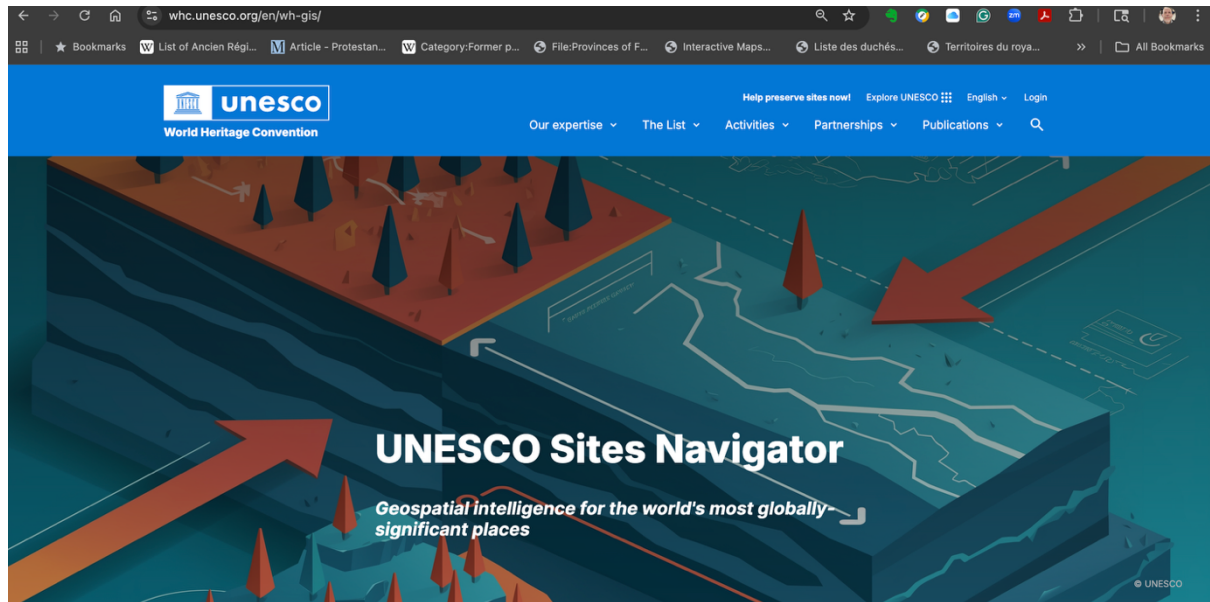


UNESCO Sites Navigator

Tool Mastery Sheet



Funded by the [Flanders UNESCO Trustfund \(FUT\)](#), the [Netherlands Funds in Trust \(NFIT\)](#), and the [UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund](#), the **UNESCO Sites Navigator** is the dedicated Geographic Information System (GIS) for UNESCO's key designated sites around the globe.

Selection criteria

(i)

to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;

(ii)

to 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)

to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;

(iv)

to 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)

to 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)

to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria);

(vii)

to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;

(viii)

to 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)

to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;

