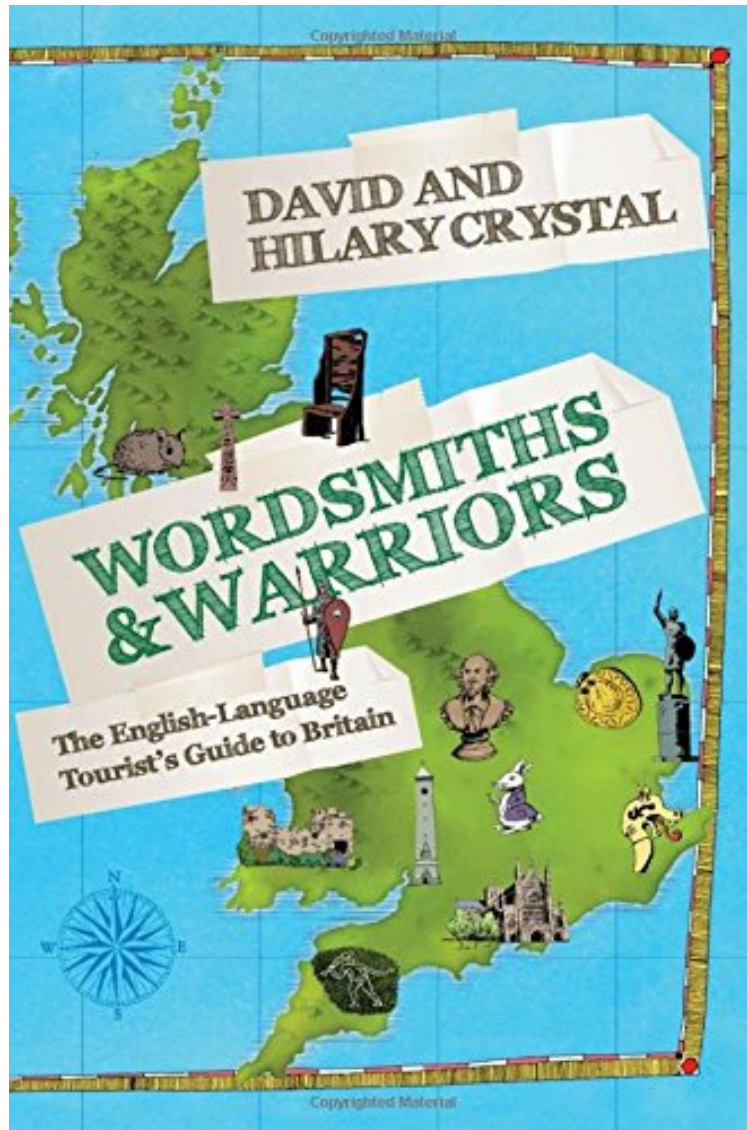


Wordsmiths and Warriors: The English-Language Tourist's Guide to Britain

David Crystal, Hilary Crystal
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David Crystal, Hilary Crystal : Wordsmiths and Warriors: The English-Language Tourist's Guide to Britain before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wordsmiths and Warriors: The English-Language Tourist's Guide to Britain:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Are you traveling to England soon? By Atlanta Gal As a retired English teacher, I hoped I'd like this. And I do, even if it's a bit expensive. It's really intended for those who want to

actually travel . . . but armchair travel is fun, too. The New York Times says that the author, David Crystal, is "that rare academic linguist who can discuss language authoritatively without resorting to the polysyllabic jargon that often serves as a wall around that realm of scholarship." I'd have to agree. My only reservation is the price.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not the best for the armchair traveler
By D. Jackson
Not what I expected. A review elsewhere lead me to think that the photos were better and that there was more meat to the history of the language. It would be fine for a ramble around the UK but doesn't really cut it for an armchair traveler.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wordsmith and Warriors pluses and minuses
By Lester Mandelstein
Fascinating but lacking in certain ways. The origin of most towns mentioned are not revealed. Disappointing photos. A little more depth on important events. Overall worth reading.

Who formed and shaped the English language? David and Hilary Crystal take us on a journey through Britain to discover the people who gave our language its colour and character; Saxon invaders, medieval scholars, poets, reformers, dictionary writers. Part travelogue, part history, this beautifully illustrated book is full of unexpected delights. The book relates a real journey. David and Hilary Crystal drove thousands of miles to produce this fascinating combination of English-language history and travelogue, from locations in south-east Kent to the Scottish lowlands, and from south-west Wales to the East Anglian coast. David provides the descriptions and linguistic associations, Hilary the full-colour photographs. They include a guide for anyone wanting to follow in their footsteps but arrange the book to reflect the chronology of the language. This starts with the Anglo-Saxon arrivals in Kent and in the places that show the earliest evidence of English. It ends in London with the latest apps for grammar. In between are intimate encounters with the places associated with such writers as Chaucer, Shakespeare, and Wordsworth; the biblical Wycliffe and Tyndale; the dictionary compilers Cawdrey, Johnson, and Murray; dialect writers, elocutionists, and grammarians, and a host of other personalities. Among the book's many joys are its the diversity that allow warriors such as Byrhtnoth and King Alfred to rub shoulders with wordsmiths like Robert Burns and Tim Bobbin, and the unexpected discoveries that enliven every stage of the authors' epic journey.

"A delightful romp through the English countryside." --Sun News Miami
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About the Author
David Crystal is known throughout the world as a writer, editor, lecturer and broadcaster on language. He has published extensively on the history and development of English, including *The Stories of English* (2004), *Evolving English* (2010), *Begat: The King James Bible and the English Language* (2010), *The Story of English in 100 Words* (2011), and *Spell It Out: The Singular Story of English Spelling* (2012). Hilary Crystal trained as a speech therapist, worked for a while in clinical linguistic research, then became a sub-editor for the various volumes in the Cambridge and Penguin families of encyclopedias. She has designed several books, notably the anthologies of the poetry of John Bradburne edited by David.