

1: Review: The Oxford Guide to Literary Britain and Ireland | Books | The Guardian

The Oxford Literary Guide to the British Isles Paperback - out of 5 stars 1 customer review See all 5 formats and editions Hide other formats and editions.

In Britain it is commonly understood as being a politically neutral geographical term, although it is sometimes used to refer to the UK or Great Britain alone. As a purely geographical term in technical contexts such as geology and natural history, there is less evidence of alternative terms being chosen. Recent histories of Great Britain and Ireland published by major British academic publishers such as the Oxford and Cambridge University presses have discussed the acceptability of the term "British Isles" in Ireland, although one study continues to use the term "for convenience". Beginning with "At last, someone has had the sense to abolish the British Isles", he opines that "although purely a geographical definition, it is frequently mixed up with the political entities Great Britain, or the United Kingdom. Even when used geographically, its exact scope is widely misunderstood". The term "British" had also never applied to Ireland until at least the late 16th century [33] and onwards. This period coincided with the Tudor conquest of Ireland, the subsequent Cromwellian activities in Ireland, the Williamite accession in Britain and the Williamite War in Ireland – all of which resulted in severe impact on the Irish people, landowners and native aristocracy. From that perspective, the term "British Isles" is not a neutral geographical term but an unavoidably political one. Use of the name "British Isles" is often rejected in the Republic of Ireland, because some claim its use implies a primacy of British identity over all the islands outside the United Kingdom, including the Irish state, [34] the Crown dependencies of the Isle of Man and Channel Islands that was historically dominating and is currently inaccurate, since Ireland is neither Britain nor British. It is without any official status. The Government, including the Department of Foreign Affairs, does not use this term. The decision was made after the issue was raised by a geography teacher. Folens stated that no parent had complained directly to them over the use of "British Isles" and that they had a policy of acting proactively, upon the appearance of a "potential problem". A survey in Northern Ireland found that Unionists generally considered the British Isles to be a natural geographical entity, considering themselves British and are mainly descendants of British settlers in Ireland. Identities were diverse and multi-layered, and Irishness was a highly contested identity; Nationalists expressed difficulty in understanding Unionist descriptions of Britishness. Politicians from the Irish Unionist tradition readily use the term "British Isles"; [57] [58] the contrast between Unionist and Nationalist approaches to the term was shown in December at a meeting of the Irish Cabinet and Northern Ireland Executive in Armagh. This represents the Irish government coming back into a relationship with the rest of the British Isles. We are ending the cold war that has divided not just Ireland but the British Isles. That division is now going to be transformed into a situation where all parts work together again in a way that respects each other. He understood that the concept of a Council of the Isles had been put forward by the Ulster Unionists and was referred to as a "Council for the British Isles" by David Trimble. Similar to "Great Britain and Ireland", this has been used in a variety of contexts – among others religious, [62] medical, [63] zoologic, [64] academic [65] and others. This form is also used in some book titles [66] and legal publications. The Government are, of course, conscious of the emphasis that is laid on the East-West dimension by Unionists, and we are, ourselves, very mindful of the unique relationships that exist within these islands – islands of the North Atlantic or IONA as some have termed them. I think that some people are calling it IONA – the islands of the north Atlantic, from which England, by definition, will be excluded. I noted with interest the naming of the islands of the north Atlantic under the acronym IONA which the Green Party felt was extremely appropriate. Insular Celtic is a similar term in linguistics. However, this adjective is used only in relation to artefacts originating over a thousand years ago. Names of the islands through the ages[edit] Main article: During the Roman era, the word " Britannia " came to mean the Roman province of Britain in particular. Other early classical geographers and native sources in the post-Roman period used the general term *oceani insulae*, which meant "islands of the ocean". Great Britain was called "Britannia"; Ireland was known as "Hibernia" and, between about the 5th and 11th centuries, " Scotia ". The Orkney Islands "Orcaades" and the Isle of Man

