

DORSET FROM THE AIR

Jason Hawkes

The landscape of Dorset is now so inextricably associated with the novels and poetry of Thomas Hardy that for many their image of the county is his nineteenth-century one, of lush dairying valleys, windswept heaths, and sturdy towns and villages. Much of this picture still holds good. But Dorset has a visible past that stretches from the fossilized dinosaurs of the Jurassic Coast, right up to the ultra-modern developments that have altered some parts of the county almost beyond recognition.

It is on the coast that the great span of Dorset's history is most apparent. In the east, Bournemouth and Poole have grown to be one of the biggest conurbations on the South Coast. Nearby is Wytch Farm, Europe's largest "onshore" oil field. In contrast to these striking examples of modernity, most of Dorset's coastline was granted World Heritage Status in 2001 because of its geological landforms. Many of the most important fossil finds of all time have been made here, including the first complete Ichthyosaur.

Moving inland, the rolling Dorset Hills with ancient encampments atop and manor houses and market towns in the vales beneath, conform more readily to the Dorset of the imagination. Mansions like Kingston Lacy and Lulworth Castle are among the finest of their kind. Blandford Forum, Wareham, Corfe Castle, Sherborne and the county town of Dorchester; stand out among historic settlements for which Dorset is renowned. Yet even these seem like newcomers compared to the county's many pre-historic sites and the mysterious figure of the Cerne Abbas Giant which might date to before the Roman occupation.

All of these features become even more dramatic when seen from a "bird's eye" view. The fascinating aerial photographs in this book by internationally-renowned photographer Jason Hawkes provide the reader with an overview of this great variety of landscapes, settlements and historic sites. There can be no better way of appreciating the many glories of Dorset than to view the county from above.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

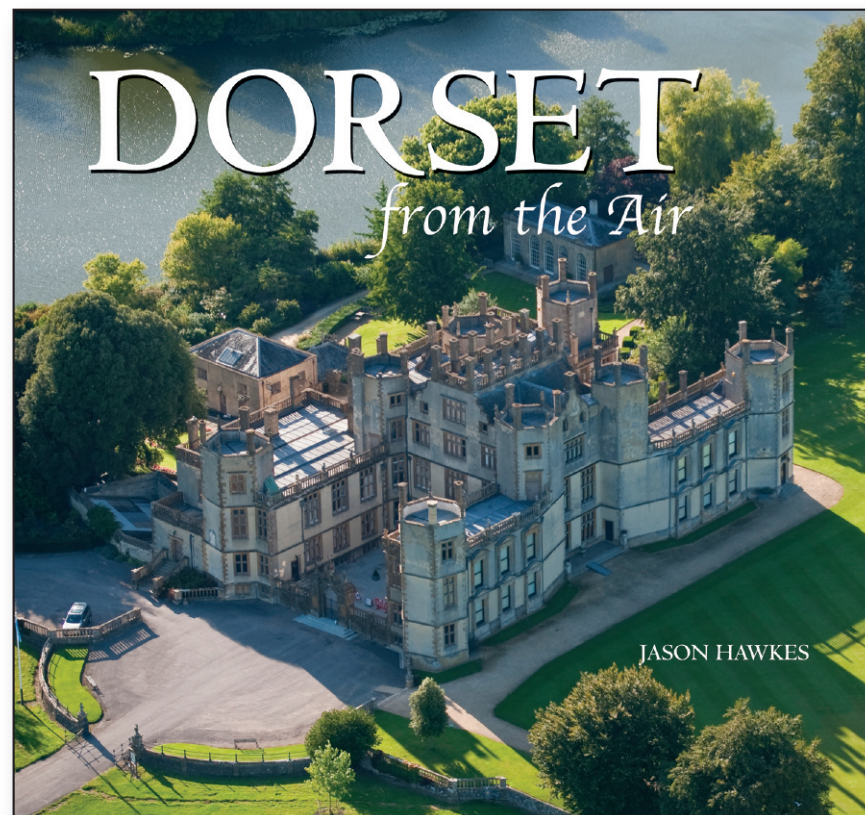
Jason Hawkes is one of the country's best-known photographers specialising in aerial photography. From his base near London he travels worldwide to produce images for books, advertising and design. Since 1991 he has provided photographs for major international companies including Nike, HSBC, Ford, Rolex, Toyota and BP. The images in this book and the sister publications in the series were specially commissioned by Halsgrove.

HALSGROVE CATALOGUE

The full Halsgrove catalogue is available free or visit www.halsgrove.com for regional and category listings of available titles.

Halsgrove Publishing
Halsgrove House,
Ryelands Industrial Estate,
Bagley Road, Wellington,
Somerset TA21 9PZ
Tel: 01823 653777
Fax: 01823 216796
www.halsgrove.com
e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



Format: Hardback, 144 pages, 214x230mm, profusely illustrated in colour throughout.

Price: £14.99

ISBN: 978 0 85704 003 9

Imprint: Halsgrove

Published: March 2011



**Great Books from
your Local Bookseller**

DORSET FROM THE AIR



The River Stour at Christchurch.



Corfe Castle.



Chesil Beach.



Eggardon Hill Iron Age hill fort, West Compton Abbas.



Nothe Fort.



Bournemouth Pier



Above: The historic centre of Wareham with North Street running across the picture. In 1782 the destroyed sea front of the town, which was rebuilt following the earlier street pattern.
Left: The River Frome flows under South Bridge, with the ancient minster church of St Mary in the centre of the picture. Strangely placed between the Rivers Frome and Piddle, Wareham was an important settlement in past centuries, but a sitting up of the Frome coupled with the constraints of the site, meant that other towns grew at Wareham's expense.

Example of a double-page spread.