

PERFECT WILTSHIRE

Mark Bauer

To look at Wiltshire means that you share in a visual feast. It has more prehistoric sites than any other county, including in Avebury and Stonehenge, two of the most important in Europe. Just around the corner from Avebury is the enigmatic Silbury Hill – the largest man-made mound in Europe – whose purpose, despite extensive research, remains a mystery. There is also the Ridgeway, arguably Britain's oldest road, and a number of chalk carvings – again, more than any other county. There is plenty of less obvious history too, in the form of numerous Iron Age hill forts, and ancient tracts of woodland such as Savernake Forest.

This is a beautiful and quintessentially English landscape, from the rolling hills of Cranborne Chase in the south, to the edge of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the north. Sparkling waters abound, from the magnificent Lake Shear Water near Longleat, to the quiet, unassuming beauty of the chalk streams flowing through Salisbury Plain. And the county has more than its fair share of historic buildings and some charming villages, including Castle Combe, surely one of the prettiest in England.

In more than 140 stunning images, master photographer Mark Bauer celebrates the wondrousness of Wiltshire, this most photogenic – indeed perfect – of counties.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mark Bauer is a professional landscape photographer who lives and works in Dorset and whose atmospheric images have appeared in numerous publications. He is a frequent contributor to the British photographic press, which has made his name familiar to many with an interest in landscape photography. His previous book for Halsgrove, *Romantic Dorset*, was published in 2008.

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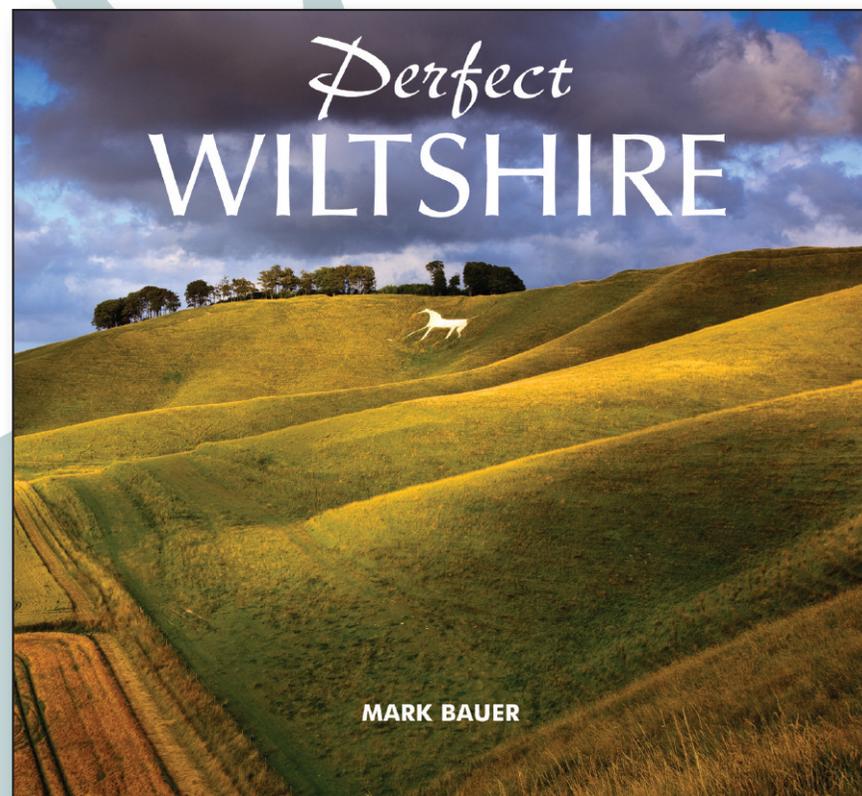
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PERFECT WILTSHIRE



A quintessential English village, Sherrington is in an ideal spot next to a large duckpond.

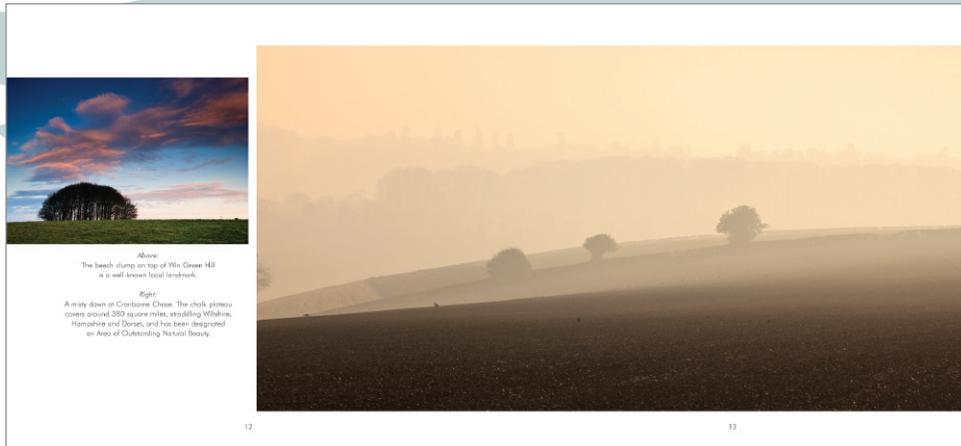


The Bath stone of Bradford-on-Avon, glowing in the early morning sun.



The Cherhill white horse. Cut in 1780, it is the second oldest of the Wiltshire white horses.

Example of a double-page spread.



One of the most important prehistoric sites in Europe, if not the world, Stonehenge is an impressive sight.