

The Irish Aesthete Ruins Of Ireland

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Immerse yourself in the captivating beauty of Ireland's ancient ruins, seen through the discerning eye of an aesthete. Explore historic sites and uncover the rich heritage embedded within the crumbling stones of castles, abbeys, and forgotten structures across the Emerald Isle, perfect for those who appreciate both history and profound beauty.

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The Irish Aesthete: Ruins of Ireland

Go on a journey with Robert O'Byrne as he brings fascinating Irish ruins to life. Fantastical, often whimsical, and frequently quirky, these atmospheric ruins are beautifully photographed and paired with fascinating text by Robert O'Byrne. Born out of Robert's hugely popular blog, The Irish Aesthete, there are Medieval castles, Georgian mansions, Victorian lodges, and a myriad of other buildings, many never previously published. Robert focuses on a mixture of exteriors and interiors in varying stages of decay, on architectural details, and entire scenarios. Accompanying texts tell of the Regency siblings who squandered their entire fortune on gambling and carousing, of an Anglo-Norman heiress who pitched her husband out the window on their wedding night, and of the landlord who liked to walk around naked and whose wife made him carry a cowbell to warn housemaids of his approach. Arranged by the country's four provinces, the diverse ruins featured offer a unique insight into Ireland and an exploration of her many styles of historic architecture.

The Irish Aesthete

Go on a journey with Robert O'Byrne as he brings fascinating Irish ruins to life. Inspired by his passionate interest in Ireland's architectural heritage and concern for its preservation, in 2012 writer Robert O'Byrne created a blog called The Irish Aesthete. He subsequently moved onto other social media and now The Irish Aesthete is an established presence on Facebook, Twitter, and on YouTube where Robert started his own channel in 2020. The Irish Aesthete has also established a strong and ever-growing presence on Instagram where he has over 37,000 followers. Architects, designers, decorators and historians from around the world now come to The Irish Aesthete for information on Ireland's historic architecture. Having never owned a camera, from the beginning Robert O'Byrne used his mobile phone, teaching himself how to make good pictures that would hold the attention of viewers. Since then, his photographs have received widespread acclaim and appeared on book covers, in magazine and newspaper articles and on many other sites. To mark The Irish Aesthete's tenth anniversary in 2022, he presented a complete set of these images to the Irish Architectural Archive. Robert's collection of photographs, covering everything from grand country houses to ancient

monasteries, now runs to over 100,000 images and covers all 32 counties in Ireland. This new volume will contain over 160 of O'Byrne's own selection of his best work with photographs accompanied by descriptions and anecdotes.

Irish Houses & Castles

Irish houses have a character and personality quite different from that found anywhere else. Quixotic, often whimsical and definitely quirky, they provide a sanctuary from the Irish climate, which is frequently gray, cold, and damp. No wonder, therefore, that over the centuries Ireland's domestic architecture and interior design have developed a distinctive personality in which color and vivacity are highly prized. Romantic Irish Homes presents 15 of the finest examples of these traits, each one of them distinctive and yet sharing the same native spirit. From vast ancient castles through sturdy Georgian manors to small farmhouses, the majority of them never previously photographed, the homes featured here offer a unique insight into the Irish temperament and an exploration of a style of decoration that, while adapted to meet 21st-century demands, still retains an historic integrity. Photographed by Simon Brown, Romantic Irish Homes is every bit as charming and memorable as the Irish people themselves.

Romantic Irish Homes

Whether ruined or opulent, castles can fire the imagination. Here is a breathtaking tour of some of Ireland's lesser known castles, accompanied by hundreds of color photos, and true stories of duels, derring-do, and defiance.

Exploring Ireland's Castles

This book by Tarquin Blake documents eighty abandoned Church of Ireland churches, preserving a record of fragile religious ruins. Blake's haunting images of crumbling ruins and history of the churches tell another fascinating story of troubled times.

Abandoned Churches of Ireland

"The Valley of Squinting Windows" by Brinsley MacNamara. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten or yet undiscovered gems of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

The Valley of Squinting Windows

Following the success of Abandoned Mansions of Ireland, Tarquin Blake documents the crumbling ruins of more forgotten stately homes, such as Elsinore House in County Sligo, where a childhood ghostly encounter inspired a lifelong fascination with the paranormal in W. B. Yeats. The Great Famine triggered a change of fortune for Ireland's landlords: starving, penniless tenants could no longer pay rent and the landowners' luxurious lifestyles went into decline. Later, the Land Acts transferred land into the ownership of tenant farmers and, with their rental income removed, many landlords locked up and left, never to return. Others frittered away the family fortune trying to maintain a luxurious lifestyle. During the War of Independence and Civil War, country houses became a target for the IRA and many were burned. For the remainder of the twentieth century, the increasing expense of maintenance made these opulent houses unviable and hundreds fell into hopeless dereliction. Beautiful, haunting images accompany the histories of the houses and their occupants, to tell a fascinating story of troubled times and private hardships.

