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Passport to Britain

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Photographs by Geographic British Isles and iStockphoto

Illustrations by Yuri Yoshioka (map, p. 10, p. 17, p. 22, p. 23, p. 29, p. 34, p. 59)

Yasuco Sudaka (p. 40, p. 48, p. 49, p. 69, p. 75, p. 86)

Introduction

Travel broadens the mind. It does so by exposing the traveller to a wide range of new experiences. These experiences encourage the traveller to become more aware of cultural similarities and differences, and then to think about what they mean. *Passport to Britain* is meant to inspire the same sense of discovery. After the opening units on London, each unit will take you to a different part of the United Kingdom. At each location, you are sure to learn something new about this diverse country. But yet another discovery awaits you at the end of your journey. Once your “passport” has been stamped at all of the different locations along the way, you may be surprised to find that a single image has begun to emerge—an image that can fairly be said to represent the UK as a whole. The image may not be complete—and, indeed, a complete image could hardly be formed in such a short time. But when you reach the end of the book, it is hoped that you will be interested in renewing your passport and starting on a new journey of discovery.

The organisation of *Passport to Britain* is as follows. Beginning with Unit 2, each unit starts with a reading passage about a region, city, or other place of interest in the United Kingdom. The locations lie on a route that runs generally north from London, moving to the west or east along the way. After reaching the Orkney Islands in Scotland, the route turns south to pass through Northern Ireland and Wales, where the journey comes to an end. The reading passages are followed by various review exercises and expansion activities. The first exercise is always “Bird’s-Eye View”, which reviews the main point of the passage. The second exercise is a set of comprehension questions—usually true/false or multiple choice—meant to check your understanding of the details of the passage. The third exercise may be another comprehension question, or it may introduce a practical, everyday situation related to the content of the passage. Each unit concludes with an expansion activity such as a quiz or matching puzzle intended to add to your understanding of British culture in an enjoyable way. *Passport to Britain* also comes with a DVD containing video clips taken at many of the book’s destinations. Short narrations have been added to the clips for dictation practice.

Finally, there is one specific attribution to make. The dialogue in Unit 10 about pub manners is based on rules explained in an enjoyable booklet called *Passport to the Pub*, written by Kate Fox and published by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association. The booklet contains a great deal of useful information and is freely downloadable from the Social Issues Research Centre website at <http://www.sirc.org/publik/pub.html>.

DVD について

本書には DVD が添付されています。その映像は、朝日放送株式会社が制作・放送したテレビ番組「朝だ！生です旅サラダ」（毎週土曜日 午前 8 時から 9 時 30 分まで、朝日放送・テレビ朝日系列全国ネット放送）の「海外マンスリー：イギリス編」を編集したものです。番組ではイングランドとスコットランドを訪ねています。

本書では、Unit 2 と Unit 3 の London, Unit 5 の The Cotswolds, Unit 8 の The Lake District, Unit 9 の Hadrian's Wall, Unit 10 の Edinburgh, Unit 11 の Loch Ness, Unit 12 の Islay and Skye, Unit 13 の Orkney の映像が収録されています。それぞれの Unit タイトルの右側に DVD のアイコンを表示していますので、適宜 DVD を観て、本文の内容を映像で確認してください。また、DVD には英語の Narration が流れています。その Transcription は巻末に掲載され、ブランクが設けてありますので、Listening 練習に利用することができます。

本文でのリーディング、地図や写真、イラストを使った楽しいクイズ、そして臨場感溢れる映像を通してイギリスの歴史・文化・習慣を体験してください。

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Welcome to Britain



What's in a name? If the name is "Britain", the answer is "Quite a lot." First of all, Britain is not the country's official name, which is actually the *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*. This is usually shortened to the *United Kingdom*, or the *UK*. The United Kingdom itself is made up of four separate countries: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. It may seem confusing to talk about countries inside of countries, but each of the countries of the UK is proud of having a unique national identity, and each one also enjoys a certain degree of political independence.



But there is even more to it than that. *Britain*, which is related to the Roman name *Britannia*, is often used to mean the same thing as the United Kingdom. That is the sense used in this book. At other times, it carries the same meaning as *Great Britain*, which normally refers only to the main island comprising England, Scotland, and Wales (including the smaller islands around the main island, except for the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands). Moreover the whole group of islands off the western coast of continental Europe—including Ireland—is often called the *British Isles*, although some people prefer the term *British and Irish Isles*. Geography, history, and politics have all resulted in a variety of names associated with the country and the surrounding region which must be used with care.



London



Orkney



All of these different names suggest the great diversity of both the country and its people. Britain offers all the pleasures and attractions a visitor might expect, from bustling London—one of the world's great capitals—to treeless Orkney at the northern end of Scotland, from historically industrial Manchester to the breathtaking natural beauty of the Causeway Coast in Northern Ireland, and from the castles of Wales to the Yorkshire moors. It is this diversity that helps make Britain such a fascinating country.

Exercises

Bird's-Eye View

Which of the following names is being used in this book to mean the same thing as the *United Kingdom*?

1. The British Isles
2. Great Britain
3. Britain

True or False

Circle **T** if the statement is True, **F** if it is False.

- (T F) 1. Britain actually has no official country name.
- (T F) 2. The different countries that make up Britain all have some political independence.
- (T F) 3. The name *England* is often used with the same meaning as *Great Britain*.
- (T F) 4. *Britannia* was a name used by the Romans.
- (T F) 5. Ireland is often considered a part of the British Isles.

Unit 1

● Life in the UK ●

To become a British citizen or permanent resident, those with acceptable English skills must pass the Life in the UK Test. This 24-question test, which lasts 45 minutes, is meant to find out if applicants have the knowledge necessary to play an active role in society. Here are eight sample questions. See how well you can do.

1. What percentage of the UK's population live in England?
a. 45% b. 62% c. 75% d. 84%
2. When were women over the age of 21 given the right to vote in the UK?
a. 1898 b. 1908 c. 1928 d. 1948
3. Which is the London home of the British Royal Family?
a. Buckingham Palace b. The Palace of Westminster
c. Windsor Castle d. Balmoral Castle
4. What is the name of the patron saint of Northern Ireland?
a. St Andrew b. St David
c. St George d. St Patrick
5. Which is the largest ethnic minority in the UK?
a. Bangladeshi b. Black African
c. Chinese d. Indian
6. The prime minister's official home in London is at 10 Downing Street.
a. True b. False
7. Which of the following telephone numbers can be used to contact the emergency services?
a. 100 b. 119 c. 911 d. 999
8. What is the minimum age for driving a car or motorcycle?
a. 15 b. 16 c. 17 d. 18

Unit 1

● The Union Flag ●

Britain's national flag, known as the "Union Flag" or the "Union Jack", has a design based on the flags of three of the countries that make up the UK. Look at the following diagrams and put in check in the boxes of the flags you think contributed to the design of the Union Flag. Do you have any ideas about how the fourth flag might be added to the design?



Union Flag



England



Wales



Scotland



Northern Ireland

Can you identify the following flags, all of which make use of the Union Flag?

