

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: THE GLORIOUS COUNTY

Bob Caddick

Northamptonshire is, for many people, simply a place to pass through between London and Birmingham. It is a county that neatly bisects the country – some say it is the place where the North–South divide begins. By comparison to some of its fortunate neighbouring Midland counties, Northamptonshire has an almost 'upland' landscape, with gentle hills and the source of at least two important rivers, The Nene and The Avon, which make their way to the sea in opposite directions! It is still a largely rural area where livestock is raised on rich grasslands.

In the past, Northamptonshire was frequently referred to as the "county of spires and squires" due to the large number of wealthy landowners who built great country houses here. The "squires" also sponsored the building of many fine parish churches with distinctive soaring towers and spires, perhaps to demonstrate their wealth and power. The county is still the home of the finest hand made shoes and leather goods.

Those who know the county well will delight in the wonderful photographs this book contains, appreciating the 'inside knowledge' of a photographer who has sought out less well known locations as well as the principal places of interest. For those yet to discover the delights of Northamptonshire, this book will provide endless inspiration to explore.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bob Caddick is a specialist travel and landscape photographer, who fell in love with making memorable images when his parents gave him a Brownie 127 camera as a child. A career in journalism and later in marketing communications for a major international group, has allowed Bob Caddick to travel extensively in Europe, the USA and Middle East.

Based in Northamptonshire, Bob is centrally located and his images reflect the varied scenery and activities around him.

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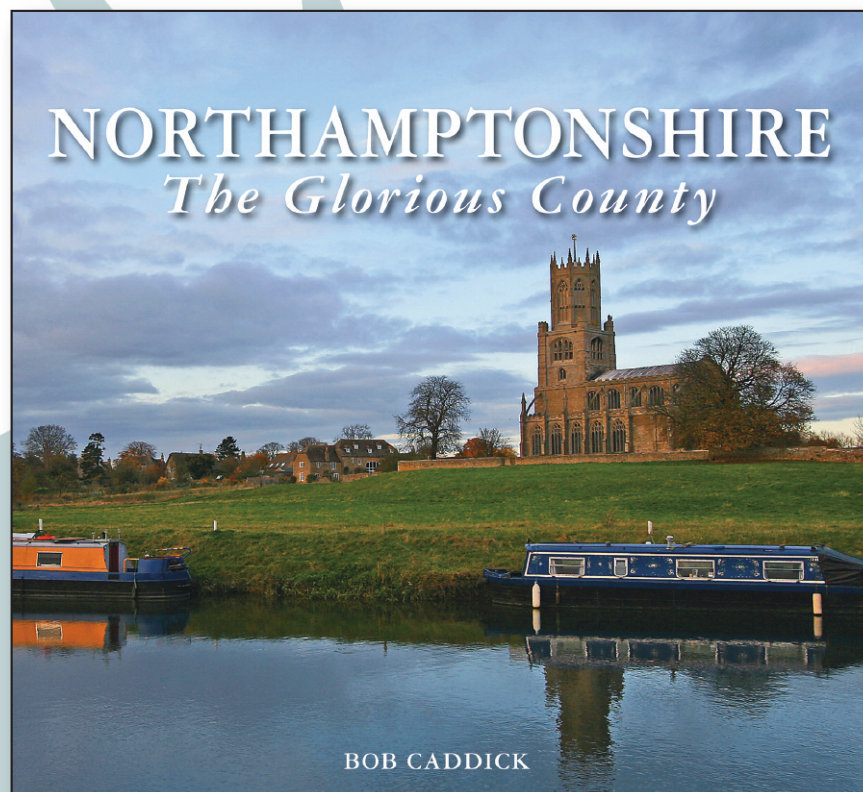
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE – THE GLORIOUS COUNTY



Canal Cottages at Whilton Locks



Grand Union Canal



Windmill near Riseley



Harringworth Viaduct



Northampton's market square is reputed to be the largest in the country and has existed as a trading place since 1235, when King Henry banned the selling of livestock from the nearby churchyard of All Hallows.

Example of a double-page spread



Towsey was built by the Raigley family and was visited by Queen Elizabeth I in 1575. Interestingly another monarch Charles I is known to have stayed and hosted at Towsey on the eve of the Battle of Naseby in 1645. The Raigley family were openly opposed to the unilateral power of the Monarch, but they were staying in London at the time and the reason was perhaps a Royalist, who had an eye to the future. Sully for him the King line...



Rockingham Castle. Looking like every little boy's picture of a toy fort, Rockingham stands on the edge of an escarpment with stunning views across 5 counties, and it is easy to see why William the Conqueror chose the location to build a defensive castle in the East Midlands.