were typically also included in descriptions of the islands. No collective term for the islands was used other than "islands of the Ocean". By the middle of the 16th Century the term appears on maps made by geographers including George Lilly [80] and Sebastian Munster [81]. The term "British Isles" entered the English language in the late 16th century to refer to Great Britain, Ireland and the surrounding islands. In general, the modern notion of "Britishness" evolved after the Act of Union. Although the earliest texts have been lost, excerpts were quoted or paraphrased by later authors. It is often taken as a reference to the practice by the inhabitants of painting or tattooing their skin; since it is unusual for an autonym a self-description to describe appearance, this name may have been used by Armoricans. The deduced Celtic name for Ireland - Iverio - from which its present name was derived, was known to the Greeks by the 4th century BC at least, possibly as early as the 6th century BC. The name meant "the fertile land". It was Latinised to Hiernia or Hibernia. Its people were the Iverni. He refers to Great Britain as the island called "Britannia", noting that its former name was "Albion". The list also includes the island of Thule, most often identified as Iceland - although some express the view that it may have been the Faroe Islands - the coast of Norway or Denmark, or possibly Shetland. Ptolemy included essentially the same main islands in the Britannias. He wrote around AD 150, although he used the now-lost work of Marinus of Tyre from about fifty years earlier. Second was the island of Great Britain, which he called "Albion". Ptolemy included Thule in the chapter on Albion, although the coordinates he gives have been mapped to the area around modern Kristiansund in western Norway. Ptolemy relied on the work of an earlier geographer, Marinus of Tyre. So the Geography generally reflects the situation c. 100 AD. Following the conquest of AD 43 the Roman province of Britannia was established, [99] and Roman Britain expanded to cover much of the island of Great Britain. An invasion of Ireland was considered but never undertaken, and Ireland remained outside the Roman Empire. The post-Roman era saw Brythonic kingdoms established in all areas of Britain except the Scottish Highlands, but coming under increasing attacks from Picts, Scotti and Anglo-Saxons. At this time Ireland was dominated by the Gaels or Scotti, who subsequently gave their names to Ireland and Scotland. Oceani insulae[edit] In classical geography, the Mediterranean world was thought to be surrounded by a fast-flowing river, personified as the Titan Oceanus. As a result, islands off the north and west shores of continental Europe were termed in Latin the Oceani Insulae or "islands of the Ocean. One such example is the Life of Saint Columba, a hagiography recording the missionary activities of the 6th century Irish monk Saint Columba among the peoples of modern-day Scotland. Jordanes, writing in his AD 551 *Getica*, describes the islands particularly in the Western Ocean as "islands of the Ocean"; he named various islands in the North Atlantic, and believed Scandinavia to be one of them. Another native source to use the term is the *Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum* of Bede, written in the early 8th century. In the 17th century, Peter Heylin, in his *Microcosmus*, described the classical conception of the Ocean and included in the "Iles of the Ocean" all the classically known offshore islands - Zeeland, the British Isles, and those in the "Northerne Sea". This map shows the British Isles red at the centre of the empire pink in where England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales are referred to as the Home Nations. Arthur who was now sleeping would one day return to the rescue. He helped to develop legal justifications for colonisation by Protestant England, breaking the duopoly the Pope had granted to the Spanish and Portuguese Empires. Dee coined the term "British Empire" and built his case, in part, on the claim of a "British Ocean"; including Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Greenland and possibly North America, he used alleged Saxon precedent to claim territorial and trading rights. Dee used the term "Brytish Iles" in his writings of 1602, which developed his arguments claiming these territories. Writing from his English political perspective, he grouped Ireland with Great Britain and the minor islands with these three arguments: This meant the end of British rule in most of Ireland.

2: - The Oxford Literary Guide to the British Isles by Dorothy Eagle

*The Oxford Literary Guide to the British Isles [Dorothy Eagle] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Describes towns, buildings, and districts associated with the lives and works of English, Scottish, Irish.*

