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Inspired By Paris: Why Borrowing From The French Is Better Than Being French



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Synopsis

Part travel narrative and part lifestyle guide, Inspired by Paris: Why Borrowing from the French Is Better Than Being French is a must-read for anyone who's ever dreamed about traveling to or living in France.Author Jordan Phillips is a bona fide Francophile. Just show her a wedge of oozy French cheese or a slightly dilapidated Mansard roof, and she'll swoon every time. Before moving to New York, Phillips lived in Paris, and she still travels to her apartment there frequently. But through these experiences, she learned that--as in so many things in life--fantasy is often better than reality.Filled with historical tidbits, motivational nuggets, and honest insight, chapters such as "La Vie Est Belle," "The Paris Syndrome," and "Jacques-in-the-Box" reveal the truth of what it's really like to live in the most beautiful city in the world.Whether you're headed to Paris next week or never make it there at all, this chatty and information-packed book will introduce you to the real City of Light--beyond the fantasy of the Instagram version.

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Customer Reviews

Jordan Phillips was born in Texas and raised in California. She holds a masterÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s degree in fashion marketing and management(Paris), and a BachelorÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Degree in journalism (Cal Poly). She is the founder of Lure of Luxe LLC. and the author of Sustainable Luxe: A

Guide to Feel-Good Fashion and The Lure of Luxe: Climbing the Luxury Consumption Pyramid. She currently lives in New York City with her husband and daughter and visits her apartment in Paris as often as possible.Before seeing France, she underestimated how utterly different it would feel to be in a place where peeling paint and cramped quarters could actually seem appealing. The flawless architecture looked like it was plucked straight from those vintage French Riviera travel posters, though the distinct lack of upkeep was at first jarring to her American eyes. But she quickly began to appreciate how a little decay softened the faÃƒÆ'Ã Â§ades and added to the overall charm. She lived in Paris permanently for two years.Obsessed with Paris, it became her endless source of inspiration. For her, it is the most beautiful city in the world, and its charms have been casting spells on visitors for centuries. Its magic bowled her over upon her first arrival, and it continues to mystify and enchant her to this day.This book is more than guide for a visit. It is a personal account of an American fashion, design and lifestyle professional, who with her academic background and research efforts, set up a multi- layered document covering French lifestyle from an American perspective. She includes comparisons with the USA.All of the push and pull that she has described in this book between French and American cultures, she expertly blends the best aspects from both cultures in the book, which can be seen as a handbook for cultural relations. If you frequently fantasize about travelling to France, then you might enjoy the little journey with the author. It doesnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t matter if youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re headed to Paris next week or if you never go.So learning about another culture for no real reason or contemplating travel without plans to actually leave the house might feel a bit odd. Some researchers from the Netherlands took it upon themselves to do a psychological study about the connection between anticipation and happiness. The study, published in Applied Research in Quality of Life in 2010, found that vacationers felt happiest before their trips.1 By removing the end result, you free yourself to just enjoy the journey. As the saying goes, ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“anticipation is the greater part of pleasure.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•2 If you havenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t already, start watching French films, and youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll realize that they donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t feel the need to wrap up everything with a pretty Hollywood bow at the end. Sometimes they do; sometimes they donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t. ÃƒÆ'Ã â ¡a dÃƒÂ©pend. French films donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t need to have a happy ending or even an ending at all.Travel is the same; you can save, plan, anticipate, and complete a trip to Paris, or you can just be inspired by Paris. Either way, if you go about it with an open mind and a desire to learn, you will not be disappointed. Do not miss out on one of the main reasons to go to Paris, which is to watch the world go by and observe Parisians in their natural habitat.Because the book has a social, cultural, geographical and historical base, readers can assume directives about design, fashion,

culinary art, fine arts, history and the architectural wealth of Paris.And sitting at one of the little outside French cafes, the author realized that she had to go back alone after her first visit. She could sit for hours and just soak up the inspiration. Now she knows why artists, writers, poets, and designers go there. Just being in that atmosphere makes her want to read, write, draw, and cook.You will find concise descriptions as appendices of -ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ where to eatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ what to doÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ where to go as a tourist.The author attaches -ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ Appendix A: Fun French facts (customs, culture, history).ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ Appendix B: Recommendations relating to French life in cinematography, literature, aspects about famous persons through their connection to France.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ Appendix C: Directives relating to geographical aspects, cultural venues, lifestyle, customs, traditions which promote understanding and cater for tourists in France.She points out places, people and entertainment that makes Paris mystical. Places where art can be seen or bought, popular entertainment venues like opera houses, dance theatres, museums, historical monuments and other popular venues. Historic beginnings, evolution, renovations and contemporary sites are described.Summary ExcerptÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Paris provides an excellent quality of life and sense of community. If you take out the bureaucracy and boxes, you are left with a charming city thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s full of comforting rituals and cultural excitement. A cafÃƒÂ© can be like a best friend: entertaining you when youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re up, consoling you when youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re down, people-watching with you when the weather is nice, warming you up when itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s cold. The croissants will always be tasty, and crossing the Seine will always be pleasing. Once you find your people, they will stick with you. And whether youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re interested in art, design, dance, music, literature, architecture, food, wine, fashion, film, history, or all of the above, there will be more interesting exhibitions and events than you can possibly manage. Paris spoils you with freedom, beauty, and choice.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•Scarlett Jensen7 November 2016

In the two days it has taken me to read this book, I feel I have been on a whirlwind tour of Paris; this book is so interesting and full of facts. I feel I have much more of an understanding about the vast differences between French and American culture. Jordan Phillips even explains why French people think Americans are loud. Apparently it is because English is spoken using the diaphragm, whereas French is spoken at the front of the mouth! Who knew! I loved the part where Jordan Phillips explains the inflexible nature of French bureaucracy ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ even her gynaecologistÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s office staff canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t seem to get their head around the fact that Jordan is both a male and female name. All her correspondence was fastidiously

addressed to Monsieur Jordan Phillips! This book will tell you what books to read and films to see before you go to Paris and, when you get there, how best to enjoy being a Parisian instead of a visitor to this magical capital.

This is just a quick, but broad introduction to a little bit of Paris, its history, French wine, French women and why you would want to emulate theirapproach to life. It is fun to read why someone finds some thing or a place that they are enthusiastic about and how they approach getting to learnmore.

I really enjoyed this book - it's the next best thing to having your best friend live in Paris and take you around in person. I thought the insights in the book were spot-on - and I was surprised by how much I learned about Paris even though I have been there many times! I also thought the author's personal anecdotes kept it interesting. Highly recommend!

It's every little girls dream to live in, or at least visit, Paris, isn't it? But she's totally right, reality is very different than fantasy. Think France and you think wine, stinky cheese, romance. Maybe some sights like the Eiffel towel or the bridge with all the locks on it (which I hear they removed :( ) And going is amazing, don't get me wrong. But I'm not sure I could handle being French. Phillips, a France lover, covers this quite playfully. It's a great read for anyone who wants to visit, or live, in France, or even those who are living vicariously by reading :)

This book was engaging and entertaining. I share the authors love of Paris in many ways that she shared and elaborated. Her candor is refreshing. Her wit is life. In the end, I felt as I had been part of two experiences; one, a physical time in Paris, and, two, an evolutionary time of her authenticity. I highly recommend this book.

This is a great book for realizing the oo-la-la factor hits reality somewhere. I loved the nitty-gritty on Coco, as well as tips and tricks to make me more American -French than ever!

If you enjoy learning about the French culture from the fast-paced Paris to the slower village regions, this is another fantastic read. Eagerly waiting for the next book.

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