

PORTRAIT OF KENT

Andreas Byrne

Kent is a county of superlatives. The second largest county in England, with the highest population (currently 1.6m), it has more listed buildings and sites of archaeological interest – including eighteen castles – than any other, and boasts the longest coastline, which inspired Turner to some of his greatest works of art. Despite its plethora of military sites, motorways, airports and – in Bluewater – the largest shopping mall in Europe, not for nothing has Kent long been known as the “Garden of England” for the glory of its countryside.

Andreas Byrne has been inspired by his native county to produce a masterly view of Kent in all its moods. From the golden sands of Margate to the dramatic white cliffs at Dover, and from calm over the marshes to stormy winter skies over the shingle beaches of Dungeness. Inland, he captures the atmosphere of the countryside from the North Downs with their rolling chalk hills to the woodlands of the Weald, and in between evocative country churches in cornfields and iconic oast houses under wispy blue skies.

Portrait of Kent is a visual feast and a worthy celebration of this most characterful corner of England.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andreas Byrne is a passionate landscape photographer based in New Barn, north-west Kent. His photographs have appeared in calendars, greetings cards and magazines, and he is a regular contributor to *Outdoor Photography* magazine.

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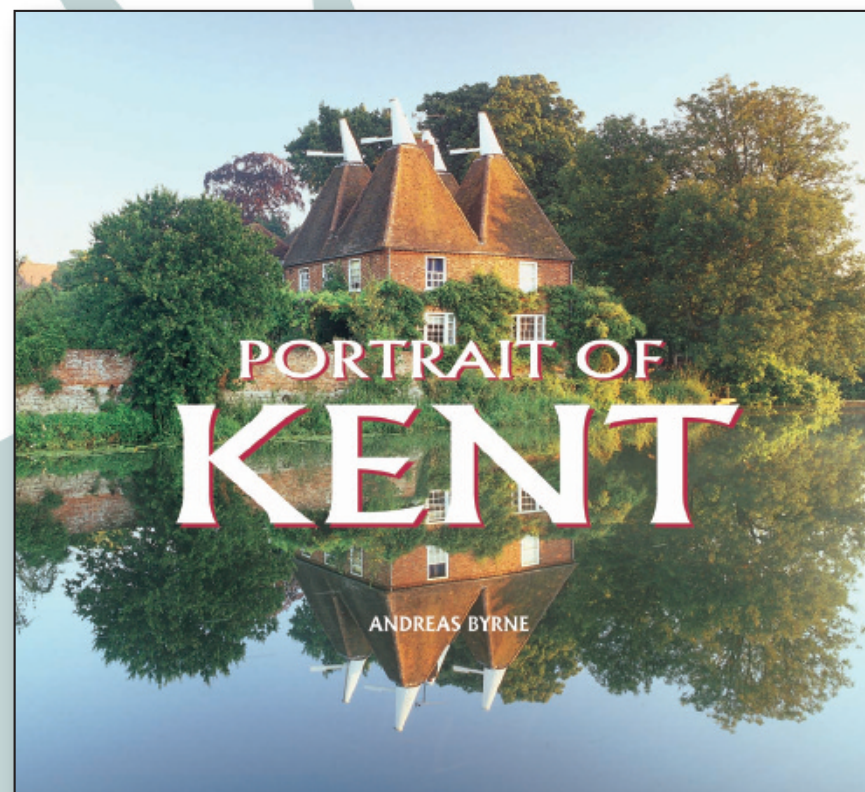
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Sunset over Chillenden Windmill.



Horsemonden Church rapeseed



Above: Charles Dickens was a frequent visitor to The Leather Bottle public house in the delightful village of Cobham.

Right: Cobtree Manor Farm, winter. A frozen pond and snow on the roof of the oast-houses at Cobtree Manor Farm on a winter's morning.

