

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Europe

Number of Protected areas

11,549

Polygons/Points ratio

100%

Polygons

0%

Points

Number of sources

For International designations	5
For National designations	2
For Regional designations	2
TOTAL	9

Governance types

Name	Governance type	Count	%
Federal or national ministry or agency		10228	88.56
Not Reported		161	1.39
Local communities		3	0.03
Collaborative governance		313	2.71
Joint governance		198	1.71
Non-profit organisations		646	5.59

Protected areas coverage [\(Ref 1 ↓\)](#)

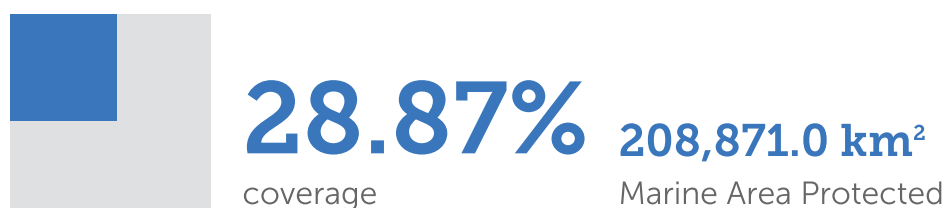
Area terrestrial



245,248.0 km²

Total Land Area

Area marine



723,405.0 km²

Total Marine Area

Warning: These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to difference in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory.

Related countries & territories

↓ Child countries & territories

Name ↕	Code ↕
Anguilla	AIA
Bermuda	BMU
British Virgin Islands	VGB
Cayman Islands	CYM
British Indian Ocean Territory	IOT

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Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	FLK
Montserrat	MSR
South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands	SGS
Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	SHN
Pitcairn Islands	PCN
Turks and Caicos Islands	TCA
Jersey	JEY
Guernsey	GGY
Gibraltar	GIB
Isle of Man	IMN

15 National designations

Categories	Count
Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area	30
Heritage Coast	46
Voluntary Reserve	1
Site of Special Scientific Interest (GB)	6616
Area of Special Scientific Interest (NI)	376
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NI)	8
National Scenic Area	41
National Nature Reserve	358
Local Nature Reserve	1715
Wildland reserve	9
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	38
Regional Park	3
National Park	15
Nature Reserve	904
Marine Conservation Zone	52

3 Regional designations

Categories	Count
Site of Community Importance (Habitats Directive)	658
Special Protection Area (Birds Directive)	272
Marine Protected Area (OSPAR)	246

3 International designations

Categories	Count
World Heritage Site	3
UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserve	8
Ramsar Site, Wetland of International Importance	150

Citation

UNEP-WCMC (2019). Protected Area Country Profile for United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the World Database of Protected Areas, May 2019. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net

References

(Ref 1) UNEP-WCMC (2016). Global statistics from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC.

(Ref 2) Coad, L. et al. (2015). Measuring impact of protected area management interventions: current and future use of the Global Database of Protected Area Management Effectiveness. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 370: 20140281.

[↗ External link](#)

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