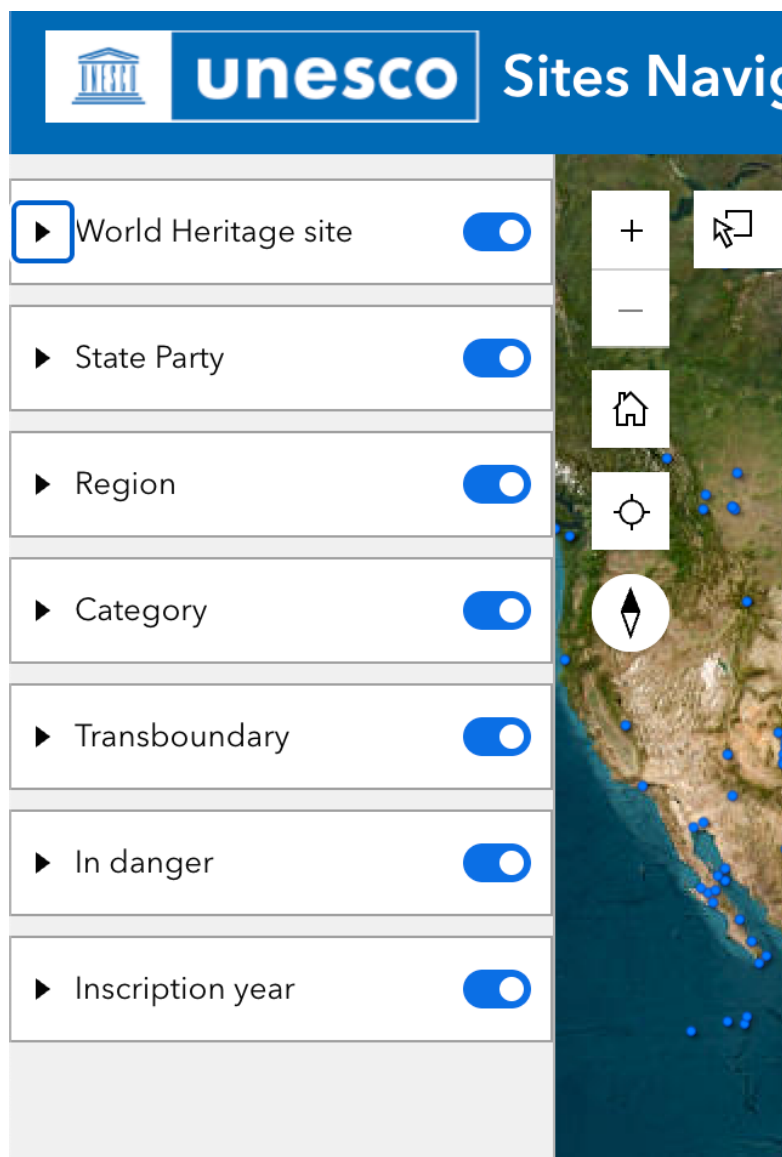
(x)

to 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.

Goal: Before analyzing any heritage site, learn to control the Navigator interface, especially the **ADVANCED** tab where datasets and analytical tools are located.

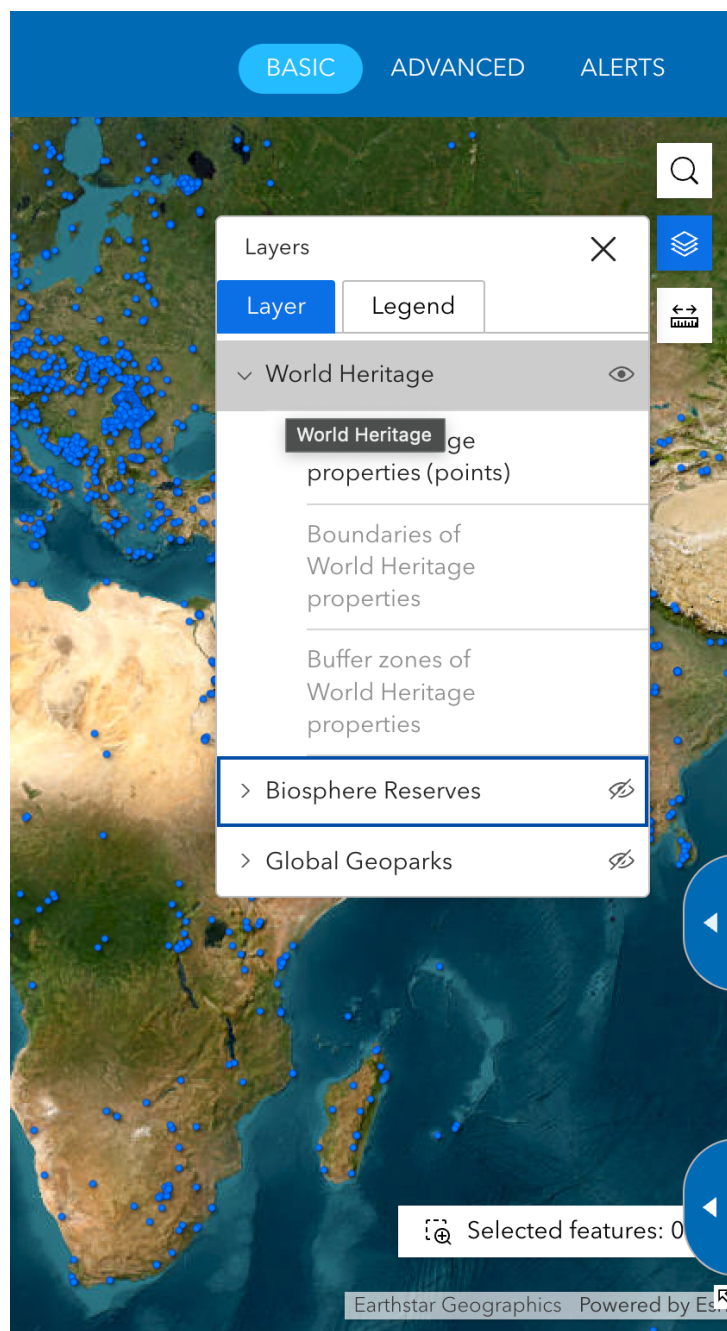
1. Enter the Platform: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/wh-gis/>

