# Somerset Stone Age to WWII: Visitors' Guide to Historic Britain

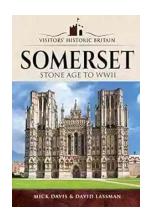
Exploring the rich history of Britain is like taking a walk back in time. From the Stone Age to World War II, Somerset offers a captivating journey through centuries of historical significance. Immerse yourself in the tales of ancient civilizations, witness the remnants of medieval times, and delve into the stories of World War II as you explore this remarkable region of Great Britain.

### The Stone Age: Where It All Began

The Stone Age, spanning over 3 million years, marks the beginning of human history. Somerset's fascinating prehistoric sites enable visitors to catch a glimpse into the lives of early humans. One such site is Cheddar Gorge, where limestone caves unveil some of the earliest evidence of human habitation.

Explore Gough's Cave, which features awe-inspiring stalactite formations and the Cheddar Man exhibition. This exhibit showcases the oldest complete human skeleton in Britain, dated back to over 10,000 years ago.

: Supported



### Somerset: Stone Age to WWII (Visitors' Historic

**Britain)** by Mick Davis(Kindle Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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The stone circles of Stanton Drew are another must-visit site for Stone Age enthusiasts. These circles, believed to have been constructed around 3000 BCE, rival even the renowned Stonehenge in terms of historical significance.

### A Journey through the Middle Ages

Medieval times brought about significant changes to Britain, and Somerset served as a pivotal hub during this era. The Glastonbury Abbey, founded in the 7th century, stands as a testament to the region's medieval past. Wander through the ruins of this once-grand abbey and imagine the lives of the monks who once inhabited this architectural marvel.

For a truly immersive experience, visit the medieval Taunton Castle. Originally built in the 12th century, the castle offers a fantastic insight into the political and military history of Somerset. Explore the castle's ramparts, take a tour through its museums, and discover the secrets hidden within its walls.

#### **World War II: Heroes and History**

No exploration of Somerset's history would be complete without delving into the stories of World War II. This region played a crucial role in the war effort and boasts numerous landmarks that bear witness to this tumultuous time.

Head to Brean Down, a fortified promontory that served as a coastal defense during the war. Walk along the cliffs, admire the stunning views of the Bristol Channel, and explore the remnants of the fortifications and pillboxes that once guarded Britain's shores.

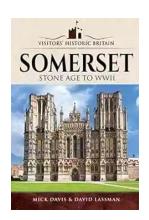
The Haynes International Motor Museum, although primarily a car museum, showcases a remarkable collection of military vehicles from World War II. Visitors can witness firsthand the machines that played a role in the war and gain a deeper understanding of the era.

#### **A Thirst for History Quenched**

Somerset offers a plethora of historical sites that will satisfy even the most curious of minds. Uncover the mysteries of Avalon at Glastonbury Tor, marvel at the majestic Wells Cathedral, or take a leisurely stroll through the picturesque village of Dunster with its medieval charm.

Immerse yourself in Somerset's history by staying at one of the many historic accommodations, such as the beautifully preserved Dunster Castle Hotel, where you can sleep within the walls of a centuries-old castle.

Whether you're a history enthusiast, a family embarking on an educational adventure, or a traveler seeking to unravel the tales of the past, Somerset provides an exceptional journey through the ages. From the Stone Age to World War II, its rich historical tapestry offers limitless possibilities for exploration and discovery.



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An informative springboard from which to dive deep into the rich and illustrious heritage of the county steeped in the legend of King Arthur.

Every inch of legendary Somerset is imbued with history, from the towns of Dunster and Taunton in the west, to those of Shepton Mallet and Frome in the east; while also contained within its county boundaries are the cities of Bath and Wells and the mystical and magical Isle of Avalon: Glastonbury.

The county, located in southwest England and part of the Ancient Kingdom of Wessex, has played a significant role in many of the nation's most formative events. These include the Roman occupation, Alfred the Great's rise to power, the English Civil War and the Monmouth Rebellion.

And all this epoch-making activity has been played out against a landscape of dramatic and breathtaking beauty, from vast tracts of land such as Exmoor, hill ranges such as Mendip and Blackdown and an abundance of incredible rivers, lakes and streams; many situated within the famous Somerset Levels.

Wordsworth, Coleridge and Austen, among many others, have immortalized the county in literature, while everyone from the Celts, Cavaliers and Saxons, to the Roundheads, Romans and rebels have fought over its sought-after resources.

The authors, both living in Somerset, guide you on a fascinating and illuminating trip into the past of this most historical and legendary of counties, which boasts among its attractions the last battle fought upon English soil, the scene of the Bloody Assizes and the final resting place of King Arthur.



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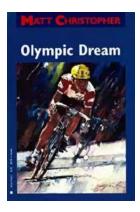
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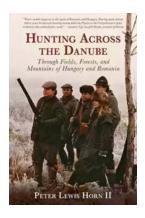
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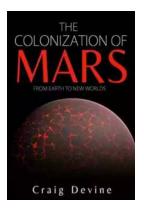
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