

ORDNANCE SURVEY GUIDEBOOKS.

Lez Watson and Iain Taylor

From the early 1980s the Ordnance Survey began to produce a series of guidebooks in partnership with other publishers and using 1:25,000 and other scale mapping, including, among others, guides to Waterways, Cycle Tours, Recreational Path Guides, and National Trail Guides. Products include Pathfinder Guides, Short Walks, and City Walks.

In April 2016, Ordnance Survey and the Crimson Company combined to become co-publishers of the Pathfinder, Short Walks and City Walks range and the sole distributor for the UK.

I am very grateful to Iain Taylor for considerable information about, and analysis of, the Guides in this collection.

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A. NICHOLSON'S GUIDES TO WATERWAYS. (1972 - to date) by Robert Nicholson, 23cms.

This series has had the greatest longevity of all guides considered here (nearly fifty years) and arguably one of the most successful in that it is still in print and its house style may be recognised as having its essential elements intact from its origin to the present. Robert Nicholson, who created it, was a canal boat enthusiast who correctly perceived that the revival of such craft and the waterways they plied in the 1970s would create a lasting customer base which could be enhanced by a series becoming a *vade mecum* guidebook essential to all.

Ironically however, the first usage of OS material in a guidebook series commenced seemingly without direct OS cooperation. The exact method of how the unique characteristics of the series of maps he created had their cartographic basis remains something of a mystery. The origins were clearly OS base maps modified either photographically or by hand to a standard two inch to a mile scale. This proved the key to their success - large enough scale to show buildings, roads and communications and most importantly to fit in the sweep of new conventional signs and text uniquely targeted for the canal user. The base map drawn from 1:25,000 First Series material. The new conventions for waterways users included a host of new signs signifying details of locks, retail establishments (pubs, wine shops, yards etc.) and services (sewage disposal and water supplies), etc. The first edition is published by the British Waterways Board but lacks however any mention of an official co-production agreement with the OS! Original publication price was 75p.

The arrangement was the 'tryptic' format with the canal shown as a relatively straight line with the northerly direction adjusted from plate to plate.

Nicholson's Guides to Waterways. British Waterways Board, 1972

First Edition

1 South East, editor Paul Atterbury, 160 pages, 1971.

2 North West, editors Paul Atterbury and Andrew Darwin, 176 pages, 1972.

3 South West, editors Paul Atterbury and Andrew Darwin, 144 pages, 1973, 1978.

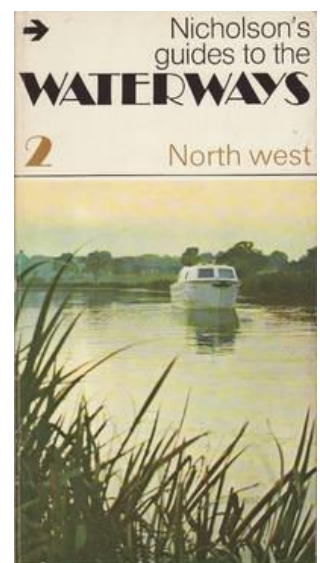


Figure 1. First Edition

4 North East, editors Paul Atterbury and Andrew Darwin, 144 pages, 1973, 1978.

5 The Midlands, 160 pages, 1976.

Second revised edition, 1981

1 South.

2 Midlands.

3 North.

[Robert] Nicholson. Ordnance Survey Guide to the Waterways

Third Edition, 1983 Series editor, David Perriott.

Ten years after initial publication, while showing similar cartographic detail as the First Edition these guides finally display an important added statement 'with permission' from the OS.

1. South, 1983. 208pp. Intro. 14pp, History, etc. Index.

River Avon, Grand Union, Kennet & Avon, Lee & Stort, Monmouth & Brecon, Oxford, Gloucester & Sharpness and River Severn, Stratford-on-Avon, Worcester & Birmingham Canals.

2. Central, 1983. Ashby, Birmingham Navigation, Birmingham & Fazeley, Caldon, Coventry, Grand Union (Leicester & Soar Navigation), Llangollen, N. Oxford, Shropshire (& Middlewich), Stourbridge, Staffs & Worcester, Trent & Mersey. 176pp.

3. North. ?

4. Thames [and River Wey - on title page but not cover], 1984. 160pp. 36pp intro.; 38 excerpts of 1:25k maps. Cricklade to Godalming. Mileages & Index

[5] 'The Ordnance Survey Guide to the Waterways', 1984.

Fourth Edition, 1989. Some spiral bound. Line of canal in blue.

1. South, 1989.

2. Central, 1989.

3. North 1989 (revised 1990) 176pp. Intro. 14pp.; Aire & Calder, Hebble, Huddersfield, Bridgewater, Rochdale, Chesterfield, Erewash, Fossdyke & Witham, Lancaster, Leeds & Liverpool, Macclesfield, Peak Forest & Ashton, River Trent, Trent & Mersey, Weaver Navigation, North East Waterways. 'Brief History of British Canals', etc., Index.

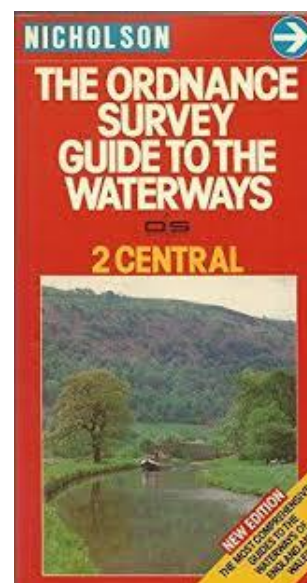


Figure 2. Third Edition

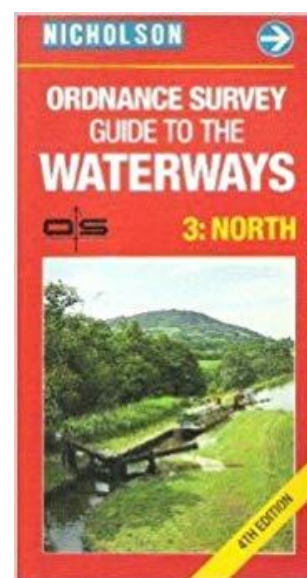


Figure 3. fourth Edition

Fifth Edition, 1991

- 1 South, 208pp.
- 2 Central, 176pp. maps 2 miles to inch.
- 3 North.
- [4] River Thames?
- [5] Broads & Fens?

Sixth edition, 1993?

Seventh Edition, 1995, published as an 'Imprint' of Harper Collins

- 1 South.
- 2 Central.
- 3 North.
- [4] River Thames.
- [5] Guide to Great Britain.

Later editions (1997, 2000, 2003, 2007, 2009). Published jointly by Nicholson and OS. 21 cms. A5 format multicoloured.

- 1 Grand Union, Oxford & the South East, 1997 Title adds 'London & Lee'.
- 2 Severn, Avon & Birmingham, 1997, 160pp.
- 3 Birmingham & the Heart of England, 1997, 160pp.
- 4 Four Counties & the Welsh Canals, 1997, 157pp.; 2009 181pp.
- 5 North West & the Pennines, 2009, 203pp.
- 6 Nottingham, York & the North East, 1997 176pp, 2009, 203pp.
- 7 River Thames & the Southern Waterways.
- 8 Scotland, the Highland and Lowland Waterways (only in the 2003 edition).
- [9] Inland Waterways. 'Map of the Norfolk Broads, 2007, (85 x 89cm on 95 x 127cm.) 1:50,000.

