



We have put together a selection of books that we feel would provide the perfect accompaniment to your voyage.

Available from all good book stores.

ICELAND, FAROES & SHETLANDS

London back to London

NON-FICTION

Sophia Kingshill & Jennifer Westwood
The Fabled Coast

ISBN: 9780099551072, Paperback

Pirates and smugglers, ghost ships and sea-serpents, fishermen's prayers and sailors' rituals – the coastline of the British Isles plays host to an astonishingly rich variety of local legends, customs and superstitions. In *The Fabled Coast*, renowned folklorists Sophia Kingshill and Jennifer Westwood gather together the most enthralling tales and traditions, tracing their origins and examining the facts behind the legends.

Michael Portillo

Portillo's Hidden History of Britain

ISBN: 9781789290646, Hardback

Portillo's Hidden History of Britain presents a compelling and wonderfully evocative history of Britain through the stories of its lost or abandoned buildings. The chapters cover a variety of historical themes: Crime and Punishment, Health and Medicine, Defence and Warfare, and Entertainment and Leisure.

Peter Ackroyd

Thames

ISBN: 9780099422556, Paperback

Peter Ackroyd has a genius for digging out the most surprising and entertaining details, and for writing about them in the most magisterial prose. The result is a wonderfully readable and captivating guide to this extraordinary river and the towns and villages which line it.

Tom Blass

The Naked Shore

ISBN: 9781408834039, Paperback

Saturnine and quick-tempered, the formidable North Sea is often overlooked – even by those living within a stone's throw of its steel-grey waters. But as playground, theatre of war and cultural crossing-point, it has shaped the world in myriad ways, forged villains and heroes, and determined the fates of nations. With a wry eye and a warm coat, Tom Blass travels

the edges of the North Sea meeting fishermen, artists, bomb disposal experts, burgermeisters – and those who have found themselves flung to the sea's perimeters quite by chance. In doing so, he attempts to piece together its manifold histories and to reveal truths, half-truths and fictions otherwise submerged.

Ann Cleeves

Shetland

ISBN: 9781509809790, Hardback

Ann Cleeves' bestselling crime novel takes readers through a year on Shetland, learning about its past, meeting its people, celebrating its festivals and seeing how the flora and fauna of the islands changes with the seasons.

Charles Tait

The Shetland Guidebook

ISBN: 9780951785942, Paperback

This guide provides information on the histories and cultures of the Shetland Islands. Fully illustrated throughout and with several maps, it gives great insight into the lives of these islands.

Norman Ackroyd

Norman Ackroyd: A Shetland Notebook

ISBN: 9781907533891, Hardback

One of Britain's foremost printmakers, Norman Ackroyd CBE RA has spent a lifetime recording the coastal landscapes of the British Isles. *A Shetland Notebook* contains forty of his vivid landscape sketches in watercolour. Made in the open air, often aboard a pitching and tossing fishing boat, these lively, spontaneous works capture the unique atmosphere of these remote and beautiful islands.

Sarah Moss

Names for the Sea: Strangers in Iceland

ISBN: 9781847084163, Paperback

At the height of the financial crisis in 2009, Sarah Moss and her husband moved with their two small children to Iceland. From their makeshift home among the half-finished skyscrapers of Reykjavik, Moss travels to

hillsides of boiling mud and volcanic craters, and the remote farms and fishing villages of the far north. She watches the northern lights and the comings and goings of migratory birds, and as the weeks and months go by, she and her family find new ways to live.

W.H. Auden & Louis MacNeice

Letters from Iceland

ISBN: 9780571132973, Paperback

This highly amusing and unorthodox travel book resulted from a light-hearted summer journey by the young poets Auden and MacNeice in 1936. Their letters home, in verse and prose, are full of private jokes and irreverent comments about people, politics, literature and ideas. *Letters from Iceland* is one of the most entertaining books in modern literature.

