



UK Tentative List of Potential Sites for World Heritage Nomination: Application form

Please save the application to your computer, fill in and email to:
UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk

The application form should be completed using the boxes provided under each question, and, where possible, within the word limit indicated.

Please read the [Information Sheets](#) before completing the application form. It is also essential to refer to the accompanying [Guidance Note](#) for help with each question, and to the relevant paragraphs of UNESCO's *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, (OG) available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines>

Applicants should provide only the information requested at this stage. Further information may be sought in due course.

(1) Name of Proposed World Heritage Site

St Andrews - Medieval Burgh and Links (Home of Golf)

(2) Geographical Location

Name of country/region

Fife, Scotland, United Kingdom.

Grid reference to centre of site

NO 50950 16650

Please enclose a map preferably A4-size, a plan of the site, and 6 photographs, preferably electronically.

(3) Type of Site

Please indicate category:

Natural Cultural Mixed Cultural Landscape

(4) Description

Please provide a brief description of the proposed site, including the physical characteristics. 200 words

St Andrews is a deeply historic ecclesiastical medieval burgh with a uniquely well-preserved medieval urban morphology.

It is the spiritual and cultural home of Scotland, it is Scotland's most important religious centre, it is the source of much of our national cultural identity, it is Scotland's best preserved medieval burgh and it is home to Scotland's oldest University. It is also one of the best European examples of a planned medieval pilgrimage town.

The burgh is also recognised worldwide as the home of golf. The area proposed for nomination includes both the medieval burgh (with its cathedral, priory and castle etc) as well as the historic Old Course golf course on the Links.

(5) History

Please provide a short summary statement of any significant events in the history of the site. 200 words

St Andrews had established itself as the pre-eminent religious and royal centre of Scotland by the 9th century AD.

Offering one of only two places in medieval Europe to visit the shrine of an apostle, the relics of St Andrew, the first-chosen apostle and brother of St Peter, were venerated by pilgrims from across medieval Europe, securing for St Andrews the position of the third most important pilgrimage shrine in medieval Europe (after Rome and Compostella).

The burgh was an important Royal centre too, a feature reflected in such internationally important artefacts as the St Andrews Sarcophagus). A centre of learning from a very early date and laterally the seat of Scotland's archdiocese the town includes one of Scotland's best collections of early medieval carved stones.

The sophistication of the civitas of St Andrews with its wealthy classes and student population saw it adopt the game of golf by at least the early 14th century. Using its natural coastal environment (the Links), the game prospered from the later medieval period onwards.

Today, St Andrews is recognised the world over as the cultural and historic home of golf including as it does the oldest course in the world (the Old Course) and the best documented course in the world. It is also the place where the form and rules of the modern game of golf were developed.

(6) Why do you think this site should be inscribed as a World Heritage Site?
Give reasons. 200 words

In recognition of the value of its uniquely well-preserved medieval urban morphology (the most complete and unaltered example in Scotland).

In recognition of its unique designed medieval streetscape, the best example of a planned pilgrimage town in Europe.

In recognition of the individuality and rarity of such well-preserved medieval urban environments on the edge of medieval Christendom.

In recognition of its pre-eminent position as one of the most important Christian pilgrimage centres in medieval Europe.

But principally in recognition of its Outstanding Universal Value as the world wide historic and cultural home of golf.

It is this world wide iconic status that connects St Andrews, not just historically, but culturally with worldwide society and its shared enjoyment of the sporting pastime of golf. St Andrews is an internationally important cultural landscape. It is deeply historic but yet has worldwide relevance in its unifying role as the historic and cultural home of golf, a game enjoyed by more than 60 million people across the world on more than 32,000 golf courses.

(7) Please say why the site has Outstanding Universal Value and specify the main features which underpin its importance. 200 words

It has Outstanding Universal Value as its unique properties are recognised by informed specialists, by experts and in specialized literature on the subject.

The medieval burgh is a near unique example of its type and outstandingly well-preserved whilst the Old Course, a combined work of man and nature, represents in a truly physical, historical and cultural sense, the worldwide home of golf.

Golf is a game that embodies a living cultural tradition. It is a recreational pursuit with worldwide appeal. Its value transcends national borders. It is more than an internationally popular game, it is an historic, cultural activity that continues to bind mankind together.

Over 60 million people spread across every country in the world play golf. The power of the game to unify mankind regardless of race, country or tradition is unsurpassed and its historic home, the principal source of its evolution and the place internationally recognised as the centre of this worldwide cultural tradition is St Andrews.

(8) Outstanding Universal Value

Please state which of the [10 UNESCO criteria for Outstanding Universal Value](#) the proposed site meets, and describe briefly why the criteria were chosen. Please see criteria note at the end of the form.