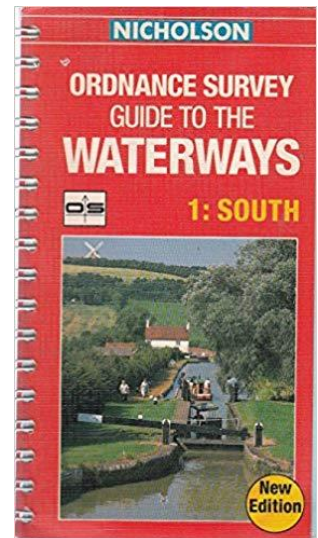


Figure 4. fifth Edition

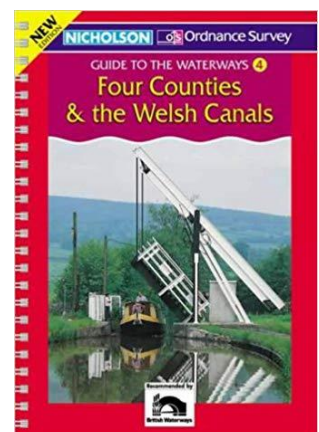


Figure 5. Eighth Edition?

Nicholson's Waterway Guide (2014 - to date)

Currently in print

- 1 Grand Union, Oxford & the South East, 2016.
- 2 Severn, Avon & Birmingham, 2014.
- 3 Birmingham & the Heart of England, 2015.
- 4 Four Counties & the Welsh Canals, 2015.
- 5 North West & the Pennines, 2015.
- 6 Nottingham, York & the North East, 2017.
- 7 River Thames & the Southern Waterways, 2017.
- [8] Norfolk Broads, 2014.
- [9] Nicholson Inland Waterways Map of Great Britain, 2016.
- [10] Collins Nicholson Waterways of Britain: An illustrated guide to Britain's best waterways, 2016.

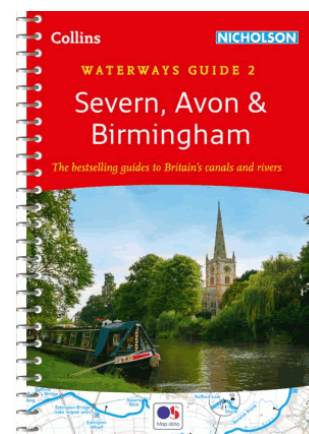


Figure 6. Current Edition

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B. LEISURE GUIDES (1983 - to date)

This series commenced in 1983 and appears to have reached an hiatus around 2003. The initial series began as a co-production ("produced jointly by the Publication Division of the Automobile Association and the Ordnance Survey") (O.S.) and the (A.A.) with a statement of joint copyright. The guides were uniformly 120 pages in length and used a large number of photographs from the AA Photo Library supplemented by images from many other sources including tourist boards, etc.

The arrangement of the guide was as follows: introduction (in several parts); gazetteer (approx. 44 pages); atlas of approx. 14 pages including an index map (1:250,000); 6 (or so) 1:50,000.

After 1996 the OS took over sole production responsibilities for re-publishing and extending the Leisure Guide series.

The style of cover reflects the publishing arrangement.

Size 29.5 x 16.5 cms.

Type 1. OS / AA covers. (1983 - 1998)

30cm tall.

The two logos are found at the top L and R of the front cover; followed by a small vignette black & white engraving, below which is a large colour illustration of a local view (17.8 x 13.7 cm.); below which is a strapline giving hints of the delights within.

The spine gives both logos, that of the A.A. at the top and the O.S. at the bottom. The title follows the pattern of 'Ordnance Survey Leisure Guide / [location]'. Published in hardback and paper editions. All 120pp in size.

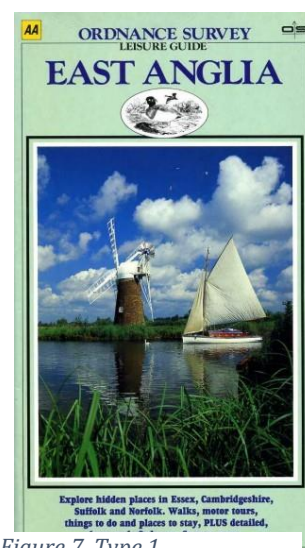


Figure 7. Type 1

Updated 11/4/2025

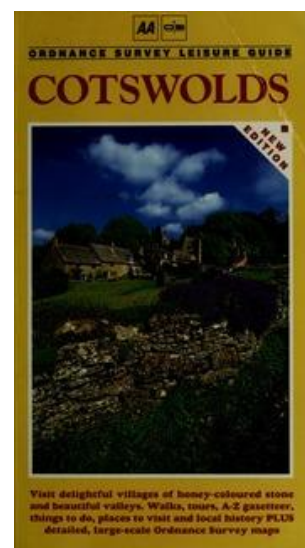
Type 2 O.S. / no AA logo covers (1996 - 2002)

Size change - 22cm tall.

The separation of working relationships and co-production arrangements between the AA and OS for this series may well have had to do with concerns over copyright infringement of maps by the AA Atlas which resulted in legal action successfully brought by the OS and settled on the courthouse steps in 1996.

"The row between the two organisations dates back to December 1996, and concerns over AA maps created as early as 1990. The AA, previously a non-profit body, was bought by the gas distribution firm Centrica two years ago." The Guardian, 6 March 2001.

See also: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/1203480.stm>



Type 3 All green (also blue / brown / magenta or orange) covers (2002 - to date)

Size?

Cover has a photo of local landscape; in white lettering offset to the R. is 'LEISURE GUIDE' vertically, fading from L to R.

The publications are unnumbered but arranged here chronologically by date of production.

(1) New Forest, 1983, [name changed to 'Hampshire and New Forest'] 1996, 2002.

(2) Lake District, 1984, 1992, 1996, 1999, 2002.

Introduction 19 pp.; gazetteer 42 pp.; atlas: 12 dble page maps (One-inch Tourist Series); 6 tours (6 x 1:250k Routemaster); 18 walks 1:25k Pathfinders); Index.

(3) Yorkshire Dales, 1985, 1992, 1996, 2002.

Introduction 25 pp.; gazetteer 36 pp.; directory 4pp.; atlas: 19 maps (1:50k LRs reduced to one inch); 2 tours (2 x 1:250k Routemasters); 16 walks (1:25k Pathfinders); index.

(4) Cotswolds, 1986, 1987 (1988 reprinted), 1992, Cotswolds and the Vale of Berkeley 1996, 1999, 2002.

Introduction 27 pp; Gazetteer 37pp; Atlas: 16 maps (1:50k LRs); a Directory; 3 tours (2 x 1:250k Routemasters); 16 walks (1:25k Pathfinders); Index.

(5) Ireland, 1986.

(6) Scottish Highlands & Islands 1986, 1992, 1996, 1999.

