



ITGRF workshop



British
Geological
Survey

14 – 16 September 2026

Herstmonceux Castle, Hailsham, East Sussex, United Kingdom, BN27 1RN



The International Terrestrial Gravity Reference Frame (ITGRF) is developed by the Joint Working Group 2.1.1 of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). The ITGRF is based on accurate observations with absolute gravimeters and gravity monitoring at reference stations. A compatible infrastructure for end-users is now developed in order to replace the obsolete International Gravity Reference Standardization Network (IGSN71) defined in the early 70's.

The workshop will provide an excellent opportunity to advance the ITGRF and discuss ongoing work to ensure the compatibility of absolute gravity observations and to establish gravity reference stations as well as a compatible infrastructure for end-users.

The British Geological Survey's Space Geodesy Facility (SGF) is delighted to host the 2026 ITGRF workshop in collaboration with the IAG and Herstmonceux Castle Estates.

Herstmonceux Castle has a rich history dating back to the 15th century, during its lifetime it has been a family home, spent over a century as a ruin, been rebuilt, again as a family home, before being taken over by the Ministry of Defence in WWII. In the late 40's it became home to the Royal Greenwich Observatory (RGO) which is why the SGF still operates from the estate. In later years the castle is owned and operated by Queen's University Canada.

Situated in East Sussex the castle estate is approximately 1 hour from Gatwick airport or 2 hours from the channel tunnel. Accommodation is available on site in Bader Hall, the Space Geodesy Facility is situated in-between the castle and Bader Hall.

Provisional Programme Overview

Monday 14 September (12:00-17:00) – Seminar Room 1
Welcome and Status Reports

Monday evening (optional)
Tour/visit to the Space Geodesy Facility

Tuesday 15 September (09:00-17:00) – Seminar Room 1
Tour of Herstmonceux Castle
ITGRF Concepts and Infrastructure

Tuesday evening (optional)
Banquet in the Elizabethan Room of Herstmonceux Castle

Wednesday 16 September (09:00-13:00) – Seminar Room 1
Discussion and final wrap up