Sign up for our Free Newsletter here. To ask more questions about the tour or to book your tour spaces are limited, please call our agent, Karen Gerlach, toll free: Do you want to have the time of your life in the land of your forefathers? This is slated to become a never-to-be-forgotten experience. The Proctors have been traveling and researching in the British Isles for the past 23 years. The best way to see if you want to join us on this incredible journey is to give you a day-by-day itinerary with some beautiful photographs and then let you naturally decide for yourself. We are offering the following tour first to you Meridian readers, and then to others in the Morris Murdock traveling family. Carefully look over this experience. Pricing and add-on details will be included at the end. Day 1 – Tue July 5 Today we will depart the U. S and fly overnight to Edinburgh, Scotland. Day 2 – Wed July 6 Welcome to Scotland. We begin our adventure with a visit to Calton Hill. After booking into our hotel we venture out on foot to take our first venture into the Old Town. We also find the humble beginnings of the Harry Potter phenomena and the charm of Greyfriars Bobby. Later on in the evening, dinner will be on your own. Lunch will be on your own. You may want to shop for some kilts, bagpipes and tartan galore! You get to spit on the pavement should you feel the urge, puzzle over the Scottish Parliament building, and then run for sanctuary. Our afternoon ends with a visit to Holyrood Palace – still a Royal Palace and full of royal splendor, intrigue and scandal! This evening we descend with our costumed guide underneath the streets of Edinburgh to find a warren of hidden streets frozen in time since the 17th Century – a mysterious and fascinating adventure. Dinner is included tonight. Day 4 – Fri July 8 This morning we will have breakfast and then take the scenic 1 hour drive to visit Stirling Castle. Its striking location was the constant battle ground between England and Scotland for centuries. Witness how James V changed the Royal Palace into a public relations masterpiece with carvings and the Stirling Heads showing his divine right to rule. The mystery of what is in those sealed crypts continues to create speculation, but the pure skill of these master masons is what keeps people coming back. For dinner this evening we will enjoy a Taste of Scotland – a not-to-be-missed evening of Scottish music, costume, bagpipes, fiddles and dance in the magically historic setting of Prestonfield House. Enjoy exceptional entertainment with a gourmet dinner served by kilted waiters. Try some Angus beef or Orkney Salmon or even a wee taste of Haggis, neeps and tatties. Today we will embark on a day of scenery and inspiration driving through the famous Lake District. The museum next door is full of original artifacts and manuscripts. We also find a link with Goldilocks and the three bears and a recital that will change the way you see that story forever. This tiny farmhouse is a delightful time capsule particularly when you start to match the drawings from her stories with actual locations. We then take a cruise on Lake Windermere, the largest of all the Lakes, followed by a trip on a steam train – a romantic reminder of bygone times. As we head south we pass through the John Taylor sites where he was born, christened, worked and lived and get to see their last home before the whole family immigrated to Canada. We finish the day with a surprising American connection. We will enjoy dinner at a delightful country pub and will overnight in Chorley. We visit all of the well-known sites including their lodgings where a host of evil spirits attacked them, the River Ribble where the first British baptisms took place, the Vauxhall Chapel Site where they first preached and the cockpit site where the first British Conference was held in We will enjoy dinner near the hotel and overnight in Chorley. Day 7 – Mon July 11 After breakfast we will continue on to Liverpool. Liverpool served as the arrival point for hundreds of missionaries and the departure point for thousands of emigrants as they gathered to Zion throughout the 19th century. We take a tour around this famous city which, besides its LDS history, has had a long association with America including slaves, cotton, Beatles and the claim that the first and final acts of the American Civil War took place here! We visit the beautifully restored Albert Docks where we learn more about the life of an emigrant, see the Sea Trek monument and discover a host of famous LDS names. Next we drive through the beautiful English countryside and visit the Roman settlement of Ribchester where, on the banks of the River