Lavinia Greenlaw

William Morris in Iceland: Questions of Travel

ISBN: 9781907903182, Hardback

Lavinia Greenlaw's selection from Morris's *Icelandic Journal* ('the best book of travel written by an English poet', and the least known) is interposed with her own 'questions of travel', which follow the footprints of Morris's prose, responding to its surfaces and undercurrents, extending its horizons. The result is a new and composite work, which brilliantly explores our conflicted reasons for not staying at home.

Gavin Francis

True North: Travels in Arctic Europe

ISBN: 9781846971303, Paperback

The stark, vast beauty of the remote Arctic Europe landscape has been the focus of human exploration for thousands of years. In this striking blend of travel writing, history and mythology, Gavin Francis offers a unique portrait of the northern fringes of Europe. His journey begins in the Shetland Isles, takes him to the Faroes, Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard, and on to Lapland.

D. Whittaker & G. Thorsteinsson

The Iceland Watch

ISBN: 9781861514721, Paperback

With a population of just 329,000 (barely more than Nottingham), Iceland is the most thinly-populated country in Europe, and 80% of it is uninhabited. This book explains Iceland's history and introduces readers who may not be familiar with the country to the range and vitality of Icelandic thinking and achievement.

Charles Stuart Forbes

Iceland: It's Volcanoes, Geysers and Glaciers

ISBN: 9781108061209, Paperback
Print on Demand, Order Early.

In this work, first published in 1860, Forbes gives a vivid and detailed account of his journeys across the island, conveying his wonder at its natural phenomena and sharing his observations in history, culture and way of life. The present work, written with colour and wit, remains an engaging source of information on Iceland.

Gunnar Karlsson

Iceland's 1100 Years: History of a Marginal Society

ISBN: 9781849049115, Paperback

Karlsson recounts the history of a society on the margin of Europe as well as on the margin of reaching the size and wealth of a proper state. Iceland is unique among the European societies in being founded as late as the Viking Age, and in surviving for centuries without any central power after Christianity had introduced the art of writing. This was the age of the Sagas, which are not only literature but also a rare treasury of sources about a stateless society.

Agust Gudmundson

The Glorious Geology of Iceland's Golden Circle

ISBN: 9783319551517, Hardback

The Golden Circle offers a unique opportunity to observe and understand many of our planet's forces in action. These forces move the Earth's tectonic plates, rupture the crust, and generate earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, channels for rivers and waterfalls, and heat sources for hot springs and geysers. The Golden Circle includes the famous rifting and earthquake fracture sites at Thingvellir, the hot springs of the Geysir area, the waterfall of Gullfoss, and the Kerid volcanic crater.

Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough

Beyond the Northlands: Viking Voyages and the Old Norse Sagas

ISBN: 9780198701293, Paperback

The Norsemen travelled to all corners of the medieval world and beyond; north to the wastelands of arctic Scandinavia, south to the politically turbulent heartlands of medieval Christendom, west across the wild seas to Greenland and the fringes of the North American continent, and east down the Russian waterways trading silver, skins and slaves. *Beyond the Northlands* explores this world through the stories that the Vikings told about themselves in their sagas. But the depiction of the Viking world in the Old Norse-Icelandic sagas goes far beyond historical facts.

Magnus Magnusson

The Vikings

ISBN: 9780750978583, Paperback

The Vikings hold a particular place in the history of the West, both symbolically and in the significant impact they had on Northern Europe. Magnus Magnusson's indispensable study of this great period presents a rounded and fascinating picture of a people who, in modern eyes, would seem to embody striking contradictions. They were undoubtedly pillagers, raiders and terrifying warriors, but they were also great pioneers, artists and traders – a dynamic people, whose skill and daring in their exploration of the world has left an indelible impression a thousand years on.

