

Beautiful Planet Shorts

112 x 15'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. AUSTRIA: Hallstatt-Dachstein Salzkammergut Cultural Landscape

Due to its network of caves the Dachstein Mountains are far more than just the typical karst covered mountains of the Austrian Alps. Human activity in the magnificent natural landscape began in prehistoric times with the salt deposits being exploited as early as the 2nd millennium BC.

2. AUSTRIA: Palace and Gardens of Schonbrunn

Schönbrunn was the residence of the Habsburg emperors and is full of outstanding examples of decorative art. Together with its gardens, it is a remarkable Baroque ensemble and a perfect example of Gesamtkunstwerk.

3. FRANCE: Historic Fortified City of Cascarsonne

The walled city of Carcassonne is known first and foremost as a fortified medieval town; but this rocky outcrop has been inhabited by humans since the 6th century B.C.

Fortification works lasted until the end of the 13th century, with the construction of the outer wall and the modernization of the inner rampart, turning this town in an impregnable fortress.

4. BELGIUM: Flemish Beguinage

Beguinages were home to generations of religious women who sought to live a more independent life than that of women who married against their will. They made their homes, assisted the sick and poor, and sought to serve God without separating themselves from the rest of the world.

The Flemish béguinages are architectural ensembles composed of houses, churches, ancillary buildings and green spaces, with a layout of either urban or rural origin and built in styles specific to the Flemish cultural region.

5. BELGIUM: Grand-Place, Brussels

Known as the Capital of Europe, Brussels' unique character comes from the coexistence of French and Flemish culture. Now home to people of many different nationalities, this mix has added a cosmopolitan flavor to the urban atmosphere. The city's vibrant atmosphere is further enhanced by picturesque medieval streets, lively squares, stately boulevards, impressive monuments, spacious parks, cozy cafés, and a dynamic cultural life.

6. BELGIUM: Historic Centre of Brugge

Known as the Venice of the North, Bruges is one of Europe's most beautiful cities, as well as one of its best preserved. Its wealth of centuries-old architectural and artistic treasures prompted UNESCO to include the entire historical city center on its World Heritage List in the year 2000.

A walk along the maze of winding cobble-stone alleys and romantic canals takes the visitor back to the medieval era.

With its lively little squares and peaceful front gardens, the city strikes a balance between the surrounding natural environment and the urban landscape.

7. BRAZIL: Pantanal Conservation Area

The Pantanal Conservation Complex consists of a cluster of four protected areas with a total area of 187,818 ha. Located in western central Brazil at the south-west corner of the State of Mato Grosso, the site represents 1.3% of Brazil's Pantanal region, one of the world's largest freshwater wetland ecosystems. The headwaters of the region's two major river systems, the Cuiabá and the Paraguay rivers, are located here, and the abundance and diversity of its vegetation and animal life are spectacular.

8. DENMARK: Roskilde Cathedral

Roskilde cathedral is in many ways the most important ecclesiastical building in Denmark. Although it contains older Romanesque parts, it was the first building to be built in the Gothic style in the country. The church is built of red brick, which was just beginning to be made in Denmark at the time. Unlike most other Danish churches, the architecture of the cathedral was influenced mainly by the gothic styles typical of northern France. The combination of the new material, brick, and architectural style, the Gothic, makes the Roskilde Cathedral one of the first instances of the Brick Gothic style which would come to dominate the region.

9. COSTA RICA: Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves/ La Amistad National Park

This landscape dominates the region and forms a physical backbone that ties the countries of Panama and Costa Rica together. For millennia, this mountain range has provided a land bridge that even today allows the exchange of North and South American biota. It remains a refuge for a diverse flora and fauna, many of which are rare or endangered.

10. CUBA: Old Havana and its Fortifications

Explore the diversity of Cuban Traditions, the resplendent Spanish colonial architecture of the Old Town of Havana, with its narrow streets and overhanging balconies.

11. CUBA: Trinidad and the Valley de los Ingenios

Trinidad maintains a charming colonial atmosphere with its uneven cobbled streets, quiet plazas, churches, red tiled roofs, wooden shutters and wrought-iron grilles. The colonial houses of Trinidad are typified by red terracotta tiled roofs supported out beyond the walls by wooden beams.

12. CZECH REPUBLIC: Historic Centre of Cesky Krumlov

Situated on the banks of the Vltava river, the town of Cesky Krumlov is an outstanding example of a small central European medieval town whose architectural heritage Have remained intact with Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque elements.

13. DENMARK: Jelling Mounds, Runic Stones and Church

The complex of monuments near the Danish town of Jelling represents an event of exceptional importance, the beginning of the conversion of the Scandinavian peoples to Christianity. The transition is vividly illustrated by the site's pagan burial mounds, two runic stones, one pagan and the other commemorating the Christianization of the Danes, and finally the church representing the triumph of Christianity.

