

Lake District Tours, 1842-1902 (Hardback)



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Reviews

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(Ms. Bernice Rolfson)

LAKE DISTRICT TOURS, 1842-1902 (HARDBACK)

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Editon Synapse, Japan, 2014. Hardback. Book Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Published by EPM in Japan and distributed outside of Japan by Routledge. * Following the successful series, Lake District Tours, A Collection of Travel Writings and Guide Books in the Romantic Era in six volumes, this is a collection of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century writings on the Lake District. * Facsimile reprint of six travel guides and handbooks with many illustrations and photographs. From the Introduction by Malcolm Andrews In 1835, two years before Victoria came to the throne, William Wordsworth published the enlarged 5th edition of his Guide to the Lakes, the earliest version of which had appeared in 1810. The Guide was, as its full title indicates, for the Use of Tourists and Residents. Wordsworth's purpose in producing his own Guide was, as he explained in a letter to Lady Beaumont (10 May 1810), to give a model of the manner in which topographical descriptions ought to be executed, in order to their being either useful or intelligible, by evolving truly and distinctly one appearance from another. These remarks make clear that the writing of guidebooks for tourists had become an industry, as well as a distinct literary genre in itself. Wordsworth in 1810 was all too aware of the conventions of guidebooks, especially those relating to his Lake District home country, and the often stereotyped vocabulary of topographical descriptions over the previous quarter century. His own Guide brought a refreshing geological and poetic specificity to descriptions of scenery, replacing the generalising tendency of so many of his predecessors who were concerned to fit natural scenery into the aesthetic templates of the Sublime, the Beautiful, or the Picturesque. Wordsworth's contribution foreshadowed the guidebooks of the later nineteenth century. It was also environmentally...

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