



Castles of Southwest Wales

Photographs by Rolf Brauch ~ May 1992





While on a business trip to London, England, in May of 1992, I unexpectedly had a free long weekend, so I took the opportunity to go castling in Southwest Wales.

Unfortunately I lost my notes with the names of the towns and castles, and until I get the opportunity to visit this area again, the pictures in this essay will remain nameless.



I remember that this castle was very close to the coast ~ just a mile or two inland, with a beautiful Norman Church on the hill from which I took the photo below.

Strange, the things one does remember ~ when inspecting the inside of the church, I couldn't help but notice the heavy, dank air. When I brushed against a big grey curtain at the back of the church, it was completely water-logged.





The walls, in an advanced state of disrepair appear to have been about two meters thick.





Another once well-built castle/fortress in disrepair, particularly the living quarters, since they were typically a little less robust than the fortifications.





A gatehouse, guarding the moat



Side entrance





The moat





The moat from another viewpoint





View from an inner courtyard





View from inside what was once the great hall





The keep

*View up the keep ~
notice the outline of the
floors it once used to have.*





Stairway leading to a guard tower

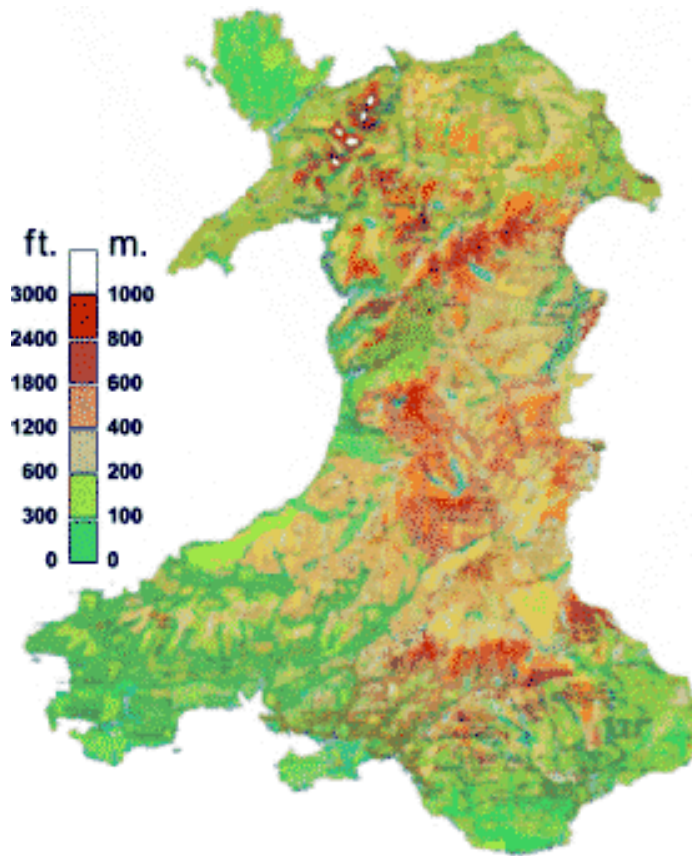




Fallen walls...

*...and just outside,
sheep graze peacefully*





This will give you an idea of the terrain and the main roads existing today.





This is the southwest part of Wales I actually visited and will have to visit again to retrace my steps.