14. FRANCE: Amiens Cathedral

The capital of Picardy, Amiens, a city of art and history, is famous for its gothic cathedral, which was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1981. Intimately linked to the water, ancient Amiens is crisscrossed by a series of canals. The picturesque Saint Lieu neighborhood is considered as a little Venice of the North. Its charming canals lined with its small houses with colorful façades, cobbled streets, pretty dovecotes and a collection of Dutch and Flemish style cottages, make it the perfect place for a leisurely stroll. Amiens Cathedral is a magnificent example of high Gothic architecture.

15. FRANCE: Belfries of Belgium and France

An unparalleled ensemble of fifty-six belfries in Belgium and France has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in recognition of an architectural manifestation in historic Flanders and neighboring regions of emerging civic independence from feudal and religious influences, leading to a degree of local democracy of great significance in the history of humankind.

16. FRANCE: Bordeaux, Port of the Moon

Bordeaux developed harmoniously over the centuries a beauty and an unity of style of architectural heritage and remained remarkably well-preserved. The Bordeaux World Heritage site is the largest urban entity to be so honoured.

17. FRANCE: Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay

The Abbey of Fontenay occupies an important place in the history of Cistercian art. Starkly beautiful amid its natural surroundings, it is the oldest existing Cistercian complex.

With its church, cloister, refectory, sleeping quarters, bakery and ironworks, it is an excellent illustration of the ideal of self-sufficiency as practiced by the earliest communities of Cistercian monks.

18. FRANCE: Historic Centre of Avignon

In the Historic Centre of Avignon, The Palais des Papes, an austere-looking fortress and the remains of a 12th-century bridge testify of the leading role played by Avignon in the Christian Europe.

19. FRANCE: Historic Site of Lyon

Sitting at the splendid convergence of the Rhône and Saône rivers, Lyon boasts a long and rich history, lovely scenery, and unique landscapes.

In addition to its Romanesque and religious heritage, it's also renowned for its gastronomy.

20. FRANCE: Palace and Park of Fontainebleau

Surrounded by the forest of the same name, the palace of Fontainebleau was one of the preferred residences of the sovereigns who ruled France.

Though the date of its original construction is uncertain, a fortified castle existed on the site as early as the 12th century. The palace underwent its most spectacular transformations during the Renaissance.

21. FRANCE: Pont du Gard (Roman Aqueduct)

Admirably integrated into a natural site that has preserved its wild charm, the Pont du Gard fascinates with its elegance and majesty. Two thousand years after its construction, this ancient edifice is still a veritable masterpiece, as much for the technical prowess involved in its construction as for its stark beauty.

22. FRANCE Provins, Town of Medieval Fairs

Today, Provins is a veritable conservatory of medieval military, religious, and civic architecture. Its fortifications constitute a dictionary of military architecture with a diversity of creative solutions.

23. FRANCE Roman and Romanesque Monuments of Arles

Arles presents a particularly significant example of the appropriation of an ancient city by a medieval European Civilization. It has preserved impressive monuments dating from the Roman Era, of which the earliest are the Arena and the Roman Theater. The two-tiered Roman Amphitheater or Arena is probably the most prominent attraction of this charming city in Southern France.

24. FRANCE Roman Theatre and its Surroundings and the "Triumphal Arch" of Orange

The ancient theatre of Orange and the Roman Arch, are one of the best preserved and the most beautiful and interesting surviving examples of the Roman Architecture.

25. FRANCE Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans

Powerful, disturbing or magical, the atmosphere of the Royal Saltworks at Arc et Senans is without doubt unusual and never leaves anyone entering its premises unmoved. Designed by the celebrated Parisian architect Claude-Nicolas Ledoux who was imbued with the Rousseau - inspired philosophy of the Enlightenment, the Royal Saltworks today bears unique witness to the industrial architecture of the 18th century.

26. FRANCE Strasbourg – Grande île

Encircled by the waters of two branches of the Ill River and attached to the rest of the city by twenty bridges, the Grande Ile (the big island) is Strasbourg's historic center. It was the site of the Roman castrum of Argentorate, whose principal axes were maintained in the city's later development. The Grande Ile possesses a remarkable monumental ensemble within a small area of land. Rising above the town's high-pitched roofs with their multi-storied dormer windows, several churches stand out on the skyline. The cathedral and the other churches of the Grande Ile fit coherently into an old quarter that exemplifies medieval cities and reflects the evolution of Strasbourg from the 15th to the 18th century.