Ribble we hear of secret baptisms and a raging bull. We visit tiny villages and a castle town – all of which have LDS tales to tell. We find the delightful villages of Chatburn and Downham and relive one of the most touching encounters of Heber C. We even have time to go Hobbit hunting and find out the origin of Sherlock Holmes. Experience how bone china was made with working workshops and giant bottle kilns – the last complete Victorian Pottery factory in the country. Experts give live demonstrations of bone china flower making, pot throwing, and hand painting. We drive through the Cotswolds – famous for its rural nature and warm, limestone buildings – to find the historic village of Broadway. This is a 17th century hall with open fire and barrel-vaulted ceiling. This hound event will make your day. Later, we discover sites made famous by Wilford Woodruff and the United Brethren. This is a tale of miracle after miracle. We will have lunch on your own in the medieval market town of Ledbury. During our visit we will learn of a Civil War battleground, wattle and daub, the Dymock Poets and the strained family relations of Elizabeth Barrett Browning. We follow in the footsteps of Wilford Woodruff, Willard Richards and Brigham Young to the top of the Herefordshire Beacon for a very important meeting. Plus we get a sense of the influence of these early converts after they emigrate to join the saints in Nauvoo. We meet up with the likes of Thomas Kington – the head of the United Brethren, William Pitt, the musical convert, James Palmer, a remarkable missionary, and many others. The stories on this tour demonstrate the faith of these early converts as they witness miracles and persecutions unfold in their tiny villages. The next two nights we stay at the Celtic Manor. This five star resort is set in 2, acres of panoramic parkland and the perfect place for our exploration of Wales. Day 10 – Thu July 14 Today we venture into Wales to experience beautiful Welsh valleys, coal mines and a walk through centuries of Welsh history. Here in South Wales thousands of Welsh families converted and emigrated bringing with them their love of the Gospel and powerful singing voices. Descend feet underground to experience a real coal mine with a real coal miner. South Wales was once a massive coal producing area, and the scars of that industry are only gradually starting to fade. Visit the whole of Welsh history in one spot! Over 40 original buildings from throughout the nation has been carefully reconstructed and preserved allowing us to walk through the wide spectrum of Welsh history. We will have dinner at one of the Celtic Manor Restaurants and overnight in Newport. This home is the absolute pinnacle of an English stately home – includes an exhibition on Winston Churchill who was born here. Includes a short stroll in their magnificent gardens to see where Winston proposed to Clementine! In the Afternoon we will make a stop in Oxford. This tour winds its way through the streets of Oxford, through stately colleges and grassy meadows, to discover some of the Noble and Great Ones. We track the history back to the beginnings of Oxford, to the time of the miraculous Frideswide, and then build layer upon layer of famous name after famous names including Henry VIII, Cardinal Wolsey, Lewis Carroll, C. Tonight, we will spend our land night in England at a hotel in London. After having a wonderful experience in the United Kingdom we will return to the U. An add-on tour of London is available at the end of the trip. Please call for details. To ask more questions or to book your tour spaces are limited , please call our agent, Karen Gerlach, toll free: Air can be purchased through Morris Murdock or through your own sources, but you must be schedule to arrive approximately the same time as the main group arrival. You may also use frequent flyer miles for air if you desire. Please let Karen know what you desire to do. Itinerary is subject to change.

3: Around Oxford Travel Information | Bradt Travel Guides

The Oxford Literary Guide to the British Isles has 3 ratings and 0 reviews. Informative and entertaining, this guide is the ideal companion for any journey.

