

THE HIDDEN PLACES OF THE

DORSET, HAMPSHIRE

& THE ISLE OF WIGHT

By Peter Long

Regional Hidden Places

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Dorset, Hants & Isle of Wight
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Northumberland & Durham
Peak District and Derbyshire
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Foreword

This is the 8th edition of the *Hidden Places of Dorset, Hampshire and The Isle of Wight*. The guide has been fully updated and in this respect we would like to thank the Tourist Information Centres in Dorset, Hampshire and The Isle of Wight for helping us update the editorial content. The guide is packed with information on the many interesting places to visit in the area. In addition, you will find details of places of interest and advertisers of places to stay, eat and drink included under each village, town or city, which are cross referenced to more detailed information contained in a separate, easy-to-use section to the rear of the book. This section is also available as a free supplement from the local Tourist Information Offices.

Dorset is a beautiful county with rolling chalk downs, dark heathland (so beloved of Thomas Hardy), the long ridge of the Purbeck Hills and an incomparable coastline with its wealth of magnificent rock formations sculptured by the sea. *Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* offer the visitor a wonderful combination of seafaring tradition in the many coastal towns and villages and wonderful countryside epitomized by the New Forest and the rolling hills of northeast Hampshire.

Hidden Places of Dorset, Hampshire and The Isle of Wight contains a wealth of interesting information on the history, the countryside, the towns and villages and the more established places of interest. But it also promotes the more secluded and little known visitor attractions and places to stay, eat and drink many of which are easy to miss unless you know exactly where you are going.

We include hotels, bed & breakfasts, restaurants, pubs, bars, teashops and cafes as well as historic houses, museums, gardens and many other attractions throughout the area, all of which are comprehensively indexed. Many places are accompanied by an attractive photograph and are easily located by using the map at the beginning of each chapter. We do not award merit marks or rankings but concentrate on describing the more interesting, unusual or unique features of each place with the aim of making the reader's stay in the local area an enjoyable and stimulating experience.

Whether you are travelling around the area on business or for pleasure we do hope that you enjoy reading and using this book. We are always interested in what readers think of places covered (or not covered) in our guides so please do not hesitate to use the reader reaction form provided to give us your considered comments. We also welcome any general comments which will help us improve the guides themselves. Finally if you are planning to visit any other corner of the British Isles we would like to refer you to the list of other *Hidden Places* titles to be found to the rear of the book and to the Travel Publishing website.

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