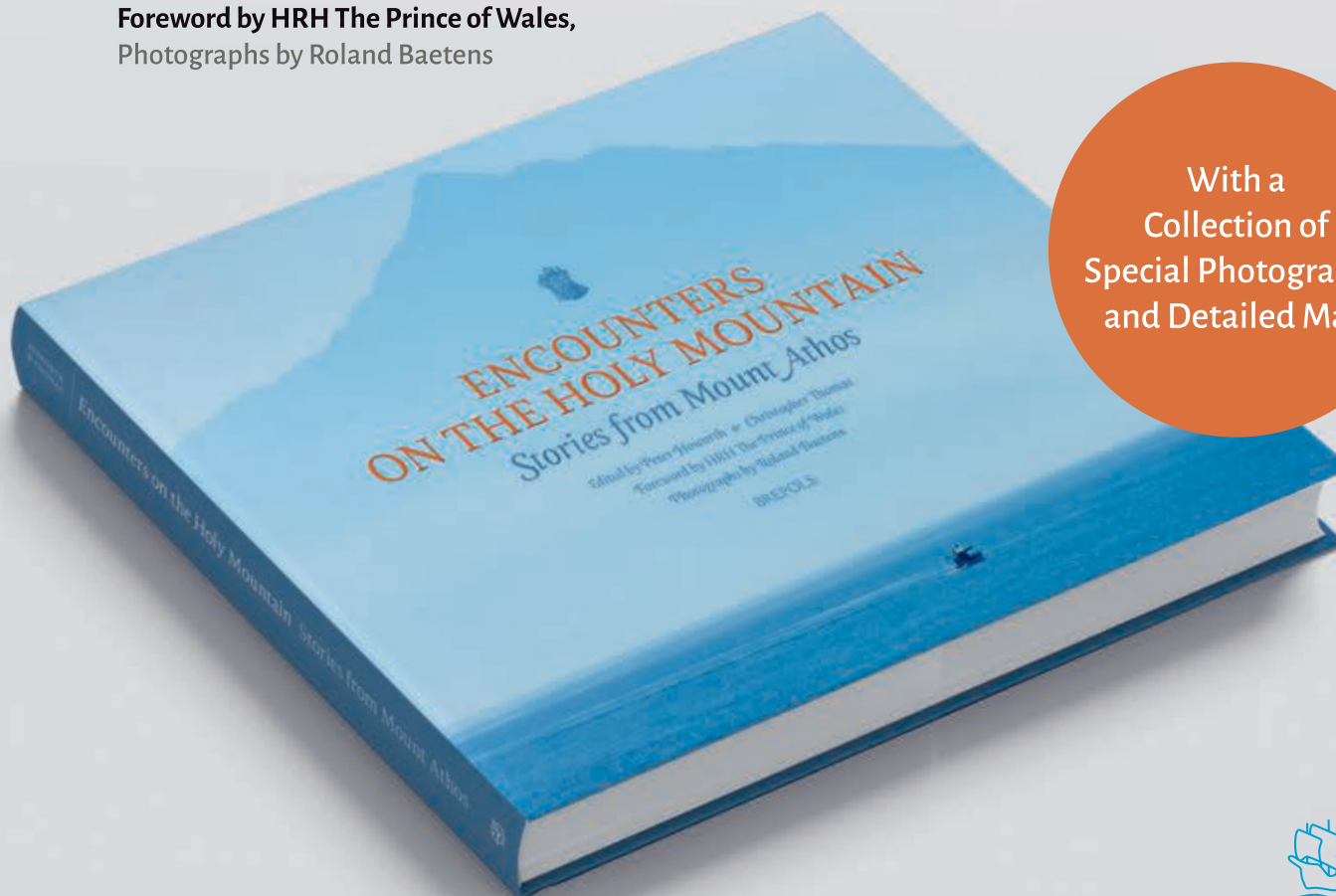




ENCOUNTERS ON THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

Stories from Mount Athos

Edited by Peter Howorth and Chris Thomas,
Foreword by HRH The Prince of Wales,
Photographs by Roland Baetens



With a
Collection of
Special Photographs
and Detailed Map



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An affectionate testament to Mount Athos, the Holy Mountain, after 30 years of activity of the Friends of Mount Athos

Mount Athos, the home of Orthodox spirituality and monasticism, has been in existence for at least 1200 years. Home to over 2,000 monks, in twenty glorious monasteries filled with treasures, the peninsular is undergoing a transformation and renewal of faith.

In 1956 there was a proposal to build hotels on Mount Athos. Today it hosts up to 1,000 pilgrims every day! Why? This book will help explain this extraordinary place, the current resurgence, the growing population of monks, the sense of purpose, the love and affection that are so much part of the environment.

This wonderful story, with a preface by HRH Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, is told through the recollections of the Friends of Mount Athos, an organisation that has, for thirty years, provided support for the institutions, landscape and

people. Here are the stories of enchantment from over forty people of different nationalities, customs and beliefs.

In addition to the text, there are a collection of special photographs and a detailed map of Mount Athos and its surroundings (594 x 841 mm / 23.4 x 33.1 inches).



304 p., 25 b/w ills, 130 col. ills,
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Roland Baetens, Peter Howorth, and Chris Thomas are long time members of the Friends of Mount Athos and veterans of multiple path-clearing pilgrimages to the Holy Mountain. Despite living in different parts of the world, their common passion for the planet, geography, pilgrimage and of course Mount Athos has underpinned their collaboration.

Roland has been travelling to the Holy Mountain for over fifteen years and has amassed a catalogue of over 25,000 photographs of all aspects of Mount Athos. Peter, an engineer, produces maps of the Holy Mountain that have sold to over 44 countries – an activity which has fuelled his love for the place and the men. Chris is a modestly successful businessman, a better than average and very proud dad and whatever the opposite of an engineer is!



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A detailed map of Mount Athos and its surroundings
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