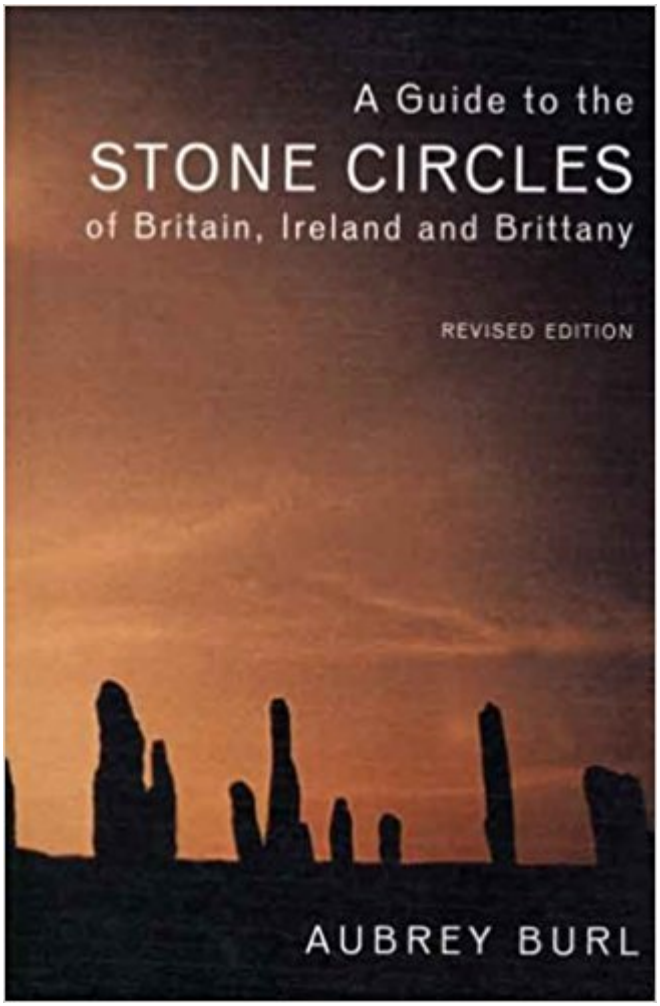
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A Guide To The Stone Circles Of Britain, Ireland And Brittany: Second Edition



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Synopsis

This practical and knowledgeable guidebook deals comprehensively with the stone circles of Britain and Ireland and with the cromlechs and megalithic "horseshoes" of Brittany. This new edition includes a section on "Druidical" circles, romantic creations of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries."This book is not only an elegant and practical guide, it is also the best single-volume study of this extraordinary phenomenon, embracing 500 monuments from Shetland to Brittany. . . . Confident, erudite, pleasurable, this volume can be recommended as travel guide, archaeology, literature, and sheer good company."Ã¢â ¬â ¢Ian Sheperd, British Archaeology"This is a wonderful book and is a must for anyone remotely interested in things megalithic."Ã¢â ¬â ¢Paul Walsh, Archaeology Ireland

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Customer Reviews

"An informed, informative, and well-balanced survey of the facts, fictions, and problems of our stone circles." Glyn Daniel, The Guardian "Burl's authoritative book is indispensable for anyone pursuing this tantalising enigma." Publishers' Weekly "A magnificent book thorough, lucid, scholarly, and at times poetic...A landmark book." Alan J. Friedman, San Francisco Review of Books "An admirable balance of scholarship and literary skill." New Yorker --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Aubrey Burl was until his retirement principal lecturer in archaeology at Hull College of Higher Education. He is the author of numerous publications, including The Stone Circles of the British Isles, Prehistoric Avebury, and From Carnac to Callanish, all published by Yale University Press.

Aubrey Burl’s previous works were showing a wee bit of dating. As carbon dating become more accurate, you are seeing these ancient rings grow older in age instead of younger as they anticipated. While Burl’s previous works were amazing, this long awaited "update" of this information, as well as addition information on more recent excavations make this is must. Yes, it expensive. But it’s worth every penny. There are new insight in the the purpose of the rings of stone, a new interpretation of Calanais (sorry, as a Scot I refuse to call it Callanish!) and StonehengeThe beautiful book is loaded with hundreds of photos, explores the ancestry, methods of construction and why they were abandoned after thousands of years of use.Marvelous work made even better by bringing the information up to date.

Finally I got the first and longest lasting item on my wish list..this book! Having been to GB and having seen a number of these wonderful sites, I wanted a guide to them so that I could plan a trip just to see more stone circles. I also ordered Standing with Stones: a photographic journey. Together these books give a now armchair archaeologist the perfect combination of resources.

Great book, one of the more detailed I have found. Wish It had more on the stones in france though.

I would give this book five stars for the photos, which are great. The text describing the sites is very good, along with the historical context. The maps showing the locations of the sites is well done and very helpful.

This is not a picture book so much as a guide. If you are going to the UK and want to look for stone circles & monuments, this book is a very helpful guide for locating and learning something about them.

I am not accustomed to purchasing so expensive and specialized a book, but in the early autumn of 1979, I had the privilege of working on a Scottish dig run by Dr. Burl, and I have long admired his scholarship and dedication---and this revision is, simply put, GREAT! The depth of information is astounding, and I found the the presentation engrossing, the subject fascinating, and the style quite readable---certainly NOT only for students or devotees of archaeology. I can’t recommend this one highly enough---it may seem like something of an indulgence for your personal library, but it’s worth every penny. Alas, the book is far to heavy to carry about in one’s luggage, but I’ve already marked

at least two dozen sites that I want to visit the next time I cross the Atlantic. In the meantime, settle back in a comfortable chair and get ready to cast your mind back a couple of millenia...

Burl, an expert on the subject of stone circles, hascreated an essential and portable guide to all of themajor sites in Great Britain and Brittany. The sites listed in the book are numbered and keyed to useful maps which offers visitors to a given area the opportunity to avoid missing anything of interest. Each site has a thorough description which often includes interpretations, a "condition code", and practical instructions as to how to find it. Also included is a good index and bibliography, and, for most sites, reference to published literature. This is not a book of photographs or site maps, although there are quite a few of each, especially for the better sites. Rather, this is an exceptional and really practical little guidebook, one anyone headed for the field will certainly want to carry along.

My husband and I are very interested in ancient cultures and especially stone circles; this book told us where they were, what to expect to see, and how to get there (which wasn't always very easy!) We were able to pick an area of England with a heavy concentration of good quality circles based on his descriptions and pictures, and with book in hand, see many of the ones we chose. Mr. Burl is kind enough to mention when the going is tough, and he was always right. The only thing that could make this book any more invaluable as a field guide would be inclusion of Surveyor's Maps of the areas...but those can be purchased easily in the countries in question. (Color photos would've been nice, too!) Highly recommended for real trip-planning, or just for inspiration!

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