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DORSET COAST FROM THE AIR

Photography by Jason Hawkes

Dorset, of all the English counties, can easily claim to have the most romantic of landscapes, and the dramatic beauty of her coastline underlines this fact. From associations with the novels of Thomas Hardy, through to the unforgettable scene portrayed in the cinematic version of *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, filmed on the Cob at Lyme Regis, this is truly a landscape for romantics.

The photographs in this book capture this perfectly: revealing the Dorset landscape as few of us have seen it before. Here we are taken on an aerial journey from the westernmost point where Dorset meets Devon, from Lyme Regis, past Weymouth to the Isle of Purbeck, and across the broad sweep of Poole Bay to Bournemouth and Christchurch. On this journey of around 70 miles (115 kilometres) we pass the wonderfully sculpted cliff formations around Lulworth, and fly over tiny seaside villages and large towns. This too is the coastline known as The Jurassic Coast.

The principal attraction of aerial photographs is that they are literally a bird's-eye view, allowing us to look down on the landscape from a perspective that we never normally see. Such pictures reveal to us things that are normally hidden from view, and often surprise us when we find that what we had imagined the layout of the land to be is in reality quite different. The best practitioners of this genre of photography also strive to capture an aesthetic in the images they take, and these pictures, sometimes quite abstract in appearance, are often strikingly beautiful in their own right.

Jason Hawkes is one of the country's best-known photographers specialising in aerial photography. From his base near London he travels worldwide to produce images for books, advertising and design. Since 1991 he has provided photographs for major international companies including Nike, HSBC, Ford, Rolex, Toyota and BP. The images in this book and the sister publications in the series were specially commissioned by Halsgrove.

Other titles in this series:

Somerset Coast from the Air,

North Devon Coast from the Air,

South Devon Coast from the Air,

North Cornwall Coast from the Air,

South Cornwall Coast from the Air,



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East over Wyke Regis towards Weymouth, with Portland Harbour on the right and the sweep of Weymouth Bay in the distance.



Looking north along the whole length of Portland, with the famous lighthouse at Portland Bill in the foreground.



Peveril Point guards the western entrance to Swanage Bay.



Looking west into Poole Harbour over Sandbanks, with Brownsea Island centre.



The seventeen mile thread of shingle which makes up Chesil Beach, encloses the tranquil waters of The Fleet lagoon.



Example of a double page spread.