27. FRANCE The Loire Valley between Sully-sur-Loire and Chalonnes

The Loire Valley is an enchanted land of vineyards, flowers and rolling green hills dotted with more than a thousand chateaux. It is perhaps the charm of its gentle pace life that has, for centuries, made it a sought-after location for poets and writers. It is a step back through the history of some of France's finest works of art.

28. FRANCE Vézelay, Church and Hill 13

Vezelay is the quintessential Burgundian medieval village whose basilica reigns supreme. This charming village has an imposing position, built along the crest of a hill, with panoramic views over the 'Monts de Marvon'. The village stands on the edge of the Morvan Regional Park.

29. GERMANY Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust at Brühl

Brühl is a small town surrounded by forests in the western part of Germany near Cologne. The town, about 15 kilometers south of Cologne, is home to the Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust. Augustusburg Palace is linked to the Falkenlust hunting lodge by an avenue which runs through the extensive palace park. Thanks to its historical significance and outstanding state of preservation, this park is included in the Garden Art Route that stretches between the Rhine and Meuse rivers.

30. GERMANY Hanseatic City of Lübeck

The modern city of Lübeck was founded in 1143 as the first German city on the Baltic Sea. Its unique character served as an example for all the other members of the Hanseatic League. This picturesque medieval town is characterized by important cultural monuments symbolizing its great past as a free Hanseatic City. Surrounded by water, Lübeck's historic Old Town has preserved significant remnants of brick and stone architecture from the Gothic period.

31. GERMANY Mines of Rammelsberg and Historic Town of Goslar

The imperial city of Goslar has a history stretching back for over a thousand years. This city in the German region of Lower Saxony held an important place in the Hanseatic League because of the rich metallic ore deposits in the nearby Rammelsberg mines. It also served as one of the seats of the Holy Roman Empire from the 10th to the 12th century. Its well-preserved medieval historic center has some 1,500 half-timbered houses dating from the 15th to the 19th centuries. A stroll through the streets of Goslar offers an encounter with history that is lived in the everyday life of the town's residents, who always keep one eye on the future.

32. GERMANY Monastic Island of Reichenau

The island of Reichenau on Lake Constance preserves the traces of the Benedictine monastery which exercised remarkable spiritual, intellectual and artistic influence. Reichenau offers an astonishing array of landscapes; valleys and mountain - all among the most spectacular in Europe.

33. GERMANY Upper Middle Rhine

The 65-kilometer stretch of the Middle Rhine Valley, with its castles, historic towns, and vineyards, graphically illustrates the long history of human involvement with a dramatic and varied natural landscape. Since the prehistoric times, the Middle Rhine valley has been one of the most important transport routes in Europe, which served to promote the migration and exchange of ideas, products and culture between the Mediterranean region and the northern part of the continent. It is intimately associated with history and legend and for centuries has exercised a powerful influence on writers, artists, and composers.

34. GERMANY Roman Monuments, Cathedral of St. Peter and Church of Our Lady in Trier

Located on the Moselle River, Trier is the oldest city in Germany. Settled by the Romans around the year 18 B.C., it quickly became a population center and later the seat of power of the Holy Roman Empire. Today, because of its beautiful architecture, cultural attractions and its location in one of the world's most renowned winemaking regions, Trier has a charm all its own.

35. GERMANY Speyer Cathedral

Speyer, the ancient imperial city on the Rhine, looks back over a rich and eventful past. Rarely did a town such as Speyer experience both a most spectacular glory and the deepest misery.

36. GERMANY St Mary's Cathedral and St Michael's Church at Hildesheim

Hildesheim stretches back in time over one thousand years, and is a treasure trove of medieval and Romanesque architecture. Hildesheim is famous for the large and exquisitely restored half-timbered buildings lining its large Markt, the town's Market Square.

37. GERMANY Town of Bamberg

Breathe the air of past centuries and experience the world heritage city of Bamberg. Endowed with one of Europe's largest intact old town centres, Bamberg is an outstanding cultural and architectural highlight of any tour through Bavaria.

38. GERMANY Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square

This magnificent Baroque palace of Würzburg is one of the largest and most beautiful in Germany and surrounded by wonderful gardens. More than 1700 beautifully-maintained rooms, the magnificent interior décor of the Palace and the gardens, create a sensitive combination between nature and architecture.

39. GREECE Archaeological site of Olympia

In the 10th century B.C., the site of Olympia in a valley in the Peloponnese, became a centre for the worship of Zeus. In addition to temples, there are the remains of all the sports structures erected for the Olympic Games, which were held in Olympia every four years beginning in 776 B.C.

