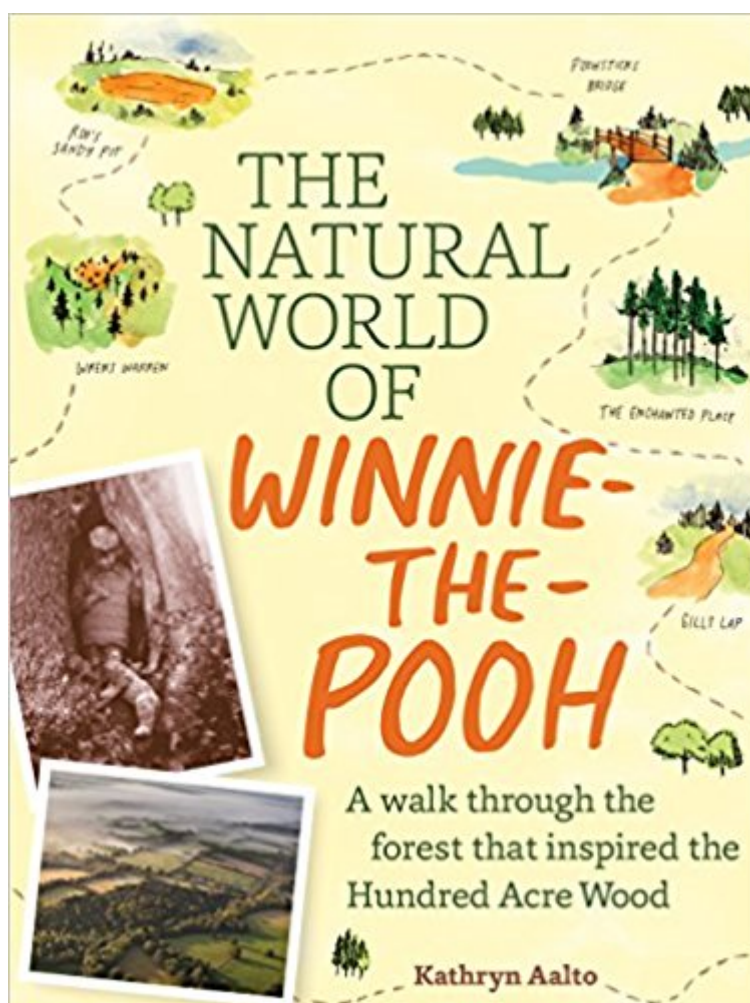


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# The Natural World Of Winnie-the-Pooh: A Walk Through The Forest That Inspired The Hundred Acre Wood



## Synopsis

Celebrate the 90th anniversary of Winnie-the-Pooh and discover the real places that inspired the Hundred Acre Wood. Delve into the home of the world's most beloved bear! The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh explores the magical landscapes where Pooh, Christopher Robin, and their friends live and play. The Hundred Acre Wood is the setting for Winnie-the-Pooh's adventures and was inspired by Ashdown Forest, a wildlife haven that spans more than 6,000 acres in southeast England. In the pages of this enchanting book you can visit the ancient black walnut tree on the edge of the forest that became Pooh's house, go deep into the pine trees to find Poohsticks Bridge, and climb up to the top of the enchanted Galleons Lap, where Pooh says goodbye to Christopher Robin. You will discover how Milne's childhood connection with nature and his role as a father influenced his famous stories, and how his close collaboration with illustrator E. H. Shepard brought those stories to life. This charming book also serves as a guide to the plants, animals, and places of the remarkable Ashdown Forest, whether you are visiting in person or from the comfort of your favorite armchair. In a delightful narrative, enriched with Shepard's original illustrations, hundreds of color photographs, and Milne's own words, you will rediscover your favorite characters and the magical place they called home.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Beautifully written and thoroughly researched, The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh

provides an intimate look into the magic and inspirations behind Milne's stories, while reminding us of the joy children experience through nature.

•Richard Louv, author, *The Nature Principle and Last Child in the Woods* "The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh reminds us that the Hundred Acre Wood is quite real and very much alive. Everyone who loves Pooh and Piglet and Christopher Robin will cherish this behind-the-scenes exploration of A. A. Milne's world."

•Amy Stewart, author, *The Drunken Botanist: The Plants That Create the World's Great Drinks* "A vivid guide to the 6,000 acres of Ashdown Forest in England, a landscape celebrated by A. A. Milne and illustrator E. H. Shepard as the make-believe Hundred Acre Wood where Christopher Robin and friends had their adventures. The volume includes original illustrations along with photographs."

•The New York Times "Aalto's lovely book provides two great pleasures: a visit to the actual wild spots that inform the fictional Pooh world and a chance to slip into our memories of the books themselves."

•The Washington Post "Lavishly illustrated with superb photographs as well as reproductions of the delightfully familiar Shepard illustrations. . . . an affectionate book written with enthusiasm."

