

# Explore the Enchanting Follies of West Sussex: Uncover Hidden Architectural Gems

Nestled amidst the picturesque landscapes of West Sussex, England, lies a collection of captivating architectural follies that invite exploration and admiration. These whimsical structures, often adorned with intricate details, serve as testaments to the creativity and eccentricity of the past. From towering landmarks to secluded hidden gems, the Follies of West Sussex offer a glimpse into the region's rich architectural heritage.

## 1. Arundel Castle Folly



## Follies of West Sussex (Follies of England Book 37)

by Vesna Neskow

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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Perched atop the verdant slopes of the South Downs, Arundel Castle Folly commands panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. Built in the 18th century, this neo-Gothic folly resembles a ruined castle, complete with crenellated towers and a moat. Its crumbling walls and overgrown ivy lend it an air of romantic decay, making it a popular spot for photography and picnics.

## **2. Bignor Roman Villa Folly**



Bignor Roman Villa Folly

Unveiling a glimpse of Roman history, Bignor Roman Villa Folly stands amidst the ruins of a 4th-century Roman villa. Constructed in the early 19th century, this folly features a reconstructed Roman bathhouse, complete with mosaic floors and hypocaust heating system. Visitors can immerse themselves in the opulent lifestyle of ancient Romans while exploring this unique architectural remnant.

### 3. Cowdray Castle Ruins



Nestled within a tranquil parkland, the ruins of Cowdray Castle evoke a sense of grandeur and tragedy. Once a magnificent Tudor palace, the castle was partially destroyed by fire in the 17th century. Today, its crumbling walls and towering chimneys stand as a haunting reminder of the castle's former glory, offering an atmospheric setting for exploration and contemplation.

### 4. Goodwood Revival Folly



## Goodwood Revival Folly

At the heart of the Goodwood Motor Circuit, the Goodwood Revival Folly stands as a tribute to the golden age of motor racing. This folly, constructed in the 1930s, incorporates elements of Art Deco and Streamline Moderne architecture. Its sleek lines and vibrant colors evoke the glamour and excitement of the era, creating a perfect backdrop for vintage car races and events.

## 5. Parham House Folly



Adorning the grounds of Parham House, this folly is a delightful blend of architectural styles. Featuring a castellated tower, arched windows, and intricate carvings, it creates an enchanting atmosphere. The folly offers panoramic views of the surrounding parkland and is often used for private events and weddings.

## **6. Stansted Park Rotunda**



## Stansted Park Rotunda

Gracing the picturesque grounds of Stansted Park, the Rotunda embodies Palladian architecture at its finest. Built in the 18th century, this folly features a circular temple-like structure with a domed roof and classical columns. Its elegant design and serene surroundings make it an ideal spot for contemplation and relaxation.

## 7. West Dean Gardens Temple Folly





Nestled within the manicured gardens of West Dean Gardens, the Temple Folly is a captivating blend of Eastern and Western architectural influences. Built in the 18th century, this folly features a pagoda-like structure with intricate woodwork and colorful tiles. Its serene atmosphere and exotic design make it a popular spot for meditation and reflection.

### **Exploring the Follies of West Sussex**

To fully appreciate the architectural wonders of West Sussex's follies, consider planning a self-guided tour. Many of these follies are located within the grounds of stately homes and gardens, which offer guided tours and admission fees. Others, like the Arundel Castle Folly, are accessible to the public for free.

While exploring these follies, take the time to admire their unique architectural features and appreciate the creativity and whimsy that went into their design. They offer a unique glimpse into the past, providing a fascinating contrast to the modern world around them.

Remember to respect these historic structures and avoid touching or climbing on them. Many of these follies are protected by conservation organizations and should be treated with care.



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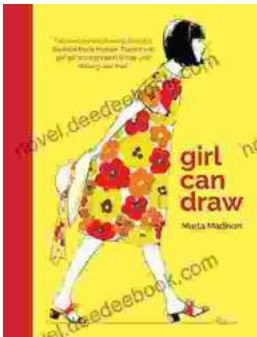
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