The True Principles of Pointed Or Christian Architecture

A stunning collection of photographs of abandoned Irish country mansions, offering a glimpse into what were some of Ireland's most distinguished homes.

Abandoned Mansions of Ireland II

Explore the unique beauty of Ireland's most fascinating house Hidden inside a secluded Irish valley lies Luggala, an exquisite eighteenth-century house at the centre of a 5,000-acre estate. In 1937 Ernest

Guinness presented Luggala to his youngest daughter, Oonagh—one of the three famous “Golden Guinness Girls”—following her marriage to the fourth Baron Oranmore and Browne. Oonagh described Luggala as “the most decorative honey pot in Ireland” and made it the centre of a dazzling social world that included peers, painters and poets, journalists and junkies, scholars and socialites. In the late 1960s she passed the estate to her son, the Hon Garech Browne, founder of Claddagh Records, who has not only maintained but surpassed his mother’s gifts both for hospitality and for bringing together a wide range of creative talents. Luggala Days celebrates both the unique beauty of this place and the many celebrated names irresistibly drawn there, from writers like Brendan Behan, Robert Lowell, Seamus Heaney, and Ted Hughes, to actors and directors such as John Hurt, Daniel Day-Lewis, and John Boorman, and above all musicians, including The Chieftains, Mick Jagger and Marianne Faithfull, Bono, and Michael Jackson. All of them have succumbed to the enchantment of days passed at Luggala.

Abandoned Mansions of Ireland

Focusing on follies and garden buildings in Ireland, this book seeks to describe and illustrate these architectural oddities. Examines buildings mainly from the 18th and 19th centuries from all four provinces of Ireland, placing them in their architectural and historical contexts.

Personal Sketches of His Own Times

The comprehensive guide to the architecture of the heart of Ireland, closely examining a broad range of works, from castles and churches to grand neoclassical country houses. This comprehensive guide covers the historically rich and nuanced territory of Central Leinster, from the western borderlands of the medieval English Pale to the wild expanse of the Bog of Allen and further west to Clonmacnoise, cradle of early monasticism, with its Hiberno-Romanesque ruins, sculpted crosses, and elegant round towers. The Palladian mansions of Kildare and the romantic castles of Offaly stand within ancient forests, and Neoclassicism flourished with grand houses by James Wyatt at Abbey Leix, by James Gordon at Emo, and by the Morrisons at Ballyfin. Georgian streetscape finds its best expressions in Mountmellick and Maynooth. Disestablishment spurred the re-entrenchment of Irish Protestant architecture, notably in James Franklin Fuller’s fusions of Continental and Hiberno-Romanesque styles at Rathdaire, Millicent, and Carnalway, with their rich carving, decoration, and stained glass.

Luggala Days

‘Paddy Rossmore: Photography’ records half a century of the travels made by Lord Rossmore and his companions the Knight of Glin, Desmond FitzGerald, and Mariga Guinness of the Irish Georgian Society. The visual record made by Rossmore provides a unique archive dedicated to preserving the landscape of a bygone era. With accompanying essays by fine art historian Robert O’Byrne, Rossmore’s photographs capture the bittersweet beauty of an uncertain era for Ireland’s architectural heritage, with many of his subjects now fallen to ruin, and others enjoying restoration and new life in modernized Ireland.

The Follies and Garden Buildings of Ireland

The early twentieth century saw the transformation of the southern Irish Protestants from a once strong people into an isolated, pacified community. Their influence, status and numbers had all but disappeared by the end of the civil war in 1923 and they were to form a quiescent minority up to modern times. This book tells the tale of this transformation and their forced adaptation, exploring the lasting effect that it had on both the Protestant community and the wider Irish society and investigating how Protestants in southern Ireland view their place in the Republic today.

Central Leinster

The gripping story of the tumultuous destruction of the Irish country house, spanning the revolutionary years of 1912 to 1923. During the Irish Revolution nearly three hundred country houses were burned to the ground. These “Big Houses” were powerful symbols of conquest, plantation, and colonial oppression, and were caught up in the struggle for independence and the conflict between the aristocracy and those demanding access to more land. Stripped of their most important artifacts, most of the houses were never rebuilt and ruins such as Summerhill stood like ghostly figures for generations to come. Terence Dooley offers a unique perspective on the Irish Revolution, exploring the struggles over land,

the impact of the Great War, and why the country mansions of the landed class became such a symbolic target for republicans throughout the period. Dooley details the shockingly sudden acts of occupation and destruction—including soldiers using a Rembrandt as a dart board—and evokes the exhilaration felt by the revolutionaries at seizing these grand houses and visibly overturning the established order.