40. GREECE Medieval City of Rhodes

The town of Rhodes, one of the most beautiful and best preserved of Europe's medieval cities, began to take shape in the last quarter of the seventh century, upon the remains of a splendid Hellenistic city. Throughout its long history the different people who settled on Rhodes left their mark on every aspect of the island's culture.

41. GREECE Meteora

Meteora captures the imagination on so many levels, natural, religious, and cultural. In this place, geological formations have amalgamated with humankind's spiritual quest for many centuries. In a region of almost inaccessible sandstone peaks, Orthodox monks settled on these 'columns in the sky' from the eleventh century onwards.

42. GREECE Mystras

Mystras, the 'wonder of the Morea', was built as an amphitheatre around the fortress and leave only the breathtaking medieval ruins, standing in a beautiful landscape.

43. HUNGARY Hortobágy National Park - the Puszta

The National Park of Hortobagy consisté of a vast area of consists of a vast area of plains and wetlands in eastern Hungary. Traditional forms of land use, have been present in this pastoral society for more than two millennia.

44. HUNGARY Tokaj Wine Region Historic Cultural Landscape

The cultural landscape of Tokaj graphically demonstrates the long tradition of wine production in this region of low hills and river valleys. The intricate pattern of vineyards, farms, villages and small towns, with their historic networks of deep wine cellars, illustrates every facet of the production of the famous Tokaj wines, the quality and management of which have been strictly regulated for nearly three centuries.

45. ITALY City of Verona

After Venice, Verona is the most important city of the Veneto Region in terms of artistic heritage, as can be seen by the monuments and artistic wealth found within its city centre. A walk through the historical center, through crenellated walls and soaring bell towers, uncovers this immense artistic and architectural heritage.

46. ITALY Historic Centre of Siena

Nestled amidst olive groves and the vineyards of the Chianti wine region, Siena is one of the jewels of Tuscany. Spread out over three hills, the city is like a treasure trove filled with marvels, some famous, others offering unexpected surprises.

47. ITALY Portovenere, Cinque Terre, and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto)

A visit to the Cinque Terre means getting to know the history of those who have toiled for centuries with a difficult terrain but also tasting the fruits of this struggle in the particular wine and products. A visit to these villages means learning about the culture of the stone walls and the vines, the fishermen and their nets, the steep valleys and their paths.

48. ITALY Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy

The nine Sacri Monti (Sacred Mountains) of northern Italy are groups of chapels and other architectural features created in the late 16th and 17th centuries and dedicated to different aspects of the Christian faith. In addition to their symbolic spiritual meaning, they are of great beauty by virtue of the skill with which they have been integrated into the surrounding natural landscape of hills, forests and lakes. They also house much important artistic material in the form of wall paintings and statuary.

49. JORDAN Quseir Amra

Qusair Amra is one of the many residences which the Omayyad Caliphs built in the desert of present day Syria and Jordan. The eastern desert of Jordan is a bleak, forbidding place, filled with basalt, sand and sky.

50. MEXICO Historic Centre of Morelia

Morelia is an outstanding example of urban planning which combines the ideas of the Spanish Renaissance with the Mesoamerican experience. The town's architectural history revealed a masterly and eclectic blend of the medieval spirit with Renaissance, Baroque and neoclassical elements.

51. MEXICO Historic Centre of Puebla

Puebla, situated at the foot of the Popocatepetl volcano, has preserved its great religious structures such as the 16th–17th-century cathedral and fine buildings.

52. MEXICO Historic Monuments Zone of Querétaro

The old colonial town of Querétaro is unusual in having retained the geometric street plan of the Spanish conquerors side by side with the twisting alleys of the Indian quarters. The Otomi, the Tarasco, the Chichimeca and the Spanish lived together peacefully in the town, which is notable for the many ornate civil and religious Baroque monuments from its golden age in the 17th and 18th centuries.

53. MEXICO Pre-Hispanic City and National Park of Palenque

Vast, mysterious and enchanting, the ruined city of Palenque is considered to be the most beautifully conceived of the Mayan city-states and one of the loveliest archaeological sites in the world.

54. MEXICO Pre-Hispanic Town of Uxmal

Uxmal was the greatest urban and religious center in the Puuc hills of Yucatan during the late Classical period. The ceremonial sites of Uxmal is considered one of the high points of Mayan art and architecture. The layout of the buildings, which date from between 700 and 1000, reveals a knowledge of astronomy.

55. MEXICO Sian Ka'an

The Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve is situated on the Yucatan Peninsula, which is an area of limestone bedrock with very little change in elevation and no real surface rivers.

With an area of 528,000 hectares, it is the largest protected area in the Mexican Caribbean and unique for its geography and wetlands.

The beaches in Sian Ka'an are an essential part of this ecosystem. Being a transition zone between land and ocean, they constitute a very important habitat and nesting grounds for many species of wildlife.

