International Council
World Monuments Fund (WMF) is the leading independent nonprofit organization devoted to saving the world’s cultural treasures. Since WMF’s founding in 1965, our global network of experts has collaborated with local partners to save heritage places and create opportunities for the communities around them.

The International Council is a prestigious circle of visionary leaders from around the world who care about cultural heritage. Members play a key role, working directly with WMF’s leadership to chart our global strategy and maximize our impact through identifying projects of international stature, fundraising, and sharing with their networks the importance of preserving humanity’s irreplaceable cultural heritage.

When you join the International Council, you become part of an outstanding global community, extending from WMF headquarters in New York City to our affiliates in the UK, India, Peru, Portugal, and Spain, as well as representatives in France, China, Japan, and Cambodia. Sustained by a love of culture, history, art, and architecture, Council members engage firsthand with WMF’s extraordinary projects, traveling with the WMF leadership team and Board of Trustees to sites near and far where we are working to preserve and protect treasured monuments.

Join us today and become part of our global community to safeguard the irreplaceable and make a lasting impact on communities around the world.

Prince Amyn Aga Khan
Trustee and Chair of the International Relations Committee

Bénédicte de Montlaur
President and CEO
Our Mission and Values

The extraordinary achievements of humankind across time and place fill us with awe and admiration. We celebrate the world's remarkable built heritage, highlighting its diversity and amplifying the voices less often heard, while protecting it against the natural and human forces that threaten its survival.

The world's irreplaceable and inimitable places were shaped by human hands and have sustained people for generations. The link between place and community is essential and local collaboration is the foundation of our work. We espouse humility, listening and learning first, then developing projects that support long-term social and economic benefits for local communities.

We approach all we do with passion, an openness to challenges, and a readiness to intervene rapidly in the most demanding environments—all while employing the highest international standards in cultural heritage preservation and continuing to expand the field.

A Sense of Wonder

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A People-first Approach

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A Can-do Attitude

We approach all we do with passion, an openness to challenges, and a readiness to intervene rapidly in the most demanding environments—all while employing the highest international standards in cultural heritage preservation and continuing to expand the field.

For more than 55 years, working at more than 700 sites in 112 countries, World Monuments Fund's (WMF) highly skilled experts have applied proven and effective techniques to the preservation of important architectural and cultural heritage sites around the globe. From its headquarters in New York City, affiliates and field staff worldwide, WMF leverages on-the-ground conservation projects to enrich local communities, improve mutual understanding between people, and explore solutions to some of humanity’s most pressing challenges: underrepresented heritage, climate change, and imbalanced tourism.

A moai at Rapa Nui National Park in Chile, erected between 1400 and 1600 CE. WMF began working at Easter Island in 1967.
Global Network

With affiliate offices in the UK, India, Peru, Portugal, and Spain—along with our network of professionals in China, Japan, the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean—WMF oversees projects across the globe.
Save the World’s Most Treasured Places

In 1989, WMF’s mission to survey the temples of Angkor Archaeological Park in Cambodia was the first of any Western organization since the country’s devastating civil war from 1975 to 1979. Over 30 years later, WMF employs over 100 local workers to conserve four of the temples.

CONSERVATION MILESTONES

$800M+ Invested $800M+ globally since 1965

700+ Partnered to safeguard 700+ sites

112 Worked in 112 countries
WMF invests directly in people and communities. We help build skills and capacity to care for the world’s shared heritage for future generations.

**ANNUAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT**

45  
*Active projects in 27 countries*

445  
*People employed globally on average*

100+  
*Individuals trained in conservation skills*

Above: A student practices traditional stone carving techniques in WMF’s stonemasonry program in Tripoli, Lebanon; Left: Young heritage workers with a hand-carved wooden dragon at Shwe-nandaw Kyaung in Mandalay, Myanmar.
Church of the Holy Redeemer in Ani, Turkey, completed in 1055, was listed on WMF’s inaugural World Monuments Watch in 1996. WMF has been active at the site ever since.

Join the World Monuments Fund International Council
Be Part of a Global Community

As a member of the International Council, you will be part of a global community of supporters that includes WMF’s Board of Trustees and affiliate Trustees, as well as the Junior Board.

International Council members enjoy a robust global calendar of events throughout the year to discover and learn about the greatest human achievements. It includes high-end travel opportunities; private visits to WMF sites; elegant special events; and stimulating enrichment programs.

You have the option to choose a local Chapter where you can become more intimately involved—WMF has Chapters in New York and its affiliate countries of UK, India, Peru, Portugal, and Spain. New Chapters will be developed in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and France. Council members have access to all Chapters’ activities and their membership network when traveling.

As a Council member, you also have the opportunity to become a Project Partner to learn more about a specific field project through site visits and contact with our conservation experts, garnering support and raising awareness for WMF’s work.
Monumental Journeys

Travel Program

International Council members enjoy incredible access to some of the most spectacular places in the world. The program includes trips to destinations such as Jordan, Peru, Japan, Tunisia, Cambodia, Mexico, and France. Monumental Journeys are led by WMF leadership and our conservation experts, featuring behind-the-scenes tours of restoration projects, as well as exclusive dinners and receptions, entrée to private collections, and meetings with international scholars, diplomats, architects, and cultural leaders.

RECENT TRIPS INCLUDE:

- **Spain** (September 2019)
- **Peru** (May 2018)
- **Japan** (May 2019)
- **Paris** (October 2017)
- **Jordan** (September 2018)
- **India** (March 2017)

Above: Recent trip highlights include exploring the iconic architecture of Kyoto, Japan (left) and the centuries-old Convents of Seville (right) in Spain.