- Open the UNESCO World Heritage Sites Navigator.
- Scroll down and click on “**Launch full screen**”
- You are now in the **BASIC** view (note the buttons top-right: **BASIC**, **ADVANCED**, **ALERTS**)
- Overlay your cursor on the tools arrayed on the horizontal menu to read the labels
- The menu on the left frame filters the master list of UNESCO sites by **country**, **region**, and select attributes.
- Click on each arrow to open the sub-menu. Experiment with the options.

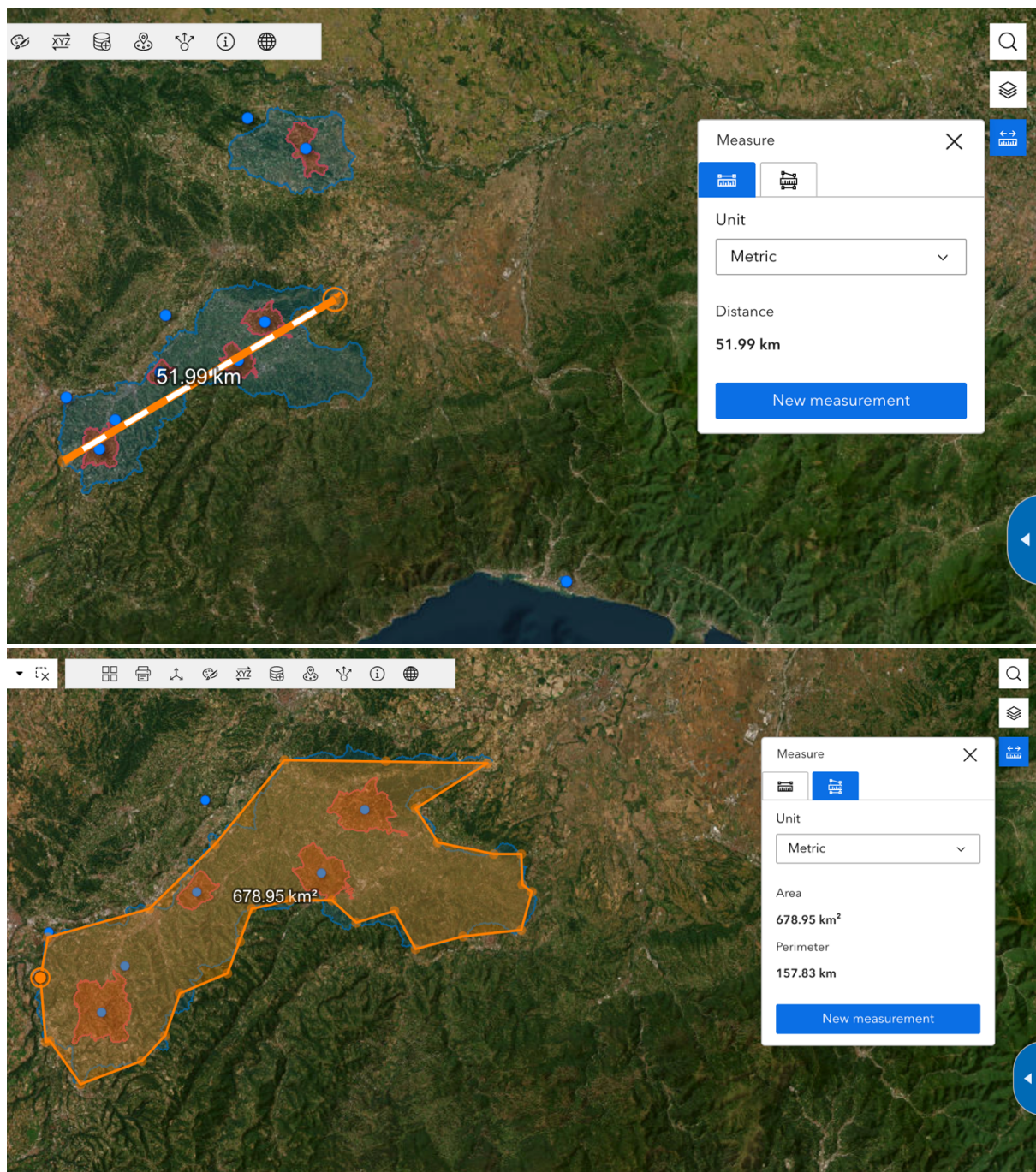


2. Navigate the Map

- **Scroll** to zoom in/out.
- **Click-drag** to pan across regions.
- Use the **home** icon to reset to a global view.
