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THE SPIRIT OF LANCASHIRE

Jon Sparks

Lancashire is one of the most diverse of England's counties, with scenery ranging from rocky coasts to lush green lowlands and high, lonely moors. There are cosy villages, lively towns and historic cities. There are world-famous landmarks and there are secret corners that few people know. This book is a celebration of that diversity.

Award-winning photographer Jon Sparks has lived and worked in Lancashire for most of his life and has explored it from end to end, in all weathers and using all manner of transport, but especially on foot and by bike. The result is an exceptional collection of photographs that truly captures Lancashire in all its variety and all its many moods.

Naturally there are sweeping landscape views: the vast tidal expanses of Morecambe Bay vividly reflect a colourful sunset and snow blankets the West Pennine Moors. There are reminders of the county's rich flora and fauna, from orchids to fallow deer. The vibrant urban scene is represented by Blackpool's famous illuminations and Lancaster's magnificent Georgian waterfront. And there are reminders too that Lancashire is a place where people live, work and play.

This book will delight every lover of Lancashire, and provide at least a few surprises for most. And for those who don't know the county so well, it is a great introduction to all it has to offer.



Jon Sparks is an award-winning photographer and writer. He has lived in Lancashire for most of his life. As a keen walker, climber and cyclist, as well as a photographer, he has explored the county thoroughly, and has produced guide-books to the county for walkers and cyclists.

Jon has also produced several books of photography, contributes to a range of magazines and has published greetings cards, postcards and calendars. He has now worked on five continents but still feels that Lancashire is a great place to come home to.



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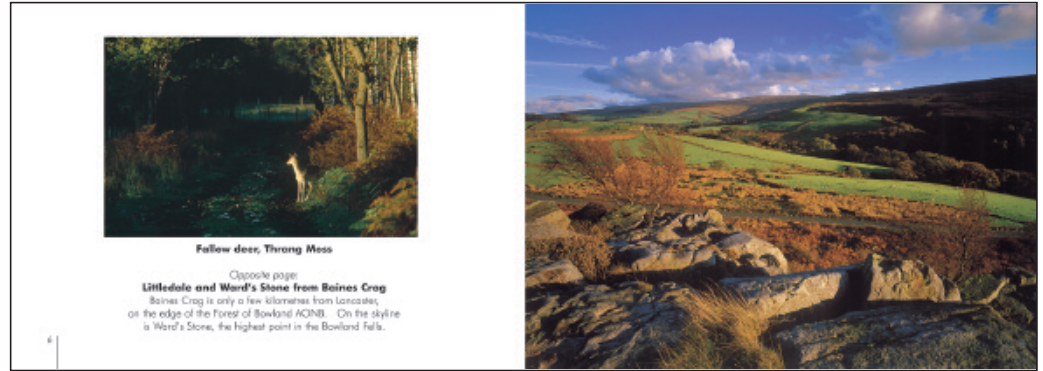


Anglers, Stone Jetty, Morecambe

In earlier times, Morecambe Bay shrimps and other produce were loaded onto trains on the Stone Jetty for express despatch to London and other cities.

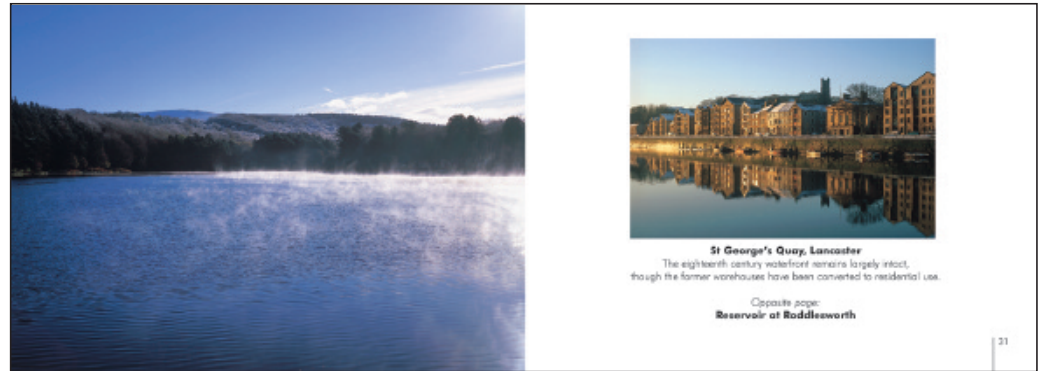


Leck Beck
This is the very edge of Lancashire – the boundary follows the beck – and the most northerly location in the book.



Follow deer, Throng Moss

Opposite page:
Littleole and Ward's Stone from Baines Crag
Baines Crag is only a few kilometres from Lancaster on the edge of the Forest of Bowland AONB. On the skyline is Ward's Stone, the highest point in the Bowland Fells.



St George's Quay, Lancaster
The eighteenth century waterfront remains largely intact, though the former warehouses have been converted to residential use.

Opposite page:
Reservoir at Raddesworth

Some examples of double page spreads.

Right: Eric Morecambe statue, Morecambe Promenade.

Far right: Low tide, Morecambe Bay
The viewpoint here is about a hundred metres off the promenade at Bare.



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