



# Magna Carta (1297)

1297 CHAPTER 9 25 Edw 1 cc 1 9 29

E+W

X1

X2

THE GREAT CHARTER OF THE LIBERTIES OF ENGLAND, AND OF THE LIBERTIES OF THE FOREST; CONFIRMED BY KING EDWARD, IN THE TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR OF HIS REIGN.

## Editorial Information

- X1** The original text of this Act was not modern English. The traditional translation appears first with obsolete characters modernised. The original text (as an image) appears second. The full reference to the chapter numbers of this Statute includes c. 37 of which has been partly repealed.
- X2** The Latin Indorsement beginning “Magna Carta” is at the bottom of Membrane 38, of the Roll, being the last of the three Membranes on which are entered The Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Great Charter and of the Charter of the Forest, the Charter of Confirmation in French, and the King's Pardon; in Order as they are printed from hence [Statutes of the Realm, volume 1, page 114] to the End of page 124. In all former Printed Copies the Great Charter and the Charter of the Forest, as granted by King Henry III. and confirmed by King Edward I. have been inserted under the ninth year of K. Henry III. See the Collection of Charters of Liberties preceding the Statutes [in Statutes of the Realm, volume 1], and Chapter II. of the Introduction prefixed to [the same] Volume. The Various Readings marked *L.* are from the Charter of Inspeximus 25 Edw. I, under the Great Seal preserved among the Archives of the City of London. See page 33, of the Charters of Liberties [in Statutes of the Realm, volume 1].

EDWARD by the Grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Guyan, [<sup>X3</sup>to all Archbishops, Bishops, &c.] We have seen the Great Charter of the Lord Henry sometimes King of England, our Father, of the Liberties of England in these words:

## Editorial Information

- X3** Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *To All to whom these present Letters shall come; Greeting.*

*Changes to legislation:* There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Magna Carta (1297). (See end of Document for details)

HENRY by the Grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Guyan, and Earl of Anjou, to all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Sheriffs, Provosts, Officers, and to all Bailiffs, and other our faithful Subjects, which shall see this present Charter, Greeting: Know Ye, that We, unto the honour of Almighty God, and for the salvation of (<sup>X4</sup>) the souls of our Progenitors and Successors [Kings of England,] to the advancement of Holy Church and amendment of our Realm, of our meer and free will, have given and granted to all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, and to all [Freemen] of this our Realm, these Liberties following, to be kept in our Kingdom of England for ever.

**Editorial Information**

X4 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *our Soul and*

**I Confirmation of Liberties. E+W**

FIRST, We have granted to God, and by this our present Charter have confirmed, for Us and our Heirs for ever, that the Church of England shall be free, and shall have all her whole Rights and Liberties inviolable. We have granted also, and given to all the Freemen of our Realm, for Us and our Heirs for ever, these Liberties under-written, to have and to hold to them and their Heirs, of Us and our Heirs for ever.

**II–VI ..... F1 E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

F1 Cc. 2–6 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**VII ..... F2 E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

F2 C. 7 repealed by [Administration of Estates Act \(1925\) \(c. 23\)](#), s. 56, Sch. 2 Pt. I, [Administration of Estates Act \(Northern Ireland\) 1955 \(c. 24\)](#), s. 46, [Sch. 3](#) and [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), [Sch. Pt. I](#)

**VIII ..... F3 E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

F3 C. 8 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), [Sch. Pt. I](#)

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**IX Liberties of London, &c. E+W**

THE City of London shall have all the old Liberties and Customs [which it hath been used to have]. Moreover We will and grant, that all other Cities, Boroughs, Towns, and the Barons of the Five Ports, and all other Ports, shall have all their Liberties and free Customs.

**X ..... <sup>F4</sup> E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F4** C. 10 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\)](#)

**XI— ..... <sup>F5</sup> E+W**  
**XII.**

**Textual Amendments**

**F5** Cc. 11, 12 repealed by [Civil Procedure Acts Repeal Act 1879 \(c. 59\)](#), **Sch.**

**XIII ..... <sup>F6</sup> E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F6** C. 13 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**XIV ..... <sup>F7</sup> E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F7** C. 14 repealed by [Criminal Law Act 1967 \(c. 58\)](#), **Sch. 3 Pt. I** and [Criminal Law Act \(Northern Ireland\) 1967 \(c. 18\)](#), **Sch. 2 Pt. I**