(7) Channel Islands, 1987.

(8) Forest of Dean and Wye Valley, 1987.

(9) Northumbria, 1987, 1992, 1995 (Northumbria & Hadrian's Wall), 1996, 2002.

(10) Peak District, 1987, 1992, 1996, 1999, 2002.

Figure 8. Type 2

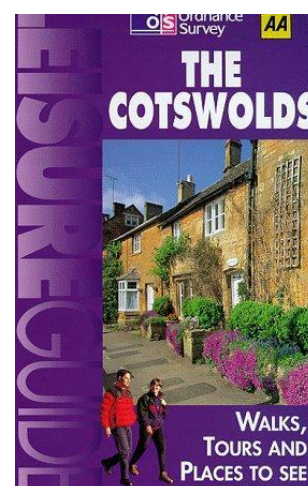


Figure 9. Type 3

(11) Devon and Exmoor, 1988, 1996, 1999.

Introduction 29 pp.; Gazetteer 37 pp.; Directory 5pp; Atlas: 6 double page maps (Routeplanners); 4 tours (4 x 1:25 000 Routemasters); 16 walks (1:25 000 Pathfinders); Index.

(12) East Anglia, 1988.

(13) Isle of Wight, 1988 (Hampshire & IOW) 1996.

(14) South Downs, 1988.

(15) Wessex, 1988.

Introduction 21 pp.; Gazetteer 45 pp.; Directory 6 pp.; Atlas: 7 maps (1:50k LR red. to one inch); 4 tours (2 x 1:625k Routeplanner); 16 walks (1:25k Pathfinders); Index.

(16) Brecon Beacons and Mid Wales, 1989.

(17) Snowdonia and North Wales, 1989.

(18) Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly, 1987, 1992, 1996 (rev.), 1999.

(19) North York Moors 1987, 1996, 1999, 2002.

(20) Days out from London, 1992.

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C. WOODLAND WALKS Webb & Bower (1985 -)

[Intro] Authored by Gerald Wilkinson. Co-published by Ordnance Survey All include index and maps on inside covers.

1, Woodland walks in South-East England, 1986, 128p.: ill (some col.), maps (some col.); 23cm.

2. Woodland walks in central England, 1986, 128p: col.ill., maps (some col.); 23cm.

3. Woodland walks in South-West England, 1986, 96p: col.ill., maps (some col.); 23cm.

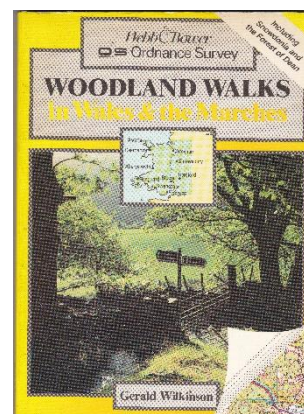
4. Woodland walks in Wales & the Marches, 1986, 95/96p; col. ill., maps (some col.) ; 23 cm.

5. Woodland walks in the north of England, 1986, 95p: col.ill., maps (some col.); 23cm.

6. Woodland walks in Scotland, 1986, 96p.: col.ill., maps (some col.); 23cm.

The Ordnance Survey woodland walks in East Central England, 1985, 112p : ill, maps. Published simultaneously in the U.S. under the title 'Woodland walks in Britain'.

Woodland walks in Britain, 1985, 320p: ill. (some col.), maps; 24 cm. Published simultaneously in the U.S. under the title 'Woodland walks in Britain'.



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D. LANDRANGER GUIDES OS / Jarrold Publications (1985 - 1992)

The OS 1:50k map series had commenced in 1980 and with some changes in specifications was re-named 'Landranger'. It is not yet known the commercial reasons for the OS decision to

commence (and then abandon) a series of smaller Michelin style guides to the areas covered in its new 1:50k series. The initial map sheets with photographic covers under that title were published in 1985. It was certainly an ambitious project to publish "a unique new guide" that "will go hand in hand with this splendid new series" which must have been costly to produce - possibly explaining why the second series (dubbed here B. Red Covers) were more economical in size and coverage. Perhaps the initiative came from Jarrold & Sons, Colour Publications of Norwich, Norfolk. Certainly the large pocket size format (23 x 14 cm.) with about a hundred pages each were shorter and wider compared to the Michelin Green Guides (26 x 12 cm.) which was a convenient size and designed for the walker's jacket pocket and a motorist's glove compartment. The series was to become a commercial success eventually running to over a hundred guidebooks across the three British countries.

The first books in the series with the cover sub-titles 'A Companion to the Landranger Map Series' were 'guidebooks' with comprehensive gazetteer entries of places of interest to the tourist, including small 1:25k thumbnail maps of selected villages; a series of 'motor and cycle tours' in the area; and a series of walks with more 1:25k excerpts. That the original 'Red Cover' books were successful is attested by the fact that 4 of the 11 books went into second editions. The presentation and covers of the various books have evolved over a thirty-year period and are best distinguished by the various styles of cover type.

Type 1. Composite Photo Covers (1985 - 86)

Letter 'A' in list.

The cover specifications are similar to the B. Red Cover series below. The difference lies in the triptych of the photographic cover (an excerpt from the 1:50k map described; a photograph of a person or place and a larger photograph of a landscape feature). Rear cover shows the sheet diagram of all 204 sheets of the Landranger series with the area covered highlighted.

Please note that the volume numbers in series are supplied from the appropriate Pathfinder book. There are no series numbers on the books themselves.

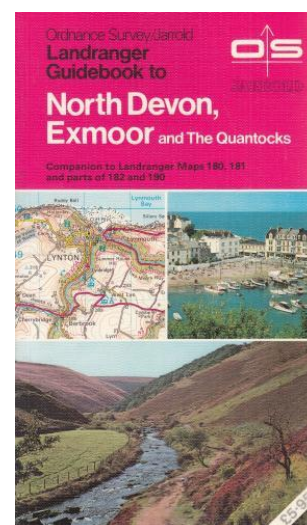


Figure 10. Type 1

Type 2. Red Covers (1985 - 1992)

Letter 'B' in list.

Front cover: colour photo of landscape (whole cover). Title box (77 x 116 mm) bordered by thin white line, green background with white titled letters and yellow publisher names: Ordnance Survey Landranger Guide; below small white box (24 x 30 mm.) with OS Jarrold logos. Rear cover: red with inset box outline map of coverage (90 x 113 mm.), statement of features and titles in the series. OS Jarrold logo and ISBN number. Red spine with title (white) Ordnance Survey / Landranger Guidebook [LRGB] (orange)

Volume numbers in series are supplied from the appropriate Pathfinder book. There are no numbers on the books themselves.

Guidebook cover types in curly brackets and in letter codes to distinguish them from the numerical information.

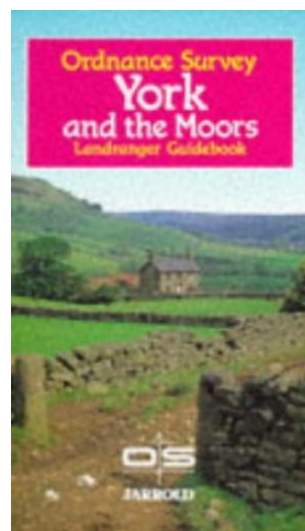


Figure 11. Type 2

(1) South Devon and Dartmoor, 1990 {B}, 1991 {B}.