•The Wall Street Journal "This book is like a gorgeous and serene walk through the beloved Hundred Acre Wood. . . . Such a vast depth of knowledge to be found here. . . . A lovely addition to any library."

•Children's Book Review "An intimate guide to the forest's history, geology, animals, colours and textures. Tantalising descriptions and photographs invite us to slow our pace, look and listen."

•BBC Wildlife Magazine "A nostalgic read that explores the magical reality behind the fictitious world of Winnie-the-Pooh and the Hundred Acre Wood."

•Gardens Illustrated "For anyone who has read and reread Milne's stories, Aalto furnishes a delightful addition to these classic tales, reawakening the childlike wonder and amusement first experienced when reading the books inspired by these locations."

•Shelf Awareness Reader "Nature enthusiasts will find much to enjoy in landscape designer and historian Kathryn Aalto's *The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh*, where she discusses the Ashdown Forest, the real woodland setting where Milne's son often wandered with his stuffed animals in tow. Parents nostalgic for a bygone era when children lost track of time playing outdoors might consider Aalto's book a companion guide to the Pooh tales, a gentle reminder that so much of childhood is founded on magic and secret hideaway places."

•Fine Books Magazine "This is a beautifully produced book with an unusual premise that will delight the knowledgeable landscape designer and lay reader alike. . . . Aalto's book enriches our

understanding of the world of this iconic children's story. • Landscape Architecture Magazine • "Kathryn Aalto has skillfully woven together the geology, geography, history and natural history of the Forest. . . . providing a travelogue, a guide, a nature spotting manual, and a nostalgic glimpse of the past, all rolled into a delightful and eminently readable book, profusely illustrated with photographs and drawings. • The Garden Window • "A sweet and nostalgic walkabout. • Guilford Courier

Take an extraordinary journey through the places at the heart of Winnie-the-Pooh's iconic adventures. The magical setting for Winnie-the-Pooh's adventures is a real place: the Hundred Acre Wood was inspired by Ashdown Forest, a wildlife haven that spans more than 6,000 acres in southeast England. The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh explores the enchanting landscapes where Pooh, Christopher Robin, and their friends live and play. Visit the ancient black walnut tree on the edge of the forest that became Pooh's house. Go deep into the pine trees to find Poohsticks Bridge, where Milne played the famous game he created for his son, the real Christopher Robin. See the old quarry where Roo played in his sandy pit. Climb up to the top of the enchanted Galleons Lap, where Pooh says goodbye to Christopher Robin. • You will discover how Milne's childhood connection with nature and his role as a father influenced his famous stories, and how his close collaboration with illustrator E. H. Shepard brought those stories to life. This charming book also serves as a guide to the plants, animals, and places of the remarkable Ashdown Forest, whether you are visiting in person or from the comfort of your favorite armchair. •

It is a beautiful book. I'm 78 years old and it is a Christmas present to me. I will share it with a friend who has actually been there.

I am enjoying this immensely. I love the Pooh books (the originals, Disney should be punished!)... and love tales set in the English country side. This has become my bedtime read.. a few pages of gentle humor and natural beauty. I am so glad I bought it, and am already planning which of my children to pass it down to.

Who hasn't heard of Winnie-the-Pooh and Christopher Robin? Did you read the popular A.A. Milne stories as a child or maybe you read them to your children or grand children? This book is a gem of background information behind the stories of Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends. I found that having

these tidbits of information gave more meaning and depth to Christopher Robin, the real boy, who played with his imaginary friends. We learn about the man, A.A. Milne and the illustrator E.H. Shepard. Their partnership and the way they worked together made books that children have loved to read for 90 years. Living in the USA, I never thought I would be transported to Ashdown Forest where Milne worked his magic to bring to the page Christopher Robin's playtime adventures. We learn about the plant and animal life in the forest. I love that Kathryn Aalto urges us to visit the real Hundred Acre Wood where everything "Pooh" happens. I received this book for free through Goodreads Giveaways.

Was so happy to find this for my Kindle! Put it on my Kindle PC and love that I can see and read it there---full screen and large print! I'd almost bought the book after my DD got it for Christmas but found this on special for only \$2.00 and am very happy with it!

When I purchased this book, I was not expecting much more than a nice "coffee table book with some nice antidotes and interesting facts. I primarily bought it for the nice graphics, photos and Shepard illustrations, which are hard to find in a good quality print book these days. However, once I started reading the text I was pleasantly surprised to find an insightful informative text told in a narrative almost as magical as the original Pooh books. The author very obviously loved writing this and it shows on every page.

First one I purchased was for a gift -- my friend sat down and read it that night! I believe I will be receiving same for my birthday! Kathryn is a joy to follow!

I first looked at this on my black and white Kindle, and really enjoyed the author's description of all the areas described in the Pooh stories. Then I looked at it on my Fire, in color. Oh, my! Such richness of illustrations. Would recommend you look at this in color if you can. I loved learning about the real environment the stories were written about. Highly recommend this book, especially if Pooh is part of your life!

Great book and wonderful nature story.

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