**XV— ..... <sup>F8</sup> E+W**  
**XVI**

**Textual Amendments**

**F8** Cc. 15, 16 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), **Sch. Pt. I**

**XVII ..... <sup>F9</sup> E+W**

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**Textual Amendments**

**F9** C. 17 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1892 \(c. 19\)](#)

**XVIII** ..... <sup>F10</sup> **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F10** C. 18 repealed by [Crown Proceedings Act 1947 \(c. 44\)](#), [Sch. 2](#)

**XIX–** ..... <sup>F11</sup> **E+W**  
**XXI**

**Textual Amendments**

**F11** Cc. 19–21 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**XXII** ..... <sup>F12</sup> **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F12** C. 22 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\)](#)

**XXIII** ..... <sup>F13</sup> **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F13** C. 23 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), [Sch. Pt. I](#)

**XXIV** ..... <sup>F14</sup> **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F14** C. 24 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**XXV** ..... <sup>F15</sup> **E+W**

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**Textual Amendments**

**F15** C. 25 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\)](#)

**XXVI** ..... **F16** **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F16** C. 26 repealed by the Acts 9 Geo. 4 c. 31 s. 1 and 10 Geo. 4 c. 34 s. 1

**XXVII**..... **F17** **E+W**  
**XXVIII**

**Textual Amendments**

**F17** Cc. 27, 28 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**XXIX Imprisonment, &c. contrary to Law. Administration of Justice.** **E+W**

NO Freeman shall be taken or imprisoned, or be disseised of his Freehold, or Liberties, or free Customs, or be outlawed, or exiled, or any other wise destroyed; nor will We not pass upon him, nor [<sup>X5</sup>condemn him,] but by lawful judgment of his Peers, or by the Law of the Land. We will sell to no man, we will not deny or defer to any man either Justice or Right.

**Editorial Information**

**X5** Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *deal with him,*

**XXX** ..... **F18** **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F18** C. 30 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), **Sch. Pt. I**

**XXXI** ..... **F19** **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

**F19** C. 31 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

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XXXII ..... F20 **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

F20 C. 32 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1887 \(c. 59\)](#)

XXXIII ..... F21 **E+W**

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XXXIV.

**Textual Amendments**

F21 Cc. 33, 34 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

XXXV ..... F22 **E+W**

**Textual Amendments**

F22 C. 35 repealed by [Sheriffs Act 1887 \(c. 55\)](#), s. 39, **Sch. 3**

XXXVI ..... F23 **E+W**

XXXVII

**Textual Amendments**

F23 Cc. 36, 37 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**General Saving. Observance of these Liberties. Subsidy, in respect of this Charter and Charter of the Forest. **E+W****

Reserving to all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Templars, Hospitallers, Earls, Barons, and all Persons, as well Spiritual as Temporal, all their [<sup>X6</sup>free Liberties] and free Customs, which they have had in time passed. And all these Customs and Liberties aforesaid, which We have granted to be holden within this our Realm, [<sup>X7</sup>as much as appertaineth to Us and our Heirs, we shall observe; and] all Men of this our Realm, as well Spiritual as Temporal, [<sup>X8</sup>as much as in them is, shall observe the same against all Persons, in like wise.] And for this our Gift and Grant of these Liberties, and of other contained in our Charter of Liberties of our Forest, the Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Knights, Freeholders, and other our Subjects, have given unto Us the Fifteenth Part of all their Moveables. And We have granted unto them on the other part, (<sup>X9</sup>) that neither We nor our Heirs shall procure or do any thing whereby the Liberties in this Charter contained shall be infringed or broken. And if any thing be procured by any person contrary to the premises, it shall be had of no force nor effect. These being Witnesses; Lord [<sup>X10</sup>B.] Archbishop of Canterbury, E. Bishop of London, J. Bishop of Bathe, P. of Winchester, H. of Lincoln, R. of Salisbury, W. of Rochester, W. of Worcester, J. of Ely, H. of Hereford, R. of Chichester, W. of Exeter, Bishops; the