(6) The Cotswolds, 1989 {B}, 1990 {D}, 1991, 1993 {D}, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2007.

(9) North Devon, Exmoor and The Quantocks, 1985 {A}, 1989 {B}.

(11) Dorset, 1987 {B}, 1989 {B}.

(13) The Lake District, 1987 {B}, 1991 {B}.

(15) The Yorkshire Dales and York, 1989 {B}, 1990 {B}, 1991.

(16) Peak District Walks, 1989 {B}, 1992 {B}.

(28) York and The Moors, 1988 {B}.

(33) Shakespeare Country and North Cotswolds, 1985 {A}.

(37) London and beyond, 1988 {B}.

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E. PATHFINDER GUIDES OS / Jarrold Publications / Crimson Co. (1989 - to date)

Type 1. Green Covers - without volume numbers (1989 - 1998)

Letter 'C' in list.

Front cover: colour photo of landscape (whole cover) Titles in white; publisher logos Ordnance Survey / Pathfinder Guide; below OS / Jarrold logos.

Rear cover: green with inset box outline map of coverage of varying sizes, statement of features, and below: OS / Jarrold logos and ISBN number.

Spine: green title in white, 'pathfinder guide features' in orange, OS and Jarrold logos.

The newly titled 'Pathfinder' series was a somewhat radical departure from the earlier books which had their origin as 'guide books'. The

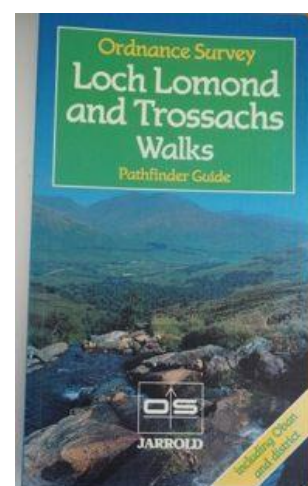


Figure 12. Type1

descriptive gazetteers and Touring sections were abandoned in the Pathfinder books which now concentrated almost exclusively on walking routes. In each volume exactly 28 walks were described and mapped at 1:25k scale. An introduction of approximately 13 pages (varying between 9 and 17) and a 'further information' section of exactly 6 pages including the index ended the text. Each walk was provided with one or more pages of maps.

Type 2. Green Covers - with volume numbers (1990 - 2007)

Letter 'D' in list.

Landscape muted in green with a small panel displaying a local view. Very similar to C type but the numbers in the series are added to the top of the yellow vertical stripe. This numerical sequence provides the basis for the organisation of this listing.

Type 3a. OS / Crimson Company Covers (2007 - 2015)

Letter 'E' in list.

Change of partnering company with the OS is signified by a change to a three horizontal band cover mainly in green retaining a vertical yellow stripe down the left side. Lettering is yellow and a large colour panel displays a local view,

Type 3b. OS / Crimson Company Covers (2015 - to date)

All products Ordnance Survey products re-branded in 2015. New Logo at bottom left, otherwise no other changes from type 3a.

Type 4. Current OS / Crimson Company Covers (2015 - to date)

Letter 'F' in list.

No vertical stripe displayed.

Guidebook cover types in curly brackets. Types given letter codes in list to distinguish them from the numerical information.

() signifies no series number present on cover. Current edition publication dates in bold.

1 South Devon and Dartmoor, 1990 {B}, 1996 {D}, 2007, 2011 {D}, 2012, 2016.

(2) South Pennine, 1996 {D}, 1997.

(3) Skye and North West Highlands, 1996 {D}, 1997? 2007, 2011.

3 Isle of Skye, 2011 {E}, 2015, 2016 {E}, 6/2021.

4 Cairngorms, 1996 {D}, 2013, 2017.

(5) Cornwall, 1990 {D}, 1996 {D}, 2012.

5 Cornwall, 2012 {D}, 2013 {E}, 2016.

6 Cotswold Outstanding Circular Walks, 2009 {D}, 2011, 2015, 2016.

7 Fort William and Glen Coe, 1992 {C}, 1996 {D}, 2007, 2010 {E}, 2017.

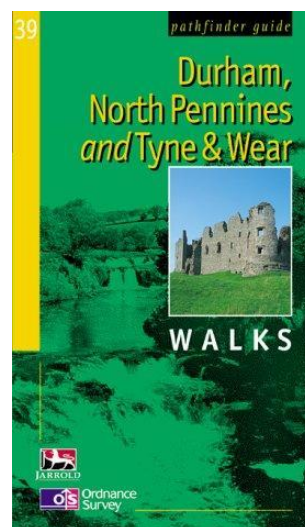


Figure 13. Type 2

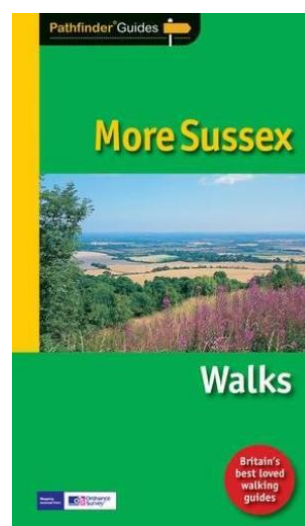


Figure 14. Type 3



Figure 15. Type 4

- 8 Kent, 1993 {C}, 1997 {C}, 2000, 2003, 2007, 2008 {E}, 2014, 2016 {F}.
- 9 Exmoor and the Quantocks, 1990 {D}, 1997 {D}, 2008, 2011 {E}, 2016 {F}.
- 10 Snowdonia, Anglesey, and the Llyn Peninsula Walks, 1993 {C}, 1997, 2012 {E}, 2013, 2016.
- 11 Dorset, 1992 {C}, 1995 {C}, 1997 {C}, 2004, 2008, 2013, 2017 {F}.
- 12 Hampshire, 1993 {C}.
- 12 Hampshire and New Forest, 1997 {D}, 2011, 2013, 2016.
- (13) Lake District, 1987 {B}, 1989 {C}, 1990 {D}, 1991, 1992, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004.
- (14) Heart of England, 1992 {C}, 1993?
- 14 Shropshire and Staffordshire, 2007, 2011, 2012, 2016 {E}, 2017 {F}.
- 15 Yorkshire Dales Walks, 1990 {C}, 1993 {C}, 1995 {C}, 1997 {D}, 2008.
- 15 Yorkshire Dales Circular Walks, 2011 {E}, 2017 {F}.
- (16) Peak District, 1990 {C}, 1992 {C}, 1997 {D}.
- (17) Norfolk and Suffolk, 1991 {C}, 1997 {D}.
- 18 Brecon Beacons and Glamorgan, 1994 {C}, 1997, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008 {D}, 2010, 2015, 2016 {E}.
- 19 Dumfries and Galloway, 1997 {D}, 2008 {D}, 2018 {F}.
- 20 Sherwood Forest and the East Midlands, 1997 {D}, 2007, 2009, 2015 {E}.
- 21 Somerset, Wiltshire and the Mendips, 1997 {D}, 2010.
- 21 Somerset, the Mendips and Wiltshire, 2017.
- 22 More Lake District, 1995 {C}, 1997 (reprint) {D}, 1999, 2001 {D}, 2011 {E}.
- (23) Loch Lomond and Trossachs, 1992 {C}, 1997 {D} 2000.
- 23 Loch Lomond, the Trossachs and Stirling, 2011 {E}, 2016 {F}.
- (24) Surrey and Sussex, 1993, 1995 {C}, 1997 {C}, 2000 {D}, 2008.
- 24 Isle of Wight (same number as above), 1994 {C}.
- (25) Chilterns and Thames Valley, 1994 {C}, 1997 {C}, 2000, 2005, 2008.
- 25 Thames Valley and Chilterns, 1997 {D}, 2008, 2007, 2011, 2013 {D}, 2016 {D}.
- 26 Dartmoor, 1989 {C}, 1997 {D}, 2015, 2016 {F}.
- (26) Lancashire and Cheshire, 1995 {C}, 2002 D.
- 27 Perthshire, Angus and Fife, 1994 {C}, 1997 {D}, 2007, 2018.
- 28 North York Moors, 1990 {C}, 1991, 1995, 1998, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2016 {F}.
- 29 The Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean, 1991 {C}, 2011 {F}, 2017.
- (30) Inverness, Loch Ness and the North East Highlands, 1998 {D}.
- 30 Loch Ness and Inverness, 2008 {D} 2017.

