

Postcode to National Park Specification

Data Files

This product consists of 3 comma separated text files with a header record.

Files **PCL-PRK-UK-CSV-1** represents all current live Postcodes from AB to LN in the UK that fall within a National Park. File **PCL-PRK-UK-CSV-2.csv** contains Postcodes from LS to ZE.

File **PCL-PRK-UK-CSV-Retired.csv** contains Postcodes which have now been retired from the Postal system and therefore are no longer in circulation. This file is supplied free of charge to provide a comprehensive 'history' of Postcodes within National Parks. It is recommended to use this data file in conjunction with the 'live' files above to achieve the maximum match rates for accurate analysis.

Table Structure

Field	Description
Postcode	Full UK Postcode
National Park	The National Park name, covering parts of England, Wales and Scotland. This field is blank for Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and will be blank for Postcodes with no grid reference.

The Postcode

Formerly a Postcode could contain between 1 and over 300 addresses. This is now restricted to a maximum of 100 although the average number of addresses per Postcode is 15.

National Parks

National parks are designated to conserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of areas of outstanding landscape value, and also to promote opportunities for public understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities.

Although they are also subject to the usual structure of local government, each one has its own National Park Authority (NPA) with responsibility for conservation, planning, recreation management and fostering the social and economic wellbeing of local communities.

The Broads is not a national park designation, but is included in our products and statistics as it is widely considered to be part of the national parks family.

The Broads has its own special authority, the Broads Authority, which is similar to the NPAs but with extra powers in relation to navigation.

There are currently 13 national parks in England and Wales, including the Broads.

Ten were designated in the 1950s following the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, the Broads was created in 1989, and the New Forest in 2005.

The South Downs National Park became fully operational in April 2011, which also included becoming the statutory Planning and Access Authority.

In Scotland the National Parks (Scotland) Act was passed in July 2000.

The first Scottish National Park, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, was established in July 2002, and the Cairngorms National Park was established in March 2003.

The Parks cover about 10 per cent of total land area of England and Wales, 9 per cent of England and 20 per cent of Wales.

They attract around 100 million visitors a year.

The two Scottish national parks cover 7 per cent of the land area of Scotland.

Northern Ireland has no national parks at present.