



# Magna Carta (1297)

1297 CHAPTER 9 25 Edw 1 cc 1 9 29

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.

## Annotations:

### 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 The full reference to the chapter numbers of this Statute includes c. 37 of which has been partly repealed.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:

## Annotations:

### 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.*

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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.

**Annotations:**

**Editorial Information**

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

**I Confirmation of Liberties.**

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

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

F1 Cc. 2–6 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**VII** ..... F2

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

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

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

F3 C. 8 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), [Sch.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

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**IX Liberties of London, &c.**

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** ..... F4

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

F4 C. 10 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\)](#)

**XI—** ..... F5  
**XII.**

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

F5 Cc. 11, 12 repealed by [Civil Procedure Acts Repeal Act 1879 \(c. 59\)](#), **Sch.**

**XIII** ..... F6

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

F6 C. 13 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1863 \(c. 125\)](#) and [Statute Law \(Ireland\) Revision Act 1872 \(c. 98\)](#)

**XIV** ..... F7

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

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—** ..... F8  
**XVI**

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F8 Cc. 15, 16 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1969 \(c. 52\)](#), **Sch.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

**XVII** ..... F9

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F9 C. 17 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1892 \(c. 19\)](#)

**XVIII** ..... F10

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

**XIX–** ..... F11  
**XXI**

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

**XXII** ..... F12

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

**XXIII** ..... F13

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

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**XXIV** ..... F14

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

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

**XXV** ..... F15

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

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

**XXVI** ..... F16

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

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

~~**XXVII**~~ ..... F17

**XXVIII**

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

**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.**

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.

**Annotations:**

**Editorial Information**

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

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

**XXX** ..... F18

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

**XXXI** ..... F19

**Annotations:**  
.....

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

**XXXII** ..... F20

**Annotations:**  
.....

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

**XXXIII** ..... F21

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**XXXIV.**

**Annotations:**  
.....

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

**XXXV** ..... F22

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

**XXXVI** ..... F23

**XXXVII**

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

**Annotations:**

**Amendments (Textual)**

- 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.**

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 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>)

**Annotations:**

**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*

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- 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].

#### Annotations:

#### 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.]

Magna Carta de libertatibz Angl, et de libertatibz forestar, confirmata a R. Edwardo: Anno r' sui viceimo quatuoragesimo.

In dno  
Rex.

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

EDWARDUS dei gra Rex Angl Dns Hibie & Dux Aquit: Omnibz ad quos presentes littere perventur salutem. Insuper magnum certam dno H. quondam Regis Angl p'ris nri de libertatibz Angl in hoc verba, Henrico dno gra Rex Angl, Dns Hibie, Dux Normand, Aquit, & Comes Andegav, Archiepis, Epis, Abbatibz, Prioribz, Comitibz, Baronibz, Vicecomitibz, Prepositis, Ministris, & quibz, Butis & fidelibz suis presentem cartam inspectur saltem. Scitis qd nos imitatu dei, & p salute anime nre, & animaz antecessoz & successoz nroz, ad exaltandem sic ecclesie, & emendandem regni nri, spontanea & bona voluntate nra, dedim' & concessim' Archiepis, Epis, Abbatibz, Prioribz, Comitibz, Baronibz, & ceteris de regno nro, has libertates subscriptas, tenendas in regno nro Angl imppetu.

In p'mis concessim' deo, & hac presentem cartam confirmavim' p nos & hered nris imppetu, qd ecclesia Anglica libera sit, & habeat omnia jura sua integra, & libertates suas illenas. Concessim' etiam & dedim' oibz liberis hominibz regni nri, p nos & hered nris imppetu, has libertates subscriptas, tenendas eis & hered suis, de nob & hered nris imppetu.

II-VIII. Civitas London' heat omnes libertates suas antiquas, & consuetudines suas. Prefeca volum' & concedim', qd omnes Civitates, Burgh, & Ville, & Barones de quibz portubz, & oes port', heat omnes libertates, & libas consuetudines suas.

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X-XXXVIII. . . . .  
Nullus liber homo capiatur vel  
imprisonetur, aut disiciatur de  
libra tēi suo, vel libertatibus, vel  
libris consuetudinibus suis, aut  
utlagetur, aut exulet aut aliquo  
modo destruiatur, nec sup eum  
ibimus, nec sup eum mittetur, nisi  
p legē iudicii pūi suo, vel  
p legem terre. Nulli vendemur  
nulli negabimur, aut differemur  
relicum vel justiciam.

