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Moon Handbooks Fiji (Moon Fiji)



Synopsis

Opinionated, insightful, and entertaining, Moon Handbooks are more than just travel guides—they're reference tools, ideal for independent travellers who desire complete immersion in the culture of their destination. The only guidebooks to win Lowell Thomas Awards from the Society of American Travel Writers for six years in a row, Moon Handbooks deliver a wealth of practical advice, as well as in-depth coverage of each region's history, geography, people, arts, politics, and social issues.

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Customer Reviews

The latest in the batch of Moon Handbooks releases proves again that Moon is one of the finest travel series around. What sets Moon apart from most guidebooks is the attention to detail, and more importantly, a respect for the topic. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

David Stanley has spent much of the past three decades on the road. He has crossed six continents overland and visited 181 of the 193 United Nations member countries. His travel guidebooks to the South Pacific, Micronesia, Alaska, Eastern Europe, and Cuba opened those areas to budget travellers for the first time. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

this book has the places to go and the places NOT to go in fiji. Very few NOT to go places but they are in here. We have found dozens of awesome travel spots to go to and visit while on our trips to

fiji from this book.. a must for fijian travelers.

We used this guide on our trip last summer. We had an excellent time off the beaten track, and this book got us where we wanted to go, with the relevant phone numbers and lots of tips. The 100 or so pages on Fiji's history and culture were also of great interest while we rode on boats to where we were going.

Excellent guide to Fiji.Hope to go there and check it out.

If there's one travel book to take to Fiji this is it! David Stanley with his expert eye for culture and ecology makes you want to wander with him round the many Fijian islands. On the plane you can read about the history, economy and environment so you will be well prepared on arrival. The book is well written and indexed. The independent traveler will find the essentials for booking accommodations and planning routes. Buses, backpacker camps, boats and pizza joints are well covered. Fiji, like Greece, is a good country for bumming around. If you are a discerning customer of travel planners then you will find many sights and recreational opportunities to enrich your vacation. Luxury resorts as well as bed and breakfasts are described. Teachers of geography, diplomats, business professionals and others who want to quickly get the basics of Fijian culture and trade can use the book as a study guide. David Stanley has intimate, firsthand knowledge of the South Pacific and his insights will prepare you for encounters with Fijians. He includes a few phrases and explains social customs like kava drinking. Throughout the book there are maps and black and white photographs. I wish this book had more color photographs - coral just does not look good in black and white. The first photo shows a tender - typical of the boats that ferry people to larger vessels when visiting small islands. The maps at the front are in color and are annotated with page references and there is a tranquil color picture of a lush fern grotto. David Stanley does have some color photos on his personal website at [...] It would be great to have an interactive version of this book on a website or CD for a pre-travel read or instant access in a luxury resort. However, in many places in Fiji you'd need solar power to keep a laptop working! This book makes me want to jump on a plane and go!

Travel writers come and go but one of the few people who you can count on, especially when it comes to the South Pacific, is David Stanley. A long time Fiji-fanatic, Stanley's latest Fiji Handbook is still the best on the market. And no wonder, he has been traveling to Fiji for over 20 years and

that counts for a lot. (By comparison his rivals at LP had never set foot on Fiji until the publisher decided to send them there a few years ago.) Packed with great maps it also has resources such as a comprehensive bibliography, and tips on local etiquette. More importantly, Stanley excels at getting accurate information on hotels, inexpensive restaurants and tourist sites. However there is another reason why his guide is valuable. Stanley does not simply list the properties in alphabetical order and expect the reader to determine what's best. Based on personal visits and feedback from visitors, He will actually offer you an opinion and the straight facts. For example, on Taveuni he correctly pegs Todrasiga's, a new and little known campground, as the best on the island. Or, he'll warn you if there are potential problems. When planning to travel to Tavewa island, a popular budget destination in the Yasawas, he tells the reader to be certain that their reservation doesn't get bumped because a guest on the island decided to stay longer. If this happens says Stanley, "insist that it is they who must move into the dormitory and not you." David also makes sure that the reader is aware of the local political scene and he never whitewashes or glosses over problems. His analysis of the "Fiji Crisis"-the coup of 2001 is trenchant and well informed. Naturally it's only as up to date as the book's publication date but at least the reader is provided a reasonable snapshot of history. One thing for sure, when traveling to Fiji, you're in good hands with Fiji Handbook.

This seventh edition of Fiji Handbook is for travelers with any sort of budget. Campgrounds, all-inclusive resorts, rough nightclubs, decent restaurants, rusted ferries, exclusive yacht charters; Stanley describes all this and more. He has researched most of the places included in his book by visiting them incognito, experiencing them as any other traveler would. In his guide he is not afraid to be critical. Stanley has been doing this for the past 25 years. For every new edition, he goes back to Fiji at least once. Readers also have their say. If something is wrong or missing, you can write Stanley and he will seriously look at your comments. But this guide is not a mere list of hotels, restaurants, entertainment and means of transportation. Islands without tourist facilities are also described and there is a lot of information about the country itself. Stanley's chapters on Fiji's history are very informative and include recent developments. In hospitable Fiji chances for going local a great: Stanley gives important insights. In his paragraph on conduct he gives wise travel advice for anyone. Only the two-page language section - Fijian and Hindi - deserves to be bigger. True, almost everyone in Fiji speaks English, but some effort to learn these two languages will be greatly appreciated by the locals. Maps in Fiji Handbook are clear and useful. The colored ones don't add much to this - not even relief. Many photos though, would have looked better in color. Of course, black and white photos keep the price of the book down. With Stanley's entertaining style of writing,

the "colorful crossroads of the South Pacific" will come to live anyway.

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