

Lockdown project inspires incredible new book by one of the UK's finest photographers

'Wow! What a beautiful book. A book as picturesque and enticing as the coastline it celebrates. I defy anyone who opens it and relishes the beauty on every page not to seize their walking boots and head to Pembrokeshire immediately!'

Kate Humble

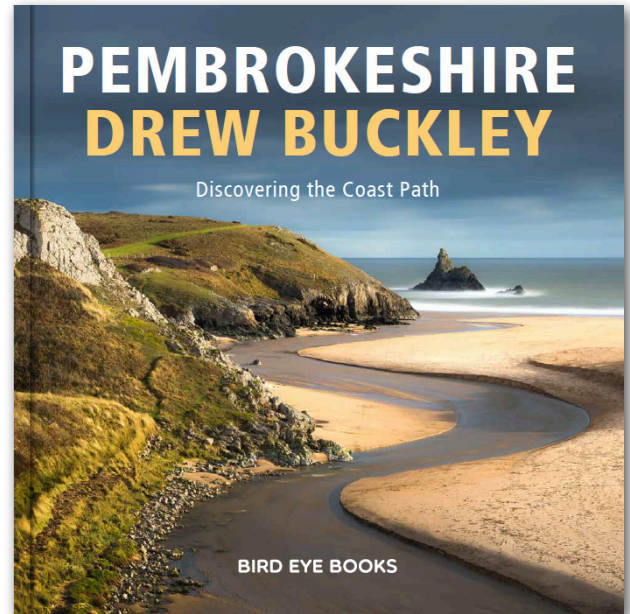
'An absolute stunner of a book about one of Britain's most beautiful counties by one of our finest photographers. If you're a fan of glorious landscapes, superb scenery and wonderful wildlife, this book deserves pride of place on your shelves!'

Iolo Williams

From the colourful Georgian houses of Tenby's seafront and spectacular starry skies above Carew Castle to miles of superb beach and reminders of the area's cultural and industrial history, the 186-mile Pembrokeshire Coast Path offers breathtaking landscapes and wildlife along every stretch.

A native of the 'Shire', award-winning photographer Drew Buckley's local knowledge, together with the quality and variety of his images, take the reader on a stage-by-stage journey as they traverse the book's pages. Beginning in Amroth and ending in the village of St Dogmaels, each section is informatively introduced and comes complete with a route map and location diagrams for ease of reference, revealing hidden gems along some of the finest coastal scenery in Britain. Ideal for readers planning their next trip or reminding themselves of favourite locations, Drew explains that the book was first conceived when visiting was impossible:

'For a while, I've wanted to produce a book on Pembrokeshire, specifically the coast path, and showcase the vast library of images I have taken over the last decade or so. It was during the lockdown in 2020 that the idea for this book came to life. While Wales was effectively closed, many were stuck indoors and visiting Pembrokeshire wasn't allowed – it was a very dark time for some. So, I started posting a daily update on my social media pages, a virtual coast path photo tour to cheer people up, reminding them of what was still out there once restrictions lifted. With each day's post I made my way along the coast path and included accompanying images with a description of the route covered between sections.



Pembrokeshire
Drew Buckley
Discovering the Coast Path

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Author Drew Buckley
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Photography Over 150 images
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'Over the following weeks, the likes and shares started to snowball and there was a real following growing, with viewers eager to see the next section in the tour. Thirty-odd days later, on completing the virtual coast path tour, many suggested the idea should be turned into a photo book, so here it is!'

Drew's many accolades include being highly commended in the British Wildlife Photography Awards on four occasions and winning awards at the GDT European Wildlife Photographer of the Year, the International Garden Photographer of the Year, Landscape Photographer of the Year at the National Photography Awards, Outdoor Photographer of the Year and Bird Photographer of the Year. His work has been featured in countless magazines, such as *BBC Countryfile*, *BBC Wildlife*, *Outdoor Photography*, *Digital SLR*, *Photo Plus*, *The Great Outdoors* and *Country Walking*, as well as national newspapers such as *The Times* and the *Guardian*.

Pembrokeshire: Discovering the Coast Path publishes 18 July 2023. To request review copies, interviews or images for use with editorial please contact daniel@graffeg.com.

Sample Spreads



Introduction

Pembrokeshire boasts Britain's only designated coastal National Park, famed for its stunning coast, seaside villages, quaint fishing harbours and vast, sandy beaches. There are interesting sights along every single mile, all accessible thanks to the 186-mile coastal path that takes in every turn, dip and ascent.