- Test the **search tool** (magnifying glass) by typing a region or site name of interest to you.
- Click on the **Layers** button and toggle on the World Heritage sub-menu items (**boundaries** and **buffers**).
- Zoom in to any place with UNESCO sites to make them visible.



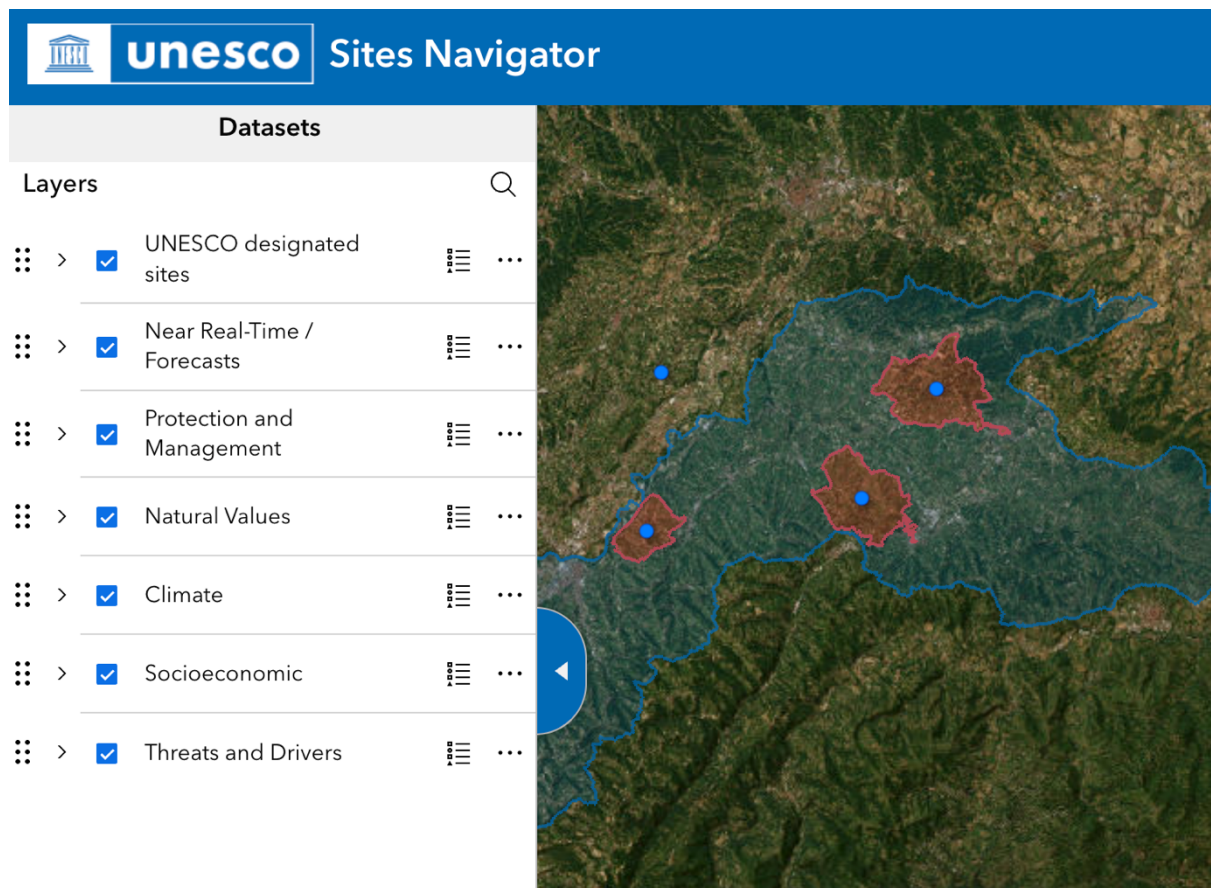
- **Next**, click on the **measurement/ruler** button, zoom into the map to identify a bounded and buffered site, and experiment with measuring distance and area.
- **DISTANCE**: Place the first point and drag the cursor.
- **AREA**: place the first point anywhere in the perimeter of a buffer zone and add a series of points along the perimeter until you complete the polygon.



