

# GLOSSARY

**Abbot** – a man who is the head of an abbey of monks and has authority over a prior

**Arcade** – a row of arches that are supported by columns, either freestanding or attached to a wall to form a gallery

**Baron** – a land-holding nobleman who was granted land by the king for honourable service

**Chief minister** – the highest ranking official beneath the king, who is not in the royal family

**Clergy** – the community of people working for the church, ordained for religious duties, including the prior and monks

**Cloister** – a covered square-shaped walk in a convent, monastery, college, or cathedral

**Cluniac** – a Benedictine monastic tradition founded at Cluny in eastern France in 910

**Consecrate** – the solemn act of dedicating a building or object to a special purpose, usually religious

**Crossing** – the junction where the four arms of a cross-shaped church meet and cross each other

**Dissolution of the Monasteries** – Henry VIII suppressed Catholic monasteries in England, between 1536 and 1541, by repurposing or destroying their resources

**Domesday survey** – a record which listed the extent, value and ownership of land in England, made in 1086 by order of William I

**Façade** – the main front of a building

**Inner bailey** – the strongly fortified enclosure at the centre of a castle, often surrounded by a stone curtain wall

**Keep** – the central tower of a castle, often used as a final refuge during a siege

**Latrine** – a simple toilet, built over a hole in the ground or stream

**Layman** – a non-ordained member of a Church

**Mason** – a person skilled in carving and laying stone for buildings

**Mass** – the act of gathering to take Holy Communion, especially in the Roman Catholic Church

**Monk** – a religious man who tries to achieve an ideal love of God through self-sacrifice, making vows of poverty, chastity and obedience

# GLOSSARY

**Nave** – the central part of a church building, intended to accommodate most of the congregation

**Norman Conquest** – the overthrow of King Harold and the government of England by the forces of Normandy after winning the Battle of Hastings in 1066

**Outer bailey** – the defended outer enclosure of a castle

**Parlour** – a room for receiving guests

**Pilgrim** – a person who journeys to a special or sacred place for religious reasons

**Presbytery** – a sacred area of the church reserved especially for the clergy

**Prior** – a man who is the head of a priory of monks

**Sacristy** – a room in a church where sacred items are kept and where a priest prepares for a service

**Tithe** – one tenth of annual earnings, given by members of the church to support the activity of the Church and its leaders

**Transepts** – the two parts forming the horizontal arms of a cross-shaped church, projecting at right angles from the nave

**Tudor Rose** – a flower symbol with five petals, adopted as a badge by Henry VIII

**Vaulted** – an arched structure, usually a roof or ceiling