56. MOROCCO Archaeological Site of Volubilis

Not far from Meknes, a winding road leads from the town of Moulay Idriss to one of the great attractions for travelers to Morocco - the archaeological ruins of Volubilis. The Mauritanian capital became an important outpost of the Roman Empire and was graced with many fine buildings.

57. MOROCCO Historic City of Meknes

The historic city of Meknes has exerted a considerable influence on the development of civil and military architecture and artwork. Founded in the 11th century as a military settlement, Meknes is an impressive city in Spanish-Moorish style, surrounded by high walls with great doors, where the harmonious blending of the Islamic and European styles of the 17th century Maghreb are still evident today.

58. NETHERLANDS Mill Network at Kinderdijk

The Netherlands is famous for its windmills. Today there are more than 1000 mills, and nowhere in the world are there as many windmills as near the Dutch village of Kinderdijk.

59. PARAGUAY Jesuit Missions of La Santisima Trinidad de Parana and Jesus de Tavarangue

Paraguay is a country of contrasts, at once incredibly old and very modern. The people of Paraguay celebrate the history and culture of their nation in their monuments, both natural and man-made. From the breathtaking natural beauty of Iguazu Falls in the south to the stone missions of the Santisima Trinidad del Parana, Paraguay has many places to discover.

60. PERU Chan Chan Archaeological Zone

The city of Chan Chan, capital of the Kingdom of Chimor, also known as the Chimu Empire, represents America's largest prehispanic mud-brick settlement. The center of the city consisted of ten areas separated by the walls. The center of the city included pyramidal temples, cemeteries, gardens, reservoirs, and symmetrically arranged rooms, all within 10 walled citadels, or quadrangles.

61. POLAND Auschwitz Concentration Camp

All over the world, Auschwitz has become a symbol of terror, genocide, and the Holocaust. Auschwitz Birkenau, monument to the martyrdom and resistance of millions of men, women and children, is not an historical museum in the usual sense of the world; it bears irrefutable and concrete witness to one of the greatest crimes ever perpetrated against humanity; a testimonial that undeniably elucidates an essential aspect of that historical phenomenon which is Hitlerism.

62. POLAND Castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork

Torun owes its origins to the Teutonic Order, which built a castle there in the medieval period. In the Old and New Town, the many imposing public and private buildings from the medieval middle age are striking evidence of Torun's importance.

63. POLAND Cracow's Historic Centre

Krakow is one of the jewels of Poland, the ancient royal capital and one of the great witnesses to the past of this part of Europe. The city is a colossus of art and architecture, and its Old Town has been placed on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's list of protected World Heritage Sites. Situated on the bank of the Vistula river, surrounded by waters and marshes, the Wawel Hill provided a safe haven for the people who have settled here since the Paleolithic Age.

64. POLAND Medieval Town of Torun

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65. POLAND Old City of Zamosc

Zamosc is one of the most authentic Renaissance cities left in Europe. The urban layout is widely recognized as a magnificent monument of late Renaissance architecture, built because of the will and vision of one man. The town had three squares, a right-angled network of broad streets, large plots for the city's most important buildings, and churches for every religion. Walking along its narrow, charming streets surrounded by old town houses provides you with an excellent opportunity to admire the beautiful Renaissance architecture of this Polish "Padua of the North".

66. POLAND Wieliczka Salt Mine

The Wieliczka Salt Mine, located in southern Poland near the city of Krakow, has been worked as a source of rock salt since the late 13th century. The salt mines provide an example of a large industrial establishment that has been in use since the Middle Ages. The mine has been adapted throughout the centuries to the evolution of the administrative and technical aspects of salt mining. These historical stages are perfectly illustrated in the Wieliczka Mine to this day, thanks to the consolidation and conservation of the mine's old galleries, each of which houses its own, unique installation.

67. PORTUGAL Historic Centre of Guimarães

The historic town of Guimarães is associated with the emergence of the Portuguese national identity in the 12th century. It is an exceptionally well-preserved and authentic example of the evolution of a medieval settlement into a modern town.

In Guimaraes the past is always alive, indeleibly inscribed in each stone of its historical center.

68. PORTUGAL Historic Centre of Oporto

The city of Oporto, built along the hillsides overlooking the mouth of the Douro river, is an outstanding urban landscape with a 2,000-year history.

With all of its picturesque districts including its Baroque splendour and the palatial houses of its elite, Porto has well and truly survived the march of time.

69. ROMANIA Villages with Fortified Churches in Transylvania

The villages of Transylvania with their fortified churches provide a vivid picture of the cultural landscape of the southern part of this region of Romania. They are characterized by the specific land-use system, settlement pattern, and organization of the family farmstead units preserved since the late Middle Ages, dominated by their fortified churches, which illustrate building periods from the 13th to the 16th centuries.