Britain place name , British Isles naming dispute , and Terminology of the British Isles The earliest known references to the islands as a group appeared in the writings of sea-farers from the ancient Greek colony of Massalia. The British Isles lie at the juncture of several regions with past episodes of tectonic mountain building. Baltica formed roughly the northwestern half of Ireland and Scotland. Further collisions caused the Variscan orogeny in the Devonian and Carboniferous periods, forming the hills of Munster , southwest England, and southern Wales. Whether or not there was a land bridge between Great Britain and Ireland at this time is somewhat disputed, though there was certainly a single ice sheet covering the entire sea. On the west coasts of Ireland and Scotland that directly face the Atlantic Ocean there are several long peninsulas , and many headlands and bays; the internal and eastern coasts are "smoother". There are about permanently inhabited islands in the group, the largest two being Great Britain and Ireland. The islands are at relatively low altitudes, with central Ireland and southern Great Britain particularly low-lying: Climate The climate of the British Isles is mild, moist and changeable with abundant rainfall and a lack of temperature extremes. Most Atlantic depressions pass to the north of the islands, combined with the general westerly circulation and interactions with the landmass, this imposes an east-west variation in climate. The islands enjoy a mild climate and varied soils , giving rise to a diverse pattern of vegetation. Animal and plant life is similar to that of the northwestern European mainland. There are however, fewer numbers of species , with Ireland having even less. All native flora and fauna in Ireland is made up of species that migrated from elsewhere in Europe, and Great Britain in particular. The only window when this could have occurred was between the end of the last Ice Age about 12, years ago and when the land bridge connecting the two islands was flooded by sea about 8, years ago. As with most of Europe, prehistoric Britain and Ireland were covered with forest and swamp. Clearing began around BC and accelerated in medieval times. Despite this, Britain retained its primeval forests longer than most of Europe due to a small population and later development of trade and industry, and wood shortages were not a problem until the 17th century. Most forest land in Ireland is maintained by state forestation programmes. Almost all land outside urban areas is farmland. However, relatively large areas of forest remain in east and north Scotland and in southeast England. Oak , elm , ash and beech are amongst the most common trees in England. In Scotland, pine and birch are most common. Natural forests in Ireland are mainly oak, ash, wych elm , birch and pine. Beech and lime , though not native to Ireland, are also common there. Farmland hosts a variety of semi-natural vegetation of grasses and flowering plants. Woods, hedgerows , mountain slopes and marshes host heather , wild grasses, gorse and bracken. Many larger animals, such as wolf , bear and the European elk are today extinct. However, some species such as red deer are protected. Other small mammals, such as rabbits , foxes , badgers , hares , hedgehogs , and stoats , are very common and the European beaver has been reintroduced in parts of Scotland. Wild boar have also been reintroduced to parts of southern England, following escapes from boar farms and illegal releases. Many rivers contain otters and seals are common on coasts. Over species of bird reside permanently and another migrate. Common types are the common chaffinch , common blackbird , house sparrow and common starling ; all small birds. Large birds are declining in number, except for those kept for game such as pheasant , partridge , and red grouse. Fish are abundant in the rivers and lakes, in particular salmon , trout , perch and pike. Sea fish include dogfish , cod , sole , pollock and bass , as well as mussels , crab and oysters along the coast. There are more than 21, species of insects. Few species of reptiles or amphibians are found in Great Britain or Ireland. Only three snakes are native to Great Britain: In general, Great Britain has slightly more variation and native wild life, with weasels , polecats , wildcats , most shrews , moles , water voles , roe deer and common toads also being absent from Ireland. This pattern is also true for birds and insects. Notable exceptions include the Kerry slug and certain species of woodlouse native to Ireland but not Great Britain. Domestic animals include the Connemara pony , Shetland pony , English Mastiff , Irish wolfhound and many varieties of cattle and sheep.

Elsewhere in Great Britain and Ireland, high density of population is limited to areas around a few large cities. The largest urban area by far is the Greater London Built-up Area with 9 million inhabitants. Other major population centres include the Greater Manchester Built-up Area 2. Ireland for most of its history had much the same population density as Great Britain about one third of the total population. However, since the Great Irish Famine , the population of Ireland has fallen to less than one tenth of the population of the British Isles. The famine caused a century-long population decline, drastically reduced the Irish population and permanently altered the demographic make-up of the British Isles. On a global scale, this disaster led to the creation of an Irish diaspora that numbers fifteen times the current population of the island. The linguistic heritage of the British Isles is rich, [59] with twelve languages from six groups across four branches of the Indo-European family. The Insular Celtic languages of the Goidelic sub-group Irish , Manx and Scottish Gaelic and the Brittonic sub-group Cornish , Welsh and Breton , spoken in north-western France are the only remaining Celtic languages – the last of their continental relations were extinct before the 7th century. A cant , called Shelta , is spoken by Irish Travellers , often to conceal meaning from those outside the group. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. January Learn how and when to remove this template message

