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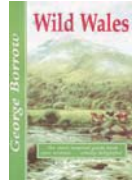
your personal travel specialist to Wales and England

Books and Movies

the following books and movie titles are about or based in Wales.

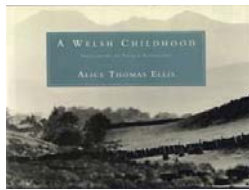
Non Fiction Books

George Borrow,
Wild Wales



(Century). Highly entertaining easy-to-read account of the author's walking tour of Wales in 1854, which says as much about Borrow and his ego as it does about Wales and the Welsh, who he treats with benign condescension.

Alice Thomas Ellis
A Welsh Childhood



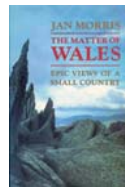
(Penguin). Wonderfully whimsical reminiscences of growing up in north Wales. Welsh legends and folk tales form a large part of the backdrop, fermenting excitedly in the young imagination of the popular novelist.

Elizabeth Mavor
Ladies of Llangollen



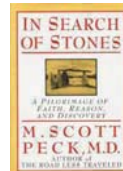
(Penguin). The best of the books on Wales' most notorious and celebrated lesbian couple. This volume traces the ladies' inauspicious beginnings in Ireland, their spectacular elopement and the way that their Llangollen home, Plas Newydd, became a place of pilgrimage for dozens of influential eighteenth-century visitors. A fascinating story lovingly told.

Jan Morris
The Matter of Wales



(Penguin). Prolific half-Welsh travel writer Jan Morris immerses herself in the country that she evidently loves. Highly partisan and fiercely nationalistic, the book combs over the origins of the Welsh character and describes the people and places of Wales with precision and affection. A magnificent introduction to a diverse, and occasionally perverse, nation. *Jan Morris main home is at Llamystumdwy, and she is often seen in Criccieth.*

M. Scott Peck M.D.
In Search of Stones



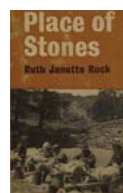
A Pilgrimage of Faith, Reason, and Discovery.
Peck stayed at Portmerion.

H.V Morton
In Search of Wales



Snapshots of Welsh life in the 1930s.
A companion volume to his In Search of England.

Ruth Janette Ruck
Place of Stone



A trilogy of books about her experiences in the 1950s, '60s and '70s, namely Place of Stones, Hill Farm Story and Along Came a Llama.
Ruck lived on a farm near Beddgelert.



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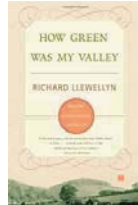
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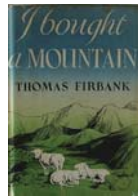
Fiction Books

Richard Llewellyn
How Green was my Valley



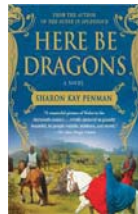
Vital tetralogy in eloquent and passionate prose following the life of Huw Morgan from his youth in a south Wales mining valley through emigration to the Welsh community in Patagonia and back to 1970s Wales. A best-seller during World War II and still the best introduction to the vast canon of "valleys novels", How Green was my Valley? captured a longing for a simple, if tough, life steering clear of sentimentality.

Thomas Firbank
I bought a Mountain



One of the few popular books set in north Wales in which Anglo-Canadian Firbank spins an autobiographical yarn of his purchase of most of the Glyder range and subsequent life as a Snowdonian sheep farmer during the 1930s. Generous but patronizing observations about his neighbours and his wife mar an otherwise enjoyable, easy read.

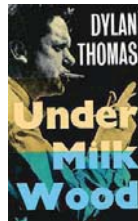
Sharon Kay Penman
Here Be Dragons



The very popular historical novel published in 1985. The novel is the first in a trilogy known as the Welsh Princes series set in medieval England, Wales and France that feature the Plantagenet kings. Penman is known for providing accurate descriptions of historical events and creating strong characterisations.

Poetry:

Dylan Thomas
Under Milkwood



His most popular play, telling the story of a microcosmic Welsh seaside town over a 24-hour period. Reading it does little justice - far better, instead, to get a tape or record version of the play, and luxuriate in its rich poetry, or, as Thomas himself described it, "prose with blood pressure".

