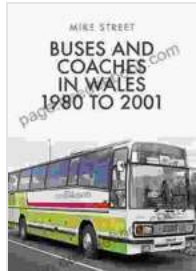


Buses and Coaches in Wales 1980 to 2001: A Comprehensive Overview



Buses and Coaches in Wales: 1980 to 2001 by Michael Cao

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 90639 KB
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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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The history of buses and coaches in Wales from 1980 to 2001 is a complex and fascinating one, marked by significant events, key operators, and technological advancements.

Key Events

- **1980:** The Transport Act 1980 deregulated the bus industry in Wales, leading to a period of intense competition and innovation.
- **1986:** The South Wales Transport Company (SWTC) was privatized, becoming the first major bus operator in Wales to be sold off.
- **1991:** The Welsh Bus Company (WBC) was formed as a result of the merger of several smaller bus operators.

- **1997:** The Welsh Assembly was established, giving Wales greater control over its own transport policy.
- **2001:** The Transport Act 2000 introduced new regulations for the bus industry in Wales, including the requirement for operators to obtain licenses.

Key Operators

- **South Wales Transport Company (SWTC):** SWTC was the largest bus operator in Wales until its privatization in 1986. It operated a fleet of over 1,000 buses and coaches, and served a wide area of South Wales.
- **Welsh Bus Company (WBC):** WBC was formed in 1991 as a result of the merger of several smaller bus operators. It became the largest bus operator in Wales, with a fleet of over 1,200 buses and coaches.
- **Arriva:** Arriva is a multinational transport company that entered the Welsh market in 1997. It quickly became one of the largest bus operators in Wales, acquiring several smaller operators.
- **Stagecoach:** Stagecoach is another multinational transport company that entered the Welsh market in 1998. It acquired several smaller operators, and became one of the largest bus operators in North Wales.

Technological Advancements

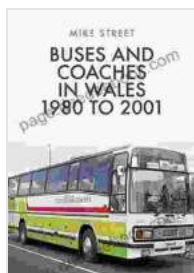
- **1980s:** The of electronic ticketing systems made it easier and more convenient for passengers to travel on buses and coaches.

- **1990s:** The development of low-floor buses made it easier for disabled passengers to access public transport.
- **2000s:** The of real-time information systems allowed passengers to track the progress of their bus or coach in real time.

The history of buses and coaches in Wales from 1980 to 2001 is a story of deregulation, competition, innovation, and technological advancement. The industry has undergone a significant transformation over the past 40 years, and continues to play a vital role in the transport system of Wales.

Image Credits:

- South Wales Transport Company (SWTC) bus by Welsh Bus via Flickr
- Welsh Bus Company (WBC) bus by Welsh Bus via Flickr
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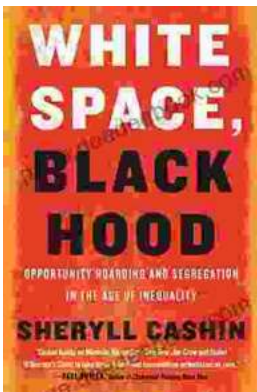
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