Kathleen Jamie

Findings

ISBN: 9780954221744, Paperback

It's surprising what you can find by simply stepping out to look. Award-winning poet Kathleen Jamie has an eye and an ease with the nature and landscapes of Scotland. Whether she is following the call of a peregrine in the hills above her home in Fife, sailing into a dark winter solstice on the Orkney Islands, or pacing around the carcass of a whale on a rainswept Hebridean beach, she creates a subtle and modern narrative, peculiarly alive to her connections and surroundings.

Amy Liptrot

The Outrun

ISBN: 9781782115489, Paperback

At the age of thirty, Amy Liptrot finds herself washed up back home on Orkney. Standing unstable on the island, she tries to come to terms with the addiction that has swallowed the last decade of her life. As she spends her mornings swimming in the bracingly cold sea, her days tracking Orkney's wildlife, and her nights searching the sky for the Merry Dancers, Amy discovers how the wild can restore life and renew hope.

Victoria Whitworth

Swimming with Seals

ISBN: 9781784978396, Paperback

Shortlisted for the PEN Ackerley Prize 2018, this is a memoir of intense physical and personal experience, exploring how swimming with seals, gulls and orcas in the cold waters off Orkney provided Victoria Whitworth with an escape from a series of life crises and helped her to deal with intolerable loss. It is also a treasure chest of history and myth, local folklore and archaeological clues, giving us tantalising glimpses of Pictish and Viking men and women, those people lost to history, whose long-hidden secrets are sometimes yielded up by the land and sea.

Neil Oliver

A History of Scotland

ISBN: 9780753826638, Paperback

The dramatic story of Scotland – by charismatic television historian, Neil Oliver. Scotland is one of the oldest countries in the world with a vivid and diverse past. Yet the stories and figures that dominate Scottish history – tales of failure, submission, thwarted ambition and tragedy – often badly serve this great nation, overshadowing the rich tapestry of her intricate past.

Rosemary Goring

Scotland: The Autobiography

ISBN: 9780241969168, Paperback

A vivid, wide-ranging and engrossing account of Scotland's history, composed of eye-witness accounts by those who experienced it first-hand. Contributors range from Tacitus, Mary Queen of Scots and Oliver Cromwell to Adam Smith, David Livingstone and Billy Connolly.

Chris Tabraham

Scottish Castles: Scotland's Most Dramatic Castles and Strongholds

ISBN: 9780008251116, Paperback

A pocket-sized guide to nearly 140 of Scotland's most dramatic castles and strongholds, all of which are open to the public. Historical background and architectural details for each of the castles are accompanied by a beautiful colour photograph. Includes the major sites of Edinburgh and Stirling, and covers from as far north as Shetland (Muness) to as far south as Dumfries and Galloway (Stranraer), west as far as the Outer Hebrides (Kisimul), and east to Aberdeenshire (Balmoral).

Marc Morris

Castle: A History of the Buildings that Shaped Medieval Britain

ISBN: 9780099558491, Paperback

Beginning with their introduction in the eleventh century, and ending with their widespread abandonment in the seventeenth, Marc Morris explores many of the country's most famous castles, as well as some spectacular lesser-known examples.

Liz Hanson

Edinburgh History Tour

ISBN: 9781445656076, Paperback

A fascinating insight into the illustrious history of Scotland's capital, its well-known streets and famous faces, and explains what they meant to local people throughout the nineteenth and into the twentieth century. Readers are invited to follow a timeline of events and watch the changing face of Edinburgh as author Liz Hanson guides us through its streets.

David Daiches

Edinburgh: A Traveller's Reader

ISBN: 9781472141637, Paperback

This anthology of extracts from letters, memoirs, diaries, novels and biographies of interesting visitors and inhabitants, including the writings of Scott, Boswell, Cockburn, John Knox and many others, recreates for today's visitors the drama, the history, and the life of the city in buildings and places that can still be visited.

