

# Solovetsky Islands, from a UNESCO World Heritage monastery to the "mother of the Gulag", Russia

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 11 October 2018 at 09:20:31 UTC

Author(s): Sentinel Vision team, VisioTerra, France - [svp@visioterra.fr](mailto:svp@visioterra.fr)

Keyword(s): Archipelago, island, polar, arctic, infrastructure, UNESCO World Heritage site, Russia

[3D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - COP-DEM - Located in the White Sea, the Solovetsky Islands became the site of the first Gulag, a prison camp intended for opponents of Russia's regime.

[2D view](#)

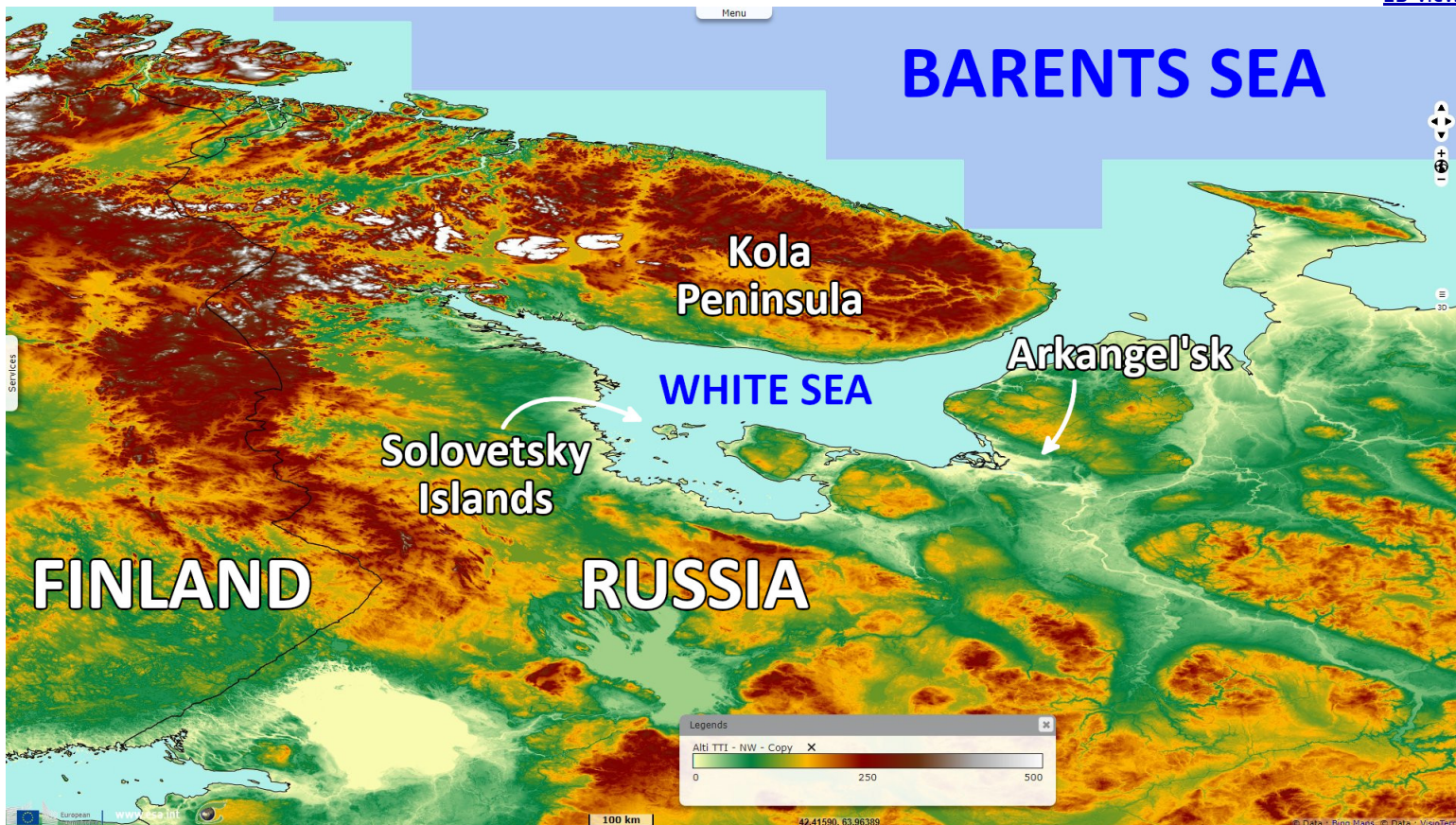
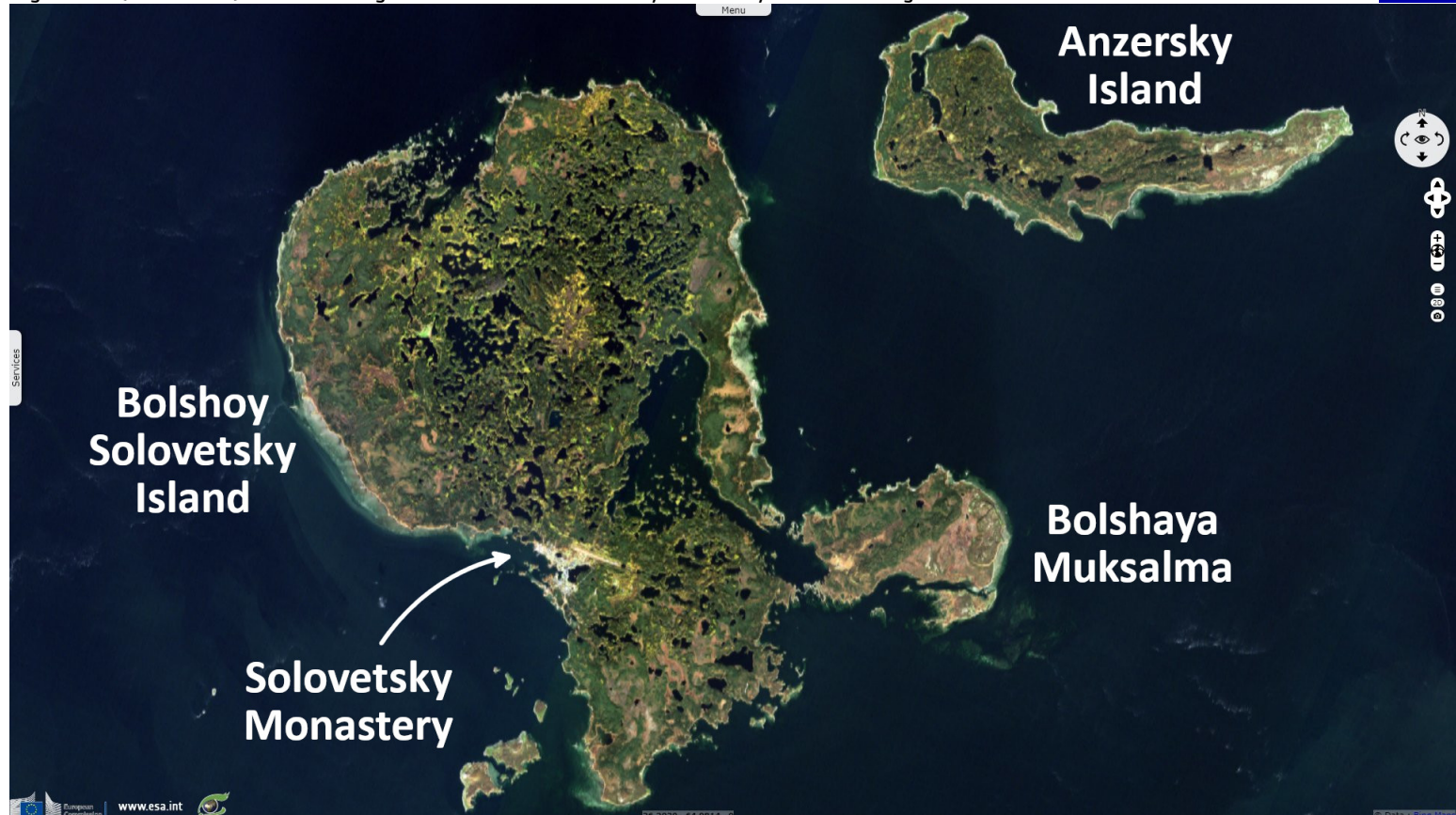




