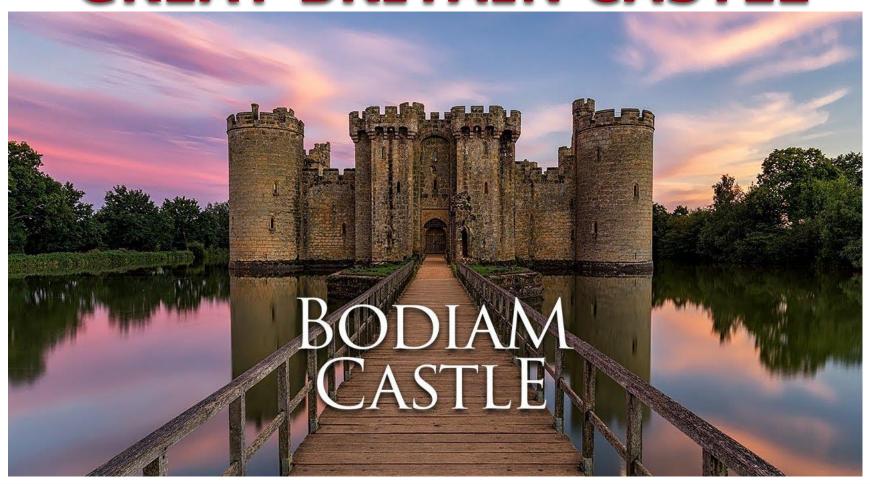




GREAT BRITAIN CASTLE







Country: United Kingdom

Continent: Europe

Category: Castle

England Place: Bodiam

GPS: N: 51 ° 0'9.00 ", E: 0 ° 32'36.60"

History of Bodiam Castle

The Saxon settlement in the valley of the Rother River during the Norman invasion passed into the possession of the Bodiam {Bodiham} family, from which the castle took its name. At the end of the fourteenth century, the Bodim lands as a wife's dowry went to Sir Edward Dalyngrigge, the owner of a considerable fortune, which he had acquired during his mercenary service as a knight of war expeditions in France in the service of Duke Clarence and Robert Knolles. In 1385, Dalyngrigge received permission from King Richard II to build a castle that was to serve as the family estate of the Dalyngrigge family and a defensive fortification against the invasion of the French during the Hundred Years' War. Bodiam Castle, a fortress near the small village of Robertsbidge in East Sussex, is a classic example of medieval English castles. Huge walls and a wide moat, which over time began to resemble a real lake with water lilies, made the castle practically unhealthy for attackers and resistant to enemy attacks.











The construction of the castle lasted several years, and finally it became not only an impregnable bridgehead, but also a luxurious castle equipped with numerous innovative solutions for the comfort of its owners. The castle was built on a square plan, and in its center there is a large courtyard. In the corners, there are four three-story, massive, round towers. It is an architecture characteristic of fortified buildings that were erected in the fourteenth century. In 1395, Bodiam Castle was inherited by the son of Dalyngrigge, and John, who was so favored by the king that he received a generous annual allowance, allowed him to make any modernization changes to his estate. At the end of the fifteenth century, the first branch of the Dalyngrigge family expired and the castle passed into the possession of Thomas Lewknor, who during the war of the Two Roses supported the house of the Lancasters, for which King Richard III declared him a traitor.

After the accession to the throne of Henry VII, the castle returned to the Lewknor family, which ruled there until 1588. In the 17th century, the castle changed owners several times and passed from hands to hands, once of parliamentarians and royalists. **During the Civil War in 1642-46 it** was completely plundered by parliamentary troops, who, at Cromwell's request, destroyed everything that belonged to the royal family. After the war, the castle was owned by the noble Webster family. For several decades, the mighty medieval walls were covered with ivy. In the early nineteenth century, when the halfdestroyed castle was on the verge of complete collapse, the former owner Godfrey Wbebster put it and adjacent areas up for auction, and so the castle was acquired by **Brightlig eccentric John Fuller** known as the "madness builder" with the nickname "Mad Jack".









Fuller managed to save the castle from destruction thanks to the restoration work he began in 1830, and which he carried out continuously until his death for several years. In the 1860s, the property was purchased by Fuller's heir, Baron George Cubitt, and he also continued work on restoring the castle to its former exterior. Half a century later, Boldiam Castle was acquired by the famous politician, traveler and writer George Nathaniel Currzon. who paid great attention to the fortress regaining its glory and preserving the former architectural appearance of the buildings. In 1925, after the death of Lord Curzon. according to his will, the castle was sold to the British organization dealing with the protection of monuments of Great Britain "National Trust". From that time until now, it is this organization that deals with the conservation and maintenance of the castle in a proper condition.

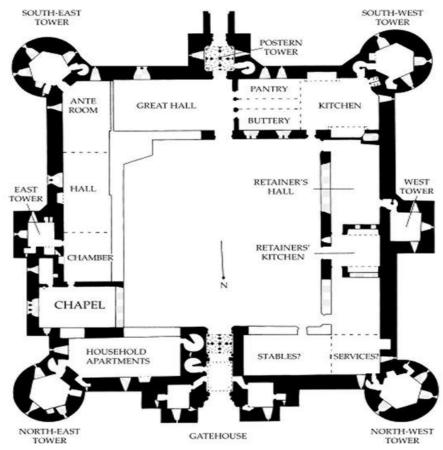
What can you see?

The territory of Boldiam covered with green vegetation is a very popular place for picnics, where city dwellers come to spend their free time in a romantic setting and quiet. Tours around the castle often take the form of theater workshops, when costumed figures are told about its history and the history of its owners, as if transferred to our times from the old era. For younger guests, **Boldiam Castle offers a number of** interesting interactive activities, so children are offered to search for lost treasures, save the ruler's daughter, or participate in games and chivalry games. During the season of seasonal holidays, the castle hosts a lot of different events, ranging from merry markets to a **Christmas dinner with traditional turkey** and pudding. In the summer months, tourists will find it interesting to participate in various medieval festivals, crossbow shooting, singing minstrels that will delight the senses, or learning traditional crafts.



The structure of the Boldiam castle buildings is so picturesque that despite the loss of historic interiors, it is able to attract with its attractive appearance. Historical films were shot here many times, and in the 1950s Boldiam served as the set for the Robin Hood series. You can admire the surroundings from the toothed walls of the castle, and a walk along the winding stairs and empty palace chambers allows you to spread your imagination about what life was like in medieval times.





SOURCES

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- •thegardenstrust.blog
- •www.mastelfamily.com





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