31 Oban, Mull and Kintyre, 1998 {D}, 2009 {D}, 1/2019 {F}.

(32) North Wales, Snowdonia and Offa's Dyke, 1998 {D}.

32 North Wales and Snowdonia, 1998 {D}, 2015 {E}, 2017 {F}.

33 Shakespeare Country, Vale of Evesham and Cotswolds, 1998 {D}, 2007.

(34) Pembrokeshire and Gower, 1993 {C}, 1996 {C}.

34 Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire, 2010, 2017 {F}.

(35) Northumbria, 1991 {C}, 2000.

35 Northumberland and Scottish Borders, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2014 2016 {F}.

(36) Glasgow, the Clyde valley, Ayrshire and Arran, 1992, 1995 {D}, 1999, 2007.

(37) London, Windsor and Greenwich, 1988 {B}, 1993 {D}, 1995 {D}.

37 In and Around London, 1999 {D}, 2008 {E}.

37 London's Park and Countryside, 1999, 2010, 2011.

(38) Ceredigion, 2003, 2008.

39 Durham, North Pennines, and Tyne and Wear, 2000, 2006 {F}, 2008, 2010, 2017 {F}.

40 More Cotswold Walks, 2007, 2009.

(41) Mid Wales and the Marches, 1995 {C}.

41 Mid Wales, 2001, 2002, 2017 {F}.

42 Cheshire, 2003, 2009, 2011 {E}, 2016 {F} no number on cover.

43 Kyle of Lochalsh, 2001, 2003, 2007.

44 Essex, 2001, 2010.

45 Norfolk, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2016.

46 Aberdeen and Royal Deeside, 2001, 2009, 2017 {F}.

(47) Edinburgh and the Borders, 1995 {C}, 2001.

47 Edinburgh, Pentlands and Lothians, 2006, 2010, 2018.

48 Suffolk, 2007, 2011, 2017 {F}.

49 Vale of York and Yorkshire Wolds, 2009, 2017.

50 Lincolnshire and The Wolds, 2002, 2017, 2018.

51 Cambridgeshire and The Fens, 2002, 2008, 2015, 2017.

52 More Sussex, 2001, 2006, 2008.

53 Lancashire, 2001, 2010, 2018.

54 Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, 2003, 2008, 2010, 2016 {F}.

55 Gower, Swansea and Cardif, 1996? {D}.

55 Cardiff Swansea and Gower 2003 {E}, 2011 {E}, 2017 {F}.

Nos. 56 to 58 not used.

59 Lake District, Eastern Lakeland, 2009 {D}.

60 Lake District, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016 {F}.

Nos. 61 and 62 not used.

63 Peak District, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 {F}.

64 South Pennines - Outstanding Circular Walks, 2010, 2016 {F}.

65 Surrey, 2010, 2016.

66 West Sussex and South Downs, 2010 {E}, 2017, 7/2019 {F}.

67 East Sussex and South Downs, 2010 {E}, 2017.

68 North and Mid Devon, 2011 {E}, 2014, 2017 {F}.

69 South West England Coastal, 2011 {E}, 1/2019 {F}.

70 North East England Heritage Walks, 2011 {E}.

71 The High Fells of Lakeland, 2011 {E}, 2016, 2018, 1/2019 {F}.

72 Country Walks near London, 2011.

73 More Peak Walks, 2011 {F}.

74 The Malverns to Warwickshire, 2017.

80 Shropshire, 2021.

81 Staffordshire, 2021

82 Orkney and Shetlands 6/2022

83 Northcoast 500 and Northern Highlands 6/2022

84 Berks, Bucks and Oxon 4/2022

85 Outer Hebrides 5/2023

86 Lake District Accessible Walks for All 5/2023

93 North Yorkshire Accessible Walks for All 10/2024, 1/2025

Map reading skills - An introduction to map reading and basic navigation, 2009.

GPS for walkers - An introduction to GPS and digital maps, 2009.

The Countryside Companion, 2013.

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F. NATIONAL TRAIL GUIDES (1989 - to date)

Publisher: Aurum (unless otherwise stated) with O.S., Countryside Commission, Natural England, etc.

1 Offa's Dyke Path South - Chepstow to Knighton 1989, 1990, 1994, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2010.

2 Offa's Dyke Path North - Knighton to Prestatyn 1989, 1990, 1994, 1995, 2004, 2008.

Both volumes combined 2014, 165pp.

3 Cleveland Way, 1972, 1989, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2010, 2012, 2019, 144pp.

4 The Ridgeway, 1989, 1994, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2016, 141pp.

5 Pennine Way South - Edale to Bowes, 1989?, 1990, 1995, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2007, 2011.

6 Pennine Way North - Bowes to Kirk Yetholm, 1989, 1997, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2010.

Both volumes combined 2014, 165pp [duplicate no. 16?].

7 Pembrokeshire Coast Path - St Dogmaels to Amroth, [HMSO 1974,] Arum Press 1990, 1997, 2001, 2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, (and then as part of the Welsh Coast Path series 2017).

8 South West Coast Path - Minehead to Padstow, 1990, 1994, 1996, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2016.

9 South West Coast Path - Padstow to Falmouth, 1990, 1994, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2011, 2013, 2018.

10 South West Coast Path - Falmouth to Exmouth, 1990, 1996, 2001, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2016.

11 South West Coast Path - Exmouth to Poole, 1989, 1990, 1996, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2011, 2013, 2016.

12 South Downs Way, 1990, 1996, 2001, 2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2016.

13 North Downs Way, 1982, 1991, 1992, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2016, 141pp.

14 [Yorkshire] Wolds Way, HMSO 1982, 1990, 1992 [change of title adding Yorkshire], 2004, 2011, 2013, 2016, 141pp.

