

John Sherlock's Brief Bibliography for Architecture Lovers

If you just want one book from each section, go for the first in each section!

World Architecture

<i>Title</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Publisher</i>	<i>Commentary</i>
A Concise History of Architectural Styles	Emily Cole (editor)	A & C Black 2003	The illustrations are nearly all drawings but the book is beautifully laid out in 'Dorling-Kindersley' style and covers pretty well all you need to know.
Great Architecture of the World	John Julius Norwich (editor)	Da Capo 1975	May not be in print any more – but very clearly set out in colour, with some 800 original diagrams, drawings and photos.
A History of Architecture	Sir Banister Fletcher (20 th ed. edited by Dan Cruickshank)	Elsevier – 20 th ed. 1996, First published 1896	The architectural historian's bible – a huge tome and a treasure-trove of detail and delightful Victorian opinion. Even the bibliography runs to 40 pages!
How to Read Buildings	Carol Davidson Cragoe	Herbert Press 2008	Only about £15 and fits in the pocket – an excellent ready-reference to styles and motifs.
Pillar to Post	Osbert Lancaster	John Murray 1938	Out of print, I expect. Witty, insightful cartoon illustrations of all the principal architectural styles.
Palladio and Palladianism	Robert Tavernor	Thames & Hudson 1991	May be out of print, but it's a very well written and illustrated narrative about Palladio and his influence in both Britain and the New World
Why We Build	Rowan Moore	Picador 2012	Interesting paperback on what motivates grand construction projects, both historically and today
Early Medieval Architecture	Roger Stalley	Oxford University Press 1999	Scholarly work on Romanesque Architecture in Europe
Palladio – The Complete Buildings	Manfred Wundham & Thomas Pape	Taschen 2008	The reason to buy the book is the wonderful collection of photographs by Paolo Marton. The text is mediocre.

British Architecture

<i>Title</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Publisher</i>	<i>Commentary</i>
Rice's Architectural Primer	Matthew Rice	Bloomsbury 2009	Pen and watercolour illustrations detailing every motif through the ages. Essential for 'naming of parts'. Rice makes architecture fun.
Rice's Church Primer	Matthew Rice	Bloomsbury 2013	As above, but focused on churches in Britain.
At Home	Bill Bryson	Random House 2010	Hugely enjoyable and readable romp through architectural history in Britain
How to Read a Church	Richard Taylor	Random House 2007	Richly illustrated pocket-book for church visitors
The Pocket Guide to English Architecture	Philip Wilkinson	Pen & Sword 2009	A very good summary for about £10 – well illustrated with line drawings

British Architecture (larger books for the coffee table)

Hudson's Historic Houses and Gardens	Norman Hudson (original editions)	Heritage House (new editions annually)	Essential guide to all the great houses, churches, castles and gardens of Britain, well illustrated, with visit details, organised by region and county.
Houses of the National Trust	Lydia Greeves	National Trust 2008	Rich colour photography from the Trust's photo library – a pricey but beautiful coffee-table book.
How to Read a Country House	Jeremy Musson	Ebury Press 2005	Good colour photography – a 'manual' for the student of big English houses.
Living Buildings	Donald Insall	Images 2008	A conservationist's dream book – full of restoration case-histories and beautiful drawings by the author. Foreword by the Prince of Wales.
Victorian Architecture: Diversity and Invention	James Stevens Curl	Spire Books 2007	A thorough historical analysis of influences, methods and exponents with good photographs