

# SPIRIT OF THE CAUSEWAY COAST

Rachael Craven

The Causeway Coast takes its name from one of the most famous natural features in the world: the Giant's Causeway, with its mysterious tightly-packed basalt columns leading into the sea to form one of the most visually exciting UNESCO World Heritage Sites. But the 80 mile stretch of coastline designated the Causeway Coast, stretching from Belfast Lough to Lough Foyle and Londonderry, contains a wide range of fascinating features, both natural and man-made.

Dunluce Castle and Mussenden Temple both perch on cliff-top sites from which you might see Scotland on a clear day, while Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge lends an even greater sense of exposure. Natural features like White Rocks Beach, Torr Head and the mountains of Slemish and Binevenagh are complemented by equally exciting flora and fauna, including fulmars, kittiwakes, guillemots and razorbills.

Scattered between the coast's natural and historic features lie the old fishing communities, with plenty of opportunities to share the time of day, talk about the weather and be regaled by tales of myth and legend while enjoying the hospitality for which this magnificent coast is rightly famous.

Local photographer Rachael Craven captures both the beauty and the spirit of this heritage coast, neatly condensed into this pocket-sized 64 page memento, packed with colour photographs.

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

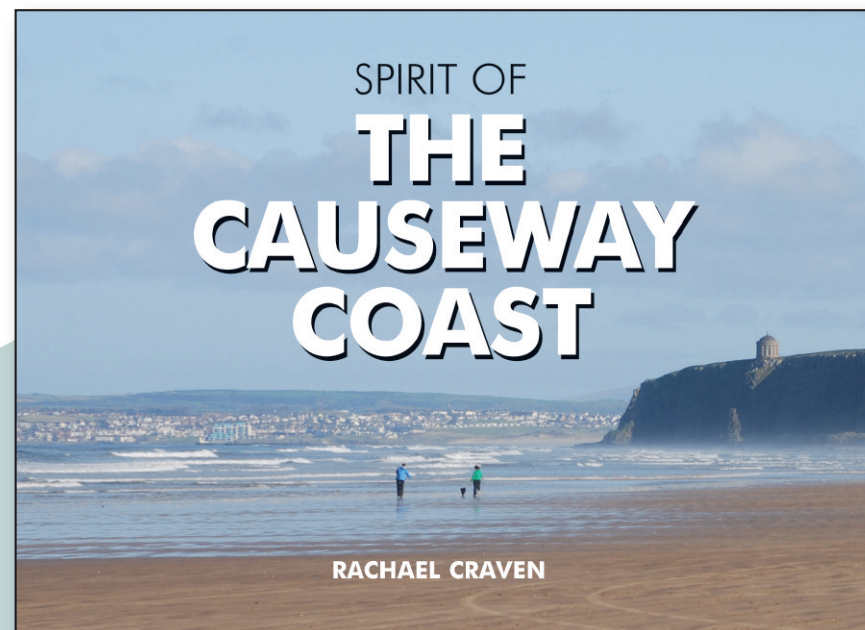
Born in East Sussex in 1974, Rachael Craven has lived in Northern Ireland for 20 years since her family moved there in 1989. A keen interest in art was channelled towards photography shortly after this move, with the famous rugged North Coast of Ireland providing a wide and varied canvas on which to tune her skills. Rachael has been living in Belfast for the last 10 years and in 2006 decided to take her amateur passion to another level and has been working as a freelance photographer ever since. Her work has been featured in a variety of national and international publications to date and her product photography has been featured in many brochures and web sites. Rachael has always had a particular passion for landscape photography and *Spirit of the Causeway Coast* provides an opportunity to show the multi-dimensional nature of one of the most beautiful areas of the British Isles today.

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## HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



**Format:** Hardback with colour cover, 64pp, 110x155mm, illustrated in colour throughout  
**Price:** £4.99  
**ISBN:** 978 1 906887 24 7  
**Imprint:** PiXZ Books  
**Published:** September 2009



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Above: The Giant's Causeway is an area of about 40,000 interlocking basalt columns and is the result of an ancient volcanic eruption.

Right: Looking across Ballycastle Bay from Corrymeela.



The Skerries – a small group of islands visible from many points including Dunluce Castle.



View of the cliffs of Causeway Head taken from Portballintrae.

Example of a double-page spread.



Top left: Dunluce Castle ruins with Whiterocks beach and Ramore Head in the background.



Top right: Carrick-a-Rede village looking towards Ballintoy.



Bottom left: The Four Star Ballygally Castle Hotel, operated by the Hastings Group, is located at the foot of the Glens of Antrim.



Bottom right: Dominican Convent in Portstewart.

Below: A church perched on the cliff edge near White Head.