At the end of the last ice age , what are now the British Isles were joined to the European mainland as a mass of land extending north west from the modern-day northern coastline of France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Ice covered almost all of what is now Scotland, most of Ireland and Wales, and the hills of northern England. From 14, to 10, years ago, as the ice melted, sea levels rose separating Ireland from Great Britain and also creating the Isle of Man. About two to four millennia later, Great Britain became separated from the mainland. Britain probably became repopulated with people before the ice age ended and certainly before it became separated from the mainland. It is likely that Ireland became settled by sea after it had already become an island. At the time of the Roman Empire , about two thousand years ago, various tribes, which spoke Celtic dialects of the Insular Celtic group, were inhabiting the islands. At that time, Ireland was populated by a people known as Hiberni , the northern third or so of Great Britain by a people known as Picts and the southern two thirds by Britons. Initially, their arrival seems to have been at the invitation of the Britons as mercenaries to repulse incursions by the Hiberni and Picts. In time, Anglo-Saxon demands on the British became so great that they came to culturally dominate the bulk of southern Great Britain, though recent genetic evidence suggests Britons still formed the bulk of the population. This dominance creating what is now England and leaving culturally British enclaves only in the north of what is now England , in Cornwall and what is now known as Wales. Ireland had been unaffected by the Romans except, significantly, for being Christianised – traditionally by the Romano-Briton, Saint Patrick. As Europe, including Britain, descended into turmoil following the collapse of Roman civilisation, an era known as the Dark Ages , Ireland entered a golden age and responded with missions first to Great Britain and then to the continent , the founding of monasteries and universities. These were later joined by Anglo-Saxon missions of a similar nature. Viking invasions began in the 9th century, followed by more permanent settlements, particularly along the east coast of Ireland, the west coast of modern-day Scotland and the Isle of Man. Though the Vikings were eventually neutralised in Ireland, their influence remained in the cities of Dublin , Cork , Limerick , Waterford and Wexford. England, however, was slowly conquered around the turn of the first millennium AD, and eventually became a feudal possession of Denmark. The relations between the descendants of Vikings in England and counterparts in Normandy , in northern France, lay at the heart of a series of events that led to the Norman conquest of England in The remnants of the Duchy of Normandy , which conquered England, remain associated to the English Crown as the Channel Islands to this day. Though initially intended to be kept as an independent kingdom, the failure of the Irish High King to ensure the terms of the Treaty of Windsor led Henry II, as King of England, to rule as effective monarch under the title of Lord of Ireland. A similar situation existed in the Principality of Wales , which was slowly being annexed into the Kingdom of England by a series of laws. During the course of the 15th century, the Crown of England would assert a claim to the Crown of France, thereby also releasing the King of England from being vassal of the King of France. His response was to place the King of England as "the only Supreme Head in Earth of the Church of England ", thereby removing the authority of the Pope from the affairs of the English

Church. Ireland, which had been held by the King of England as Lord of Ireland, but which strictly speaking had been a feudal possession of the Pope since the Norman invasion was declared a separate kingdom in personal union with England. Scotland, meanwhile had remained an independent Kingdom. In 1707, that changed when the King of Scotland inherited the Crown of England, and consequently the Crown of Ireland also. The subsequent 17th century was one of political upheaval, religious division and war. English colonialism in Ireland of the 16th century was extended by large-scale Scottish and English colonies in Ulster. Religious division heightened and the king in England came into conflict with parliament over his tolerance towards Catholicism. Ireland, largely Catholic was mainly loyal to the king. Following defeat to the parliaments army, large scale land distributions from loyalist Irish nobility to English commoners in the service of the parliamentary army created a new Ascendancy class which obliterated the remnants of Old English Hiberno-Norman and Gaelic Irish nobility in Ireland. The new ruling class was Protestant and English, whilst the populace was largely Catholic and Irish. This theme would influence Irish politics for centuries to come. When the monarchy was restored in England, the king found it politically impossible to restore the lands of former land-owners in Ireland. The "Glorious Revolution" of repeated similar themes: Resistance held out, eventually forcing the guarantee of religious tolerance in the Treaty of Limerick. However, the terms were never honoured and a new monarchy was installed. Following an attempted republican revolution in Ireland in 1798, the Kingdoms of Ireland and Great Britain were unified in 1801, creating the United Kingdom. The Isle of Man and the Channel Islands remaining outside of the United Kingdom but with their ultimate good governance being the responsibility of the British Crown effectively the British government. Although, the colonies of North America that would become the United States of America were lost by the start of the 19th century, the British Empire expanded rapidly elsewhere. A century later it would cover one third of the globe. Poverty in the United Kingdom remained desperate, however, and industrialisation in England led to terrible condition for the working classes.