70. ROMANIA Wooden Churches of Maramures

The region of Maramures in northwestern Romania is home to many villages where centuries-old traditions are still part of daily life. The wooden churches, the natural setting, and the people of Maramures are spiritually connected by an ancient link that they have preserved to the present day.

The wooden churches of Maramures are remarkable examples of well-preserved religious architecture that emerged from the Orthodox traditions and Gothic style influences.

71. SPAIN Historic Centre of Cordoba

The historic quarter of Cordoba is a beautiful network of small streets, alleys, squares and whitewashed courtyards arranged around the Mosque-Cathedral, which reflects the importance of the city during medieval times.

72. SPAIN Monuments of Oviedo and the Kingdom of the Asturias

Oviedo's history can be traced through the wealth of historic buildings contained in its beautiful old quarter, buildings noteworthy both for their aesthetic splendor as for the significant role they played in the city's history.

73. SPAIN Old City of Salamanca

Founded in the Pre- Roman era by a Celtic tribe called the Vacceos, the Castilian city of Salamanca is the capital city of the province of the same name.

Appropriately dubbed Spain's ""golden city,"" the glimmering sandstone town of Salamanca is like an ancient treasure chest, full of cultural gems.

74. UNITED KINGDOM Maritime Greenwich

The ensemble of buildings of Maritime Greenwich set in and around the oldest Royal Park in London and bordered to the north by the River Thames reads like a who's who of British architecture. Greenwich Park covers 73 hectares and is the oldest enclosed Royal Park. The Park provides a setting for several historic buildings, including the Old Royal Observatory, the Royal Naval College, the National Maritime Museum, and the Queen's House. The Park's landscape ranges from wide-open playing fields and wildflower grassland to more secluded woodland, wetland and reedbeds. One very important element of the management of the Park is a focus on the conservation and enhancement of its biodiversity.

75. UNITED KINGDOM Tower of London

The Tower of London is a landmark in central London, just outside the City of London. The imposing, walled building of the Tower of London is a typical example of the feudal fortresses so numerous in England in the time of the Normans. The Tower, once the residence of English monarchs, is one of the oldest and most interesting buildings in London. Construction on the Tower began in the Middle Ages, over 900 years ago.

76. UNITED KINGDOM Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is widely recognised as one of the leading centre for advice and action on aspects of plant and fungal conservation. Visitors explore glasshouses, landscapes and 250 years of history at the world's most famous garden.

77. USA Dinosaur Provincial Park

Containing one of the world's richest dinosaur fossil sites, Canada's largest area of badlands, and unique cottonwood riverside habitat resulted in Dinosaur Provincial Park's designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979.

78. USA Everglades National Park

79. USA Waterton Glacier International Peace Park

The contiguous Glacier and Waterton Lakes national parks are located in the north Western Montana in the United States and the south western Alberta in Canada , respectively. The parks are situated along the eastern margin of the Rocky Mountains Biogeographical Province and at the extreme western edge of the interior Grasslands of North America. Situated on the border between the two countries and offering outstanding scenery, the park is exceptionally rich in plant and mammal species as well as prairie, forest, and alpine and glacial features. Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park has a distinctive climate, physiographic setting, mountain-prairie

interface, and tri-ocean hydrographical divide. It is an area of significant scenic values with abundant and diverse flora and fauna.

80. THAILAND: Historic City of Ayutthaya

Founded around 1350, Ayutthaya became the second Siamese capital after Sukhothai. It was destroyed by the Burmese in the 18th century. Its remains, characterized by the prang, or reliquary towers, and gigantic monasteries, give an idea of its past splendour.

81. THAILAND: Ban Chiang Archaeological Site

Ban Chiang is without question the most important prehistoric settlement so far discovered in south-east Asia. Within its cultural sequence of some four millennia it presents the earliest evidence for true farming in the region and for the manufacture and use of metals. It is, moreover, not merely the type-site for this prehistoric culture: its long cultural sequence, size, and economic status has no parallel in any other contemporary site in the region.

82. INDIA: Qutb Minar and Its Monuments, Delhi

Qutb Minar and its monuments is a group of religious and funerary buildings that display the architectural and artistic achievements of early Islamic India. They are located in South Delhi.

83. INDIA: Group of Monuments at Hampi

Hampi had been a religious place throughout; where pilgrims from far away places flocked. The rulers of Hampi might have gone with the torrent of time. Hampi's faiths remain, intact and deep-rooted.

The remains of Hampi are huge historical, architectural and ethnic museum of the time.

