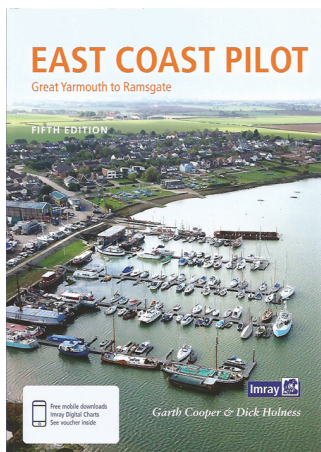


## East Coast Pilot



Garth Cooper & Dick Holness  
Imray Laurie Norie & Wilson  
978 184623 953 3  
A4  
191 pages, paperback  
2005. 5th edition 2019  
£27.50

When the late Colin Jarman set up the first edition of this book in 2005 it was a conventional yachtsman's pilot. Now, four editions later, it is more like an organization with its own website, newsletters, updating service, several officials dotted down the coast to provide assistance on the spot and even its own burgee. QR codes are sprinkled through the book to give

further information above what is in the text.

Coverage is from Great Yarmouth to Ramsgate, including crossing the Thames estuary, plus the lengths of estuaries of tidal rivers joining, the Thames from as high up as St Katherine Docks by Tower Bridge in London.

It is an understated coast. Of Maldon, it says 'The whole Quay has been 'sanitised', but there is still an East Coast air that thickens as you move up river through the various boatyards, where the charm of mud and old wooden boats still persists.'

References to dinghies should be read as any small craft, including kayaks. While some details will be of interest only to yachtsmen there is plenty on public launching, slipways, pubs, restaurants, carparks, toilets and the broader look and feel of the coastline and its swatchways.

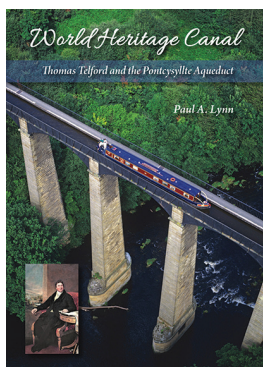
Tidal stream chartlets are included and there is a sensible attitude to compass bearings, not given to a greater degree of accuracy greater than most people can read while rocking on the water.

Pictures include both aerial shots and views at water level, points of interest being labelled and routes marked in where necessary.

Not everyone likes boats. The cash strapped EA have spent millions of pounds converting huge areas of farmland to mud, on the Crouch the book referring to 'breaks in the Wallasea Island sea wall opposite the whole Burnham waterfront. These breaches, made to create a wetland nature reserve on the island, have submerged obstacles in them to prevent navigation'. Information on the Foulness range is for yachts, unable to go close inshore, and does not refer to the dangerous rules now imposed on small craft. Information on the former Yantlet range also appears to be out of date.

One further development, appearing with several of Imray's latest books, is inclusion of a code to allow free download of a digital chartpack for use on phones and tablets. This one, ID10, with nearly two dozen digital charts, covers the North Sea from Shetland to Dover and back to the Danish border, itself priced at more than the pilot. Imray are trying to encourage use of this concept. The pack comes with a one year updating service. After that you then subscribe for continuing updates or keep what you already have although it will begin to date after this first year. This concept will be watched with interest by many as an indication of how navigation principles are shifting.

## World Heritage Canal



Paul A Lynn  
Whittles Publishing, Dunbeath,  
Caithness KW6 6EG  
978 1 84995 398 6  
240 x 170mm  
132 pages, paperback  
2019  
£16.99

The central feature of this book is the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct on the Llangollen Canal but its scope goes far beyond this. Likewise, written by a narrowboater for narrowboaters, it will be of interest to a much wider range of the public, both on and off the water.

It is easy to read and includes many photographs, particularly from the internet. A fairly light touch is used for the technical side and there is much scene setting before analysis of the central gem.

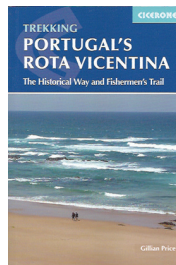
Some of the world's other great aqueducts are introduced with earlier British examples, including the development of cast iron, which was to play such a daring role in this structure.

A chapter on the state of transport, especially of goods, at the time of canal mania, serves to remind us of why the canals were so important for the industrial revolution. Many people have an idea of Telford's engineering achievements but fewer know him as an orphan with a good sense of humour, somebody from a Scottish valley who made the most of his lucky breaks, who remained friends with some leading names from ironfounding to poetry but still found time to write regularly to his mother and to make the long journey home at times to see her and to catch up with his childhood friends.

A further chapter takes a trip along the full length of the Llangollen Canal, a canal which built far from its original planned line, pointing out its features of interest. Then comes the supreme highlight, the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, dramatic to view and breathtaking to cross on the water or on foot.

The Llangollen is our most popular canal, not least because of the aqueduct. This book puts it in context without being unduly technical.

## Trekking Portugal's Rota Vicentina



Gillian Price  
Cicerone  
978 1 85284 960 3  
170 x 120mm  
107 pages, paperback  
2019  
£14.95

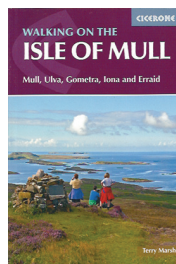
'If you have a penchant for dramatic cliffs and awesome ocean scenery with secluded sandy bays, are fascinated by gangly storks nesting on sea stacks'... So begins this walking guide to the Rota Vicentina, made up of the Historical Way from Santiago do Cacém to Cabo do São Vicente and the Fishermen's Trail from Porto Covo to Odeceixe. The trail follows the clifftops for 75km through the Alentejo region. The southern part of the Historical Way visits the coast at intervals over the final 90km of the Algarve to Portugal's southwest corner.

This is a remote area with low population density. The striking photography shows the beauty of the uncrowded wild Atlantic beaches, the intense gold of the sand and blue of the ocean, but there are enough comments about the temperatures and the wind to give warning to take care. Nudist and surfing beaches are noted, the latter again warning that this coast is one which deserves respect by those on the water.

Another Gillian Price guide, this one is supported by 1:100,000 maps. You expect something on the wine and food but she seems to come up with a more interesting selection of unusual tempting dishes than often are found on holiday coasts. It is a guide which seems to have an unexpected something extra.

It complements well the *Algarve Beach Guide* (May p35).

## Walking on the Isle of Mull



Terry Marsh  
Cicerone  
978 1 85284 961 0  
170 x 120mm  
204 pages, paperback  
2011, 2nd edition 2017  
£14.95

Terry Marsh's guide to Mull (Dec 2011, p60) has been updated. The transfer of printing from Spain to China has seen removal of the plastic cover and use of darker colours, which actually don't help the detail.

Most of the content remains unchanged, with the exception of two routes at the northern end of Mull. The small Loch an Torr has been replaced by a walk to Glengorm Castle, which is photographed and stands above Port Chill Bhraonain so that it could be approached from the sea. The first half of the long Ardmor route has been deleted. Otherwise there are very few changes.