3. Explore Datasets (click on the **ADVANCED** view – top right)

Expand and collapse each dataset category:

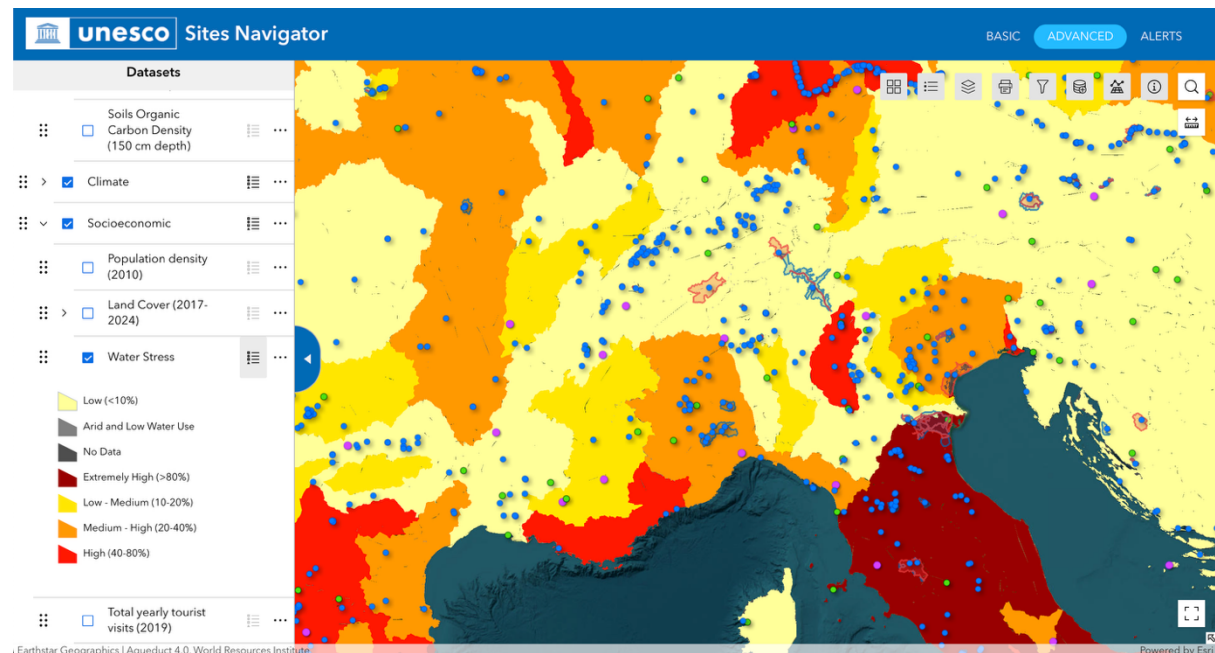
- **UNESCO Designated Sites**
- **Near Real-Time / Forecasts**
- **Protection and Management**
- **Natural Values**
- **Climate**
- **Socioeconomic**
- **Threats and Drivers**
-



