

HERITAGE COUNTS 2018

South West

Introduction

Heritage Counts 2018 is the seventeenth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. This regional report is prepared by Historic England on behalf of the South West Historic Environment Forum. This year, Heritage Counts examines **heritage assets in commercial use** and how they can form the backbone of local economies. Visitors to the **Heritage Counts website** can download the complete research projects commissioned to support this year's report and access the full set of local statistics and maps detailing the historic environment for the South West, including asset data, funding information, employment numbers and visitor figures.

This year, research commissioned for **Heritage Counts** has explored heritage in commercial use. The key findings are:

- there are approximately 142,000 retail, hospitality and commercial operations in listed buildings in town and city centres across England. Independent retail and hospitality sectors are the largest and most likely occupiers of listed buildings in towns and city centres across the nation.
- the number of independent businesses occupying listed buildings is declining, whilst the number of branded retailers and branded food and drink establishments occupying listed buildings has increased at an extremely fast pace since 2012.
- These occupiers report that the main benefit of occupying a listed building is the exterior appearance and contribution to the ambiance of the area. The historic environment provides authenticity, distinctiveness and brings credibility to national and local place brands.
- 26% of all creative industries are based in conservation areas. These businesses are highly concentrated, particularly in London. In the South West the research found notable clusters of creative industries such as advertising and marketing in conservation areas in Cheltenham and film, TV, video, radio and photography in Bristol.

HERITAGE IN COMMERCIAL USE



Bristol's Paintworks is a great example of a successful creative enterprise based in a historic building. ©Historic England Archive

The Paintworks, Bristol. Originally dating back to 1850, Phoenix Wharf was formerly a paint and varnish factory for approximately 100 years before manufacturing ceased and fell into decline. Today, the site has been redeveloped into Bristol's cultural quarter, with many historic industrial buildings being converted into studio and exhibition space.

For more information visit www.heritagecounts.org.uk



Grade II listed 39 Silver Street, Salisbury. © Historic England

New research shows that branded pubs and coffee chains are increasingly occupying listed buildings.

The Centenary of the Representation of the People Act in the South West

Projects across the South West marked the centenary of the **Representation of the People Act**, connecting local histories to the national celebration.

Devon History Society's research project **Lives of Devon's Women Suffrage Activists 1866–1918** shed new light on local activism, producing biographies of over 100 women and linking them to the National Heritage List for England as a permanent legacy of the project.

The **National Trust's 'Women and Power' national public programme** increased the understanding and profile of women's heritage at National Trust places and collections to mark the centenary of the Act. Across the South West, 17 properties delivered a diverse range of ambitious projects engaging new audiences with fascinating and often untold stories. In West Cornwall art installations marked places saved by the radical female conservationists known as Ferguson's Gang, whilst at Killerton House near Exeter community engagement, performance and the presentation of the house and collections helped tell the story of a family divided by the suffrage debate.

To find out more go to <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/women-and-power-exploring-womens-history-at-our-places>

Emmeline Pankhurst visited Newton Abbot in Devon in 1908 to support the Conservative candidate in the General Election. When the Conservatives won, mayhem broke out. Emmeline and her supporters were caught up in a riot in and around the Constitutional Club in Union Street.

As part of the **Heritage Schools Programme** in the South West, in April this year, children from Wolborough Primary School, a stone's throw from the Constitutional Club, recreated this public gathering with actors from MED Theatre playing the parts of the suffragettes. The children explored the issues around women's suffrage through role-play and looked at the influence of leading suffragettes such as Emmeline Pankhurst and how they have influenced the children's own lives. A film of the day can be seen here: <https://vimeo.com/271879685>

The **Heritage Lottery Fund South West** supported a number of creative and engaging centenary women's suffrage projects. One of them, Rebellious Sounds Archive created the **very first oral archive** of women's activism stories in the South West. Connecting contemporary accounts with the women's suffrage campaign, the archive toured in 2018, sharing unheard voices across the region.

To find out more go to <http://dreadnoughtsouthwest.org.uk/rebellious-sounds-archive/>



Marking 100 years since some women were given the vote at Killerton House, Devon. © National Trust



MED Theatre in role as Emmeline Pankhurst and supporter addressing the people of Newton Abbot, July 2018.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS FOR THE SOUTH WEST

Assets

NEW LISTINGS IN THE SOUTH WEST



Pendeen War Memorial, Cornwall © Sam Barnes

One of 520 war memorials listed as part of a project to commemorate the First World War Centenary, Pendeen War Memorial in Cornwall was funded by public subscription, including a contribution from nearby Levant Mine. This is particularly poignant as on 20 October 1919, less than a year after the official end of the First World War, more local men were lost in the Levant Mine disaster. They are buried next to the war memorial.

For total numbers of assets by local authority, please see *Heritage Counts 2018*, [Local Authority Profiles](#).