XXX-XXXVII. . . . .  
Et salve sint Archiepiscopi, Episcopi,  
Abbatibus, Prioribus, Templariis,  
Hospitibus, Comitibus, Baronibus,  
& milibus aliis, tam ecclesiasticis  
quam seculariis, omnes libertates & libere consuetudines,  
quas prius fuerunt. Omnes autem  
consuetudines & libertates pūci-  
as, quas concessimus in regno  
nostro tenendas, quod nisi ad nos pūnet  
erga nos, omnes de regno nostro,  
tam clerici, quam laici, observent,  
quod nisi ad se pertinet, erga suos.  
Pro hac autem donatione et con-  
cessione libertatum istarum, & aliarum  
contentarum in carta nostra de libertatibus  
forestis, Archiepiscopi, Episcopi,  
Abbatibus, Prioribus, Comitibus, Bar-  
onibus, Milites, libere tenentes, &  
omnes de regno nostro, dederunt nobis  
quintam decimam partem omnium  
mobilium suorum. Concessimus

etiam eisdem, pro nobis & heredibus  
nostri, quod nec nos, nec heredes  
nostri, aliquid pūnetur, pro quod  
libertates in hac carta contente  
infringantur vel infirmantur. Et si  
aliquid contra hoc aliquid  
petitissimum fuerit, nichil valeat, &  
pro nullo habeatur. His testibus dicit  
S. Cantuarii Archiepiscopus, E. Lon-  
doni Episcopus, J. Basset Episcopus, P.  
Wynnton, H. Lincoln, R. Saia, W.  
Roff, W. Wygorn, J. Eborac, H.  
Hereforden, R. Cicerest, W.  
Essex Episcopi, Abbe S. Edmundi,  
Abbe S. Albani, Abbe de  
Bello, Abbe S. Augustini Can-  
tuari, Abbe de Evesham, Abbe  
de Westm, Abbe de Burgo S. Petri,  
Abbe de Reading, Abbe de  
Abyndon, Abbe de Malmesbur,  
Abbe de Wymshecumbe, Abbe  
de Hildes, Abbe de Cisterciensis,  
Abbe de Skirburi, Abbe de  
Cern, Abbe de [Abbotebur],  
Abbe de Midelton, Abbe de  
Selesby, Abbe de Cisterciensis,  
H. de Burgo [Justiciarius], H.  
Comite Cestrie & Lincoln, W.  
Comite S. W. Comite Warren,  
C. de Clare Comite Gloucestrie &  
Hertford, W. de Ferras Comite  
Derb, W. de Mandevill Comite  
Essex, H. de Bygod Comite

<sup>a</sup>Abbotbury  
<sup>b</sup>Westm.

Norff, W. Comite Albemurle,  
H. Comite Hereford, J. Con-  
stabularius Cestrie, R. de Ros, R.  
filio Walfi, R. de Verli Ponte, W.  
de Bruer, R. de Munteschicht, P.  
filio Herbi, W. de Aubeny, F.  
Grealy, F. de Breus, J. de  
Monemue, J. filii Alani, H. de  
Mortuo Mari, W. de Bello  
Campo, W. de S. Johe, P. de  
Malo Lacu, Briano de Insulo,  
Thoma de Multon, R. de Argen-  
tein, G. de Nevill, W. Masduil,  
J. de Balun & alii. Dat apud  
Westm xj. die Febr anno r. n.  
nono.

Nos autem donantes & con-  
cessionem pūciat ratas hentes &  
gratas, eas pro nobis & heredibus  
nostri, concedimus & confirmamus,  
easque tenore pūentium innovamus,  
volentes & concedentes, pro nobis  
& heredibus nostris, quod carta pūcia  
in omnibus & singulis suis articulis  
impetuit firmis & invariabilibus  
observetur, etiam si aliqui articuli  
in eadem carta contenti, hucusque  
forsitan non fuerint observati.  
In cuius rei testimonium has litteras  
nras fieri fecimus patentes. T.  
Edwardo filio nostro apud Westm,  
duodecimo die Octobris anno r. n.  
Vicesimo Quinto.

## Annotations:

### 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.*

## Annotations:

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- X6** Variant reading of the text noted in *The Statutes of the Realm* as follows: *Liberties*  
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- 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.*
- 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*
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- 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.  
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