Jenni Calder

Essence of Edinburgh: An Eccentric Odyssey

ISBN: 9781912147540, Paperback

Existential Edinburgh is a personal journey through a city that has for centuries inspired many. An exploration, an evocation of the city's past and present it weaves together personal experience, memory and history. It takes the reader beyond the city's historic centre, looking out to surrounding areas that are inseparable from Edinburgh's story.

Graham Park

Introducing Geology: A Guide to the World of Rocks

ISBN: 9781906716219, Paperback

This introductory book explains in simple terms what geology can tell us about the world.

Mark Carwardine

Whale Watching in Britain and Europe

ISBN: 9781472910158, Paperback

Whales, dolphins and porpoises are among the world's most mysterious and beautiful animals, and there are many opportunities to see them in the seas around Europe. This comprehensive and authoritative guide covers everything you need to know about where, when and how to watch them.

Collins Bird Guide: Britain and Europe

ISBN: 9780007268146, Paperback

With expanded text and additional colour illustrations, the second edition of the hugely successful Collins Bird Guide is a must for every birdwatcher.

Concise Coastal Bird Guide

ISBN: 9781472921796, Paperback

Simple pocket reference of key species.

FICTION

Ann Cleeves

Raven Black

ISBN: 9781447274438, Paperback

Raven Black is the first book in Ann Cleeves' Shetland series – which is now a major BBC drama. It is a cold January morning and Shetland lies buried beneath a deep layer of snow. Trudging home, Fran Hunter's eye is drawn to a vivid splash of colour on the white ground, ravens circling above. It is the strangled body of her teenage neighbour Catherine Ross.

Hannah Kent

Burial Rites

ISBN: 9781447233176, Paperback

Based on actual events, *Burial Rites* is an astonishing and moving novel about the truths we claim to know and the ways in which we interpret what we're told. In beautiful, cut-glass prose, Hannah Kent portrays Iceland's formidable landscape, in which every day is a battle for survival, and asks, how can one woman hope to endure when her life depends upon the stories told by others?

Sjon

Blue Fox

ISBN: 9781846590375, Paperback

Winner of the Nordic Literary Prize and nominated for the Icelandic Literature Prize. The year is 1883. The stark Icelandic winter landscape is the backdrop. We follow the priest, Skugga-Baldur, on his hunt for the enigmatic blue fox. From there we're then transported to the world of the naturalist Fridrik B. Fridriksson and his charge, Abba, who suffers from Down's syndrome, and who came to his rescue when he was on the verge of disaster. Then to a shipwreck off the Icelandic coast in the spring of 1868. The fates of all these characters are intrinsically bound, and gradually, surprisingly, unravelled in this spellbinding fable that is part mystery, part fairy tale.

Halldor Laxness

The Fish Can Sing

ISBN: 9781860469343, Paperback

Abandoned as a baby, Alfgrímur is content to spend his days as a fisherman living in the turf cottage outside Reykjavík with the elderly couple he calls grandmother and grandfather. There he shares the mid-loft with a motley bunch of eccentrics and philosophers who find refuge in the simple respect for their fellow men that is the ethos at the Brekkukot. But the narrow horizons of Alfgrímur's idyllic childhood are challenged when he starts school and meets Iceland's most famous singer, the mysterious Garoar Holm.

Bragi Olafson

The Pets

ISBN: 9781940953298, Paperback

A hilarious work of Icelandic fiction about a man trapped under his own bed while his archnemesis throws a party. Darkly funny and oddly charming, *The Pets* is the first novel by former member of Björk's first band *The Sugarcubes* Bragi Olafsson to be translated into English.

George Mackay Brown

Greenvoe

ISBN: 9781904598176, Paperback

Greenvoe, the tight-knit community on the Orcadian island of Hellya, has existed unchanged for generations. However, a sinister military/industrial project, Operation Black Star, requires the island for unspecified purposes and threatens the islanders' way of life.

