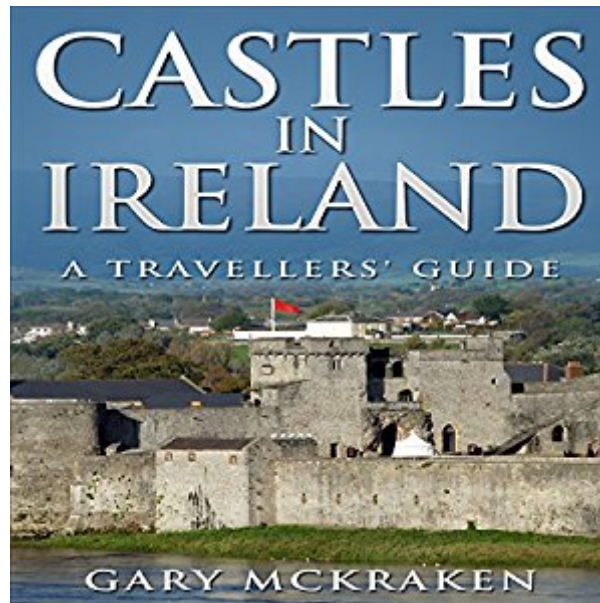




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Castles In Ireland - A Travellers' Guide



Synopsis

Ever since I was a child I have been fascinated by castles. Their history, the part they have played in the development of history through the centuries, the magnificent architecture and feats of ancient engineering and construction. Not only that, castles are great places to visit for a day trip to learn more about them and see the spectacle. So I have written this book - Castles in Ireland, A Travellers' Guide to give you a look at 20 of my personal favourite castles so you can learn about them and perhaps take a few in whether you live in Ireland and looking for interesting places to visit or perhaps on holiday in Ireland from abroad and would like to see some proper Irish history. Whether you are planning on a visit to Ireland or just have an interest in Irish history then you should enjoy Castles in Ireland - a Travellers' Guide.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My first book by Gary McKraken got me hooked on castles. Aside from the intuitive appeal of castles that stems from reading fairy tales, watching movies and reading literature, I have found that castles serve as magnifying glasses in the development of countries. Whether left in ruins or restored to former glory, a castle is testament to historical events and to the changing of the guard as earls laid siege and either fell in defeat or rose in victory. In his latest book, McKraken introduces us to the castles of Ireland. True to his style, he gives you a snapshot of each castle's history, village, local attractions and a photo of the castle. Sad to learn that Waterford Crystal - yes, there is a Waterford Castle, is no more. I was particularly taken by this book because some of the castles mentioned have ties with the Vikings (Waterford being one.) The

current TV series "Vikings" to which I have become totally addicted, is filmed in Ireland so it was good to have yet another tie in with the history of Ireland, castles and Vikings. I love this stuff. Does that make me a McKraken groupie or a castle geek?

I have always wanted to visit Ireland and so i really enjoyed reading this book! There's beautiful pictures and lots of history that goes along with it! Making s le want to spend a whole month in the Irish countryside.

Whether your traveling to Ireland or you are castle enthusiast, Gary McKraken offers up a delightful and informative tour of the castles in Ireland. The book is nicely illustrated and full of information about the castles, the periods in which they were built, the surrounding communities, the families associated with the castles and relevant historical events. If you are traveling to Ireland this book will serve as a good companion of places to see.

While it is an advantage to have the information on many castles combined in one place, the descriptions are nothing more than the history of each castle culled from internet listings. There are no first hand tips on viewing the castles, nothing of value on the surrounding area. There are no maps or suggested routings to maximize viewing.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I have knowledge of some of the castles in England, but knew nothing of Ireland's castles. This book by Gary McKraken features wonderful pictures and text about each castle. Some of those covered are King John's Castle, Knappogue Castle, Ormand Castle, Parke's Castle, Rathfarnham Castle and Trim Castle. Like the English castles, some of these are in ruins and others are beautifully restored to their former structure. This is actually a travel guide in addition to a nice history of each of the castles covered. The author does give a link in the Kindle edition for rail and bus travel and also mentions going on these tours by car. The author has also written guides to castles in the UK, Scotland and Wales.

We have already visited Ireland and have seen several of the castles mentioned in the book. For me, the book was a nice review of our trip and brought back some of the memories of our trip. It also provided me with some further background of the different castles.

I gave this book five stars because it not only provided pictures of the castles, but also gave your

information relating to the castle. The photos were beautiful and made me hunger to go to Ireland even more.

I really enjoyed this travel guide to Irish castles. It is short and sweet and includes the basic information a traveler would want to know to pick which castles to visit. I like the author's style and that he includes little bits of trivia about the locations that I would be interested in. There are also visiting times and other handy details. I recommend this book!

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