84. INDIA: Darjeeling Himalayan Railway

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway is the first, and still the most outstanding, example of a hill passenger railway. Opened in 1881, it applied bold and ingenious engineering solutions to the problem of establishing an effective rail link across a mountainous terrain of great landscape beauty. It is still fully operational and retains most of its original features intact.

85. INDIA: Red Fort Delhi

The Red Fort Complex epitomizes the palace architecture of the Mughals and demonstrates the zenith of the development and achievements of Mughal architecture and planning under Emperor Shahjahan. It demonstrates innovation in planning, construction techniques, hydraulic systems, garden design and intricacy of art-work.

86. INDIA: Humayun's Tomb Delhi

The Humayun's Tomb complex also houses many other prominent buildings which are examples of architecture of the period preceding and succeeding Humayun.

the brilliant and innovative design introduced many new features which were' to become intrinsic to the repertoire of Mughal

funerary architecture and its apotheosis in the Taj Mahal.

87. INDIA: Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi

Sanchi is the oldest extant buddhist sanctuary. Although Buddha never visited the site during any of his former lives nor during his earthly existence , the religious nature of the shrine is obvious. the stupas of Sanchi represent the most accomplished from of this type of monument.

The stupa is the most characteristic monument of Buddhist India.

88. INDIA: Churches and Convents at Goa

The magnificent 16th century city once known as "Goa Dourada" (Golden Goa) rivalled the European cities in splendour and wealth. Today some of the grandeur can be witnessed at the imposing churches, convents and monasteries that remain.

89. INDIA: Elephanta Caves

The 'City of Caves', on an island in the Sea of Oman close to Bombay, contains a collection of rock art linked to the cult of Shiva. Here, Indian art has found one of its most perfect expressions, particularly the huge high reliefs in the main cave.

90. SRI LANKA: Old Town of Galle and Its Fortifications

Galle is a perfect example of the fusion of European and Asian styles. Its natural beauty, superb archaeological location and rich heritage have made it an outstanding coastal city of Sri Lanka.

91. SRI LANKA: Sacred City of Kandy

This sacred Buddhist site, popularly 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 2,500 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 the Buddha), which is a famous pilgrimage site.

92. ITALY Val d'Orcia

Val d'Orcia is part of the agricultural hinterland of Sienna, colonised by the city in the 14th and 15th centuries and developed to reflect an idealised model of land management. The distinctive appearance of the landscape - flat chalk plains with conical hills rising above them topped with clustered, fortified settlements, was the inspiration for many artists.

93. ITALY I Sassi di Matera

Matera is a unique example of a cultural tradition and civilization which stretches back to the Neolithic age. The old city was created out of a rocky ravine. The fact that this city maintains unspoiled its history and its appearance from 2000 years ago, simply means that the people who settled in this beautiful place succeeded in a harmonious integration, without the necessity of violating the territory.

94. ITALY Historic Centre San Gimignano

San Gimignano is a charming hill town which has preserved its medieval appearance more completely than any other town in Tuscany. It stands 334 metres above sea level on the site of a small Etruscan settlement dating from the Hellenistic period.

95. ITALY Piazza del Duomo, Pisa

Near the imposing chain of the Alpi Apuane and the world famous marble quarries of Carrara, Pisa is one of Italy's and Tuscany's most famous cities of art, well renowned all over the world for its medieval monuments.

96. ARMENIA: Cathedral and Churches of Ecmidiatsin (Echmiadzin)

The cathedral and churches of Echmiatsin and the archaeological remains at Zvartnots graphically illustrate the evolution and development of the Armenian central-domed cross-hall type of church, which exerted a profound influence on architectural and artistic development in the region.

97. ARMENIA Monasteries Geghard

The monastery of Geghard contains a number of churches and tombs, most of them cut into the rock, which illustrate the very peak of Armenian medieval architecture. The complex of medieval buildings is set into a landscape of great natural beauty, surrounded by towering cliffs at the entrance to the Azat Valley.

98. ARGENTINA Iguazu National Park

The semicircular waterfall at the heart of this site is some 80 m high and 2,700 m in diameter and is situated on a basaltic line spanning the border between Argentina and Brazil. Made up of many cascades producing vast sprays of water, it is one of the most spectacular waterfalls in the world. The surrounding subtropical rainforest has over 2,000 species of vascular plants and is home to the typical wildlife of the region: tapirs, giant anteaters, howler monkeys, ocelots, jaguars and caymans.

99. ARGENTINA Peninsula Valdes

Península Valdés in Patagonia is a site of global significance for the conservation of marine mammals. It is home to an important breeding population of the endangered southern right whale as well as important breeding populations of southern elephant seals and southern sea lions. The orcas in this area have developed a unique hunting strategy to adapt to local coastal conditions.

