



The Time Traveler's Guide to Elizabethan England

By Ian Mortimer

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An entertaining, accessible guide to Elizabethan England—the latest in the Time Traveler's Guide series

Acclaimed historian Ian Mortimer shows readers that the past is not just something to be studied; it is also something to be lived. Using diaries, letters, books, and other writings of the day, Mortimer offers a masterful portrait of daily life in Elizabethan England, re-creating the sights, sounds, and customs of the sixteenth century from the perspective of both peasants and royals. Through this lens, we can begin to understand Queen Elizabeth's subjects not only as a people profoundly shaped by the time in which they lived, but also as the people who shaped the world we know and the people we are today.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Rarely does a travel guide stand the test of time quite like this colorful and hypothetically practical portrait of Elizabethan England. Historian Ian Mortimer, a former fellow of the Royal Historical Society, escorts the Anglophile on a tour of his native country five centuries ago, where 3s could buy you a personal tour of the Tower of London's dungeons. Disguised as a trip-planner, this lively historical account stays true to form offering readers travel advice such as fashion trends (ruffs and ruffles rule), diet tips (avoid tomatoes), and much-needed safety notes such as why bathing is unhealthy and how many arrows to keep on hand. On the topic of good manners, it is customary to remove your hat when in the presence of public urination and true gentlemen greet women with a full-on kiss on the lips, a custom that possibly explains why in 1563, over 17 thousand people succumbed to the plague. Mortimer explores many facets of England's "Golden Age" with intricate detail yet a lightness in tone. He riffs off fellow scholars to fill the gaps in this upbeat and in depth account. Wildly entertaining, Mortimer fresh approach to history will draw in many types of readers. Agent: George Lucas, Inkwell Management. (June)

From [Booklist](#)

Having previously taken readers on a tour through fourteenth-century England in *The Time Traveler's Guide to Medieval England* (2009), Mortimer now serves as our guide to the "golden age" of Elizabeth I. He starts off with the geography of country and town, then makes stops to examine the cultural and social landscape, providing details of religion, dress, food, medicine, transportation, law, entertainment, and more. Along the way, he pulls aside the curtain to peek at private life from the highest levels (Elizabeth) to the family of "an unemployed hatter with one leg" getting by on alms of three pence per week. Mortimer is the best sort of tour guide, chatty and convivial as well as extremely knowledgeable. He makes the Elizabethan era come alive, offering a perspective that will be appreciated by fans of the how-they-lived-then genre, as well as those who want to enhance their reading of history and historical fiction. --Mary Ellen Quinn

About the Author

Ian Mortimer is the author of ten history books, including two Time Traveler's Guides , as well as many research articles and fiction under the name James Forrester. He lives on the edge of Dartmoor, in the southwest of England.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thad Whitehead:

The event that you get from *The Time Traveler's Guide to Elizabethan England* could be the more deep you digging the information that hide within the words the more you get serious about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to recognise but *The Time Traveler's Guide to Elizabethan England* giving you enjoyment feeling of reading. The copy writer conveys their point in selected way that can be understood by simply anyone who read that because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise you for having that *The Time Traveler's Guide to Elizabethan England* instantly.

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