
European Institute of Cultural Routes
Neumünster Abbey, Luxembourg

STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

The Council of Europe Cultural Routes programme is based on various pillars:

The Council of Europe defines the policies to be implemented by the programme. Set up in 1949, it is the oldest international organisation in Europe and covers the whole continent. Its 47 member states have come together for the purpose of "safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage and facilitating their economic and social progress" (1949 Statute).

The Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA) on Cultural Routes established in 2010 follows the Council of Europe's policy guidelines, decides the programme strategy and awards "Council of Europe Cultural Route" certification. It is open to Member and non-Member states of the Council of Europe aiming at providing political support for national, regional and local initiatives to promote culture and tourism. Currently, the EPA has 35 Member States.

Joint programmes between the Council of Europe and the European Union establish cooperation between the EPA on Cultural Routes and the European Commissions for the establishment of sustainable projects favouring cultural, social and environmental development in Europe.

The European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), located in Neumünster Abbey in Luxembourg, is the technical agency set up in 1998 under an agreement between the Council of Europe and the government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The Institute advises Cultural Routes already certified, provides assistance to new projects, organises training and visibility activities for route managers and coordinates a university network.

CULTURAL ROUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL ROUTES

LE GOUVERNEMENT DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de la Culture

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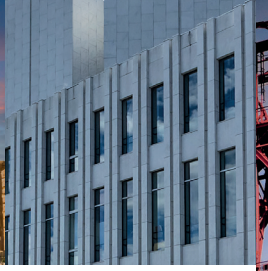
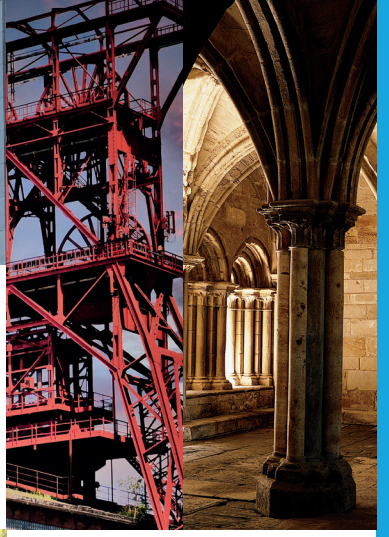
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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 Member States, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe Member States have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the Member States.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



AIMS AND VALUES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CULTURAL ROUTES

The Cultural Routes programme launched by the Council of Europe in 1987 demonstrates, by means of a journey through space and time, how heritage from different countries of Europe contributes to a shared cultural heritage.

The Cultural Routes put into practice the fundamental values of the Council of Europe: human rights, cultural democracy, cultural diversity and identity and mutual exchanges and enrichment across boundaries and centuries. They act as channels for intercultural dialogue and promote better knowledge and understanding of a European cultural identity.

The Cultural Routes preserve and enhance Europe's natural and cultural heritage as a factor for improving the living environment, and as a source of cultural, social and economic development. They promote cultural tourism that fits in with sustainable development.

ACTIVITIES

Through its Cultural Routes programme, the Council of Europe offers a model for cultural and tourism management. Meetings, training courses, seminars and forums are organised on a regular basis to foster exchanges and the development of common, innovative strategies to support cultural and economic development, sustainable tourism and European citizenship.

The Cultural Routes are part of a broad network which allows synergies between national, regional and local authorities and a wide range of associations and economic players.

The Programme benefits from effective cooperation with the European Union and leading international organisations.

As of May 2021, there are 45 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, covering varied themes of European memory, history and heritage while contributing to the diversity of present-day Europe.

35 Member States of the Enlarged Partial Agreement (year of accession):

Andorra (2012)
Armenia (2015)
Austria (2011)
Azerbaijan (2011)
Bosnia and Herzegovina (2016)
Bulgaria (2011)
Croatia (2016)
Cyprus (2011)
Finland (2018)
France (2011)
Georgia (2016)
Germany (2013)
Greece (2011)
Holy See (2018)
Hungary (2013)
Italy (2011)
Latvia (2019)
Lithuania (2012)
Luxembourg (2011)
Monaco (2013)
Montenegro (2011)
Norway (2011)
Poland (2017)
Portugal (2011)
Romania (2013)
Russian Federation (2011)
San Marino (2017)
Serbia (2012)
Slovak Republic (2014)
Slovenia (2011)
Spain (2011)
Sweden (2020)
Switzerland (2013)
Turkey (2018)
Ukraine (2021)









CERTIFICATION

Certified Cultural Routes are evaluated every three years. New Cultural Routes are certified by the Council of Europe, based on compliance with several criteria:

- Illustrate a theme representative of European values and common to at least three countries in Europe;
- Be the subject of transnational, multidisciplinary scientific research;
- Enhance European memory, history and heritage and contribute to interpretation of Europe's present-day diversity;
- Support cultural and educational exchanges for young people;
- Develop exemplary and innovative projects in the field of cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development;
- Develop tourist products aimed at different groups.

Cultural route of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel du Conseil de l'Europe

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Certified Cultural Routes (per year of certification):

Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes (1987)
The Hansa (1991)
Viking Routes (1993)
Via Francigena (1994)
Routes of El legado andalusí (1997)
Phoenicians' Route (2003)
Pyrenean Iron Route (2004)
European Mozart Ways (2004)
European Route of Jewish Heritage (2004)
Saint Martin of Tours Route (2005)
Cluniac Sites in Europe (2005)
Routes of the Olive Tree (2005)
VIA REGIA (2005)
TRANSROMANICA (2007)
Iter Vitis Route (2009)
European Route of Cistercian Abbeys (2010)
European Cemeteries Route (2010)
Prehistoric Rock Art Trails (2010)
European Route of Historic Thermal Towns (2010)
Route of Saint Olav Ways (2010)
European Route of Ceramics (2012)
European Route of Megalithic Culture (2013)
Huguenot and Waldensian Trail (2013)
ATRIUM (2014)
Réseau Art Nouveau Network (2014)
Via Habsburg (2014)
Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route (2015)
European Routes of Emperor Charles V (2015)
Destination Napoleon (2015)
In the Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson (2015)
Fortified Towns of the Grande Region (2016)
Impressionisms Routes (2018)
Via Charlemagne (2018)
European Route of Industrial Heritage (2019)
Iron Curtain Trail (2019)
Le Corbusier Destinations (2019)
Liberation Route Europe (2019)
Routes of Reformation (2019)
European Route of Historic Gardens (2020)
Via Romea Germanica (2020)
Aeneas Route (2021)
Alvar Aalto Route (2021)
Cyril and Methodius Route (2021)
European Route d'Artagnan (2021)
Iron Age Danube Route (2021)