Opposite: The world-renowned Treasury in Petra, Jordan. Travel with WMF to our most significant sites to get an up-close, behind-the-scenes look at our work.
Exclusive Private Visits

While traveling independently, International Council members have the opportunity to request expert-led private tours at several of WMF’s most important sites.

CAMBODIA
Tour 30 years of WMF’s extensive work at Angkor Archaeological Park* in Siem Reap.

CHINA
Take a private tour of the sprawling, imperial Qianlong Garden complex of the Forbidden City* in Beijing.

PORTUGAL
Visit Jerónimos Monastery*, an icon of Lisbon, and the most prominent example of late-Gothic Manueline architecture, as well as the sixteenth-century Belém Tower.

THAILAND
One of the most visited sites in Thailand, explore the Wat Chaiwatthanaram Buddhist temple in the city of Ayutthaya.

UNITED KINGDOM
Explore WMF’s conservation of the eighteenth-century St. George’s Church in Bloomsbury, or Horace Walpole’s “little Gothic castle” Strawberry Hill House & Garden in London.

To see a full list of sites available for private access, visit: wmf.org/PrivateVisits

NOTE: Additional fees to cover expenses and access may apply at certain sites. Scheduled visits will be dependent on expert availability, local holidays, and ongoing work at the site.

*UNESCO World Heritage Sites
COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Programs and Events

World Monuments Summit
A centerpiece of the International Council’s activities is the annual World Monuments Summit, where heritage experts, policy makers, thought leaders, and WMF leadership come together to discuss the field’s most pressing issues with a two-day program of scholarly lectures, receptions, and site tours.

Public and Private Events
Council members enjoy a year-long calendar of public and private events with preservation experts, artists, academics, curators, and other intellectuals.

Annual Gala
Each fall, WMF recognizes outstanding leadership in international heritage preservation at our Annual Gala, bringing together leaders in arts and culture, business, historic preservation, architecture, and philanthropy for an incredible evening in New York City. Past Hadrian Award recipients include: His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales (1990), David Rockefeller (1994), His Highness The Aga Khan (1996), Carlos Slim Helú (2004), and Ellsworth Kelly (2014).

Spring Spotlight
The annual Spring Spotlight event highlights WMF’s work at a particular site or region. The intimate dinner takes place in New York City each spring and has recently featured WMF sites such as Monte Albán in Mexico and the Qianlong Garden of Beijing’s Forbidden City.

Guests enjoy dinner at China Blue in New York City during Spring Spotlight in 2019. The event celebrated WMF’s work at Qianlong Garden and featured architect Annabelle Selldorf as a guest speaker.
Join the International Council

**Council Member ($5,000 USD)**

- Access to *Monumental Journeys*, WMF’s exclusive travel program
- Invitation to the annual World Monuments Summit, a two-day program of scholarly lectures, site tours, and receptions
- Private visits to select WMF sites with conservation experts, upon request
- Invitations to special events hosted by WMF headquarters in New York City and by Council Chapters
- Invitations to inaugural celebrations for completed WMF projects
- Access to presale tickets to the Annual Gala and Spring Spotlight
- Reserved seating at WMF public events
- Invitations to online events featuring virtual tours of WMF projects
- Recognition in the annual *Watch* magazine and on the WMF website

*All currency in USD. For local currency equivalents, please refer to enclosed documents.

**Champion Member ($10,000 USD)**

All benefits listed above, plus:

- Invitation for two to VIP dinners in New York City and London
- Invitation for two to a privately hosted reception held in conjunction with the Annual Gala and World Monuments Summit

**Leadership Member ($25,000 USD)**

All benefits listed above, plus:

- Opportunities throughout the year to attend exclusive Trustee events in New York City and at WMF affiliates
- Invitation for two to a private lunch with WMF President and CEO

**President’s Circle Member ($50,000 USD)**

All benefits listed above, plus:

- Invitation to travel with the President and CEO on working trips
- Invitation to a presentation about strategic organizational initiatives

As a special opportunity, individuals between the ages of 21 and 39 may join the International Council for $2,500 USD and receive all the benefits of the Council Member level, as well as invitations to a few special events throughout the year hosted by the Junior Board.

*All currency in USD. For local currency equivalents, please refer to enclosed documents.
Considered one of Thailand’s most significant monuments, Wat Chaiwatthanaram sits adjacent to the central area of Ayutthaya, which was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 1991.

Project Partner

International Council members also have the opportunity to become a Project Partner by making or facilitating a transformative gift to a select WMF site. Project Partners enjoy the ultimate insider look at every phase of a conservation project and its impact on the surrounding community. Project Partners may also accompany WMF leadership on working trips and participate in meetings with our partners, local government officials, cultural heritage authorities, and other dignitaries.

Learn More

For more information about the International Council, WMF’s travel program, Monumental Journeys, or becoming a Project Partner, please contact Karaugh Brown, Vice President of Development and Partnerships at kbrown@wmf.org or 646.424.9994 x229. Learn more online at wmf.org/InternationalCouncil
Opposite and cover: An intricate painted ceiling and wall painting from Juangjinzhai, or the Studio of Exhaustion from Diligent Service, within the Qianlong Garden at the Forbidden City in Beijing, China. The Qianlong Emperor, fourth of China’s Qing Dynasty, reigned from 1735 to 1796. He designed a garden complex in the Forbidden City for his eventual retirement. Since 2002, WMF has collaborated with the Palace Museum to restore these remarkable interiors.