For each category:

- Toggle individual layers **on/off**.
- Observe what changes on the map.
- Open the **three-dot menu** to view information or symbology.

Example: Click on the **Socioeconomic** dataset and explore the sub-menu options. Here we see “**Water stress**”. Click on the ... symbol to see the legend and measurements.



Confirm Your Competency

Before moving to site analysis, check that you can:

- Navigate freely across the map
- Activate/deactivate layers
- Read legends and dataset symbols
- Measure distance and area
- Export/screenshot the map
- Locate a site via the search tool
- Interpret a basic pop-up panel

Once you can perform all steps confidently, **proceed to your chosen test case analysis of “human security and cultural heritage”**: Any region, any country, any type.

"Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato" World Heritage site

[The List](#) > [Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero ...](#)

Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato

Description Maps Documents Gallery Indicators

Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato

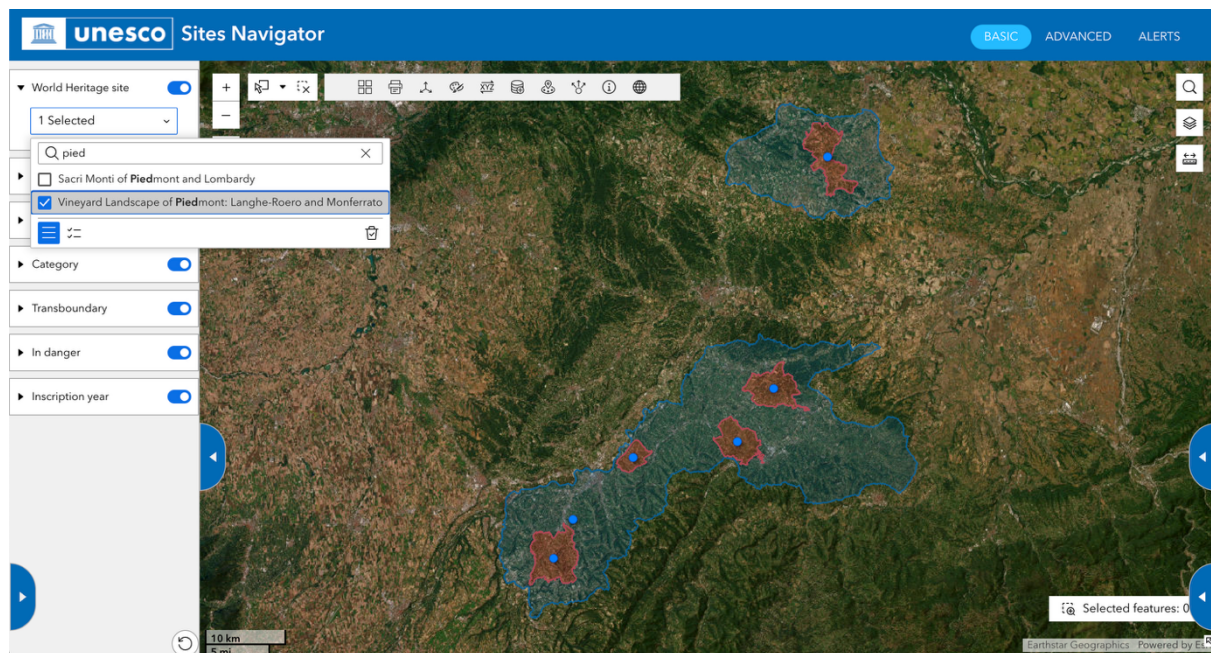
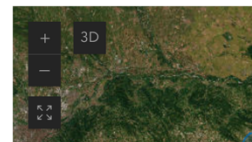
This landscape covers five distinct wine-growing areas with outstanding landscapes and the Castle of Cavour, an emblematic name both in the development of vineyards and in Italian history. It is located in the southern part of Piedmont, between the Po River and the Ligurian Apennines, and encompasses the whole range of technical and economic processes relating to the winegrowing and winemaking that has characterized the region for centuries. Vine pollen has been found in the area dating from the 5th century BC, when Piedmont was a place of contact and trade between the Etruscans and the Celts; Etruscan and Celtic words, particularly wine-related ones, are still found in the local dialect. During the Roman Empire, Pliny the Elder mentions the Piedmont region as being one of the most favourable for growing vines in ancient Italy; Strabo mentions its barrels.

