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Tuscany And Umbria: The Collected Traveler (Vintage Departures)



Synopsis

This unique guide to one of today's hottest tourist destinations combines fascinating articles by a wide variety of writers, woven throughout with the editor's own indispensable advice and opinions—providing in one package an unparalleled experience of an extraordinary place. This edition on Tuscany and Umbria features:

- Articles, interviews, recipes, and quotes from writers, visitors, residents, and experts on the region, including Frances Mayes, Mario Batali, Erica Jong, Barbara Ohrbach, Faith Willinger, and David Leavitt.
- In-depth pieces about Florence and the hill towns of Tuscany and Umbria that illuminate the simple pleasures of local cuisine, the dazzling art treasures of the Uffizi, the civilized wilderness of Tuscan back roads, the many varieties of olive oil, the endearing quirks of the Italian character, and much more.
- Enticing recommendations for further reading, including novels, histories, memoirs, cookbooks, and guidebooks.
- An "A-Z" Miscellany of concise and entertaining information on everything from biscotti to Super-Tuscan wine, from the history of the Medicis to traveling with children.
- Spotlights on unusual shops, restaurants, hotels, and experiences not to be missed.
- More than a hundred black-and-white photographs and illustrations.

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kerper's *Tuscany and Umbria*: the collected traveler will certainly serve the traveler to the region who is interested in an overview of the area, its culture and its history. The physical volume is a bit cumbersome to be taken on daily jaunts while traveling but most assuredly should be read prior to making the trip. Or if you must have the text with you while in Florence, for example, the Kindle version is also available. Highly recommended.

Interesting essays and articles, but way too much time spent on recommendations for reading and restaurants. I wanted the flavor of the country, not a travel guide. The editor intruded his own commentary and opinions too much.

So much wonderful information!

Great resource!

I love this book! It is a collection of travel essays, interviews, quotes, recommendations for hotels, restaurants and further reading. It also has photographs and illustrations. It is the perfect book to read while planning a trip to Italy, so you will know more about what you are seeing, doing and tasting on your trip. Chapters: 1. Italy 2. Tuscany 3. Umbria 4. Florence 5. La Cucina Italiana 5. A Tavola! 6. Piazze, Giardini, e Monumenti 7. A Tuscan and Umbrian Miscellany Essays by many people, including Erica Jong, Fred Plotkin, Frances Mayes and many, many more. Sample of essay titles: "Lucca: A Tuscan Treasure", "Siena in Three Acts", "The First Time I Saw Florence", "Learning to Live with Arrivederci", "Italy's Vin Santo: A Sip of Hospitality", "Florentine Trattorias", "The Last Supper, Seen Six Ways" and MUCH more. LOVE IT.

"Whenever I go anywhere but Italy for vacation, I always feel as if I have made a mistake," writes Erica Jong. I know the feeling. I am planning a third trip this summer, and plan to return every year until I die. What I love about this book is that it includes fantastic essays about towns, people, customs and wonderful places to visit. And after each section, Barrie Kerper offers a list of further reading. This is incredibly valuable. From this list I bought *In Maremma* and *Italian Pleasures* (both by David Leavitt and Mark Mitchell), which were both incredibly rewarding reads about Italy. I can't wait to read through the rest of Kerper's lists. This book is varied and rewarding. I read William Zinsser's essay, "Siena in Three Acts" (recollections of arriving in the city when news of the end of

WWII arrived...) just a day before arriving there. So inspiring, and such great history. I can't say enough good things about this book. I agree with another reviewer who mentioned the book could use better organization, but even so, given that you will likely read this bit-by-bit and not in one sitting, it really doesn't matter. If you love Italy, get it. PS - Wish this was available for Kindle. It's a big book. Would be much better in a digital edition so you can lighten your load when traveling with it.

This was listed as "Like New Condition"

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