UNESCO criterion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Why was this criterion chosen? 100 words
(i)	<input type="checkbox"/>	.
(ii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(iii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It is the home of golf. It embodies and preserves a cultural tradition nurtured, and developed over six centuries which now exported around the world has resulted in the wholesale worldwide adoption of the game of golf.
(iv)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The burgh's unique medieval morphology (its streetscape) is a masterpiece of medieval town planning. It represents the best single phase medieval planned urban landscape in

UNESCO criterion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Why was this criterion chosen? 100 words
		Europe. It is unaltered and uniquely distinctive form was designed and built in concert with the cathedral and priory to produce the most purpose-built pilgrimage town in medieval Europe.
(v)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(vi)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	St Andrews is historically and culturally the undisputed worldwide home of golf. It is directly and tangibly connected with a sporting/cultural activity whose worldwide appeal has earned it a position of outstanding universal significance to mankind.
(vii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(viii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(ix)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(x)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(9) Authenticity (for cultural or mixed sites only)

Authenticity concerns the current state of conservation of a cultural or mixed site; especially whether its importance, its Outstanding Universal Value, is still obvious from its physical condition. Please outline the condition of the site. 200 words

It is the extent to which the important qualities of St Andrews remain so little altered that underpins the site's Outstanding Universal Value.

The exceptional body of historical evidence for the 12th century design of the town allows for exacting comparisons to be made between the past and the present, comparisons that confirm the unaltered state of the town's medieval morphology.

Whilst undoubtedly deeply historic in its own right, the Old Course preserves more of a cultural tradition than an historic monument. It is an historic landscape in as far as the Old Course is the earliest planned and continually used golf course in the world, but its significance rests more in its value as a cultural landscape than as an historic landscape. Golf has been played on this site for more than six centuries. Medieval accounts of the game, such as that of the 1420s recounted in the Book of Pluscarden could have been describing golfers at play today. It is this cultural connection across time and across the world that reinforces St Andrews' position as the home of golf..

(10) Integrity

For cultural or mixed sites, please state how much original fabric is included in the proposed site, and its condition. For guidance on how the test of integrity is met for natural sites under criteria (vii) – (x), please refer to the OG 90-94. Information Sheet 6 also provides help on this point. 200 words

The cathedral, priory and castle are ruinous (important reminders of the Reformation of 1560) and not every building within the old town is historic, but of greatest importance, the burgh's urban medieval morphology exists today in a uniquely unaltered state. Its original medieval urban identity is thus completely intact and still contains all of the attributes that underpin the town's Outstanding Universal Value as a unique example of a planned medieval pilgrimage town.

In golfing terms, the Old Course is similarly uniquely well-preserved. There is solid documentary evidence that golf has been played on the course since the early 15th century but the present form of the Old Course is as an 1863 adaptation of the pre-existing course as laid out in 1764 (the course which produced the world's first 18 hole golf course).

(11) Are there other examples of this kind of site already on the World Heritage List?

Yes No

If yes, please list. 100 words

The List includes many historic towns but no historic town that has so influenced living sporting culture.

(12) What distinguishes this site from other similar sites?

150 words

Europe does have other medieval pilgrimage towns such as Assisi in Italy and Compostella in Spain but none exhibits the unique degree of purpose-built planning that St Andrews exhibits. This has resulted in the town's incredible streetscape, a feature so pronounced that it is unique in the history of European medieval town planning.

Similarly, golf has been played on other coastal links in Scotland. There are early references to golfing at Musselburgh for example. However, no other

course in the world is as historic, is as authentically documented, has contributed so much to the development and planning of the game (eg 18 holes as the standard full course) and is so universally recognised as the cultural and historic home of the game.

(13) How does the site contribute to meeting UNESCO’s priorities for a balanced World Heritage List?

200 words

Of all site types on UNESCO’s World Heritage List living cultural and sporting sites are the least well represented. The medieval burgh of St Andrews is proposed as part of this application as the Old Course cannot be considered in a cultural sense as separate from it, but it is the worldwide cultural significance of St Andrews as the home of golf which underpins this application and to this extent, UNESCO’s inscription of such an important iconic cultural sporting site would do much to redress the imbalance of the List and to recognise the cultural value of sport to mankind.

(14) What benefits do you think World Heritage Site inscription would bring?

Please indicate the main opportunities and benefits.

Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tourism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regeneration	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please describe. 100 words.

Education and tourism would be further encouraged on the back of full inscription but it is national pride and international recognition of Scotland's place in the world history of culture and sport that underpins the widespread Scottish national desire to see St Andrews and its historic Links inscribed.

(15) Are there any known threats to the proposed World Heritage Site?

Yes No

Please indicate any proposed developments, or other potential impacts on the site.

Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please describe. 100 words for each issue.
Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	As for any historic urban environment, the needs of modern living demand compromise and occasional localised change. This has previously been achieved without compromise to the medieval morphology of the town. Inscription would help continue this course.
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(16) Legal Protection

Please list any legal and other protections, including cultural and natural designations, which cover the whole or part of the proposed site. 200 words

The historic burgh is a designated Conservation Area.

The historic burgh is a designated Archaeological Area of Regional Importance.

Scores of the buildings within the town are listed.

Extensive areas are statutorily protected Scheduled Ancient Monuments (including the cathedral and precinct, priory, precinct walls, castle and Dominican Friary).

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 require a design statement to accompany any development proposal within the curtilage or setting of an A-Listed building.

Supplementary planning guidance specific to St Andrews includes:
 St Andrews Design Guidelines (Fife Council, 2008)
 Draft Conservation Area Appraisal (Fife Council, 2009)
 Draft East Sands Urban Design Framework (Fife Council, 2010)

(17) Ownership

Please list the main owners of the site, where possible.

St Andrews is largely managed by Fife Council. It is Fife Council that proposes this application.

The Old Course and all other golf courses on the St Andrews Links are managed by the St Andrews Links Trust (the body formed by an Act of Parliament in 1974 to be responsible for the management and maintenance of the historic Links at St Andrews).

The St Andrews Links Trust supports this application.

Do the owners support the application? Yes No

A statement of support from the principle owners of the proposed site should be attached to the application, preferably electronically.

(18) Local Authority support for the site

Please list all Local Authorities with an interest in the proposed site.

Fife Council

I have attached copies of the Fife Council Committee reports that outline the local authority's past and present support for this nomination.

Does the proposed site have local Authority support? Yes No

Please attach a statement of support from each one in relation to the application.

Please indicate whether the site is included in the local plan/s by specific policies.

Yes No Partly

Please describe. 200 words.

Yes. Numerous Local Plan policies relate to the built historic environment and are applicable to St Andrews.

The Structure Plan policies include:

Built Environment

4.11 Fife has some of the most important historic built environments in the country, some of which are of international significance. The preservation and enhancement of these historic assets is important in achieving the overall strategy. The most important historic environments, including St Andrews, Dunfermline, Falkland and Culross, will be identified in the Local Plans. The archaeological heritage is a very fragile resource which, once lost, cannot be replaced. It is important therefore to protect this heritage, particularly where it is of national and regional importance, from the adverse effects of development.

Policy env5: Built Environment

“The character, appearance and setting of designated built or cultural heritage sites will be protected from harmful development. Local Plan policies will provide protection for the built and historic environments and for archaeology.”

Supplementary planning guidance specific to St Andrews includes:

St Andrews Design Guidelines (Fife Council, 2008)

Draft Conservation Area Appraisal (Fife Council, 2009)

Draft East Sands Urban Design Framework (Fife Council, 2010)

(19) Stakeholders

Please list the main parties with an interest in the site. 100 words

Fife Council and the St Andrews Links Trust are the two main guardian bodies for St Andrews.

Relevant local stakeholders who will be involved with this bid should nomination be successful include: the University of St Andrews, the St Andrews Partnership, the St Andrews Preservation Trust, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and the St Andrews Community Council.

(20) How will the Site be managed?

Please outline the management arrangements for the proposed World Heritage Site, including where the responsibilities lie. 200 words

The statutory controls afforded through the planning system applied in conjunction with the town's protected status (Conservation Area, listed buildings, scheduled monuments etc) would be the main mechanism guiding any future change but it is planned that a management group comprising Fife Council, the St Andrews Links Trust, ST Andrews University, key stakeholders, recognised heritage experts along with the advice/membership of Historic Scotland would be formed to manage the town's World Heritage site interests.

(21) Funding: the nomination

Please indicate how the preparation of the nomination would be funded.
100 words

The full nomination proposal, including management plan etc, would be resourced by Fife Council, working in partnership and with the support of key stakeholders.

(22) Funding: management

Please outline how the future management would be funded. 100 words

Fife Council would continue to resource the necessary public realm works and to promote economic stimulus. It would also resource, with the support of key stakeholders, those costs explicitly connected with the site's World Heritage Site status.

Partnership working with other key stakeholders would also yield in-kind support but the principal management costs, for example, the 3.5 million pound street and pavement improvements to Market Street to be implemented this year, would come from Fife Council.

Name and Contact Details of Applicant

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Completed applications should be forwarded, preferably in electronic format, to the World Heritage Team, Department for Culture, Media and Sport at the following email address: UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk

Any material that cannot be sent electronically should be sent to the following address:

World Heritage Team, Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London
SW1 5DH

The closing date for applications is 11th June 2010

UNESCO's criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value (para 77 of the Operational Guidelines)

- (i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
- (vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.
- (vii) contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii) be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix) be outstanding examples representing significant ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.