Description is available under license [CC-BY-SA IGO 3.0](#)

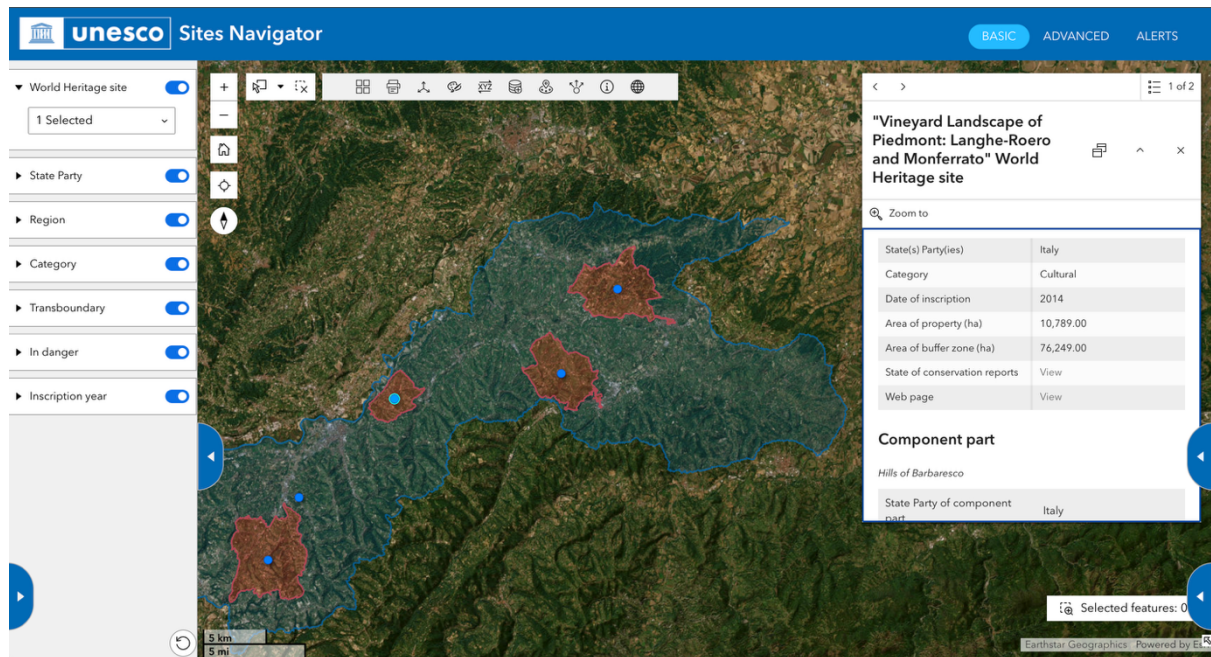
[English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#) [Japanese](#) [Dutch](#)

 **Italy**

Date of Inscription: 2014
Criteria: (iii)(v)
Property : 10,789 ha
Buffer zone: 76,249 ha
Dossier: 1390rev
Serial: yes