Paddy Rossmore

Nearly 2000 Irish country houses are featured in this book, each having an alphabetical entry describing it. Almost all the entries give information on the history and ownership of the houses; many of them are enlivened with anecdotes and details. '

Buried Lives

A deft interweaving of architectural and social history

Burning the Big House

Charles Ryder, a lonely student at Oxford, is captivated by the outrageous and decadent Sebastian Flyte. Invited to Brideshead, Sebastian's magnificent family home, Charles welcomes the attentions of its eccentric, artistic inhabitants the Marchmains, becoming infatuated with them and the life of privilege they inhabit - in particular, with Sebastian's remote sister, Julia. But, as duty and desire, faith and happiness come into conflict, and the Marchmains struggle to find their place in a changing world, Charles eventually comes to recognize his spiritual and social distance from them.

A Guide to Irish Country Houses

The last years of the nineteenth century saw the birth of a new phenomenon: international terrorism. Bombings and assassinations shook the great cities of Europe and America, threatening social order. Fiendish networks of anarchist conspirators were blamed and the public whipped into a frenzy of anxiety. The reality was rather different. These dramatic events were only the most visible part of a longer, clandestine struggle waged between the forces of revolution and reaction, in which little was as it seemed. Alex Butterworth interweaves group biography, cultural history and meticulous detective work to create a revelatory account of the age. Both intimate and panoramic, it is a story with uncanny resonances for today.

Georgian mansions in Ireland, with some account of the evolution of Georgian architecture and decoration

Castles are the most familiar medieval landmark across the Irish countryside. Their often romantic appearance belies their turbulent history and their lore abounds in stories of sieges, betrayals and daring escapes. From the earliest stone castles such as Dublin Castle to the fortified manor houses such as Red Hugh O'Donnell's Donegal Castle, each has a fascinating and individual story to tell. Castles of Ireland brings the reader on a tour of more than sixty castles, from the biggest and most well-known to dramatic and atmospheric ruins which had a role to play in shaping Ireland's history.

The Autobiography of Arthur Young

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Life in the Country House in Georgian Ireland

This is a political history of Irish Catholic landlords from 1690 to 1800. Many had lost part of their estates under Queen Elizabeth, and most lost all under Cromwell. Those who supported James II against William of Orange - and most did so - lost what they had recovered under the Restoration, except for

about 800 who were allowed by the Articles of the Treaty of Limerick (1690) to keep their land. The British and Irish governments, and the legal profession, respected Catholic rights in this matter.

Brideshead Revisited

Offering a new theory of poetic constraint, this book analyses contributions of bound people to the history of the lyric.

The World That Never Was

Finally gathered inside a book, this compilation of Thomass777 posts and comments, the famous poster of underground forums likes the Salo Forum, My Posting Career or The Phora, is now available. Thomas777 covers a variety of subject including a full essay on 20th century history, nationalism, relationships, religions, and modern politics to a greater extent. Books include almost 40 different chapters and links to the forums mentioned before.

Castles of Ireland

To Ballinrath House, where purple bog gives way to slate-coloured mountains, comes Allan to visit his Irish cousins. No sooner has he arrived than he falls in love with Cousin Ann, though it seems that she only has eyes for Captain Dennys St Lawrence.

A Frenchman's Walk Through Ireland, 1796-7 (Promenade D'un Français Dans L'Irlande);

Brown or black shoes? Single or double-breasted jacket? Tie or no tie? In our increasingly informal world, knowing how a man should dress for each occasion has become ever more challenging. So, take the stress out of getting dressed with this invaluable little book. The Perfectly Dressed Gentleman is an indispensable guide through the modern sartorial maze. Witty and informative, it offers practical advice on what to wear on every occasion, from workplace to wedding, from home to holiday. Discover what to look for in a suit, in terms of colour, fabric and fit; learn how to tie a bow ties and the different knots for ordinary ties; find out the best ways to accessorize any outfit; and much more. Not only will you learn how always to look your best, but also how to avoid making fashion faux pas. Packed with tips and tricks, and illustrated throughout, it ensures that, whatever the occasion, you will always be a perfectly dressed gentleman. Robert O'Byrne was Fashion Correspondent for the Irish Times for ten years and has written extensively on style and design. Among his previous books are Style City: How London Became a Fashion Capital and Mind Your Manners: A Guide to Good Behaviour.