15 Peddars Way & Norfolk Coast Path, HMSO 1986, 1992, 1996, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015.

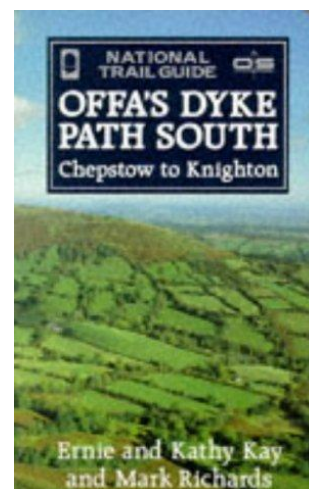
16 Thames Path, 1996, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2010, 2012, 2015, 168pp.

17 Hadrian's Wall Path, 2003 ... 2010, 2012, 2016.

(18 or 16?) Thames Path in London - Hampton Court to Crayford Ness, 2007?, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2018.

(19 or 18?) Thames Path in the Country, 2012, 2016.

20 Cotswold Way (2007, 2010, 2012, 2016, 141pp.



? Glyndwr's Way (Llwybr Glyndwr), 2004 [also no. 18?]

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G. CYCLE TOURS (1995 – to date)

Cumbria & the Lakes, compiled by Nick Cotton, Ordnance Survey / Hamlyn, 1995 .

Dorset, Hampshire & Isle of Wight, compiled by Nick Cotton, Ordnance Survey, 2nd ed, Hamlyn 1995.

Kent, Surrey & Sussex, compiled by Nick Cotton, 2nd ed., rev. & updated, Ordnance Survey / Hamlyn, 1995.

Yorkshire Dales, compiled by Nick Cotton, Philip's. 1996.

Around London, compiled by Nick Cotton, Ordnance Survey / Philips, 1996.

North Wales and the Marches, compiled by Nick Cotton, Ordnance Survey / George Philip, 1997.

North York Moors and Teesside, Nick Cotton, Ordnance Survey, 1997.

Northumberland & County Durham, by Ted Liddle, Ordnance Survey, 1997.

Pennine Bridleway. Derbyshire to South Pennines, 2004, Aurum, 168pp. by Sue Viccars. Published in association with the Countryside Agency. [no more in series]

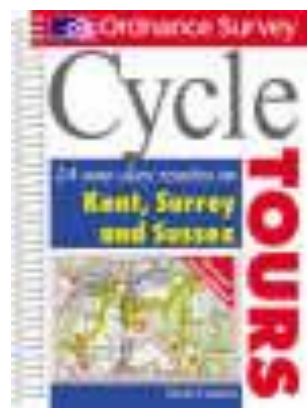


Figure 16. Poor image!

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H. TRAVEL MASTER GUIDES Car Tours (1995 - 1996)

This series could be considered to have been a continuation of the 'car touring' sections of the LR red cover series which ended in 1992. Pathfinder C cover series did not continue the car touring section of its predecessor.

The nine guides in this series had a standardised format and size each having 96 pages, an introduction, a key map, and 20 tours with an outline map taken from the 1:250,000 OS series.

The earliest appears to have been The Cotswolds (1995) which displays several cover differences to the guides which follow, namely: Series title 'Travel Guide' (on cover and spine) and a slogan 'Exploring the hidden countryside'. The main part of the cover is a photo of a stone cottage with a 1:250,000 (?) map extract alongside.

The guides which followed have the term 'Travelmaster' removed from cover and spine (but still present on the back cover); the slogan is removed and a subtitle 'Car Tours' added. The typography of the spine is different from the guides which follow.

The following guides were published under this series title (chronologically):

- (1) The Cotswolds, 1995, reprinted 1996.
- (2) Lake District, 1995.
- (3) Yorkshire, 1995.
- (4) Derbyshire, 1996.
- (5) Hampshire and Dorset, 1996.
- (6) South Wales, 1996.
- (7) South East Scotland, 1996.

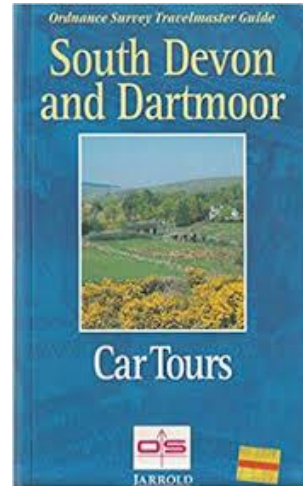


Figure 18 Type 1

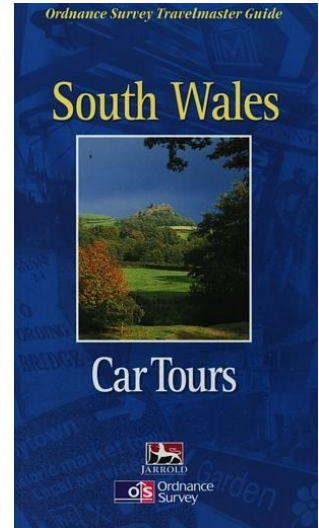


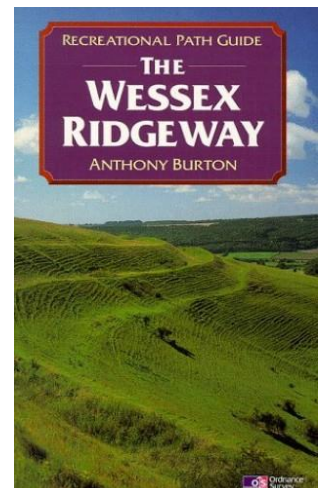
Figure 17 Type 2

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I. RECREATIONAL PATH GUIDES (1995 - to date)

Publisher: Aurum Press in association with O.S, "mapping derived from O.S."

- [1] Pembrokeshire Coast Path, 1990, 1997, 2001, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2017.
- [2] The Cotswold Way, 1995, 143pp.
- [3] The Dales Way, 1995, 2001, 144pp
- [4] West Highland Way, 2/1996, 2010, 2013, 141pp.
- [5] The Saxon Shore Way, 3/1996, 168pp.
- [6] The Southern Uplands Way/s, 2/1997, 168pp.
- [7] The Two Moors Way - Dartmoor and Exmoor, 2/1997, 2002, 143pp.
- [8] The Heart of England Way, 1998, 144pp.
- [9] The Wye Valley Walk, 1998, 2002, 144pp.
- [10] Cumbrian Way, 1999, 144pp.
- [11] Wessex Ridgeway, 1999, 144pp.
- [12] The London Loop, 2001, 2006, 2008, 2010, 3/2017.



[13] The Capital Ring (2003, 6/2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 6/2016.

[14] The Coast to Coast Walk [Path?], 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012, 3/2017, 189pp.

[15] Northumberland Coast, 2013, 165pp.

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J. **SHORT WALKS** Jarrold (2001 - 2008), Crimson Co. (2008 - to date)

Type 1.

