SPIRIT OF

WEYMOUTH and **Portland**

Roger Holman

Weymouth is among the most popular holiday destinations in the UK, with an excellent sunshine record, safe sandy beaches and the stunning backdrop of the World Heritage Jurassic Coast.

The holding of the sailing events of the 2012 Olympics in Weymouth will boost the area's profile even more.

But Weymouth and its neighbour Portland are packed full of historic sights and characterful corners that make it far more than a kiss-me-quick resort. Weymouth's noble seafront and picturesque harbour, for example, give the town a unique atmosphere, while Portland is renowned for the extraordinary Chesil Beach.

Acclaimed Dorset photographer Roger Holman has caught the colour, humour, stateliness and quirkiness of the town and its hinterland to present a collection of 60 evocative images that truly capture the spirit of Weymouth and Portland.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Roger Holman was born in 1932 near Wimborne, not far from where he lives today, and educated at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. On leaving he joined the family firm, which he continued to run – apart from time spent in the RAF on National Service – until he handed it over to two of his sons. He discovered photography in his teens and has been photographing aspects of his home county ever since. He is the author of Images of the Dorset Coast, Images of Dorset Country, Dorset the Glorious County, and co-author of Dorset's Most Beautiful Buildings.

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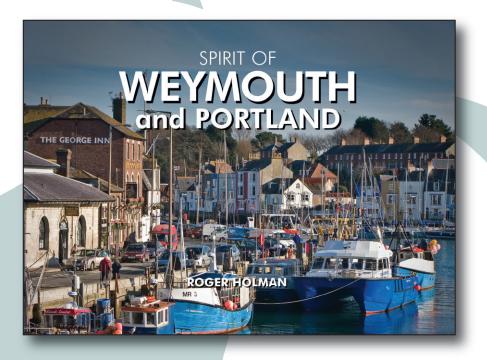
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Above: The location of the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy can be seen and where the 2012 Sailing Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held. The combination of clean winds, sheltered water and weak tides make this an unrivalled venue.

Right: This is the old part of Weymouth with its narrow streets and in summer has a carnival atmosphere.







Above:

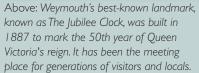
Mark Anderson made this sand sculpture of Windsor Castle for the Queen's visit in 2009.

He follows in the tootsteps of his grandfather who was sand sculpting in 1925.

Opposite







Top right: The start of Chesil Beach at Portland.

Bottom right: Portland boast two light-houses on Portland Bill. The smaller one was built in 1788 but is now used as a bird observatory. It was once the home of Dr Marie Stopes, the contraception pioneer.





Below: Weymouth beach in summertime. The impressive Esplanade running the length of the bay, built between 1789 and 1805, was a direct result of royal patronage and the influx of summer visitors.