Grace's Card

The Tale of Little Pig Robinson is a charming children's book written by English author Helen Beatrix Potter. Potter's endearing characters, beautiful illustrations, and heartwarming narratives have captivated generations of readers. The Tale of Little Pig Robinson is no exception, as it follows the delightful adventures of the titular character, engaging young readers with its whimsical charm and gentle lessons.

Poetry and Bondage

A photographic chronicle of Irish country houses from their heyday to contemporary times.

Thomas777

Tomas O'Crohan's sole purpose in writing The Islandman was, he wrote, "to set down the character of the people about me so that some record of us might live after us, for the like of us will never be seen again." This is an absorbing narrative of a now-vanished way of life, written by one who had known no other.

The Knight Of Cheerful Countenance

Have you ever wondered how the ideas behind the world's greatest architectural designs came about? What process does an architect go through to design buildings which become world-renowned for their excellence? This book reveals the secrets behind these buildings. He asks you to 'read' the building and understand its starting point by analyzing its final form. Through the gradual revelations made by

an understanding of the thinking behind the form, you learn a unique methodology which can be used every time you look at any building.

The Perfectly Dressed Gentleman

Luggala explores "the scandals, intrigues, and heartbreaking beauty of one of Ireland's grandest homes" (Mitchell Owens, Wall Street Journal) that has bewitched the imagination of poets, rock stars, dreamers, and the aristocracy alike. Luggala explores "the scandals, intrigues, and heartbreaking beauty of one of Ireland's grandest homes" (Mitchell Owens, Wall Street Journal) that has bewitched the imagination of poets, rock stars, dreamers, and the aristocracy alike. Nestled in a secluded Irish valley, Luggala is an exquisite eighteenth-century house at the center of a 5,000-acre estate. In 1937 Ernest Guinness presented Luggala to his youngest daughter, Oonagh, who described Luggala as "the most decorative honey pot in Ireland" and made it the center of a dazzling social world that included painters, poets, scholars, and socialites. In the late 1960s she passed the estate to her son, the Hon Garech Browne, who has not only maintained but surpassed his mother's gifts both for hospitality and for bringing together a wide range of creative talents. Robert O'Byrne recounts this fascinating story, which celebrates both the unique beauty of this place and the many celebrated names irresistibly drawn there, from writers like Robert Lowell, Seamus Heaney, and Ted Hughes, to actors such as John Hurt and Daniel Day-Lewis, and above all musicians, including Mick Jagger and Marianne Faithfull, Bono, and Michael Jackson. All of them have succumbed to the enchantment of days passed at Luggala.

The Tale of Little Pig Robinson

By 1650, the spiritual and political power of the Catholic Church was shattered. Thanks to the twin blows of the Protestant Reformation and the Thirty Years War, Rome, celebrated both as the Eternal City and Caput Mundi - the head of the world - had lost its pre-eminent place in Europe. Then a new Pope, Alexander VII, fired with religious zeal, political guile and a mania for building, determined to restore the prestige of his church by making Rome the must-visit destination for Europe's intellectual, political and cultural elite. To help him do so, he enlisted the talents of Gianlorenzo Bernini, already celebrated as the most important living artist: no mean feat in the age of Rubens, Rembrandt and Velazquez. Together, Alexander VII and Bernini made the greatest artistic double act in history, inventing the concept of soft power and the bucket list destination. Their creation of Baroque Rome as a city more beautiful and grander than since the days of the Emperor Augustus continues to delight and attract. Famous as a TV Presenter for MasterChef and Through the Keyhole, Loyd Grossman has also been deeply involved in heritage and art history. His love of Rome was kindled by his first encounter with the enigmatic and strangely beautiful monument to this relationship between artist and pope: the elephant carrying on obelisk outside Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, just behind the Pantheon. Written with this as a starting point, *An Elephant in Rome* is a book for those who love the endless fascination of the Eternal City and want a deeper and more entertaining tale of how it came to be.

Irish Country Houses

This book is to coincide with the National Gallery's exhibiton of the same name. With chapters from leading Irish historians, including Roy Foster, Tom Dunne and Raoisain Kennedy, 'Creating History' delivers fascinating assessments that situate the Easter Rising and Ireland's claim to independence through the historical significance and aesthetic value of Ireland's major artistic works.

Vain Transitory Splendours

The mute, decaying, and extraordinarily beautiful world of Ireland's great ruins is captured in forty-one evocative photographs with text

Classic Irish Houses of the Middle Size

The Islandman