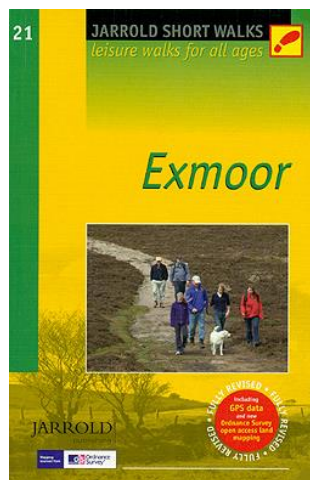


Figure 20. Type 1

Type 2.

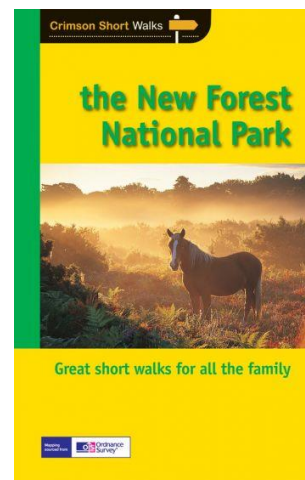
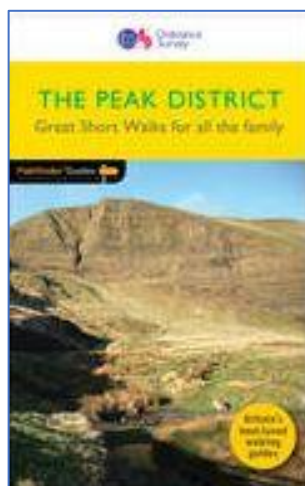


Figure 19. Type 2

Type 3. Yellow stripe cover with white horizontal band, green lettering and a colour view of local landscape. These guides contain 118 pages with 28 walks each.

"Devised for all the family to enjoy. Each guide features twenty routes of 1½ to 5½ miles [not kms!] and points of interest for children, refreshment stops



and facilities, along with quality OS colour mapping and photography." Note the abandonment of this 'quality OS mapping' in the City Walks series.

1 Yorkshire Dales, Jarrold 2001.

1 Yorkshire Dales, Crimson Co. 2012, 2018.

2 The Peak District, Jarrold 2001.

2 The Peak District, Crimson Co. 6/2016.

3 Lake District, Jarrold 2001.

3 Lake District, Crimson Co. 2009, 2016.

4 Cotswolds, Jarrold 2001.

4 Cotswolds, Crimson Co. 2017.

Nos. 5 and 06 not used.

7 The Chilterns, Crimson Co. 2009.

(8) Dartmoor, Jarrold 2002, 2005.

- (8) Dartmoor, Crimson Co. 2009, 2013.
- 8 Dartmoor, Crimson Co. 2016.
- 9 Cornwall, Crimson Co. 2010, 7/2018.
- 10 Somerset from Bath to The Quantocks, Crimson Co. 2010.
- Nos. 11 and 12 not used.
- 13 North York Moors, Jarrold 2003.
- 13 North York Moors, Crimson Co. 11/2016.
- 14 Snowdonia, Jarrold 2002, 2008.
- 14 Snowdonia, Crimson Co. 2010, 2013, 8/2016 {F}.
- 15 Essex Coast, possibly Jarrold 2003.
- 16 Kent, Jarrold 2003.
- Nos. 17 and 18 not used.
- 19 Dorset, Jarrold 2003.
- 19 Dorset, Crimson Co. 2008.
- 20 Cheshire & The Gritstone Edge, Crimson Co. 2011.
- 21 Exmoor, Jarrold 2003.
- 21 Exmoor, Crimson Co. 5/2017 {F}.
- 22 Birmingham & Heart of England, Jarrold 2003.
- 23 New Forest National Park, Jarrold 2003.
- 23 New Forest National Park, Crimson Co. 2014, 2/2017.
- 24 Sussex & The South Downs, Jarrold 2003.
- 24 Sussex & The South Downs, later by Crimson Co. (?).
- 25 Around Cardiff, Jarrold 2004.
- 27 Isle of Wight, Jarrold 7/2004.
- 27 Isle of Wight, Crimson Co. 2010, 2017 {F}.
- 28 Wiltshire from Salisbury to the Kennet, Jarrold 2004.
- 29 South Devon, Crimson Co. 7/2017.
- No. 30 not used.
- 31 Brecon Beacons, Crimson Co. 2011, 2017 {F}, 2018.
- 32 Hereford & The Wye Valley, Jarrold 2005, 1/2019.
- 33 Norfolk into Suffolk, Jarrold 2005.

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K. SHORT WALKS MADE EASY (2021 – to date)

Lake District National Park 7/2021

South Downs National Park 6/2021. 2/2025

Aviemore and the Cairngorms 4/2022

Northumberland 4/2022

Peak District 5/2022

Snowdonia 5/2022

Yorkshire Dales 4/2023

Forest of Bowland 4/2023

North Downs 4/2023

The Chilterns 4/2023

Gower & Swansea Bay 4/2023

Dorset's Jurassic Coast 4/2023

Pembrokeshire Coast 6/2023

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs 6/2023

Cornish Coast 6/2023

Dartmoor 4/2024

Brecon Beacons 4/2024

Cotswolds 4/2024

North Pennines 7/2024

Fort William, Glen Coe, and Lochaber 7/2024

Isle of Skye 7/2024

Norfolk Coast and Broads 7/2024

Exmoor 7/2024

New Forest 10/2024

North York Moors 3/2025

Anglesey 3/2025

Mull & Iona 3/2025

Wye Valley & Forest of Dean 3/2025

East Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths 3/2025

Quantocks, Mendips and Somerset Levels 3/2025

Isle of Wight 3/2025

Bakewell & Dovedale 3/2025

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L. CITY WALKS (2012 to date) OS / Crimson Company Covers

"The use of maps in this series is distinctive among the family of OS co-produced guides in that there are no actual extracts of previously published OS maps of any scale included. Instead, the one map per walk is redrawn from "mapping data licensed from the O.S." and consists of a coloured route set among a street layout (mostly unnamed) of the neighbouring area nearby. No additional topographical or cultural detail is shown. Size: 23 x 13 cms, slightly smaller in size than the earlier Landranger series. Each of the 16 walks consists of 6 pages and includes 2 to 4 coloured photographs of features found along the route. The walks are "short, fun and entertaining with intriguing tales of events and personalities."

This series is listed within the overall Pathfinder guide series.

Type 1 Red upper stripe with yellow and white lettering with a colour local view of the city. These guides contain 96 pages with 15 walks each.



Figure 22. Type 1

Type 2

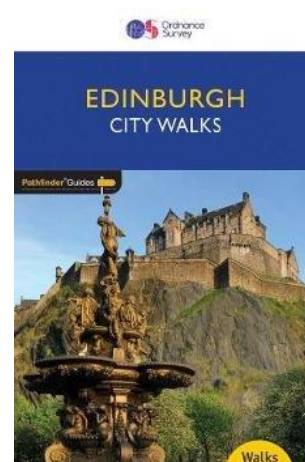


Figure 23. Type 2

LONDON, 2012, "contains OS data", 15 walks, 96 pages. 8 7/8" tall (225 mm) x 5 1/4" (131mm).

The diagrammatic route maps are described as "easy to use". Red cover with photo of London Tower Bridge. Another edition 2017.

