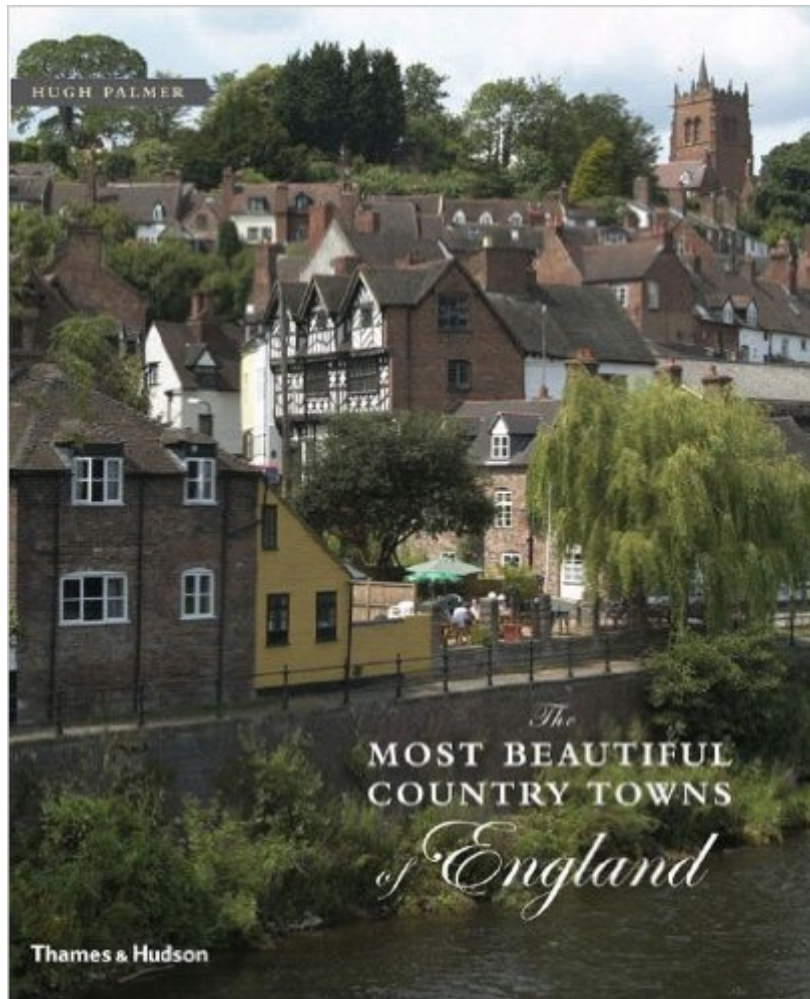


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The Most Beautiful Country Towns Of England (Most Beautiful Villages Series)



Synopsis

An inspirational tour and celebration of some of the most attractive small towns in the English countryside. Complementing the best-selling *The Most Beautiful Villages of England*, Hugh Palmer has produced a stunning sequence of images of those ancient towns in which the true heart of England lies. All the places included here embody a long, preindustrial heritage; they are also communities of a well-preserved beauty, widely visited by travelers from all parts of the world. Twenty-five of the most beguiling small towns of rural and seaside England are included. Here are market towns that have traditionally owed their importance and prosperity to the agricultural land surrounding them, towns that grew up by river crossings, small ports harboring both fishing and trading fleets, centers of religious activity, and even spas. The whole of England is represented in Palmer's delightful photography and perceptive commentaries, revealing how history, site, and the availability of local building materials have combined to shape the appearance of towns in different parts of the country. Darker stones lend a slightly forbidding yet noble air to the towns of the north, such as Barnard Castle. The eastern counties have a wealth of ancient half-timbered architecture, punctuated by buildings in flint and limestone, while to the west lie the honey-colored streets and houses of the Cotswolds. Here, too, are towns formed by their social and cultural contexts; the elegant Georgian and Victorian houses of Buxton, Derbyshire, reflecting its heyday as a fashionable spa; the imposing terraces in Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, an expression of its importance as a market town and religious center with a magnificent abbey. A Traveler's Guide, listing places to visit, to stay, and to eat, helps both armchair and actual travelers enjoy even more a visit to England's delightful countryside. 260 color photographs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My boyfriend is from England, and I have visited twice, and I can attest that it is every bit as beautiful as the images in this book! I love it, and it is on my coffee table. I can't stop picking it up! We are both making note of the places we will be visiting on our next trip. A lovely book!

I love this book - it brings back great memories of England and the photo's capture it beautifully.

THIS BOOK IS BEAUTIFUL AND LOOKS GREAT ON MY COFFEE TABLE.

Excellent pictures and information

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