

PERFECT NEW FOREST

John Morrison

With the introduction of National Park status for the New Forest, the running of this superb area is now 'under new management'. However, ancient traditions still dominate and are run alongside new ideas and initiatives. Because of this, the area remains outstandingly beautiful with a broad range of habitats and wildlife. Even though this is Britain's smallest National Park, few people ever explore every area from the southern coast to the northern ridges, from the River Avon to the Solent shore and, of course, its heathlands.

This book is designed to share with the reader a true 'sense of place' of this beautiful area. The pictures portray many of the moods, atmospheres and places you can find – if you only have the time, and the eyes to look.

All four seasons are portrayed from the fresh greens of spring through the hot, heady days of summer; the glorious colours, mists and mellow fruitfulness of autumn to the stark, leafless trees of a cold winter's dawn.

Showing everything from broad vistas right down to tiny details, this book celebrates the uniqueness of a magical blend of bogs, heaths and woodlands. This is truly The Perfect New Forest.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mike Read is an established professional wildlife and landscape photographer; writer; lecturer; and tour guide, living on the edge of the New Forest. His previous books for Halsgrove include the acclaimed *New Forest Moods*, *Discover the New Forest* and *The Spirit of New Forest Ponies*.

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Beehive Cottage overlooks Swan Green.



Sweet Gum leaves.



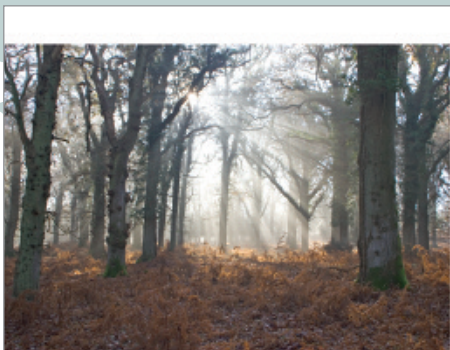
Bratley Wood hosts some fabulous trees but every visit, even to a familiar location, reveals something different.



Ponies stand beside the Ober Water stream close to Ober Corner.



Viewed from Castle Hill near Burley, mist lies low across Cranes Moor National Nature Reserve on the western edge of the Forest. Bournemouth and the Purbeck Hills can be seen in the distance.



Sunlight penetrates the mist of a late autumn morning in the oak plantation in Bosomy, Wiltshire.

This local camera should be fixed off to explore on its own while more birds. Frogs rarely wander off too far and moans can be very gripping of their offspring.



A spider's web in autumnal beech branches is enhanced with droplets of moisture deposited during a misty night.