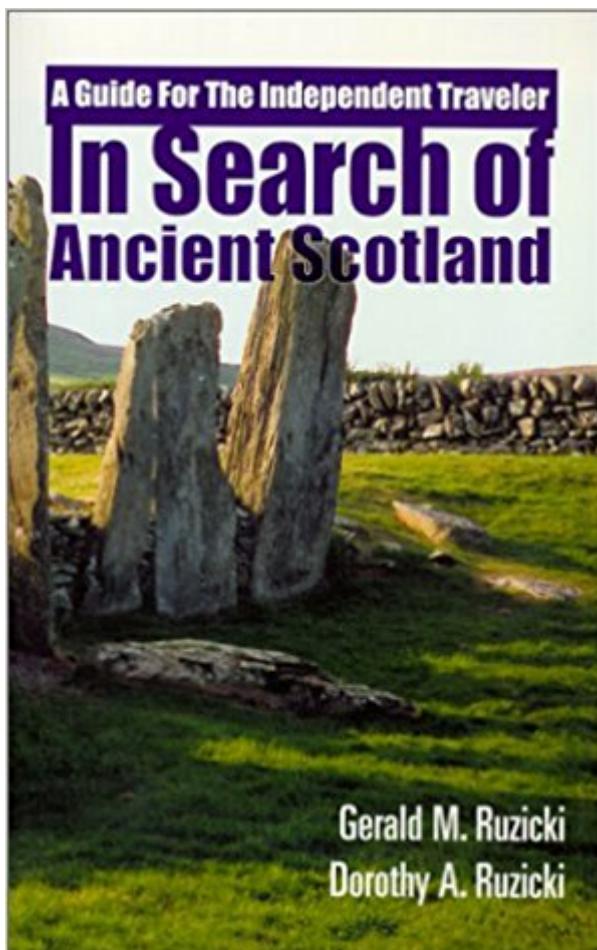


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# In Search Of Ancient Scotland, A Guide For The Independent Traveler



## **Synopsis**

Walk the moors with Scotland's prehistoric people, climb its crumbling castle walls, stand on its battlefields alongside its great heroes, feel the presence of its ghosts held tight in images spun by ancient Celts. This book transports armchair travelers or active explorers of all ages back in time to a Scotland most visitors never see. In this friendly, lively book, the authors guide readers to more than 200 ancient monuments to uncover unusual features, legends and history. A descriptive timeline differentiates various eras from the Stone Age to the Renaissance. An index of sites facilitates finding them quickly. A glossary defines common historical, archaeological and Scottish terminology, and references suggest further reading. Sixteen color pages and numerous B&W photos supplement the text. Written by North Americans from their own experiences, *In Search of Ancient Scotland* addresses independent travelers' questions and fears--driving on the left, roundabouts and one-lane roads, trespass and courtesy, language differences and money matters. Using a star system, they recommend their favorite places and provide clear directions. Accompany these authors on their personal quest for Scotland's antiquity as they reveal their tips for planning and share their insights and adventures.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"*In Search of Ancient Scotland*" is that best kind of guidebook, one that will lead its readers into fascinating explorations of sites they might never find on their own. It is full of common-sense evaluations, advice, and remarkably precise directions about where to find Scotland's ancient monuments, especially its prehistoric stones, brochs and castles. Written with clarity and

intelligence, this would be an essential book to tuck into one's suitcase on a voyage of discovery around almost any part of Scotland. -- Susan Allen Toth, author of "My Love Affair With England: ASome of the most interesting tourist destinations in Scotland are the remnants of ancient places. As a visitor to Scotland, you want to have clear directions to the sites, and a ready source of background information to make the visit relevant to you. You want to know the legends, the history, the little details that make those places speak to you. Buy this book. Its clear language, color photographs, and historical timeline are all very helpful. A nice touch is the American point-of-view . . . -- U.S. SCOTS, February, 2000

Gerald Ruzicki teaches computer science at the college level and holds a degree in anthropology with an emphasis and experience in archaeology. Dorothy Ruzicki, a registered nurse with a PhD, manages a large hospital education department. She has authored numerous publications and specializes in helping medical professionals write in understandable language. In this book, they combine their talents to make Scotland's history and archaeology come alive.

I'm enjoying this while planning a trip. Like the authors, I'm more interested in early castles than the later luxurious baronial castles, as well standing stones and other structures left by earlier people. The descriptions are excellent and include directions to the various sites, some of which are well off the beaten path.

This was such an excellent reference book. I was renting a car and driving for the first time in Scotland and this book helped me understand what to expect. It was also an invaluable reference when we were deciding which areas to visit. They had so many wonderful places listed and grouped according to area. I never left our apt. without it. Much gratitude to the Authors...

I bought this 2000 edition used. The sites involved do not change rapidly, so that was fine. It was helpful in trip planning. I bought several guides, both those that specialized in ancient/archaeological sites and a general tour guide. I found that many sites I was interested in were listed in only one of the guides, so i was happy to have purchased several. If you need hotels, restaurants, and the latest up to datest info, you need a brand new general guide. For site descriptions of stuff that's been there for centuries, older specialized guides are a necessity. "In Search of..." and like guides are the only ones with enough to detail to be helpful for sites not of interest to the general tourist."In Search of..." deals not only with prehistoric and early Medieval sites, but goes through 16th C and

later castles. The format includes the authors' personal experiences in finding and visiting the sites, which was interesting and, often, encouraging. "We almost missed this and had to turn back and look again." Specific directions are quite helpful. This book contained information on several sites that was not in any of the other guidebooks I consulted.

This book was simply wonderful. I purchased this book to help me plan a trip to Scotland this year, and I am so glad I did. The authors give a detailed description of each site and give it a rating to help you, the traveller, prioritize. They also give some pretty handy directions for locating the sites as well (we found every one we looked for, even some that were far off the beaten track). There were so many wonderful sites I would never have found without this book, and it really helped to make a trip that I will never forget. Another handy use for this book is that after I got the pictures from the trip I wanted to make a journal of my trip. The information and history provided in the book was hugely helpful in filling in the mental gaps and refreshing my memory of the visit. An excellent resource. Don't tour ancient Scotland without it.

This is an unusual travel book and it is geared for the self guided. For instance, the book gives directions to fields where ancient underground houses were made to protect the iron age people that resided there. The whole country is an archaeologist's dream, as peat moss has things well preserved. Directions are given to remote crumbling castles and as there are no trespassing laws in Scotland, you can walk through farmer's pastures to reach your site. The authors give great information for off the beaten things to see. It has been well researched.

We just returned from a visit to prehistoric sites in the Highlands of Scotland, Skye and Lewis. Of all the guidebooks we took along, this was by far the most helpful, with very accurate directions for finding the sites (many of which we would never have found without it!) and good descriptions of all the aspects of the sites as well. Don't even try to go there without it!

It was alright but I just expected more. I would not recommend to buy if you are more into details.

Great resource for unique sites and practical tips not found in other guidebooks.

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