HERITAGE ASSETS, SOUTH WEST 2018

World Heritage Sites	4
Scheduled Monuments	6981
Total Listed Buildings	90,177
Listed Buildings Grade I	2,042
Listed Buildings Grade II*	5,187
Listed Buildings Grade II	82,948
Total Registered Parks and Gardens (RPG)	303
RPG Grade I	30
RPG Grade II*	94
RPG Grade II	179
Registered Battlefields	10
Protected Ship Wrecks	27
Conservation Areas	1554

Heritage at Risk

In the last year, **99 sites have been removed from the Heritage at Risk Register**, more than any other English region. Forty-nine new additions in 2018 bring the total number of historic places at risk in the South West to 1,455. For more details of this year's successes, and what's new on the Register, go to <https://historicengland.org.uk/whats-new/in-your-area/south-west/>

ASSET TYPE	NUMBER AT RISK IN THE SOUTH WEST 2018	CHANGE ON 2017
Buildings and structures (grade I and II* buildings excluding places of worship)	151	↓ 4
Places of Worship	165	↓ 14
Scheduled Monuments	1,088	↓ 31
Parks and Gardens	16	No change
Conservation Areas	33	↓ 3

20 YEARS OF HERITAGE AT RISK



Brook Hall, Wiltshire © Historic England

In the 20th year of the Heritage at Risk Register, more than two thirds of the entries on the original 1998 Register for the South West have been rescued, including the C15th lodging wing at Brook Hall, Wiltshire.

For more information go to <https://historicengland.org.uk/whats-new/in-your-area/south-west/twenty-years-of-heritage-at-risk-in-the-south-west/>

Planning

PLANNING STATISTICS, SOUTH WEST 2018

Type of application	Number of decisions taken – England	Change on previous year	Number of decisions taken – South West	Change on previous year
Planning	426,352	↓ 3%	53,431	↓ 2%
LBC	29,564	↓ 6%	5,644	↓ 7%

- ↓ **Planning decisions have decreased in the last year.** In the South West numbers are down by 2% (3% for England).
- ↓ Similarly, **Listed Building Consent (LBC) decisions in the region have decreased** by 7% this year, compared to 6% nationally. This follows five years of steady growth in both types of application.
- ↓ **Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) applications have also decreased this year**, from 191 to 172. Since 2002, there has been an 11% decrease in the number of SMC applications made in the South West compared to a 35% increase for England.
- ↑ **The Gardens Trust** was consulted on 181 planning applications affecting Registered Parks and Gardens in the South West last year. This is an increase of 29 on 2017 and the highest number since 2003. Since that year, the number of consultations in the South West has increased by 56% compared to 36% nationally.



The Orangery at Combe House, Gittisham, East Devon, sensitively repaired and back in economic use. © John Clark

The continued growth in the number of planning applications affecting historic parks and gardens shows that these historic assets are experiencing greater change than ever before. Schemes such as the transformation of Combe House and Grade II Registered gardens by a hotel chain shows that even in these complex historic assets, positive and sensitive change is possible.

Funding

- ↓ The **Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) awarded £25.2m to 166 projects** in the South West 2017/18, compared to £38m in 2017. The 58% success rate for South West applicants is exactly in line with the rate for England.
- ↓ **Historic England spent £1.93m in grants**, a slight decrease on 2017. £1.53m supported Heritage at Risk projects.

Staffing

- ↓ **There were 113 full time equivalent (FTE) local authority historic environment staff in the South West**, three fewer than in 2017, and 102 fewer than in 2006. The rate of loss of local authority heritage staff in the South West since 2006 remains higher than for England as a whole.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STAFF, SOUTH WEST 2018

Staff type	SW FTE 2006	SW FTE 2017	SW FTE 2018	Change % since 2006 SW (England)	Change % in the last year SW (England)
All local authority historic environment staff	215	116	113	-47% (-35%)	-2.6% (+2.2%)
Local authority staff working on Conservation	136	72	75	-45% (-35%)	+4.2% (+3.0%)
Local authority staff working on Archaeology	79	44	38	-52% (-35%)	-13.6% (+0.8%)

Heritage tourism

- ↑ **There were 11.97 million visits to historic properties in the South West in 2017/18**, 17% of all visits to historic properties in England. The number is up by 6% on the previous year, compared to a national increase of 4%.
- ↑ There were 2.23 million visits to **English Heritage Trust** sites in the South West, an increase of 9% on the previous year (10% nationally). **National Trust** properties in the South West experienced a 7% increase in visitor numbers, with 6.13 million visits.
- ↑ **Overseas visitors** accounted for 25% of all visits to historic attractions in the South West last year. Only London has a higher proportion of overseas visitors, at 57%. **This is a fast growing market in the region**, which saw a 20% increase in overseas visitors last year, the highest of all regions, and far outstripping the national figure of 7%.
- ↑ **Domestic visitors were up by 10% last year**. 41% of visitors to South West historic properties are local or day trippers (49% nationally with strong regional variation) whilst 34% come from outside the region.

