

# City of Bath



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Bath is a double-inscribed World Heritage Site, as the City of Bath in 1987 and then as part of The Great Spa Towns of Europe in 2021 (see Factsheet 45).

Bath's World Heritage inscription encompasses the entire city, which is seldom seen elsewhere. Its Universal Value includes Roman archaeology, Georgian architecture and town planning, and deliberate creation of a beautiful city that integrates with a green, natural environment.

## What makes this UNESCO Designation special?

Bath's Roman remains are centred around the Roman Baths; these include the archaeological remains of the temple of the Goddess Sulis Minerva and the extensive bathing complex. The Roman town of Aquae Sulis was a walled settlement.

Bath's hot springs are the only ones in Britain. 250,000 gallons of water flow through the springs each day. There are three main springs - the King's Spring, the Hetling Spring and the Cross Bath Spring. The springs have played a central role in every stage of the city's development, creating a unique social history and culture where the waters are central to healing and recreation.

In the 18th century Bath was re-invented as a fashionable health resort, expanding dramatically beyond its city walls. Medieval streets were transformed into a spacious and beautiful classical city, where architecture and the natural landscape complemented each other.

Neo-classical architectural style from the Georgian period still dominates in the city. The arrangements of crescents, squares, the Circus and terraces form iconic, internationally recognisable structures. The widespread use of local limestone and the uniform scale and height of buildings contribute to the beauty of the city we see today.



City of Bath

County:  
**Somerset**



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