Translations by various authors with a forward by Jane Smiley

The Sagas of the Icelanders

ISBN: 9780141000039, Paperback

In Iceland, the age of the Vikings is also known as the Saga Age. A unique body of medieval literature, the Sagas rank with the world's great literary treasures – as epic as Homer, as deep in tragedy as Sophocles, as engagingly human as Shakespeare. A superb collection.

Hermann Palsson

Hrafnkel's Saga and other Icelandic Stories

ISBN: 9780140442380, Paperback

Written around the thirteenth century AD by Icelandic monks, the seven tales collected here offer a combination of pagan elements tightly woven into the pattern of Christian ethics. They take as their subjects figures who are heroic, but do not fit into the mould of traditional heroes and deal with powerful human emotions, suffering and dignity at a time of profound transition, when traditional ideals were gradually yielding to a more peaceful pastoral lifestyle.

Carolynne Larrington

The Poetic Edda

ISBN: 9780199675340, Paperback

A fully revised translation of the great collection of Norse-Icelandic mythological and heroic poetry. Known as the Poetic Edda, it contains the narratives of the creation of the world and the coming of Ragnarok, the Doom of the Gods, among many others. This is a masterpiece in early literature which has influenced writers all over the globe for generations.

Halldor Laxness

Independent People

ISBN: 9780099527121, Paperback

First published in 1946, this humane epic novel is set in rural Iceland in the early twentieth century. Bjartur is a sheep farmer determined to eke a living from a blighted patch of land. Nothing, not merciless weather, nor his family will come between him and his goal of financial independence. Only Asta Solillja, the child he brings up as his daughter, can pierce his stubborn heart.

Heoin Bru

The Old Man and His Sons

ISBN: 9781846590733, Paperback

These are the Faroe Islands as they were some fifty years ago: sea-washed and remote, with one generation still tied to the sea for sustenance, and a younger generation turning toward commerce and clerical work in the towns.

Alexander McCall Smith

44 Scotland Street

ISBN: 9780349118970, Paperback

The story revolves around the comings and goings at No. 44 Scotland Street, a fictitious building in a real street in Edinburgh. Immediately recognisable are the Edinburgh chartered surveyor, stalwart of the Conservative Association, who dreams of membership of Scotland's most exclusive golf club. 44 Scotland Street is vintage McCall Smith, tackling issues of trust and honesty, snobbery and hypocrisy, love and loss, but all with great lightness of touch. Clever, elegant and funny, this is a novel that provides huge entertainment but which is underpinned by the moral dilemmas of everyday life and the characters' struggles to resolve them.

Kate Atkinson

One Good Turn

ISBN: 9780552772440, Paperback

It is summer, it is the Edinburgh Festival. People queuing for a lunchtime show witness a road-rage incident – a near-homicidal attack which changes the lives of everyone involved. Jackson Brodie, ex-army, ex-police, ex-private detective, is also an innocent bystander – until he becomes a murder suspect.

MAPS & GUIDES

Marco Polo Map

Iceland, Faroe Islands

ISBN: 9783829767224

Marco Polo Map

Great Britain, Ireland

ISBN: 9783829767224

Edinburgh Popout Map

ISBN: 9781910218365

Eyewitness Cruise Guide to Europe

ISBN: 9781409370222, Paperback

A multi-country guide to Europe's most spectacular cruising destinations. From Oslo to Athens, it covers 70 ports of call. It also features photos and illustrations, unique 3-D models, and bird's-eye-view maps of all the major sites.

Marco Polo Guide with Map

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ISBN: 9783829706681, Paperback

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ISBN: 9781910463390, Paperback

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Bradt Guide

Iceland

ISBN: 9781784770440, Paperback

Eyewitness Top 10 Guide

Iceland

ISBN: 9780241198544, Paperback

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Faroe Islands

ISBN: 9781784770136, Paperback

Marco Polo Pocket Guide with Map

Edinburgh

ISBN: 9783829706599, Paperback