



GILLIAN TAIT

111 PLACES IN THE LOTHIANS & FALKIRK THAT YOU SHOULDN'T MISS



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111 Places in the Lothians and Falkirk That You Shouldn't Miss

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- The ultimate insider's guide to the Lothians and Falkirk for locals and experienced travellers
- Features interesting and unusual places not found in traditional travel guides
- Part of the international *111 Places* series with over 650 titles and 3.8 million copies in print worldwide
- Appeals to both the local market (more than 858,000 people call the Lothians and Falkirk home) and the tourist market (2.3 million people visit the Lothians and Falkirk every year!)
- Fully illustrated with 111 full-page colour photographs

This unique guide explores the broad arc of terrain that flanks the city of Edinburgh – the three old counties of East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian, plus the district of Falkirk, ancient hub of Central Scotland. It's a rolling landscape dotted with multifarious sites of every era, concealed amidst its characterful towns, picturesque waterways, urban sprawl and quiet green spaces. Brooding castles, palatial mansions, poignant monuments and sacred ancient landmarks stand cheek-by-jowl with stark relics of industrial heritage and world-beating wonders of modern engineering. You can trace the proud vestiges of Rome's final frontier, marvel at the fruitiness of a giant Georgian folly, walk into the secret birthplace of the Industrial Revolution and roam the coast that inspired an early environmental pioneer.

Myth mingles with reality in the hidden histories of this realm. You'll encounter royal A-listers Mary, Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie, plus a king from Arthurian legend, to say nothing of industrious goblins, enigmatic crusaders, tragic witches, elusive extra-terrestrials and a curious character covered in prickly plants.

Join Gillian Tait as she reveals 111 destinations with a difference around this diverse and fascinating region.

Gillian Tait was born in Edinburgh, and studied at the University of Edinburgh and the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. She was employed for many years in the field of fine art conservation, and has written and edited several technical publications. More recently, she has been working as a researcher and editorial assistant, while continuing to indulge her passions for foreign travel and singing. She has lived in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town for the past 30 years.

1. The Submarine Wrecks

Accart Books

Although the 1500 metres of coastline around Edinburgh are a relatively safe place to swim, there are a few wrecks that are best avoided. The most dangerous is the *U-110*, a German submarine that sank in 1940. It lies in 18m of water, 1.5km off the coast of South Queensferry. The *U-110* was part of a group of U-boats that were sent to the Firth of Forth to attack British shipping. It was sunk by a mine and its crew were all lost. The crew were buried at sea, and their bodies were never recovered. The *U-110* is now a popular dive site, but it is not recommended for novices. It is a large, dark, cramped space, and the water is cold and turbulent. The *U-110* is a reminder of the dangers of war and the importance of safety at sea.

2. The Cred Ladders

Accart Books

Standing in a hedge-draped orchard near Dunbar is a 19th-century stone structure known as the Cred Ladders. It is a simple wooden staircase with a metal railing, leading up to a small platform. The platform is surrounded by a low wall, and there is a small plaque on the wall that reads 'Cred Ladders'. The Cred Ladders are a reminder of the importance of safety at sea, and the dangers of the ocean. They are a symbol of hope and safety, and a reminder to always be safe when you are out on the water.

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29. Pinkie House Ceiling

Accart Books

The Pinkie House ceiling is a masterpiece of 17th-century ceiling decoration. It features a central sunburst design, surrounded by a variety of figures and scenes. The ceiling is made of wood and is painted with oil-based paint. The figures are painted in a realistic style, and the scenes are depicted in a narrative manner. The ceiling is a testament to the skill and craftsmanship of the artists who created it. It is a reminder of the rich history of Scotland and the importance of art and culture in our society.