

# PORTRAIT OF SALISBURY

Text by Sue Walker  
with Photography by Steve Day

Salisbury, nestling amongst water meadows and rolling chalk downland remains one of Britain's most beautiful, medieval cities. From the ancient, abandoned site of Old Sarum to the north, to the magnificent, spire-topped medieval cathedral set in its huge, tranquil Close, the city's history is there to marvel at and enjoy. Hill forts, medieval streets, walls and gateways, and other sublime architectural examples abound. Sparkling rivers meet in a city so compact and intimate it sometimes has the feel of a friendly village. It may be small but it has a thriving business community and hosts an acclaimed, international Arts Festival.

Salisbury, or New Sarum, is the city of the spire. This impossibly tall, delicate, medieval icon is a landmark for travellers arriving from all points of the compass. Piercing the sky, and visible from up to twenty miles away, it soars above its unique, breathtaking cathedral. The cathedral, in turn, presides over the huge, tranquil haven of its idyllic, walled Close. Broad, verdant lawns are framed by an overwhelming array of architecturally and historically fascinating buildings.

Beyond the Close lies a medieval city with its large, vibrant Market Square and a street plan virtually unchanged since the chequers were symmetrically laid out over seven hundred years ago, when Old Sarum was abandoned by the Church. Ancient buildings and smile-inducing treasures and curiosities abound. Important prehistoric monuments and sumptuous mansions stand within just five miles of this characterful place. Salisbury may be small but it boasts many superlatives.

Steve Day and Sue Walker reveal the full breadth of this unique and truly fascinating city and its environs through over 160 superb colour images that capture the essence of the place for residents and visitors alike.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Steve Day was a professional photographer who enjoyed exploring Salisbury and Wiltshire. He had a gift for balanced composition and the use of light and interesting skies in his images. The writer, Sue Walker (aka Mrs Steve Day), moved to Salisbury in 1988 and has been exploring and enjoying every aspect of the city ever since. A scientist by profession, she is a keen observer of the world around her; with a broad interest in the Arts, nature, history and archaeology.

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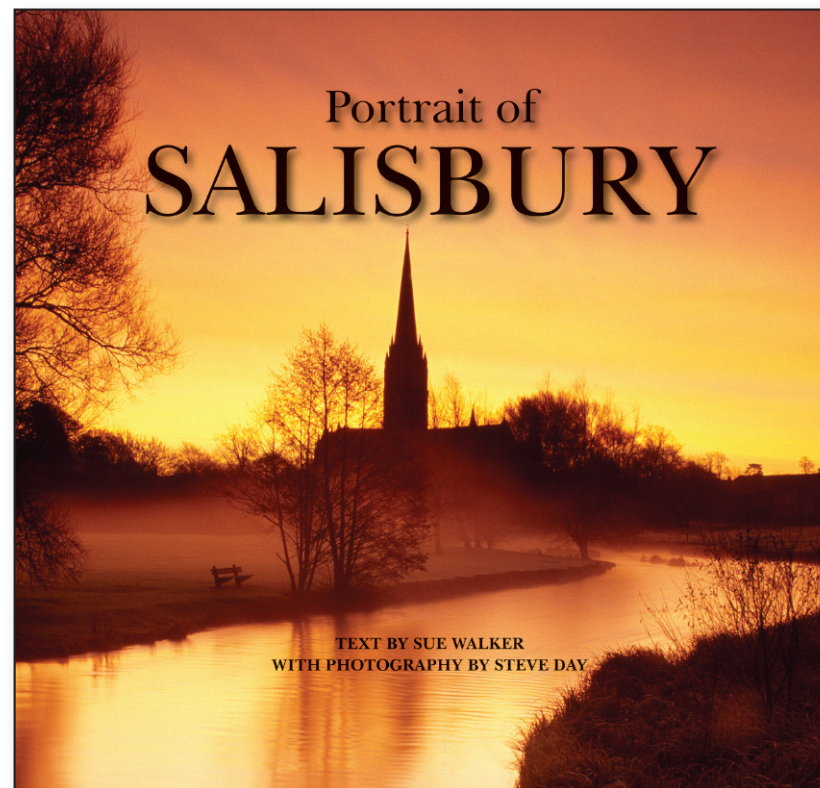
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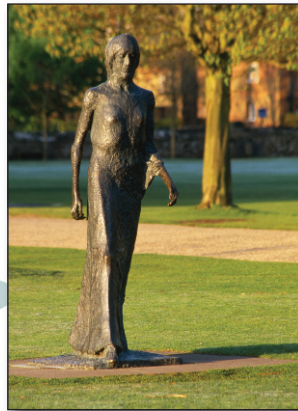
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Detail of the House of John A' Port on Queen Street.

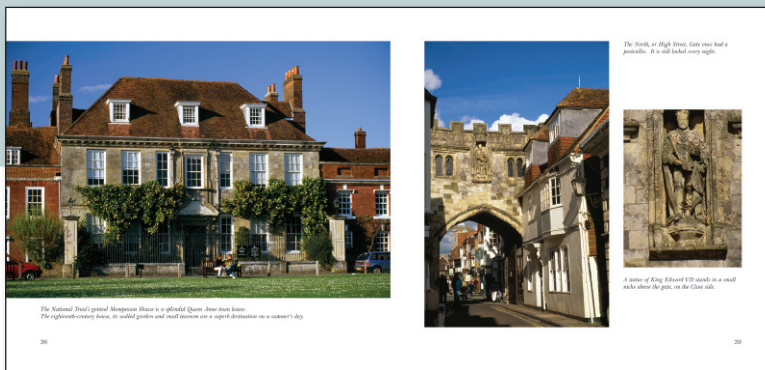


The bronze "Walking Madonna" was cast by Elisabeth Frink in 1981.



One of many spectacular firework displays in the Close.

Left: The delightful "Water Lane", originally a mill leat, is one of many waterside walks.



Example of a double-page spread.



The three day Michaelmas Fair, held in the Market Square every October, has been entertaining people in various ways since it began in 1227.