18 April - International Day for Monuments and Sites

Every year on 18 April, ICOMOS celebrates the “International Day for Monuments and Sites”, whose establishment was approved by the 22nd UNESCO General Conference in 1983. The 2017 theme for the Day is: Cultural Heritage & Sustainable Tourism.

Aim of the International Day

The aim of the International Day for Monuments and Sites is to encourage local communities and individuals throughout the world to consider the importance of cultural heritage to their lives, identities and communities, and to promote awareness of its diversity and vulnerability and the efforts required to protect and conserve it.

2017 Theme: Cultural Heritage & Sustainable Tourism

In 2017, the theme is “Cultural Heritage & Sustainable Tourism”, chosen in relation to the United Nations International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development and in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. The 18 April program is led by the ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Committee and the participation of the worldwide ICOMOS network. ICOMOS Committees are encouraged to relate their 18 April activities to the International Year, and in order to reaffirm this link, we would like for the Committees to use the International Year logo in addition to their ICOMOS Committee’s logo in their communication materials on 18 April.

Click on the links to download the International Year logo or the horizontal International Year logo.

International Day for Monuments and Sites 2017 offers the opportunity for ICOMOS Committees across the world to celebrate the positive outcomes of a deepening partnership between sustainable tourism development and cultural heritage conservation (as well as referencing the potential negative impacts). On this day ICOMOS - through its National and International Scientific Committees - encourages local communities and individuals to consider the importance of cultural heritage to their lives, identities and communities, and to promote awareness of its diversity and vulnerability and the efforts required to protect and conserve it. This is the first time ICOMOS has invited National Committees and International Scientific Committees to share and raise awareness of innovative initiatives and current “best practice” in the field of Cultural Heritage & Sustainable Tourism with their local communities.

Click here to read more on the ICOMOS website.

Events calendar

Click here to consult the calendar of all 18 April events organised by ICOMOS Committees and other organisations – this will be regularly updated as information on events comes in. Over 64 events have already been announced in 27 countries.

Bibliography on Sustainable Tourism and List of Resources

As the 2017 theme for the ICOMOS International Day on Monuments and Sites celebrated on 18 April is Cultural Heritage & Sustainable Tourism, the ICOMOS Documentation Centre edited this special bibliography. It refers to documents and materials available at the ICOMOS Documentation Centre. It does not intend to be a comprehensive list of scientific literature on sustainable tourism. Any reference can be consulted or scanned, subject to the limits of copyright legislation.

Click here to consult the Resources page on the ICOMOS website for a selection of websites and documents related to the 2017 theme.