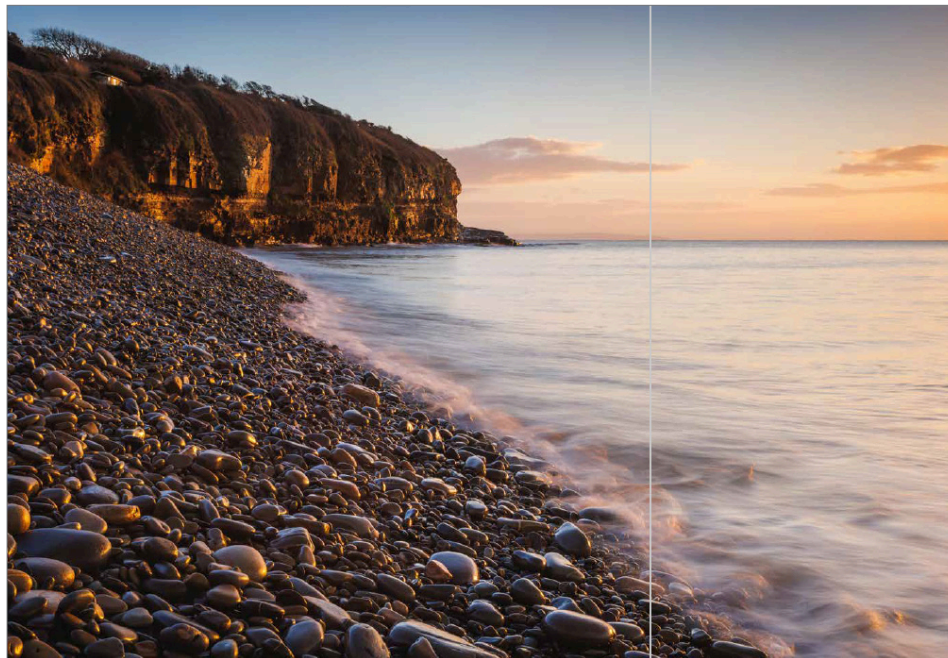
I am very fortunate to call Pembrokeshire my home and have grown to know the area intimately over the past thirty-plus years. Being a lover of the great outdoors first and foremost, and now a professional landscape and wildlife photographer for the last thirteen, there are many exciting things to see throughout the year and there's no better place to explore with a camera. Although this book may show favourable weather, it's not always glorious light and rainbows here! I have my patience tested daily, and many scenes I have planned take multiple attempts and visits until I truly get the conditions for the photo I desire.

I've wanted to produce a book on Pembrokeshire for some time, specifically on the coast path, to showcase the vast library of images I have taken over the last decade or so. It was during the lockdown in 2020 that the idea really came to life. While Wales was effectively 'closed', visits to Pembrokeshire weren't allowed. Many were stuck indoors and it was a very dark time for some, so I started posting a daily update of a virtual coast path photo tour to cheer people up, reminding them of what was still out there once restrictions lifted. With each day's post I made my way along the coast

path, including a description of the route covered between sections plus accompanying images. Over the following weeks, the likes and shares started to snowball and there was a real following growing, with viewers eager to see the next section of the tour. On completing this thirty-odd days later, many suggested the idea should be turned into a photo book, so here it is!

Since then, I've taken some new images, filling in some of the gaps in my image library. It's not a definitive walking guide by any means, nor was it ever meant to be. You won't find grid references or mileage markers, but what you will find is a photographer's journey of the coast path from someone who lives here, not only showing the popular locations but a few secret gems too. I hope you will enjoy exploring my home county with me.

Drew Buckley



Amroth to Saundersfoot

We visit the start of the world-famous 186-mile coast path at the lovely Amroth.

The coast path is defined by the main pavement that follows the beach seafront, but if the tide's out I'd opt for a stroll along the sand instead, which will also give you close views of the unique gryones that are dotted along the beach.

Around half a mile later, you'll head up over the pebble bank and find the path again at the bottom of the woods. This climbs steeply out of Amroth, so do take some time to enjoy the great views across the bay and across to Gower and Worm's Head.

The path descends again before joining the road and dropping into the small coastal village of Wisermans Bridge. Here you will find a pub and a small beach backed by interesting rock formations. Crossing the bridge and joining onto the coast again, the path heads through a long tunnel into Copet Hall, then through another shorter tunnel before arriving at Saundersfoot's sandy beaches, seaside shops and quaint harbour.



A wintry sunrise at Amroth.



A glorious summer's day at Tenby Harbour.