Participation

- ↑ **83% of all adults in the South West had visited a heritage site at least once during the past 12 months**, compared to 73% for England. Although this rate has only increased by 0.8% since 2017, this remains the highest rate of participation of any region and the highest rate of participation in the South West since 2005/06.

- ↑ **76% of people from lower socio-economic groups** have visited a historic site in the last year, up by 2% on 2017. This is the highest rate of all regions and significantly above the national rate of 61%.
- ↑ There were **747 Heritage Open Days (HODs)** events in the South West in 2017, an increase of 93% on the previous year, and the highest ever number of HODs in the region. Since 2007, HODs in the South West have increased by 66% and account for 15% of all HODs in England.
- ↓ **77% of people with disabilities** participated in the region's historic environment in 2018. Although this is down from 82% in 2017, it is the highest rate of all regions and above the national figure of 68.5%.
- = **1.9% of the adult population** in the South West regularly volunteer in the heritage sector. The national figure is 1.4%. This figure has remained constant in recent years.
- ↓ There were 258,000 school visits to historic properties in the South West, up 11% on the previous year (bucking the national trend which saw a 2% decrease).

However, there were 84,462 education visits to English Heritage sites in the region in 2017/18, an increase of 9% on the previous year. English Heritage sites in the region have experienced 60% growth in numbers of education visits between 2001 and 2018.



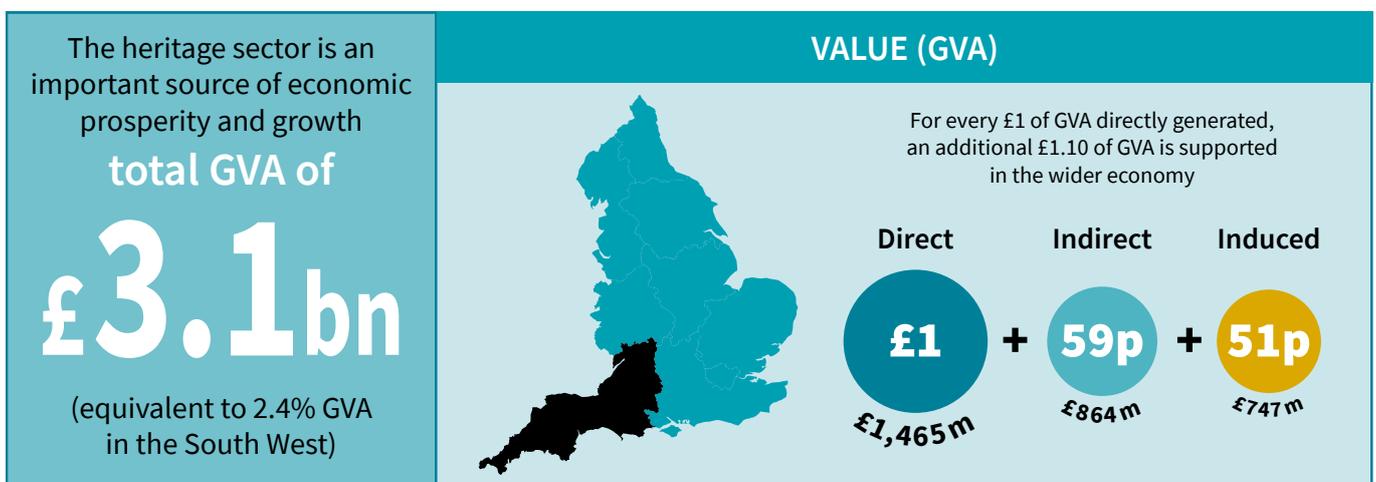
Hailes Abbey, Gloucestershire. © English Heritage

In 2018 overall visits increased by 10% and visits from overseas visitor pass holders went up by 51%.

HERITAGE AND THE ECONOMY 2018

South West

Heritage is an important source of economic prosperity and growth with a large number of economic activities occurring within it, dependent on it or attracted to it.



Don't forget! A report on the [economic value of heritage to the South West economy](#) is available on the Heritage Counts website. *Heritage Counts 2018 South West* is edited by Liz Clare and produced by Historic England on behalf of the South West Historic Environment Forum (SW HEF) which comprises the following organisations:

- Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers South West
- Campaign to Protect Rural England
- CLA
- Churches Conservation Trust
- English Heritage
- The Gardens Trust
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- The Heritage Trust Network
- Historic England
- Historic Houses Wessex Region
- Institute of Historic Building Conservation South West
- National Trust South West
- RIBA
- RTPI
- University of the West of England