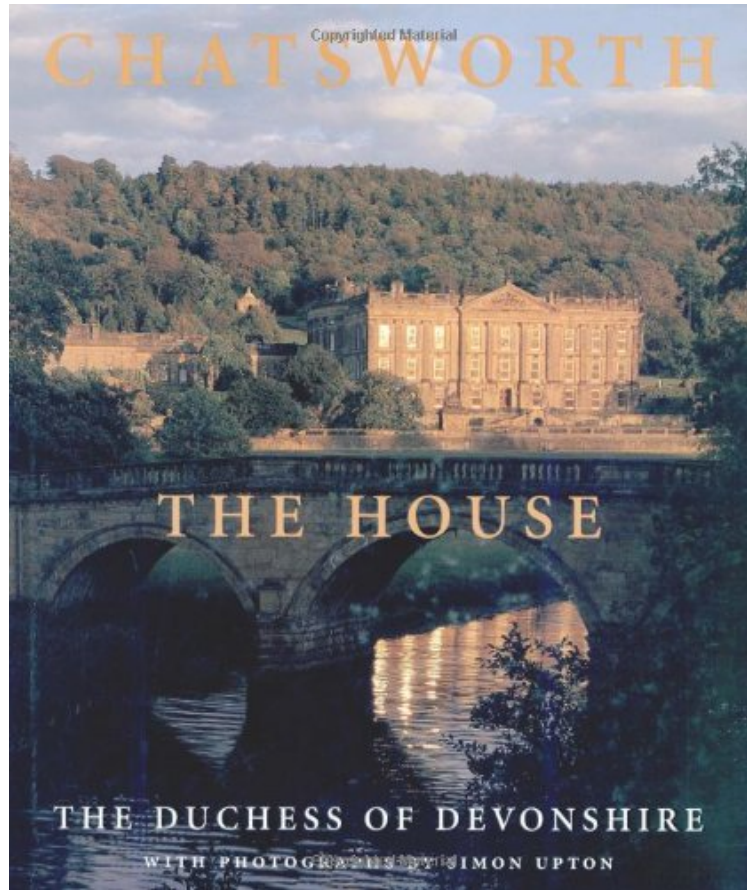


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## Chatsworth: The House

*Dowager Duchess of Devonshire*  
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**Dowager Duchess of Devonshire : Chatsworth: The House** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chatsworth: The House:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Really Fascinating!By Reading RocksI plan on visiting Chatsworth on my next trip to England which is why I made this purchase. Being a fan of English country houses and the lives lived within, I couldn't wait to read this book. It is fabulous - not only are there plenty of great photos, but you really get the inside information about the history of the house, what it's like to live there, the history behind the decor, and how it is run now. The photos are fabulous and the Duchess of Devonshire's style of writing makes it an interesting and great read. I'd suggest that before reading this book, you read the Duchess's memoir ("Wait for Me") which sheds more light on her life at Chatsworth in addition to her personal life. Can't wait to actually go on a tour of Chatsworth and see everything in person.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Fine and Valuable BookBy Ed SeversonThe book arrived in nearly-new condition. Both the photography and writing are excellent it is easily one of the most beautiful and satisfying in my library. The book is made even more valuable by the author's command of the language and her close relationship to the building and its incredible collection of artwork. Part of my purchase

represents my small tribute to a woman who spent years restoring Chatsworth and creating a solid financial foundation for this national treasure. 64 of 64 people found the following review helpful. One of the most perfect 'Country House' books ever. By Martin P. There is no shortage of books on English country houses, but books dedicated in their totality to one single house are surprisingly rare (and those that do exist do not necessarily cover the most obvious houses - there are books on Tyntesfield, Clouds, and Waddesdon Manor, but none on Blenheim Palace, Wilton House or Castle Howard. A book on Holkham Hall is in the making, though). Some books that discuss a greater number of houses are quite excellent (e.g., Great Houses of England and Wales by Hugh Montgomery-Massingbird), but it is hard not to feel shortchanged when a house as rich as Chatsworth is dealt with in just a handful of pages. Here is the better alternative. I have collected a great many books on English country house history over the years, but this is certainly one of the most beautiful and satisfying of them all. Everything about it is right. Chatsworth was already a tourist magnet in Jane Austen's days, and very much remains so today. Sequestered in its gorgeous green valley, it is the quintessential 'great house' in the quintessential English landscape. This book must be the next best thing to an actual visit; in fact, in some ways it may be better, for how many visitors enjoy the pleasure of being shown around by the Duchess of Devonshire herself? And a pleasure it is. The texts are immediately involving, due to their well-balanced mix of (art)history, anecdote, wit and personal recollections and reflections. Family, staff, and visitors all feature in the biography of a place that is very much alive, even though its maintenance poses daunting challenges. Never pompous, the lively, at times delightfully tongue-in-cheek style of the Duchess's writing betrays that she stems from a literary family (she is the sister of Nancy Mitford). Her undisguised great love of the place adds yet more charm. The other glory, of course, is Simon Upton's photography, which is simply dazzling. All rooms of interest, both in the public route and the private apartments of the Devonshires, are illustrated in large, full colour images, as well as many decorative details, paintings, and several 'downstairs' spaces. In all, they provide fascinating insight into the workings and riches of a very large house like this one. Be aware, though, that the book details the interior only. For views of the house and the gardens you will have to get the equally alluring 'The Gardens at Chatsworth' by the same author (and as I gather, a book about the estate as a whole is forthcoming, so Chatsworthites can rejoice....).

Chatsworth is one of England's ten most visited great houses. In this tour of the house, Deborah the Dowager Duchess of Devonshire takes the reader into the private as well as the public rooms, and goes behind the scenes to explain the management of the household and the work of the staff needed to keep it going.

Enjoy the Duchess of Devonshire's highly personal account of what it's like to live at Chatsworth. With the warmth and wit you expect from one of the Mitford sisters, it transcends any run-of-the-mill guidebook. BBC Homes Antiques ... an intellectual and visual treat. Period Living As a souvenir of a visit to Chatsworth this beautiful book is flawless; as an insight into the life of a great stately home it is indispensable. Beautiful Britain About the Author Deborah, Dowager Duchess of Devonshire is the youngest of the seven children of the second Baron Redesdale and sister of the writers Nancy and Jessica Mitford and Diana Mosley. The Duke and Duchess lived at Chatsworth from 1950 on and lovingly restored the house and gardens. Simon Upton is a photographer specialising in interiors and portrait photography. He has contributed to many books and his work appears in Vogue, Tatler, World of Interiors, Harpers and Queen, House and Garden and other publications.