OXFORD, 2012, 2012 reprinted with amendments, 2015.

Cover has dark blue title band, with photo of 'Tom Tower, Christ Church' (15.5 x 13 cm); 15 walks, 96 pages. Size increased very slightly to 9" tall exactly. (229 x 132 mm).

Seems to be an earlier version of layout than Edinburgh, cover in two parts of dark blue band with title in white. Spine layout differs also with Crimson Co. which is not named. Further edition published 2015, 2018.

EDINBURGH, 2013, with amendments to 2017.

Displays a white upper stripe, dark blue title stripe background, lower colour view of 'The Castle' (15.5 x 13 cm.); 96 pages, 15 walks; written in a chatty informal style with 'tales for the telling on route' therefore suitable for children

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M. WALES COAST PATH (2014 - to date)

This series of publications is associated with the Welsh Coast long distance footpath of 1400 kms. the creation of which commenced in 2006 and was opened in May 2012. Wales is the first country in the world to provide such a dedicated footpath along or near most of its coastline. It was the work of the Welsh government in conjunction with sixteen local authorities and two national parks at a cost of £2m per year (over 6 years) which was matched through the European Regional Development Fund. Circular routes from the main trail were part of the over-all design.

Published by Northern Eye “enhanced with O.S. maps”.

- (1) North Wales Coast - Chester to Bangor, 12/2015, 168pp.
- (2) Isle of Anglesey - Bangor to Menai Bridge, 11/2018.
- (3) Llyn Peninsula - Bangor to Porthmadog, 3/2014.
- (4) Snowdonia & Ceredigion Coast - Porthmadog to Cardigan, 11/2017, 192pp.
- (5) Pembrokeshire - Cardigan to Amroth (Llwybr Afordir Sir Benfro), 9/2015, 2017, 215pp.
- (6) Carmarthen Bay & Gower - Tenby to Swansea, 5/2015, 141pp.
- (7) South Wales Coast - Swansea to Chepstow, 5/2017, 208pp.

Wales Coast Path Top 10 Walks: North Wales

Wales Coast Path Top 10 Walks: Llyn Peninsula

Wales Coast Path Top 10 Walks: Cardigan Bay

Wales Coast Path Top 10 Walks: Ceredigion Coast

Wales Coast Path Top 10 Walks: Carmarthen Bay & Gower

Wales Coast Path Top 10 Walks: Pembrokeshire

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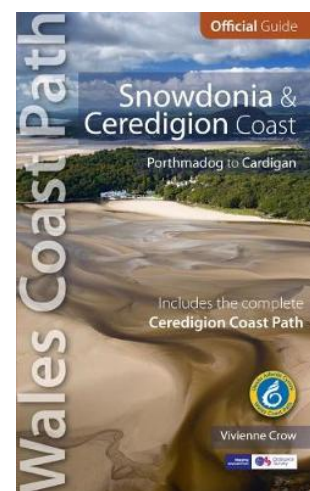
N. Other publications by Northern Eye. Current editions.

England: Lake District Top 10 Walks: Lakeside Walks; Walks to Tarns; the High Fells; the Low Fells; Walks to Waterfalls; Walks with History; Pub Walks; Woodland Walk; Literary Walks; Walks to Viewpoints; Ridge Walks.

England: Peak District Top 10 Walks: Dales & Valleys; Moors & Tors; Walks with History; Rocks & Edges; Waterside Walks; Pub Walks.

England: Yorkshire Dales Top 10 Walks: Walks to Waterfalls; Pub Walks; Dales & Valleys; Fell Walks.

Cheshire: Circular Walks Along Sandstone Trail; Short Walks from Wirral Villages; Circular Walks in the Wirral; Cheshire Top 10 Walks: Easy Walks Along the Sandstone Trail; Walking Cheshire's Sandstone Trail; Walks in Mysterious Cheshire Walks in West Cheshire & Wirral.



Wales: Snowdonia, Snowdonia Top 10 Walks: Mountain Walks; Ridge Walks & Scrambles; hill walks & easy Summits.

Wales: A Pocket Guide to Snowdon

Wales: Mountain & Hill Walking in Snowdonia Vols 1 and 2.

Wales: Walking in the Clwydian Range Walking in the Conwy Valley; Walking in northern Snowdonia Coastal Walks around Anglesey; Walking on the Llyn Peninsula Best Walks in North Wales.

Wales: Pembrokeshire: Pub Walks; Tea Shop Walks.

Scotland: Loch Lomond & the Trossachs

Scotland: Top 10 Walks: Easy Summits Loch Lomond & the Trossachs; Lochside Walks Loch Lomond & the Trossachs; Mountain Walks Loch Lomond & the Trossachs; Pub Walks.

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O. OTHER PUBLICATIONS

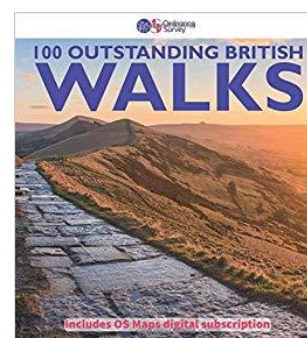
100 Outstanding British Walks, 2018.

Epic British Walks 10/2021

Outstanding Walks Scotland 10/2024

Navigation Skills for Walkers ?date

Tarka Line Walks ?date



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Sources.

This series of guidebooks includes listings of OS publications either under its own exclusive control, or as a co-production of the OS with one of a series of commercial publishers over the past forty years.

The listing was commenced by Lez Watson as part of his continuing listing of OS map publications in the 20th century, from 1946, and he drew his initial list from the current catalogue of OS publications (Pathfinder Guides).

As a a long-term collector of this and earlier guidebooks associated with the OS, Iain Taylor (map collector and sometime dealer) approached Lez to discuss a cooperative project that would combine the information into a single listing.

The principle source for this expansion by Iain was the combined library listings of all university and research libraries in the UK known as COPAC - a University of Manchester project.

"Copac exposes rare and unique research material by bringing together the catalogues of over 100 major UK and Irish libraries (and growing). In a single search you can discover the holdings

Updated 11/4/2025

of the UK's national libraries (including the British Library), many University libraries, and specialist research libraries."

<https://copac.jisc.ac.uk/search?f=f&form=A%2FT&id=1618361>

Also checked were listings under commercial book dealers' sites such as ABE and ALIBRIS. Searches were conducted using author - OS, Title: Pathfinder/ etc., other keys words: Automobile Association / Crimson / Jarrold, etc.

These searches expanded the data base of publications (and reprintings) considerably. Information derived from Iain's personal collection of guidebooks associated with the OS were added to the mix.

Lez worked on integrating this info into his 'house style' compressing and organising it in similar ways to his previous organisation of OS map publications.

The result is approximately 500 OS related publications and re-publications over the past forty years.

Sources which have not yet been explored are those internal to the OS - working documents and commercial contracts which might be deemed non-confidential - holdings of such publication sets within the archives of the OS and its former partners, and from private collections and holdings.

We invite comment on the project, and any information which would correct and expand the details here would be welcome to Lez. He may be contacted via his website [here](#).