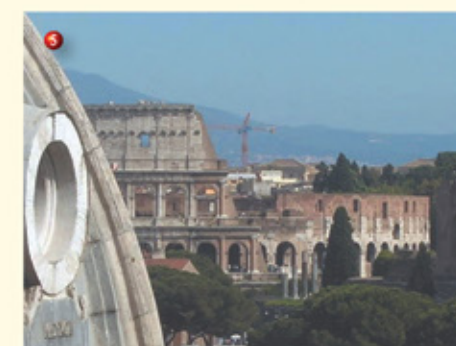
**LASCAUX:** Wall Paintings from Vézère Valley  
©UNESCO/United Nations World



**AVIGNON:** Avignon as seen from the Mediterranean Sea.  
©Viviane Angillet



**VENICE:** St Mark's Basilica as seen from the sea.  
©UNESCO/Janard Suresh-Wali



**ROME:** The Colosseum, part of the Roman Forum.  
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**ATHENS:** The Parthenon, part of the Greek Acropolis.  
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World Heritage sites are inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis that they offer a significant contribution to the cultural and natural heritage of the world. Their outstanding universal value is considered to go beyond national boundaries and to be of importance for future generations.

As of 2012, there are 962 World Heritage sites, with new sites added to the list each year. One hundred eighty nine parties have ratified the World Heritage Convention, pledging to preserve and protect World Heritage sites on their territory. There are three main categories of World Heritage sites: Cultural, Natural, and Mixed. **Cultural heritage** refers to monuments, buildings, and

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

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

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

The World Heritage Marine Programme helps countries nominate marine sites and manage them effectively to ensure that they will thrive for future generations.

Learn more at **MANKIND CONNECTED: A Global Teach-In**, streaming live at [www.history.com/classroom](http://www.history.com/classroom) on Thursday, November 8, 12PM EST.

This map highlights World Heritage sites featured in HISTORY's 12-part series **Mankind The Story of All of Us™**. To learn more about the series, visit us online at <http://www.history.com/mankind>.

Visit <http://whc.unesco.org> to see a full list of UNESCO World Heritage sites, and learn more about these important places.

To learn more about World Heritage sites in the United States visit <http://www.nps.gov/oia/topics/worldheritage/worldheritage.htm>



WATCH **MANKIND THE STORY OF ALL OF US™** EVERY TUESDAY AT 9PM/8C ON HISTORY® BEGINNING NOVEMBER 13, 2012.