

Following Henry Williamson's Footsteps As He Walked The Coasts Of North And South

Henry Williamson was one of the most celebrated nature writers of the 20th century. He is best known for his novel *Tarka the Otter*, which won the Hawthornden Prize in 1928. Williamson was also a passionate conservationist, and he campaigned tirelessly to protect the natural beauty of the English countryside.



Following Henry Williamson's Footsteps as he walked the coasts of north and south Devon in 1933 in ON FOOT IN DEVON; with quotations and explanatory commentary by Rebecca Sillence

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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One of Williamson's great loves was walking. He walked extensively throughout his life, and he often wrote about his experiences in his books and articles. In 1935, he published *The Linhay on the Downs*, an account of a walking tour he took around the coast of North Devon. In 1942, he

published *Salar the Salmon*, an account of a walking tour he took around the coast of South Devon.

Williamson's coastal walks were more than just physical journeys. They were also journeys of discovery, as he explored the landscapes and wildlife of the English coastline. He was a keen observer of nature, and he wrote eloquently about the beauty and fragility of the natural world.

North Devon

Williamson's walk around the coast of North Devon began in the village of Lynton. He followed the coastline north, passing through the seaside towns of Ilfracombe, Combe Martin, and Woolacombe. He then turned inland and walked through the Exmoor National Park, before returning to Lynton.

The North Devon coast is a rugged and beautiful landscape. Williamson was particularly impressed by the cliffs at Morte Point, which he described as "the most awe-inspiring cliffs in England." He also enjoyed walking along the sandy beaches at Woolacombe and Croyde.

Williamson was a keen birdwatcher, and he recorded many different species of birds during his walk around the North Devon coast. He saw gannets, guillemots, razorbills, and puffins on the cliffs at Morte Point. He also saw a variety of wading birds on the mudflats at the mouth of the Taw-Torridge Estuary.

South Devon

Williamson's walk around the coast of South Devon began in the town of Dartmouth. He followed the coastline east, passing through the seaside

towns of Torquay, Paignton, and Brixham. He then turned inland and walked through the Dartmoor National Park, before returning to Dartmouth.

The South Devon coast is a more gentle landscape than the North Devon coast. Williamson was particularly impressed by the estuaries of the Exe and Dart rivers. He also enjoyed walking along the sandy beaches at Dawlish and Teignmouth.

Williamson saw a variety of wildlife during his walk around the South Devon coast. He saw seals in the Exe Estuary and dolphins in the Bay of Dartmouth. He also saw a variety of birds, including oystercatchers, curlews, and herons.

Henry Williamson's coastal walks were a journey of discovery. He explored the landscapes and wildlife of the English coastline, and he wrote eloquently about the beauty and fragility of the natural world. His books are a valuable record of the English countryside in the early 20th century, and they continue to inspire people today.

If you are interested in following in Henry Williamson's footsteps, there are a number of walking trails that you can follow. The North Devon Coastal Path is a 105-mile trail that follows the coastline from Lynton to Minehead. The South Devon Coastal Path is a 70-mile trail that follows the coastline from Dartmouth to Plymouth.

Whether you are a keen walker or simply enjoy spending time in the great outdoors, I encourage you to explore the English coastline. It is a beautiful and fascinating place, and it is full of hidden treasures.

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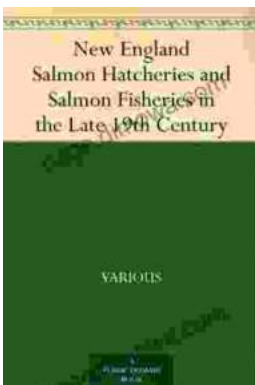
- Morte Point by Daveynin
- Exe Estuary by Daveynin
- Dart Estuary by Daveynin



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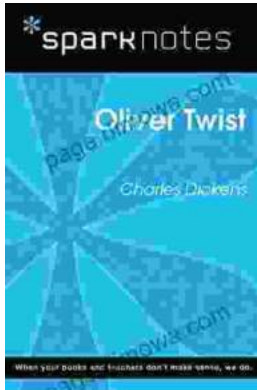
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