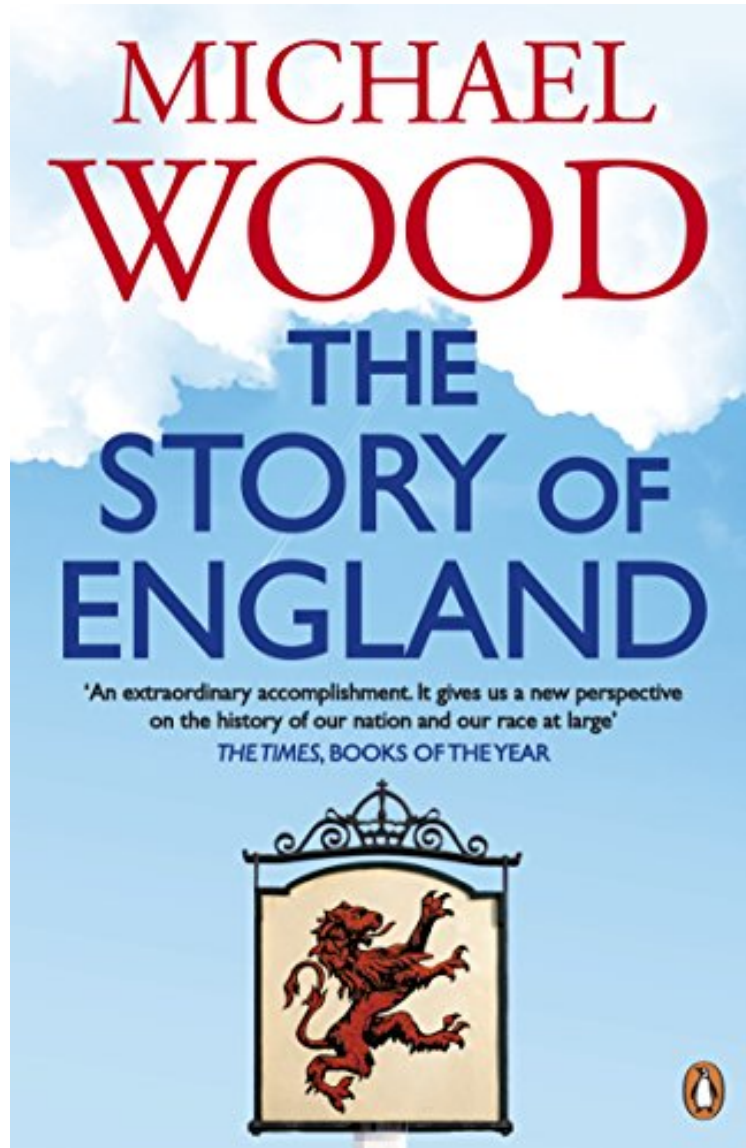


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The Story of England

Michael Wood

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Michael Wood : The Story of England before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Story of England:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I enjoy Michael Wood's work and am fascinated by the project ...By Iosephvs BibliothecarivsI slowly read this over the course of a year after watching the TV programme several times. I enjoy Michael Wood's work and am fascinated by the project he set out to accomplish here. The only reason I'm not giving this book five stars is that it is very repetitive and you can tell that it was somewhat rushed. Wood even admits

as much in his acknowledgements. But I have fallen in love with Kibworth and its history, so much so that I made a point to visit Kibworth Harcourt (however briefly) during my first trip in England in 2016 (see photo) and tracked down the mysterious 'Munt' using the map in the front of the book. My verdict: it's good and worth your time, however some more polishing could have made this book truly great. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful.

EnagingBy anonI've enjoyed Michael Woods documentaries on TV and have always found his prospective on history engaging and insightful. I agree with the previous reviewer and would only add that The Story of England reads, exactly like how it sounds on TV. It's hard not to hear his voice in your head as you read through the book. I'd also add that his description of the post-roman period of English/European history was fascinating. I highly recommend. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. IT'S A GREAT SUMMARY OF A SMALL TOWN IN ENGLANDBy CustomerI LIKE THE WRITER'S STYLE OF WRITING, AND I'M GLAD HE'S HAD SO MANY SUCCESSFUL BOOKS WITH SUCH A STYLE BECAUSE IT IS FACTUALLY INTENSE. I READ A LOT AND I PREFER BOOKS THAT GIVE ME A LOT OF FACTS. THERE WERE A NUMBER OF ERRORS IN THE TEXT AND INDEX THAT I FOUND, SO I DIDN'T RATE THE BOOK AS HIGH AS I MIGHT HAVE. ALSO, I FOUND FACTUAL ERRORS ON THE BROADER SCHEME OF THINGS. THE WRITER DID A GREAT JOB OF BEING ACCURATE WITH RESPECT TO THE SMALL TOWNS MAKING UP HIS STORY, BUT WAS UNABLE TO BE MORE ACCURATE IN TERMS OF THE LARGER PICTURE WHICH WOULD HAVE REQUIRED A DEEPER KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH HISTORY THAT THE WRITER SEEMS TO POSSESS.

In *The Story of England* Michael Wood tells the extraordinary story of one English community over fifteen centuries, from the moment that the Roman Emperor Honorius sent his famous letter in 410 advising the English to look to their own defences to the village as it is today. The village of Kibworth in Leicestershire lies at the very centre of England. It has a church, some pubs, the Grand Union Canal, a First World War Memorial - and many centuries of recorded history. In the thirteenth century the village was bought by William de Merton, who later founded Merton College, Oxford, with the result that documents covering 750 years of village history are lodged at the college. Building on this unique archive, and enlisting the help of the current inhabitants of Kibworth, with a village-wide archeological dig, with the first complete DNA profile of an English village and with use of local materials like family memorabilia, the story of Kibworth is the story of England itself, a 'Who Do You Think You Are?' for the entire nation. 'Better than any historian for decades, [in *In Search of England*] Wood brings home not just the ways in which buildings, landscapes and written texts may be read, but the sensual beauty of encounters with them' TLS Michael Wood was born and educated in Manchester. He was an open scholar in Modern History at Oriel College, Oxford, where he held a Bishop Fraser scholarship in Medieval History as a postgraduate. He has made a number of internationally successful tv series, including *In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great*, and four of his books have been UK non-fiction number one bestsellers. His highly acclaimed book of essays on early English history, *In Search of England*, was published by Penguin in 1999.

About the Author Michael Wood was born and educated in Manchester, and studied Modern History and later Anglo-Saxon History at Oxford. He has made over 100 tv films, and written four number-one bestselling books including *In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great* and *The Story of India*. He lives in Hampstead, north London, with his wife and two daughters.