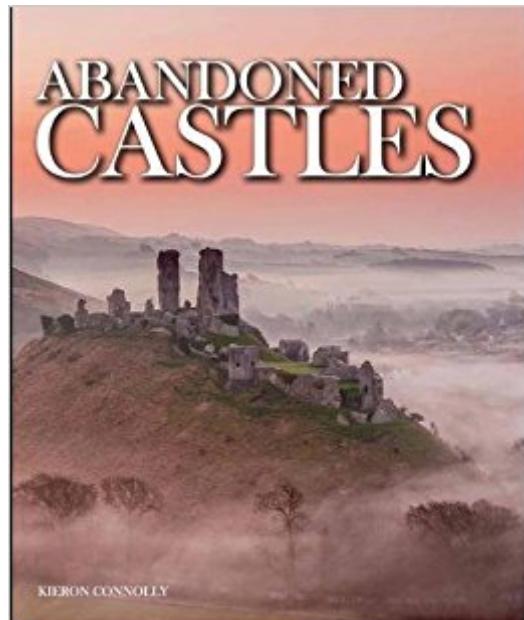


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Abandoned Castles



Synopsis

An ancient hilltop fortress. A crusader citadel in the West Bank. A fairytale medieval castle fallen into ruin. From ancient times to the end of the nineteenth century, *Abandoned Castles* explores more than 100 forts, castles and defensive strongholds from all around the globe. From medieval Japanese castles to Spanish colonial forts in West Africa to Norman stone keeps, the book ranges widely across history. Many have long ceased to serve a purpose, but then, like the crusader castle Krak de Chevaliers in Syria today, their impenetrable walls become the site of more fighting centuries later. Others, such as the Cathar Château de Queribus in southern France, stand high above peaceful coastlines, testament to the wars of the past. Some are beautiful, others brutal, but each tells a story about the way we fought and defended ourselves, and how the building has survived and aged, long after the people it was built by are gone. With 150 outstanding color photographs, *Abandoned Castles* is a brilliant pictorial examination of castles, forts, keeps, and defensive fortifications from the ancient world to the end of the nineteenth century.

Book Information

Series: Abandoned

Hardcover: 224 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #9,124 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Military History #3 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Architectural #4 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > History

Customer Reviews

A graduate from Edinburgh University and the National Film & Television School, Kieron Connolly has written for the *Mail on Sunday* and the *Daily Mail*, and has interviewed film-makers for *movieScope Magazine*.

As a little boy I read a book called *The Castle of Adventure*. I was about nine years old and it

absolutely captivated me. Since then I've visited many castles around England and always found a mysterious romance lurking in them. Kieron Connolly's book throws the net far wider in that this book brings us castles from right across Europe, India, the Middle East and even Central America. But always the same questions arise about these many ruins. Why were they built? Who built them? And why have they been abandoned. This is physical history for anyone who still sees a castle as a place of fascinating history.

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