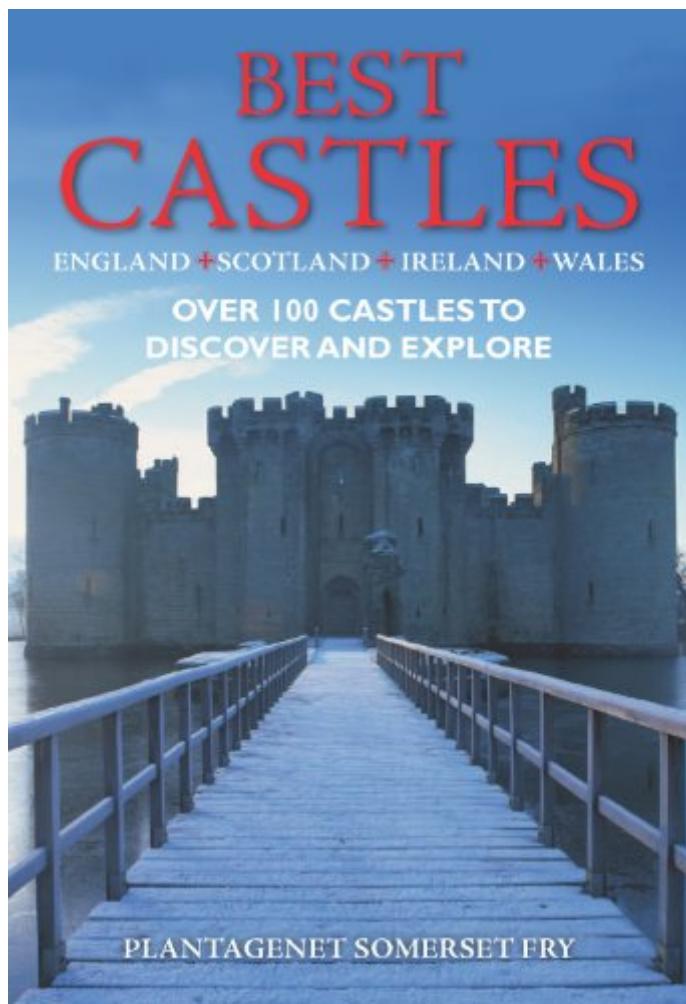


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# Best Castles - England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales: The Essential Guide For Visiting And Enjoying



## **Synopsis**

This is the ultimate book for days out with the family, visiting Britain and Ireland's greatest architectural and historical treasures. Many of the castles featured offer a wealth of things to see and do, from their beautiful settings and manicured gardens, to museum collections and re-enactment events. Not only does the book give you essential information for visiting the castles, but it also provides background information on the roles castles played and other interesting facts to make your visit more enjoyable. This book is beautifully illustrated with photographs of the castles.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I strongly disagree with the nay-sayers here who complain this book is too shallow or doesn't cover the right castles. I own many, many books on English castles, cathedrals, kings & queens and read them all the time. I'm a student of English history, particularly the Tudor era, and of needlework, especially Elizabethan. I'm extremely familiar with England and its castles because my husband is from Carlisle in Cumbria and we have visited there many times. The castle was first started in the 11th century and much of the stonework was literally lifted from Hadrian's Wall which runs from Carlisle to Newcastle, roughly along the England/Scotland border. Carlisle Castle is one of the most

intact but more boring medieval castles. This is because while it served its purpose for protecting England from the Scots, the most interesting thing about it is its history with Bonnie Prince Charlie and Mary Queen of Scots. No well-heeled family or great nobles lived in Carlisle Castle so, as a fortress, it's all walls and floors and no furniture or decorations. Whereas, as the book talks about, Hever has great furnishings, gardens and mazes. (As a lover of all that is Tudor, I ate up Hever's history with Henry VIII and his various wives. We learned there that the Great Lock on the Royal Bedchamber door was the real McCoy. One man's full-time job as Henry's locksmith was to take care of that lock 24/7.) But I digress: this book is perfect for picking castles to visit. We have big clunky books with glossy pictures and lengthy histories and then tons of pamphlets and brochures that we pick up every time we're over. We use the road atlases to get around...

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