

Ecosol Atlantis Co-ordinating Organisations



Arabako Foru Aldundia
Diputación Foral de Álava



The ECOSAL-ATLANTIS project is a transnational cooperation project under the European Programme INTERREG IV B Atlantic Area 2007 - 2013



The UK section of the ECOSAL-ATLANTIS salt route is divided into five regional areas.

Each region has principal sites with interpretation facilities that can direct you to other sites in the network. Uncover stories of salt works and salt makers spread throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Discover artisan sea salt producers, archaeological sites and cultural heritage associated with salt. Seek out the smaller sites scattered around our coast.

Explore varied cultural links to walking trails, ecology, artists and gastronomy that exist in each region and the links to sites outside the Atlantic region.

Scotland



• Bucket Pots, 'Salt-Slaves' and Smuggling

Sea water captured in rock cut basins at high tide was bucketed into pan houses. Until 1775 Scottish salt workers could be sold along with their salt works. Salt smuggling between England, Scotland and Ireland avoided the Salt Tax.

- Prestwich Salt Houses, Ayrshire
- Calf of Eday, Orkney.
- Brora, Caithness
- Galdenoch, Dumfries and Galloway
- Cock of Aran

Northern Ireland



• Open Pan Salt Works and Rock Salt Mine

Salt making was part of a mix of industrial works that included coal mining and glass works at Ballycastle. A working rock salt mine still operates at Carrickfergus.

- Ballycastle
- Ballycastle Museum, County Antrim
- Carrickfergus Museum, County Antrim
- Antrim Coast AONB

North West England



• Open Pans, Sleafing, Rock Salt and Refineries

Salt making from 'wild brine' is known in Cheshire from pre-Roman times, with rock salt mining from 1670. 'Sleafing' was used on the coast. Large coal-fuelled pan houses developed as did the refining of rock salt. A working rock salt mine still operates at Winsford.

- Cheshire salt towns - Northwich, Middlewich, Nantwich and Winsford
- The Dungeon and Hilbre Island, Merseyside
- Fleetwood Museum and Lancashire Maritime Museum
- Crosscanonby and The Beacon, Cumbria
- Solway Coast AONB Discovery Centre, Cumbria

Wales



• Post-medieval Salt Works, Refineries and Halen Mon

Well preserved C16th salt works at Port Eynon, and historical records for a short lived works in the salt marsh estuary at Traeth Maelgwyn in the Dyfi Estuary. In the C18th salt refinery sites used Cheshire rock salt to strengthen sea water.

- Halen Mon, Brynsciencyn, Anglesey
- Traeth Maelgwyn, Ceredigion
- Port Eynon, Gower Peninsular, Swansea
- Laugharne, Carmarthenshire
- Gnoil Estate, North
- Tudor Merchants House Museum, Tenby
- Anglesey and Gower AONBs

South West England



• Salinas, Salt Marshes and Cornish Sea Salt

The SW region has salt making remains dating from the prehistoric to the present day on the coasts of Dorset, Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. The salt marshes and salina environments are similar to the continental examples.

- Cornish Sea Salt Company, Cornwall
- Trebarveth, Lizard Peninsula, Cornwall
- Poole Museum, Dorset
- RSPB Arne Reserve, Poole Harbour, Dorset
- St Barbes Museum, Lymington, Hampshire
- Salterns on the Isle of Wight
- New Forest, Cornwall & Dorset AONBs