4: Literature - Oxford Handbooks

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Sometimes the world of academia and streets filled with ancient institutions can begin to feel slightly claustrophobic and the need to escape bombards the mind. Summertown is a vibrant suburb to the north of Oxford with its own community feel and collection of shops and restaurants. It still retains the buzz of city life but without the glut of historic buildings. You can take a tour of the Oxford plant by pre-booking. Back to the top East of the city With views over the city from the hilltop, bracken-covered slopes sit side by side with ancient woods flowery meadows, marshes and ponds. To the east of the city is Shotover Country Park, where acres of hillside can be explored. With views over the city from the hilltop, bracken-covered slopes sit side by side with ancient woods – it was once part of the royal forest of Shotover – flowery meadows, marshes and ponds. Celandines, bluebells and ox-eye daisies swathe slopes frequented by butterflies, song thrushes and muntjac deer. A station orienteering course is marked out around the park too – look out for the red and white marker posts. The group offers numerous volunteer conservation days, courses and events throughout the year, led by leading ecologists. His poem attracted many people who built houses there to take advantage of the view he described, and the view disappeared. Jarn Mound was built by hand to retrieve the vista across the land on the north side of the hill, which is now owned by the Oxford Preservation Trust, an organisation similar to the National Trust, but specifically for Oxford. The trust also owns other areas of Boars Hill including Abraham Wood, with public access. The acres of riverside common land is a popular strolling ground, accessed at its southern end from Jericho close to the city centre and at its northern end from Wolvercote, where the popular Trout Inn tucks up against a spur of the River Isis Thames. Lunchtime picnic trips and straightforward sightseeing trips alongside Port Meadow are offered too. Back to the top Wytham Tucked over the little Wytham stream with its handsome manor house and church, the village is worlds apart from city life. One final hideaway, only a mile west of Port Meadow is the tiny village of Wytham. It was a tradition before the age of the car for residents of Oxford to drive out from the city with a pony and cart for strawberry teas at Wytham. Tucked over the little Wytham stream with its handsome manor house and church, the village is worlds apart from city life. The little village shop includes a tea garden where the tradition of having a strawberry tea continues. Opposite is the cosy White Hart Inn, with a very pleasant walled garden surrounded by the woods. You can walk to the village from the city using the Thames Path or by crossing Port Meadow and walking the last few yards along the quiet road from the Trout Inn.

5: British Isles naming dispute - Wikipedia

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Scholars debate whether the Victorian period—as defined by a variety of sensibilities and political concerns that have come to be associated with the Victorians—actually begins with the passage of the Reform Act. The era was preceded by the Regency era and succeeded by the Edwardian period. Victoria became queen in 1837 at age 18. Her long reign saw Britain reach the zenith of its economic and political power, with the introduction of steam ships, railroads, photography, and the telegraph. Britain again remained mostly inactive in Continental politics. Using the imperial tools of free trade and financial investment, [15] it exerted major influence on many countries outside Europe, especially in Latin America and Asia. Thus Britain had both a formal Empire based on British rule as well as an informal one based on the British pound. It was well understood that a collapse of that country would set off a scramble for its territory and possibly plunge Britain into war. To head that off Britain sought to keep the Russians from occupying Constantinople and taking over the Bosphorous Straits, as well as from threatening India via Afghanistan. Despite mediocre generalship, they managed to capture the Russian port of Sevastopol, compelling Tsar Nicholas I to ask for peace. Prince Albert was effective in defusing a war scare in late 1854. The British people, however, who depended heavily on American food imports, generally favoured the Union. Since support of the Confederacy now meant supporting the institution of slavery, there was no possibility of European intervention. Several of the colonies temporarily refused to join the Dominion despite pressure from both Canada and Britain; the last one, Newfoundland, held out until 1909. Having possessions on six continents, Britain had to defend all of its empire and did so with a volunteer army, the only great power in Europe to have no conscription. Some questioned whether the country was overstretched. Germany acquired a number of colonies in Africa and the Pacific, but Chancellor Otto von Bismarck succeeded in achieving general peace through his balance of power strategy. The British imperial vision called for control over these new countries, and the Dutch-speaking "Boers" or "Afrikaners" fought back in the War in 1899. Outgunned by a mighty empire, the Boers waged a guerrilla war which certain other British territories would later employ to attain independence. This gave the British regulars a difficult fight, but their weight of numbers, superior equipment, and often brutal tactics, eventually brought about a British victory. The war had been costly in human rights and was widely criticised by Liberals in Britain and worldwide. However, the United States gave its support. The Boer republics were merged into the Union of South Africa in 1910; this had internal self-government, but its foreign policy was controlled by London and it was an integral part of the British Empire. When potato blight hit the island in 1845, much of the rural population was left without food, because cash crops were being exported to pay rents. While funds were raised by private individuals and charities, lack of adequate action let the problem become a catastrophe. Cottiers or farm labourers were largely wiped out during what is known in Ireland as the "Great Hunger". A significant minority elected Unionists, who championed the Union. A Church of Ireland former Tory barrister turned nationalist campaigner, Isaac Butt, established a new moderate nationalist movement, the Home Rule League, in the 1840s. The issue was a source of contention throughout Ireland, as a significant majority of Unionists largely but not exclusively based in Ulster, opposed Home Rule, fearing that a Catholic Nationalist "Rome Rule" Parliament in Dublin would discriminate or retaliate against them, impose Roman Catholic doctrine, and impose tariffs on industry. While most of Ireland was primarily agricultural, six of the counties in Ulster were the location of heavy industry and would be affected by any tariff barriers imposed. Queen Victoria, who had reigned since 1837, died in 1901 and was succeeded by her son, Edward VII, who, in turn, was succeeded by George V in 1910. Home Rule in Ireland, which had been a major political issue since the late 19th century but put on hold by the war, was somewhat resolved after the Irish War of Independence brought the British Government to a stalemate in 1921. Negotiations led to the formation of the Irish Free State. However, in order to appease Unionists in the north, the north-eastern six counties remained as part of the U.K. In December 1936, he decided to abdicate in