Fig. 2 - S2 (11.10.2018) - It was inaugurated within the Solovetsky Monastery in 1921 during the Russian Civil War and closed in 1939. [3D view](#)



Most of the Solovetsky Islands are covered with Scots Pine and Norway Spruce forests, which are partially swampy.

Fig. 3 - COP-DEM - Prisonners were made to exploit produce wood. 7500 prisoners died there, half of them of hunger during 1933. [3D view](#)

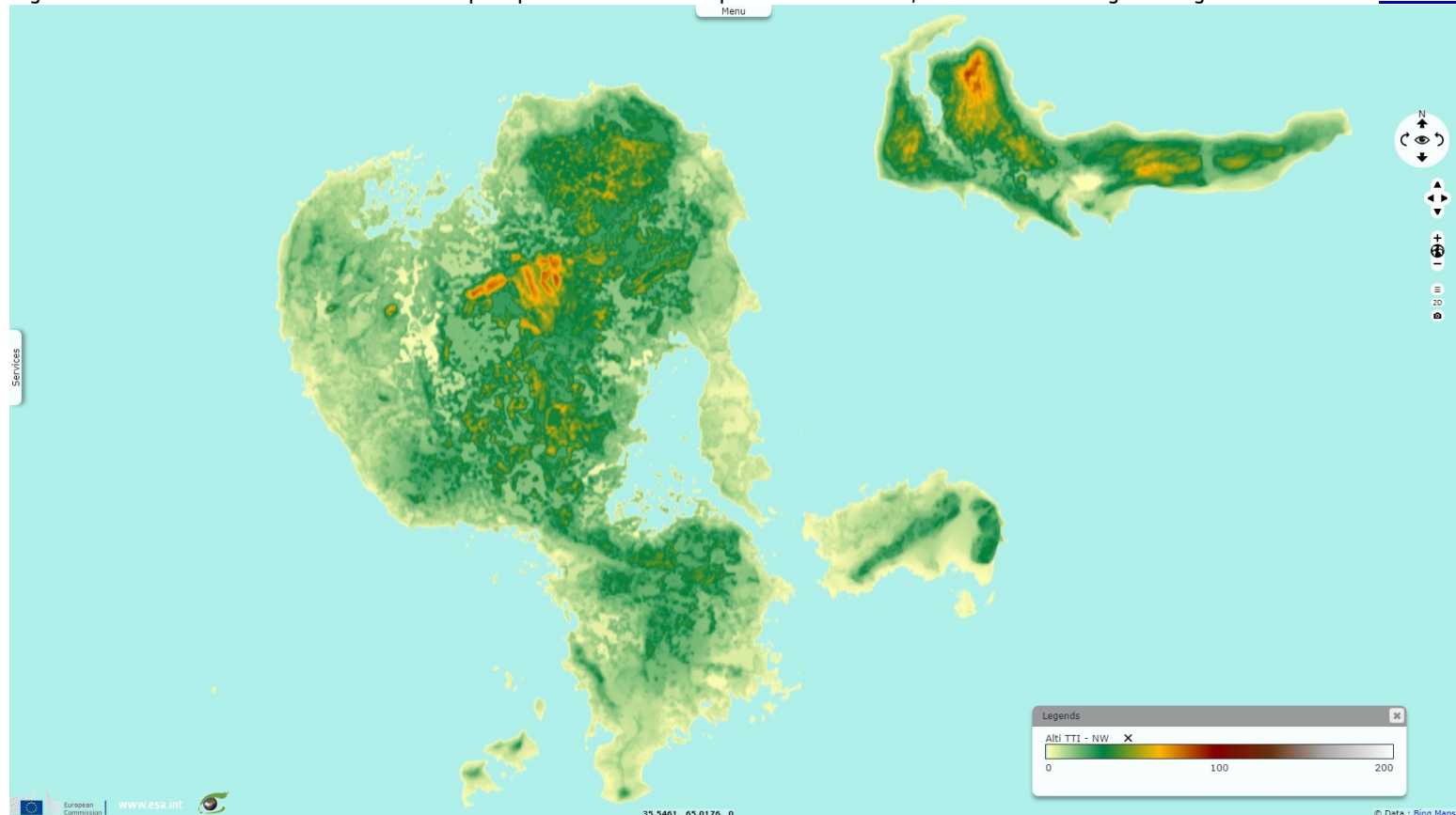














Fig. 4 - S2 (11.10.2018) - The site was initially a fortified monastery founded in 1436 and a UNESCO World Heritage Site today.

[3D view](#)



*The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Space Agency or the European Union.  
Contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data 2023, processed by VisioTerra.*

More on European Commission space:							
More on ESA:				<a href="#">S-1 website</a>	<a href="#">S-2 website</a>	<a href="#">S-3 website</a>	
More on Copernicus program:				<a href="#">SciHub portal</a>	<a href="#">CopHub portal</a>	<a href="#">Inthub portal</a>	<a href="#">Colhub portal</a>
More on VisioTerra:				<a href="#">Sentinel Vision Portal</a>	<a href="#">Envisat+ERS portal</a>	<a href="#">Swarm+GOCE portal</a>	<a href="#">CryoSat portal</a>