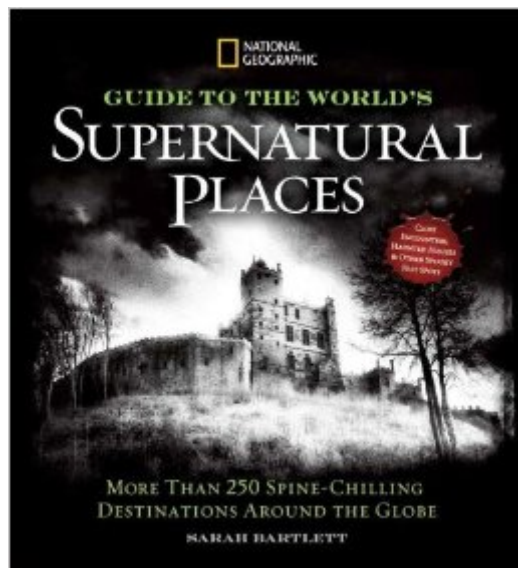


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# National Geographic Guide To The World's Supernatural Places: More Than 250 Spine-Chilling Destinations Around The Globe



## Synopsis

Witches and demons, ghosts and vampires, aliens and voodoo spiritsâ | from spooky to chilling to downright weird, signs of the supernatural have terrified -- and fascinated -- people for centuries. Dare to discover some of the worldâ™s most puzzling enigmas in this remarkable book, which reveals a dazzling array of haunted castles, forbidden hideaways and otherwise eerie landmarks. Â Packed with rich illustrations, National Geographicâ™s first-ever guide to the worldâ™s supernatural places showcases more than 250 spooky destinations around the globe. Uncover the origins of the vampire, found not only in Romania, but also in Madagascar and the Philippines. Encounter the array of ghosts said to haunt deserted battlefields, abandoned mental asylums, cemeteries and other spine-tingling sites. Consider the possibility of extraterrestrials spotted everywhere from Sedona, Arizona to Flatwoods, West Virginia. And experience the mystical origins of such extraordinary places as Ayers Rock, Australia and ChichÃ©n ItzÃ©, Mexico. Vivid, dramatic, and chock full of inside information on when to visit, this spooky book will convince you that there might be more out there than meets the eye.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a book presented by a quality publisher so you could safely expect to find a quality product. In this case you would be correct. I didn't know exactly what to expect because the supernatural can certainly be presented from many different angles, not all of them realistic or even truthful. This is a book of snapshots of more than 250 destinations which fall into one of the general categories

covered by the book. I have always had an interest in the supernatural, but I don't by any means believe everything I hear. This was a fascinating reading experience. The book is divided into six categories: Haunted Places, Vampire Haunts, Witchcraft and the Dark Arts, Sacred Places, UFO Hot Spots, and Myths & Legends. Each location has its own page with only the Tower of London (as best I recall) having a double page. There is a photograph or illustration for each location and about half the page is taken up with text. There are some pages which mention multiple locations. Some of the site pages have a small box that gives information on when the best time is to visit, but this is not so much travel itinerary as a hint for increasing the enjoyment of the visit. The page size is approximately 8" wide x 8.75" tall, so roughly square. I found the print to be rather small in some instances and a little hard to read unless I was in very good light. Each category location begins in England or Scotland and progresses around the world in a specific pattern. If you are at all interested in this subject matter, you can't help but find vast amounts of information, most likely information you didn't know. I was fascinated by unusual things, like the most curious connection between rotting fruit and vampires in Serbia, the stone maze thought to be from 3000 B.C.

The book isn't just about scary places, but there are plenty enough locations with ghosts - often malevolent - and vampires to give anyone the creeps even if you think you don't believe in that sort of thing. Author Sarah Bartlett has chosen places from around the world, many of them well known, and many of them not so well known except to locals. The places are organized by chapters, with the chapter titles being Haunted Places, Vampire Haunts, Witchcraft and the Dark Arts, Sacred Places, UFO Hot Spots, and Myths and Legends. In the first chapter, "Haunted Places" the author describes locations like medieval castles, cemeteries, deserted towns, and battlefields that have been reported as haunted. One of these, the Tower of London, is claimed to be the most haunted building in England. In the US, events that occurred in the Hull House in Chicago are said to have inspired the novel and movie *Rosemary's Baby*. For Southern Californians and tourists, there's a list of "5 Haunted Hot Spots in Hollywood." "Vampire Haunts" is the shortest chapter in the book, but it's by far the most gruesome. Of course, Bran Castle in Transylvania, Romania - once occupied by the infamous Vlad the Impaler - is listed, since it's the inspiration for Bram Stoker's 1897 Gothic novel *Dracula*. Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe is another grisly location, where a legendary Lightning Bird shape-shifts into a seductive young woman to lure men to their deaths and then drink their blood. In the "Witchcraft" chapter, the two locations that stood out the most for me were Salem, Massachusetts, site of the infamous witch trials; and Hellam, located in York, Pennsylvania, which was once rumored to be a portal to hell.

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