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Abbot of St. Edmonds, the Abbot of St. Albans, the Abbot of [<sup>X11</sup>Bello,] the Abbot of St. Augustine's in Canterbury, the Abbot of Evesham, the Abbot of Westminster, the Abbot of [<sup>X12</sup>Bourgh St. Peter,] the Abbot of Reding, the Abbot of Abindon, the Abbot of Malmsbury, the Abbot of Winchcomb, the Abbot of Hyde, the Abbot of Certesey, the Abbot of Sherburn, the Abbot of Cerne, the Abbot of [<sup>X13</sup>Abbotebir,] the Abbot of Middleton, the Abbot of Seleby, the Abbot of Cirencester; H. de Burgh [<sup>X14</sup>Justice,] H. Earl of Chester and Lincoln, W. Earl of Salisbury, W. Earl of Warren, G. de Clare Earl of Gloucester and [<sup>X15</sup>Hereford,] W. de Ferrars Earl of Derby, W. de Mandeville Earl of Essex, H. de Bygod Earl of Norfolk, W. Earl of Albemarle, H. Earl of Hereford, J. Constable of Chester, R. de Ros, R. Fitzwalter, R. de Vyponte, W. de Bruer, R. de Muntefichet, P. Fitzherbert, W. de Aubenie, F. Gresly, F. de Breus, J. de [<sup>X16</sup>Monemue,] J. Fitzallen, H. de Mortimer, W. de Beauchamp, W. de St. John, P. de Mauly, Brian de Lisle, Thomas de Multon, R. de Argenteyn, G. de Nevil, W. de Mauduit, J. de Balun, and others. (<sup>X17</sup>)

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**Editorial Information**

- X6 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Liberties*
- X7 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *on our part, towards our men,*
- X8 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *shall observe on their part towards their men*
- X9 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *for us and our heirs,*
- X10 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *S*
- X11 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Battel.*
- X12 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Peterborough*
- X13 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Abbotsbury*
- X14 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Chief Justicer*
- X15 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Hertford*
- X16 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Monmouth*
- X17 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Given at Westminster the eleventh day of February in the ninth year of our Reign.*

We, Ratifying and approving these Gifts and Grants aforesaid, confirm and make strong all the same for Us and our Heirs perpetually, and by the Tenor of these Presents do renew the same: Willing and granting for Us and our Heirs, that [<sup>X18</sup>this Charter and] all and singular his Articles for ever shall be stedfastly, firmly, and inviolably observed; [<sup>X19</sup>and if] any Article in the same Charter contained yet hitherto peradventure hath not been kept [<sup>X20</sup>We will and by authority royal command from henceforth firmly they be observed].

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**Editorial Information**

- X18 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *the Charter aforesaid in*
- X19 Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *even although*
- X20 Not in Original.

In Witness whereof We have caused these our Letters Patents to be made. [<sup>X21</sup>T. Edward our son at Westminster, the twenty-eighth day of March in the twenty-eighth year of our Reign.]

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**Magna Carta de libertatibz Angli, et de libertatibz foreste, confirmata a R. Edwardo, Anno r'sui vicesimo q'nto. 1297.\***

In dero  
Roth.

*Ex magno Rot. Stat. in Tur.  
Lond. m. 40, 39, 38*

"EDWARDUS dei gra Rex Angl Dns Hbri & Dux Aquil: Omibz ad quos p'tenas litte p'venit salu. Inspecimus magnam cartam d'ni H. quondam Regis Angl p'ri nri de libertatibz Angl in hoc verbo. Henricus dei gra Rex Angl Dns Hbri, Dux Normani, Aquil & Comes Andegav, Archiepi, Epi, Abbatibz, Prioribz, Comitibz, Baronibz, Vicecomitibz, Prepositis, Ministris, & omibz, Bafis & fidelibz suis p'sentem cartam inspectat salu. Scitis qd nos intiatu dei, & p salute anime nre, & animas antecessoz & successor nroz, ad exaltadem nre eccleie, & emendaDem regni nri, spontanea & bono volutate nra, dedim' & concessim' Archiepis, Epi, Abbatibz, Prioribz, Comitibz, Baronibz, & omibz de regno nro, has libtates subscriptas, tenendas in regno nro Angl imppetual.

In p'mis concessim' deo, & hac p'senti carta nra confirmavim' p nob & hered nris imppetual, qd cetera Anglica libera sit, & habeat omnia jura sua integra, & libtates suas illatas. Concessim' eciam & dedim' omibz libris hominibz regni nri, p nob & heredibz nris imppetual, has libtates subscriptas, tenendas eis & hered suis, de nob & hered nris imppetual.

II-VIII. . . . .

Civitas Londini beat omnes libtates suas antiquas, & consuetudines suas. Prefec velum' & concodim' qd omnes Civitates alie, & Burgi, & Ville, & Barones de quinq portibus, & ses port', heat omnes libtates, & libas consuetudines suas.

X-XXVIII. . . . .

