

Ley Lines

are the monuments of ancient Britain networked ?

Britain contains some of the finest examples of stone circles and standing stones in existence. Although referred to as circles and rings, most sites are not circular at all, but are flattened circles, or elliptical. The problem with the study of the megalithic period is not the physical evidence; stone circles, burial mounds and remains of round houses abound. Instead, the problem faced by historians and archaeologists is the lack of written evidence about the culture of the time. There are many arguments about the purpose of many sites, and while Megalithic man may have been extremely adept at construction methods; and indeed mathematics, an absence of written text, in any form, means nothing can be known of their cultural heritage which is completely verifiable; although much evidence has emerged which allows for a qualified speculation. What has become clear however is that these circles and rings are works of great mathematical genius; most can be used to calculate the time of year, phase of the moon and some can even be used to calculate solar eclipses.

The construction of this sacred landscape alone is undoubtedly inspiring, made even more so with the following proposition; 'are they networked ?'

Alfred Watkins first described Ley Lines in his book on the subject, *The Old Straight Track*, published in 1925. He defined them as, "an alignment of ancient sites marking the position of traders' tracks", however much conjecture has continued about their authenticity and purpose.

In the philosophy of esoteric studies, Ley Lines hold a more significant and numinous meaning. Theosophists, some schools of contemporary Paganism and those who follow more New Age philosophies often view ley lines with particular significance; believing them to be electromagnetic energy lines that run through the Earth, in perfect straight lines. Followers of this esoteric belief also hold the view that if you meditate, or do some 'creative visualisation', on a Ley line, the results of your healing/meditation/ well-wishing will be more pronounced, as if the energy of the lines give your innate and natural healing/psychic powers an additional boost; akin to a healing or psychic amplifier.

Ley line theorists also believe that ancient man could not only sense, or feel, the lines they could quite clearly see them as well, and, given the additional power one receives in 'sending thought-

energy', ancient man lived by, or on, these lines of power. Temples were placed on these lines, and so too were the burial grounds of the ancestors, communal places of worship and iconic figures - carved into the hillsides.

One such ley line is said to run through the Sacred Landscape we explore on the tour. You may have found from this page that Wiltshire is home to hundreds of ancient burial sites and monuments: Stone Circles, Burial mounds, Long Barrows, White Horses, and Hill Forts. Ley line theory says that groups or sets of these are spread out along straight lines which pass through the landscape. One of these lines is said to run from Avebury, through the only Long Barrow open to the public at West Kennet, through a hill with another Long Barrow with a White Horse on it, through the centre of Stonehenge and right through Old Sarum hill fort and Salisbury cathedral and down to Hengistbury head at Christchurch - and off into the sea ... and onwards.

These theories invite many questions and we will discuss them during the tour. Archeologists do not refute the theory, but they do dispute its basis and bring it into question. The dowsing community largely supports the theory and we will explore both perspectives and perhaps you may find a place for your own personal opinion to settle ...

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