



## **Glossary**

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## 1. Aesthetic landscape

A cultural or natural landscape that is experienced as an object with aesthetic values.

## 2. Biography of landscape

This concept refers to the idea that landscapes have a temporal dimension, which is defined by the dynamics of the relationships between people and landscapes.

# 3. Contemplation/engagement

These are two complementary attitudes, rooted in two different ways of experiencing landscapes. Contemplation involves visual observation and situating oneself outside the landscape, whereas engagement implies an active, multisensory experience of the surroundings.

# 4. Cultural heritage

The body of material (tangible) objects as well as immaterial (intangible) phenomena that are characteristic of a group, community or society and are subject to legal protection.

#### Cultural landscape

The concept was first developed within geography, where 'landscape' (German: Landschaft; French: paysage) refers to a 'complex geographical whole', incorporating both natural and man-made elements. When applied within the humanities and social sciences, the term refers to an area that is subject to, shaped by, developed by and valued by humans.

### 6. Dwelling

The process of settling (creating a habitat) in a specific place, involving a permanent or longterm relationship between a person and a place.

## 7. Familiarity/strangeness

These are the two ways in which an individual can experience a landscape. From the point of view of the factors determining its aesthetic, cultural, social, natural and other qualities, it can be seen as either familiar (homely and recognisable) or strange (alien, unknown, different and threatening).





#### 8. Genius loci

A Latin term denoting the 'spirit of the place'. In Roman mythology, it referred to a deity associated with a particular place. Today, it is used to describe the unique character and atmosphere of a place.

## 9. Historical landscape

An area identified on the basis of its cultural and natural heritage, which is associated with a particular historical epoch or sequence of epochs.

# 10. Humanistic geography (cultural geography)

A theoretical approach to landscapes, analysing the cultural and social relations between landscapes and people, that is, how they experience them.

# 11. Identity of landscape

The unique character of a landscape as a result of its natural and/or cultural features, as well as its history, which distinguish it from its immediate surroundings and other landscapes.

### 12. Landscape-palimpsest

A palimpsest is originally a writing material that has been used more than once after an earlier text has been erased. When used in reference to a landscape, it denotes the fact that a landscape is made up of a number of historical layers, some of which have been lost but some of which are still retrievable.

#### 13. Landscape semiotics

An approach treating landscapes as a system of elements that can be decoded to convey meaning and identity in different contexts.

# 14. Memory of landscape

This refers to the fact that an environment or place may preserve traces of the past, meaning that it has remained largely unchanged despite the passage of time.

### 15. Natural heritage

Natural monuments or sites that have exceptional biological value and are subject to legal protection.





## 16. Natural landscape

An area that is identified as being separate from its surroundings and defined as a complex system that includes terrain, soil, water, rocks and vegetation.

### 17. Place

A term denoting a localisation (geographical, imaginary, physical, etc.) that is meaningful in some respect.

## 18. Psychology of place

An approach investigating psychological aspects and mechanisms of relationships between humans and their environment.

## 19. Space

This term, originally used in mathematics and physics, was then adopted by the humanities and social sciences, where it denotes a three-dimensional environment in which physical and social phenomena occur.

## 20. Sociology of space

A subfield of sociology that studies the relationship between space and the social norms shared by particular groups, communities and societies.

### 21. Territory

A clearly defined area that is occupied by a specific species or community.

#### 22. View

An area seen from a vantage point and usually appreciated for its aesthetic qualities (such as a vista or panorama).