Nullus liber homo capiatur vel imprisonat, aut disiciatur de libo t'ri suo, vel libertatibz, vel liba consuetudinibz suis, aut village' aut exlet aut aliquo modo destruat, nec sup eum ibimus, nec sup eu mittim', nisi p legitie iudicii p'ri suo, vel p legitie terre. Nulli vendem', nulli negalim', aut differem' rectum vel justiciam.

XXX-XXXVII. . . . .

Ei salve sint Archiepi, Epi, Abbatibz, Prioribz, Temp'al, Hospit'alibz, Baronibz, & omibz aliis, tam ecclasticis p'ona q'm secularibz, omnes libtates & libe consuetudines, quas p'ri fuerit. Omnes aut' consuetudines & libtas p'd'cas, quas concessim' in regno nro tenendas, q' nri ad nos p'inet etia nroz, Omnes de regno nro, tam, cl'ci, q'm laici, observet, q' nri ad se p'ntine, etia suos. Pro hac aut' donacione et concessione libtati ista, & aliis contentis in carta nra de libertatibz foreste, Archiepi, Epi, Abbes, Priores, Comites, Barones, Milites, libe tenentes, & omnes de regno nro, dederit nob quintam decimam p'centi omniu mobiliu suoz. Concessim'

eciam eisdem, p nob & hered nris, qd nec nos, nec heredes nri, aliquod p'petuum, p quod libtates in hac carta contente infringam' vel infirmam'. Et si ab aliquo contra hoc aliquid p'petuum fuerit, nichil valeat, & p nullo Rege. His testibz d'ns S. Cantuar Archiepo, E. Lond' Ep'o, J. Balioz Ep'o, P. Wynt' H. Lincoln R. Sax. W. Roff, W. Wygorn, J. Elieri, H. Hereforden, R. Cusert, W. Exor Ep'i, Abbe Sci Edmundi, Abbe Sci Alhmi, Abbe de Belle, Abbe Sci Augustini Cantuar, Abbe de Eves'm, Abbe de Westb, Abbe de Burgo Sci Petri, Abbe de Beving, Abbe de Abyndol, Abbe de Malmesbur, Abbe de Wyvilsburche, Abbe de Hida, Abbe de Certeseye, Abbe de Shirborn, Abbe de Gere, Abbe de l'Abbeodur, Abbe de Middilton, Abbe de Selety, Abbe de Cirencestr, H. de Burgo l'Archiep'i, H. Comite Cestr & Lincoln, W. Comite Sax, W. Comite Waret, G. de Clare Comite Gloucestr & Hertford, W. de Ferrat Comite Derb, W. de Mandevill Comite Essex, H. le Bygod Comite

\*Almonday L.  
†Anno 1297.

Norff, W. Comite Albemarle, H. Comite Hereford, J. Constabul' Cestr, R. de Rex, R. de Walf, R. de Veli Ponte, W. de Bruer, R. de Muntfichet, P. filio Herbi, W. de Aubeny, F. Greshy, F. de Brou, J. de Montemac, J. fit Alani, H. de Mortuo Mari, W. de Bello Campo, W. de SCo Joh'e, P. de Malo Lacu, Britano de Insula, Thoma de Multon, R. de Argentein, G. de Nevill, W. Manduill, J. de Balun & aliis. Dat apud Westm' xj. die Febr' anno r. b. nono.

Nos autem donaDes & concessiones p'd'cas ratas hentes & gratas, eis p nob & Hereditibz nris, concedim' & confirmam', easq tenore p'senciu immovam', volentes & concedentes, p nob & hereditibz nris, qd carta p'd'ca in omibz & singlis suis articul impetui firmi & inviolabilif observet, eciam si aliqui articuli in eadem carta contenti, hucusq forsitan non fuerint observati. In cuj rei testimoñ has lit'as nras fieri fecim' patentes. T. Edwardo filio nro apud Westm', duodecimo die Octob' anno r. b. Vicesimo Quinto.

**Editorial Information**  
**X21** The Old Translations read These Reverend Fathers being Witnesses; R. Archbishop of Canterbury Primate of England, A. Bishop of Duresme, and other; Given at Westminster, with our own hand, the twenty-eighth day of the month of March, the twenty-eighth year of our reign.  
This agrees with the Old Printed Copies of the Latin Text:  
But read  
*Witness Edward our Son at Westminster, the Twelfth day of October in the Twenty-fifth Year of our Reign.*



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