100. EGYPT Abu Mena

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

101. INDIA Agra Fort

Near the gardens of the Taj Mahal stands the important 16th-century Mughal monument known as the Red Fort of Agra. This powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses, within its 2.5-km-long enclosure walls, the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. It comprises many fairy-tale palaces, such as the Jahangir Palace and the Khas Mahal, built by Shah Jahan; audience halls, such as the Diwan-i-Khas; and two very beautiful mosques.

102. MALI Old Towns of Djenne

Inhabited since 250 B.C., Djenné became a market centre and an important link in the trans-Saharan gold trade. In the 15th and 16th centuries, it was one of the centres for the propagation of Islam. Its traditional houses, of which nearly 2,000 have survived, are built on hillocks (toguere) as protection from the seasonal floods.

103. ISRAEL Biblical Tels - Megiddo, Hazor, Beer Sheba

Tels (prehistoric settlement mounds), are characteristic of the flatter lands of the eastern Mediterranean, particularly Lebanon, Syria, Israel and eastern Turkey. Of more than 200 tels in

Israel, Megiddo, Hazor and Beer Sheba are representative of those that contain substantial remains of cities with biblical connections. The three tels also present some of the best examples in the Levant of elaborate Iron Age, underground water-collecting systems, created to serve dense urban communities.

104. INDIA Sun Temple, Konarak

On the shores of the Bay of Bengal, bathed in the rays of the rising sun, the temple at Konarak is a monumental representation of the sun god Surya's chariot; its 24 wheels are decorated with symbolic designs and it is led by a team of six horses. Built in the 13th century, it is one of India's most famous Brahman sanctuaries.

105. INDIA Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus

The Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, formerly known as Victoria Terminus Station, in Mumbai, is an outstanding example of Victorian Gothic Revival architecture in India, blended with themes deriving from Indian traditional architecture. The building, designed by the British architect F. W. Stevens, became the symbol of Bombay as the 'Gothic City' and the major international mercantile port of India. Its remarkable stone dome, turrets, pointed arches and eccentric ground plan are close to traditional Indian palace architecture. It is an outstanding example of the meeting of two cultures, as British architects worked with Indian craftsmen to include Indian architectural tradition and idioms thus forging a new style unique to Bombay.

106. INDIA Group of Monuments at Pattadakal

Pattadakal, in Karnataka, represents the high point of an eclectic art which, in the 7th and 8th centuries under the Chalukya dynasty, achieved a harmonious blend of architectural forms from northern and southern India. An impressive series of nine Hindu temples, as well as a Jain sanctuary, can be seen there. One masterpiece from the group stands out – the Temple of Virupaksha, built c. 740 by Queen Lokamahadevi to commemorate her husband's victory over the kings from the South.

107. INDIA Fatehpur Sikri

Built during the second half of the 16th century by the Emperor Akbar, Fatehpur Sikri (the City of Victory) was the capital of the Mughal Empire for only some 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.

108. INDIA Khajuraho Group of Monuments

The temples at Khajuraho were built during the Chandella dynasty, which reached its apogee between 950 and 1050. Only about 20 temples remain; they fall into three distinct groups and belong to two different religions – Hinduism 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.

109. INDIA Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya

The Mahabodhi Temple Complex is one of the four holy sites related to the life of the Lord Buddha, and particularly to the attainment of Enlightenment. The first temple was built by Emperor Asoka in the 3rd century B.C., and the present temple dates from the 5th or 6th centuries. It is one of the earliest Buddhist temples built entirely in brick, still standing in India, from the late Gupta period.

110. AFRICA Ngorongoro Conservation area

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area spans vast expanses of highland plains, savanna, savanna woodlands and forests. Established in 1959 as a multiple land use area, with wildlife coexisting with semi-nomadic Maasai pastoralists practicing traditional livestock grazing, it includes the spectacular Ngorongoro Crater, the world's largest caldera. The property has global importance for biodiversity conservation due to the presence of globally threatened species, the density of wildlife inhabiting the area, and the annual migration of wildebeest, zebra, gazelles and other animals into the northern plains.

111. AFRICA Serengeti National Park

The vast plains of the Serengeti comprise 1.5 million ha of savannah. The annual migration to permanent water holes of vast herds of herbivores (wildebeest, gazelles and zebras), followed by their predators, is one of the most impressive natural events in the world.

112. SPAIN Old Town of Avila

Ávila is a medieval city in the province of Castile-Léon in western Spain. Founded in the 11th century to protect the Spanish territories from the Moors, Ávila has a magnificently well-preserved city wall, a historic cathedral, a number of Romanesque churches, and an authentic medieval atmosphere.