Marion Eames
Secret Room



Lived in Dolgellau up to her death in 2007; a semi-fictional account of the events leading up to the 1686 emigration of Quakers from Dolgellau.

Poetry Facts

Shelley lived in Tremadoc for a time.

Tym Morris, Children Poet Laureate. Son of Jan Morris lives Llanystumdwy drinks at The Feathers

R S Thomas lived in Aberdaron.

Dylan Thomas lived in Swansea



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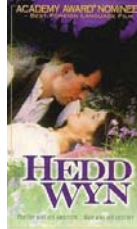
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Movies filmed in, about or have links with Wales.

Hedd Wyn



Hedd Wyn's home is in Trsfynedd
Hedd Wyn is a 1992 Welsh anti-war biopic, written by Alan Llwyd and directed by Paul Turner. Based on the life of Ellis Humphrey Evans (Huw Garmon), killed in the First World War, the cinematography starkly contrasts the lyrical beauty of the poet's native Meirionnydd with the bombed-out horrors of Passchendaele. The protagonist is depicted as a tragic hero with an intense dislike of the wartime ultranationalism which surrounds him. Ellis Evans' bardic name provides the film's title, under which he was posthumously awarded the Chair at the 1917 National Eisteddfod

How Green was my Valley

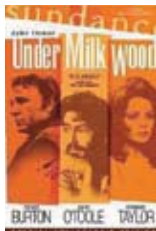
actually filmed in California



is a 1941 drama film directed by John Ford. The film, based on the 1939 Richard Llewellyn novel The film tells the story of the Morgans, a close, hard-working Welsh family at the turn of the twentieth century in the South Wales coalfield at the heart of the South Wales Valleys. It chronicles a socio-economic way of life passing and the family unit disintegrating.

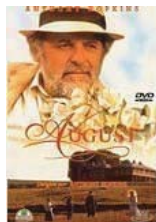
In 1990, How Green Was My Valley was selected by the Library of Congress for preservation in the United States National Film Registry as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".

Dylan Thomas
Under Milkwood



Originally a 1954 radio drama by Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, adapted later as a stage play. A movie version, Under Milk Wood directed by Andrew Sinclair, was released in 1972.. An omniscient narrator invites the audience to listen to the dreams and innermost thoughts of the inhabitants of a fictional small Welsh fishing village Llareggub

August



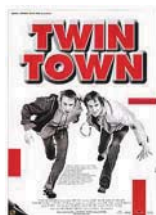
The film adapts Uncle Vanya to a turn-of-the-century Welsh setting, emphasizing the hardships of Welsh industrial life in the slate quarries and Welsh-English turmoil as an English professor upsets normal Welsh life when he arrives at the Welsh estate which acts as his vacation home (at one point leuan states that he feels that he has been cheated by the Prof. Blathwaite, just as "the English have always cheated the Welsh").

Darklands



Darklands follows journalist Frazer Truick as he investigates the mysterious death of the brother of trainee journalist Rachel Morris. Delving deeper, Truick becomes convinced that the tragedy was murder, committed by a bizarre religious cult. But as the evidence unfolds, things take on a more sinister and potentially lethal significance for the reporter, as he becomes embroiled in devil worship, witchcraft and ultimately human sacrifice

Twin Town



a 1997 British crime film made and set in South West Wales. It was directed by Kevin Allen Set in Port Talbot & Swansea, the Lewis "twins" of the title are not twins but brothers. They live with their parents and sister Adie in a caravan on a travelers site. Constantly mocking their sister's employment at a local massage parlour, they spend most of their time joking around, taking drugs and stealing cars.



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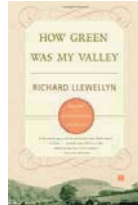
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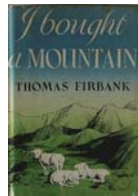
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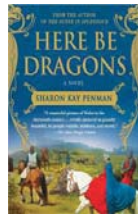
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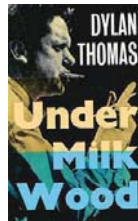
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