order to be able to marry Simpson, and his brother George VI was crowned king. For the first time, civilians were not exempt from the war, as London suffered nightly bombings during the Blitz. Attlee created a Welfare State in Britain, which most notably provided free healthcare under the National Health Service. By the late s, the Cold War was underway, which would dominate British foreign policy for another 40 years. In , Churchill and the Tories returned to power; they would govern uninterrupted for the next 13 years. Labour returned to power in under Harold Wilson , who brought in a number of social reforms, including the legalisation of abortion, the abolition of capital punishment and the decriminalisation of homosexuality. Tensions between Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland came to a head in the late s, when nationalist participants in a civil rights march were shot by members of the B Specials , a reserve police force manned almost exclusively by unionists. In , Diana was killed in a car crash in Paris, leading to a mass outpouring of grief across the United Kingdom, and indeed the world. On the international stage, the second half of the 20th century was dominated by the Cold War between the Soviet Union and its socialist allies and the United States and its capitalist allies; the U. During this period, the U. In contrast, the Republic of Ireland remained neutral and provided troops to U. Blair won re-election in and , before handing over power to his chancellor Gordon Brown in After a decade of prosperity both the U. In polling suggested a hung parliament was the most likely outcome in the General Election; however the Conservatives secured a slim majority. After the September 11 Attacks , the U. London was attacked in July In a referendum in , the U.

6: Oxford Companion to Black British History - Oxford Reference

The Oxford Literary Guide to the British Isles: An A-Z of Literary Britain and Ireland by Dorothy & Carnell, Hilary Eagle. BCA, Hardcover. Used; Good. No Dust jacket.

Kenneth Campbell integrates the histories of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales by exploring common themes and drawing on comparative examples, while also demonstrating how those histories are different, making this a genuinely integrated text. Table of contents Introduction: Approaches to the History of the British Isles 1. Conquest, Colonization, and Culture: The High Middle Ages from ca. Plague, Politics, and Power: Religion, Warfare, and Dynastic Politics: The Tudors and the Stewarts in the Sixteenth Century 5. From Stewart to Stuart: The Monarchy and the Three Kingdoms, to 6. From Cromwell to the Battle of the Boyne 7. From the Treaty of Limerick to the Battle of Culloden 8. War with France and Its Aftermath: Politics, Society, and Culture in the Nineteenth Century The British Empire in the Nineteenth Century In the Shadow of the Great War, ca. Peace and War, The Post-War Period, to Social Change and the End of Empire Change, Instability, and Adjustment: Demands, Disappointments, Hopes, and Promises: There could be no better time than the present to study this guide to their past. Prehistory to Present draws upon the latest scholarship to provide a lively narrative that embeds political developments in a rich cultural and social context. Its accessible prose and comprehensive scope will make it valuable as a text for both introductory and more advanced surveys of British history. His scholarship is fresh and up to date, his conclusions are judicious and his writing is crystal clear. The book will serve as an invaluable introduction for undergraduates, a useful aid for teachers and an engaging text for general readers. He points out that the psychological effects of the plague had a significant impact on the interdependence of survivors.

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