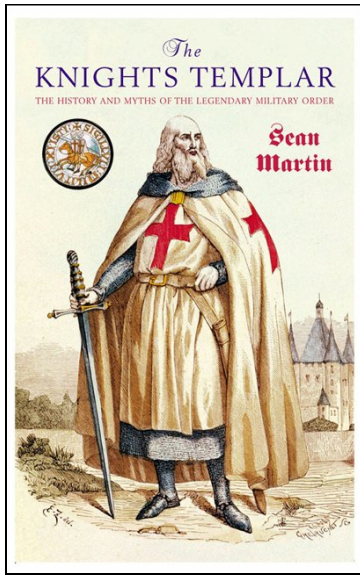




## POCKET ESSENTIALS ADVANCE INFORMATION



# The Knights Templar

## Sean Martin

### SALES POINTS:

- 40,000 copies already in print
- Da Vinci Code film just released
- The mysteries surrounding the Knights Templar have ensured that they are an enduring subject of interest
- There are over 350,000 freemasons in England and Wales alone, many of whom are interested in the organisation's historical associations with the Knights Templar
- The Knights Templar share the same powerful crossover position between myth and history as the Arthurian legends - and will benefit from the July release of the new Hollywood King Arthur movie.
- One of the few books to give equal weight and balance to academic views and alternative theories, appealing to 'new age' interests and military history enthusiasts.

Publication date:	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2004
price:	£9.99
isbn:	1-904048-28-5
Binding:	hardback
Format:	Crown Octavo (186 x 124mm)
extent:	160pp
Rights:	World
Market Restrictions:	Not for sale in the U.S.A. or Canada
BIC code:	HRBC
Report Code:	
13 digit isbn:	978-1-904048-28-2
ean:	9-781904-048282



For a review copy, or for further information, please contact:  
Chris Burrows PR on 0161 445 6635 or  
email: [chrisburrows\\_authorpr@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisburrows_authorpr@btinternet.com)

Publisher: UK Distribution:  
Pocket Essentials Turnaround  
PO Box 394 3 Olympia Trading Estate  
Harpenden Coburg Rd  
Herts London N22 6TZ  
AL5 1XJ  
Tel/Fax 01582 761264

[www.pocketessentials.co.uk/history/1904048285knightstemplar/index.php](http://www.pocketessentials.co.uk/history/1904048285knightstemplar/index.php)

### MARKET:

history, military history, religion, new age, Da Vinci Code enthusiasts

### DESCRIPTION:

The Knights Templar were the most powerful military religious order of the Middle Ages. Formed to protect pilgrims in the Holy Land, they participated in the Crusades and rapidly gained wealth, lands and influence and were answerable to none save the Pope himself. In addition to having a fearful military reputation, they were also Christendom's first bankers, and invented the modern banking system that is still in use today, and were also involved in exploration and engineering. Seemingly untouchable for nearly two centuries, the Templars fell from grace spectacularly after the loss of the Holy Land: in 1307, all Templars in France were arrested on charges of heresy, homosexuality, denial of the cross and devil worship. The order was suppressed by the Pope in 1312, and Jacques de Molay, the last Grand Master, was burnt at the stake as a heretic two years later.

In the ensuing seven centuries the Templars have exerted a unique influence over European history: orthodox historians see them as nothing more than soldier-monks whose arrogance was their ultimate undoing, while others see them as occultists of the first order, the founders of Freemasonry, possessors of the Holy Grail and creators of the Turin Shroud. Sean Martin considers both the orthodox and conspiratorial version of events, and includes the latest revelations from the Vatican Library.

### AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:

Sean Martin is a filmmaker, poet and writer. His books for Pocket Essentials include the bestselling *The Knights Templar*, *The Cathars*, *Alchemy and Alchemists*, and *Andrei Tarkovsky*. He has also directed the critically acclaimed feature film *The Notebooks of Cornelius Crow*.