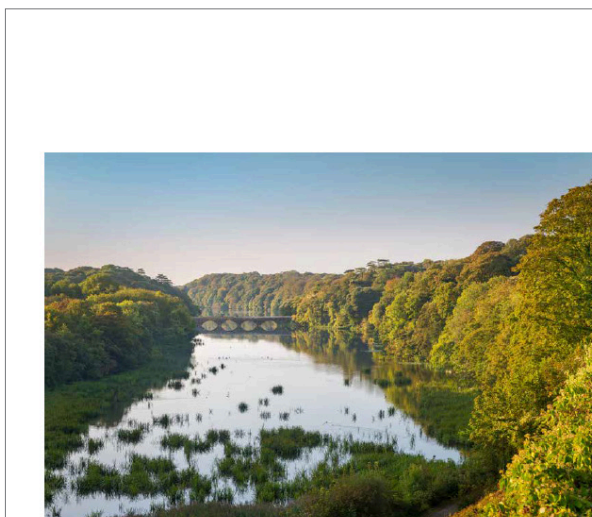
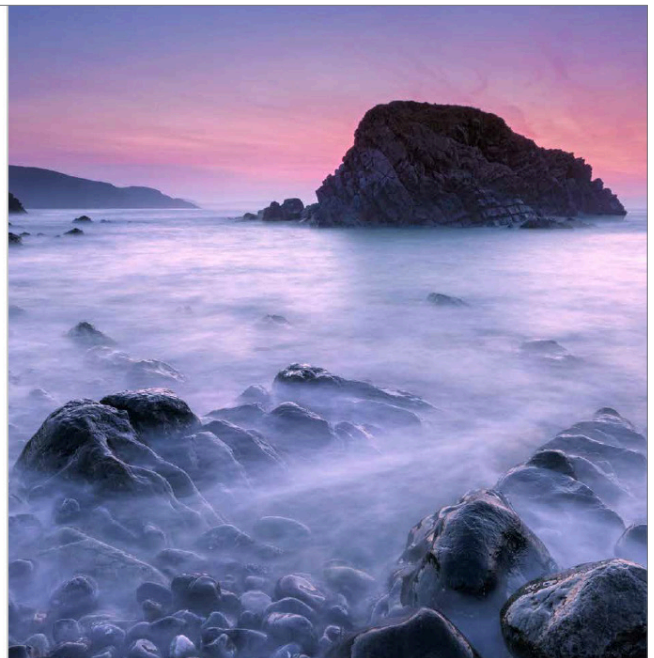
The coast path as it drops into Swan Lake Bay.



Waves swirl around red rocks on Swarlake beach.

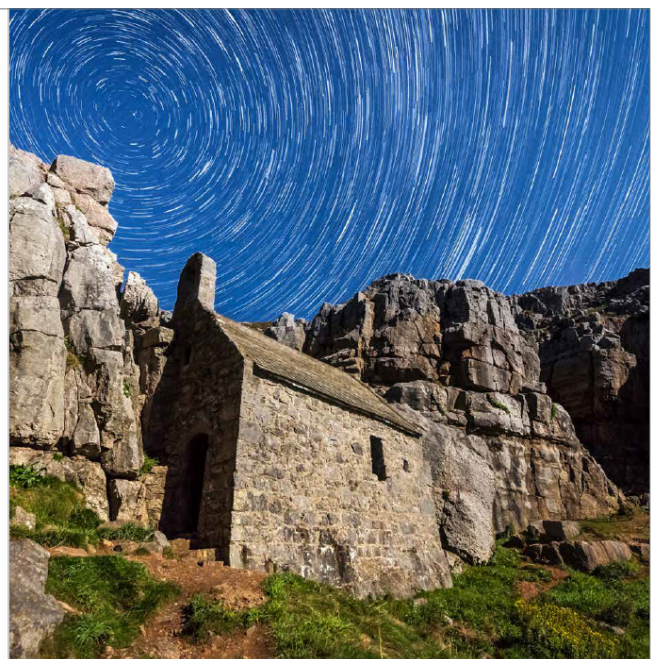


Left: Early morning sun shines on rocks at Stackpole Quay.
Right: Pre-dawn pastel colours in the sky at Stackpole Quay.



Above: Eight-Arch Bridge and Bosherton lily ponds on an autumn morning.

Right: Long exposure of the trailing stars over St Gwen's Chapel, lit by the full moon.





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Starry skies and the Milky Way streak above the seaweed-drying hut.
Left: A short-eared owl hunts over the Corse fields in the afternoon light.



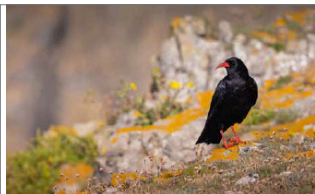
Linney Head to Angle Bay 65



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The 'Upside Down Wreck' is frequently uncovered due to winter storms.
Left: Thousands of starlings fly in to roost in the Corse valley.



Albion Sands to Deer Park

Passing Albion Sands, we head out onto the Marloes Peninsula and pass many rocky keys – be sure to keep a lookout for rare wildflowers and coastal birds. Before long we arrive at the Deer Park, where despite what the name suggests there aren't any deer to be found. What the area lacks in deer, however, it makes up for in wonderful views and an abundance of wildlife. The short, circular walk around the headland is generally flat, offering captivating panoramic coastal views, stunning geology and a vast array of flora and fauna. You'll find yourself watching charismatic choughs whirling through the air, while out at sea grey seals and porpoises play alongside diving gannets with the islands of Skomer and Skokholm for a backdrop, offering an experience of island life without ever having to leave the main land.

Above: A chough on the clifftops.
Right: Caverns in the rocky headland at the Deer Park.



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