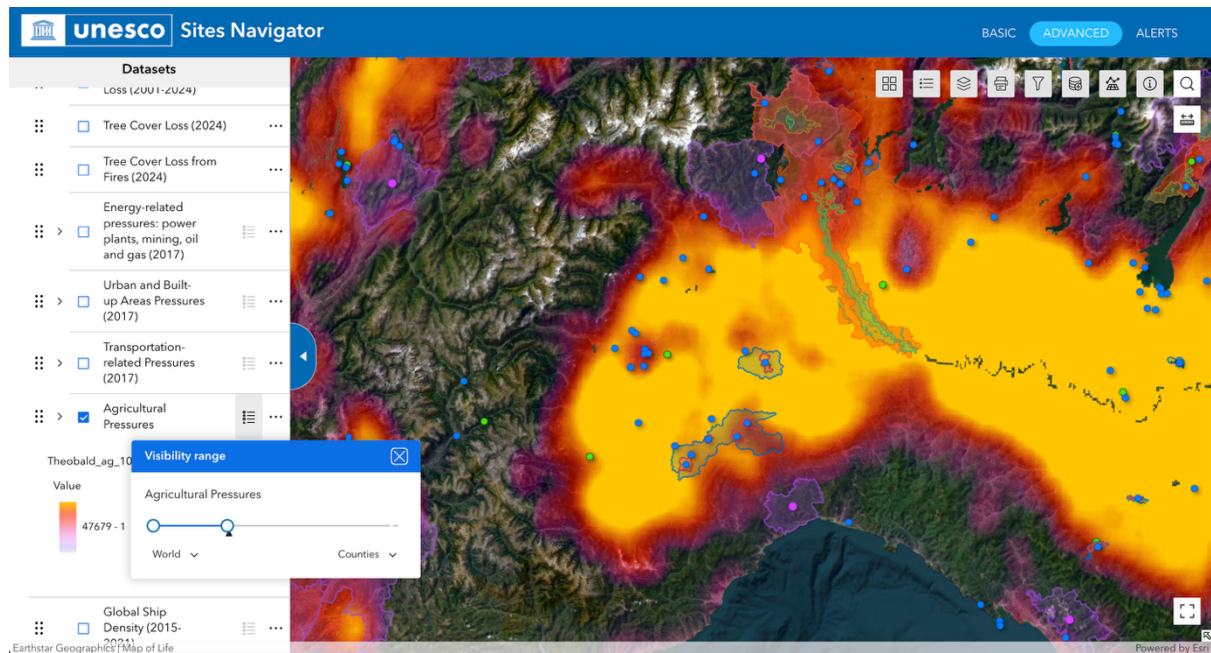


SITES AND BUFFER ZONES



THREATS AND PREASURES DATABASE

AGRICULTURAL PRESSURES



EXERCISE

Today we're going to learn how to use the UNESCO World Heritage Sites Navigator to examine a single test case: the *Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe–Roero and Monferrato* in northern Italy. I will make the argument that it will help us introduce the rationale for European regional integration.

UNESCO classifies this as a **cultural landscape**, meaning it's the product of long-term interaction between people, landforms, climate, and cultivation practices. Over centuries, viticulture, settlement patterns, and local institutions have shaped a highly structured rural landscape. At the same time, this landscape is exposed to a range of **pressures**: climate change, market volatility, tourism, land consolidation, and environmental hazards.

Your job is to treat it as a **human security problem**. It's ideal for showing how the Navigator's geospatial view can be read together with textual documents to think about:

- **human security** (livelihoods, community stability, vulnerabilities), and
- **human security infrastructure** (landscape, institutions, and practices that sustain people over time).

So, next steps: You will use the Navigator and a small set of UNESCO documents to answer three questions:

- What kinds of **risks and pressures** can we see or infer in and around this landscape?

- How does this vineyard region function as a form of “**human security infrastructure**” – something that supports livelihoods, identity, and social cohesion?
- Where do you see tensions between economic opportunity, landscape conservation, and long-term human security?

You’ll all work individually, following the same steps. At the end we will compare your interpretations of this site as a “human security” landscape and a reflection upon “the European project.”