

THE ISLE OF WIGHT & HAMPSHIRE COAST FROM THE AIR

Photography by Jason Hawkes

Hampshire's coast runs from Highcliffe on the Dorset border to Chichester Harbour in West Sussex. Although this distance is about 55 kilometres (34 miles) long as the crow flies, the actual distance, following every creek and inlet of each harbour and estuary, is in excess of 370 kilometres (230 miles).

Although Hampshire's coast does not have the extensive unspoilt scenic beauty that typifies neighbouring Dorset, it is remarkably varied and important for many reasons, particularly for its commercial ports, wildlife, historic heritage, recreation (especially sailing), tourism and marine industries.

The area between the Hampshire coast and the Isle of Wight is generally known as the Solent. It is one of the busiest coastal zones in England, yet it retains areas of national importance for its landscape and nature conservation value. Consequently, it is highly valued by residents and visitors alike, and each will find the aerial photographs in this book equally fascinating.

The Isle of Wight has a superb coastline around which much of the settlement has taken place. While the island is worthy of a book all its own (and is soon to follow in this series), the photographs included in this volume provide a glimpse of the island's unique qualities.

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.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

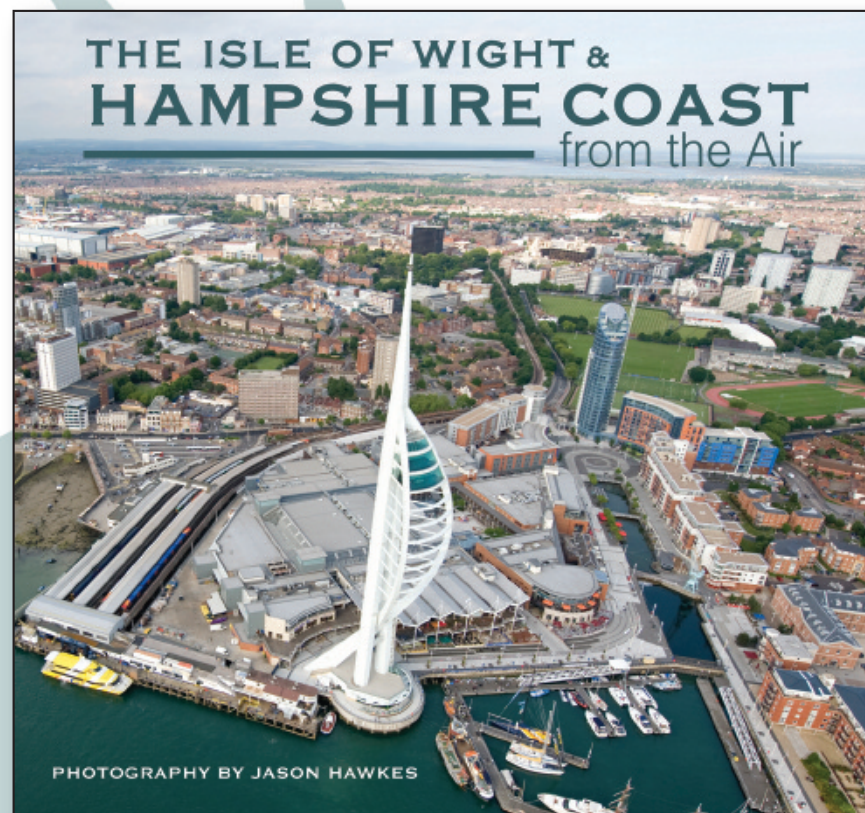
Jason Hawkes is one of the country's best-known photographers specialising in aerial photography. From his base near London he travels worldwide to produce images for books, advertising and design. Since 1991 he has provided photographs for major international companies including Nike, HSBC, Ford, Rolex,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

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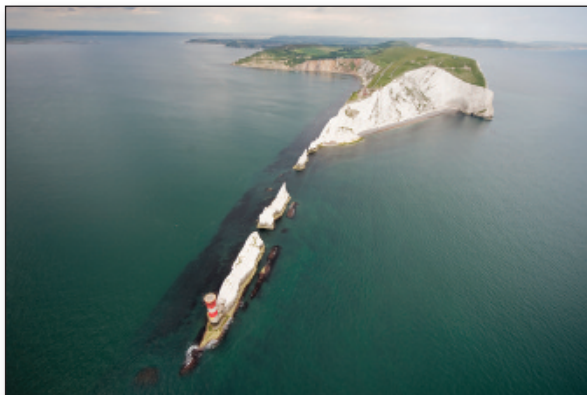
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Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

Sue Rhodes-Thompson – DDI 01823 653770 suet@halsgrove.com
Roger Start – DDI 01823 653773 rogers@halsgrove.com
Marie Lewis – DDI 01823 653771 mariel@halsgrove.com
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A superb view over The Needles looking along the Isle of Wight.



Ferry at Yarmouth Harbour, Isle of Wight.



Hurst Castle was built by Henry VIII as one of a chain of fortifications along England's southern shore.

One of the most famous boatbuilding and yachting areas in the country is centred on the River Hamble.



Example of a double page spread



A truly spectacular view of Warsash at the mouth of the River Hamble.



Left and above: Photos from Lynne Jones

A simply magnificent view over Portsmouth looking out to sea. The naval dockyard is on the left with Gosport far right. The Gunwharf Quays are dominated by the needle-like Spinnaker Tower.

