



CULTURE LEGACY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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Annotation: The culture of England is defined by the cultural norms of England and the English people. Owing to England's influential position within the United Kingdom it can sometimes be difficult to differentiate English culture from the culture of the United Kingdom as a whole. However, since Anglo-Saxon times, England has had its own unique culture, apart from Welsh, Scottish or Northern Irish culture. The very notion of Great Britain's 'greatness' is bound up with empire," Stuart Hall once wrote. "Euro-skepticism and Little Englander nationalism could hardly survive if people understood whose sugar flowed through English blood and rotted English teeth."

Tourism plays a significant part in the economic life of England. In 2018, the United Kingdom as a whole was the world's 10th most visited country for tourists, and 17 of the United Kingdom's 25 UNESCO World Heritage Sites fall within England. Visit England is the official tourist board for England. Visit England's stated mission is to build England's tourism product, raise Britain's profile worldwide, increase the volume and value of tourism exports and develop England and Britain's visitor economy. In 2020, the Lonely Planet travel guide rated England as the second best country to visit that year, after Bhutan. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Arts, Heritage and Tourism is the minister with responsibility over tourism in England, including museums, art galleries, public libraries and the National Archives.

For the Jamaican-born intellectual, who was one of the Windrush generation, – the first large-scale immigration of West Indians to the capital after World War II – that rottenness was unmissable. Hall came to that rotten land with its in-part slave-generated wealth from Kingston in 1951 as a Rhodes scholar to study at Oxford. "Three months at Oxford persuaded me that it was not my home," he told the Guardian in 2012. "I'm not English and I never will be. The life I have lived is one of partial displacement. I came to England as a means of escape, and it was a failure."

Many scientific and technological advancements originated in England, the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. England has also played an important role in cinema, literature, music, art, technology, engineering, democracy, shipbuilding, aircraft, motor vehicles, philosophy, music, science, mathematics and sport. Humor, tradition, and good manners are characteristics commonly associated with being English. The secretary of state for digital, culture, media and sport are the government minister responsible for the cultural life of England. A number of umbrella organizations are devoted to the preservation and public access of both natural and cultural heritage, including English Heritage and the



National Trust. Membership with them, even on a temporary basis, gives priority free access to their properties thereafter.

English Heritage is a governmental body with a broad remit of managing the historic sites, artefacts and environments of England. It is currently sponsored by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. English Heritage manages more than 400 significant buildings and monuments in England. They also maintain a register of thousands of listed buildings, those which are considered of most importance to the historic and cultural heritage of the country.

The National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is a charity which also maintains multiple sites. One of the largest landowners in the United Kingdom, the Trust owns almost 250,000 hectares of land and 780 miles of coast. Its properties include over 500 historic houses, castles, archaeological and industrial monuments, gardens, parks and nature reserves.

As mentioned before, 17 of the 25 United Kingdom UNESCO World Heritage Sites fall within England. Some of the best known of these include Hadrian's Wall, Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites, Tower of London, Jurassic Coast, Westminster, Roman Baths in Bath, Saltaire, Ironbridge Gorge, and Studley Royal Park. The northernmost point of the Roman Empire, Hadrian's Wall, is the largest Roman artefact anywhere: it runs a total of 73 miles in northern England.

London's British Museum hosts a collection of more than seven million objects is one of the largest and most comprehensive in the world, sourced from every continent, illustrating and documenting the story of human culture from its beginning to the present. The library has two of the four remaining copies of the original Magna Carta and has a room devoted solely to them. The British Library Sound Archive has over six million recordings, many from the BBC Sound Archive, including Winston Churchill's wartime speeches. The British Library in London is the national library and is one of the world's largest research libraries, holding over 150 million items in all known languages and formats; including around 25 million books. The most senior art gallery is the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square, which houses a collection of over 2,300 paintings dating from the mid-13th century to 1900. The Tate galleries house the national collections of British and international modern art; they also host the famously controversial Turner Prize. The Ashmolean Museum was founded in 1677 from the personal collection of Elias Ashmole, was set up in the University of Oxford to be open to the public and is considered by some to be the first modern public museum. In 2011 there were more than 1,600 museums in England. Most museums and art galleries are free of charge.

Coming to the architectural remnants of this culture, we will first talk about Neolithic monuments like Stonehenge. UK architectural history mainly connects with the medieval period. Reflecting the supremacy of architecture, in England, most of the ancient churches were built with giant stones. Apart from these, castles are the main crux, whether it is Carrickfergus Castle in Ireland or Caernarfon Castle in Wales. Also, Windsor Castle is the largest castle in the world. More than that, the Great Fire of London, Buckingham Palace, Roman Baths, Blackpool Tower, St Paul's Cathedral are some of the globally



renowned monuments of the UK. The housing style of England is more inclined towards small and closed spaces. Finding villas in England is a rare thing since the entire genre of architecture is planned according to a widespread portion of the population. The Roman Baths in Bath; a temple was constructed on the site between 60–70CE in the first few decades of Roman Britain. It is a lasting monument from Roman Britain. A blue plaque, the oldest historical marker scheme in the world, is a permanent sign installed in a public place in the UK to commemorate a link between that location and a famous person or event. The scheme was the brainchild of politician William Ewart in 1863 and was initiated in 1866. It was formally established by the Royal Society of Arts in 1867, and since 1986 has been run by English Heritage. The first plaque was unveiled in 1867 to commemorate Lord Byron at his birthplace, 24 Holles Street, Cavendish Square, London. Examples that commemorate events include John Loggie Baird's first demonstration of the television at 22 Frith Street, Westminster, W1, London, and the first sub 4-minute mile run by Roger Bannister on 6 May 1954 at Oxford University's Iffley Road Track.

All in all, this culture is filled with a decent variety of different monuments. Well, we can definitely say that architecture out there is really planned according to the requirements of the residents. And we can conclude about the United Kingdom and Great Britain's culture legacy started before Europe, when Renaissance started in the world. Both the financial and cultural legacy of this country developed more earlier than the other countries. Besides, its monuments, historical places and buildings, the Art, Literature and culture woke up in the early Renaissance, in XII and XIV centuries.

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