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## MOODS OF THE SOUTH DOWNS

*Iain McGowan*

The South Downs sweep westwards in an almost continuous line from the seaside resort of Eastbourne in the east through most of Sussex and parts of East Hampshire to the historic city of Winchester. Broken only by the valleys of the Rivers Cuckmere, Ouse, Adur, Arun and Meon, they form one of the most well known and loved landscape features in Great Britain. For many, these softly rounded chalk hills with their wide views to both coast and the inland Weald have become the defining image of the English countryside.

After years of debate, there is now the distinct possibility of the formation of a South Downs National Park which would not only encompass the entire main ridge but also much of the West Sussex and East Hampshire hinterland. This book features the entire area of the proposed park, not only including many of the marvellous views in all their moods but also the more intimate details of historic churches, villages and towns, the magnificent cliff scenery where the Downs meet the sea, the mystery of the ancient woodlands and the vibrancy of modern day sport and leisure activities.

The skies, the air, the song of the skylark are the essence of this great rolling expanse and it is this elusive yet all pervading spirit with its deep sense of history and place that this book seeks to convey. This is a photographic journey with a degree of text that will appeal to both visitors and Downland residents alike.



**Iain McGowan** FRPS is a professional photographer specialising in landscape and environmental photography. *Moods of the South Downs* is his fourth book published by Halsgrove following *Moods of Sussex*, *A Portrait of Brighton and Hove* and *A Portrait of Portsmouth, Gosport and Southsea*. He is also the author of four further titles reflecting his interest in photography and local history. Other photographs of his have appeared in numerous books, publications, postcards and exhibitions.



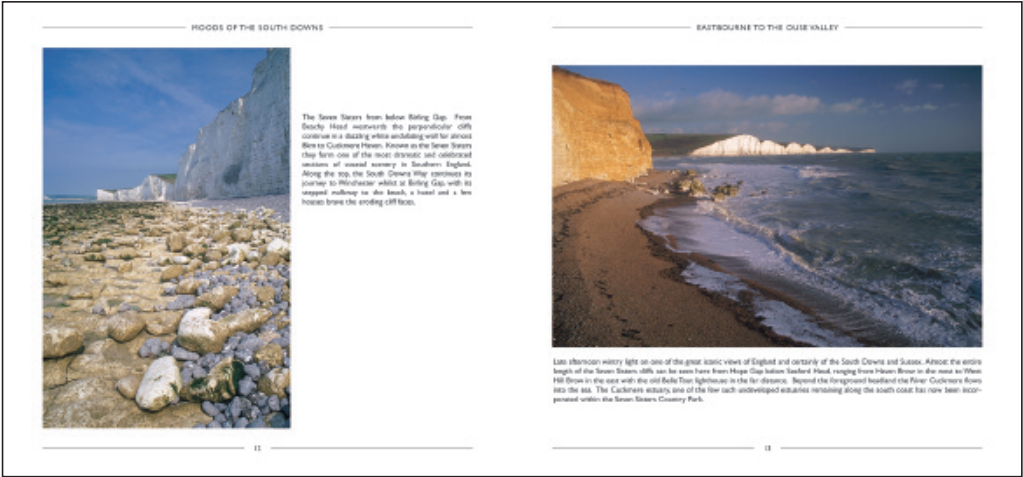
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# THE GALLERY – MOODS OF THE SOUTH DOWNS



Example of a double page spread.



Storm clouds near Denton.



Racton Monument.

The fourteenth-century timber-framed and thatched Clergy House at Alfriston.



Eastbourne seafront from the pier.



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