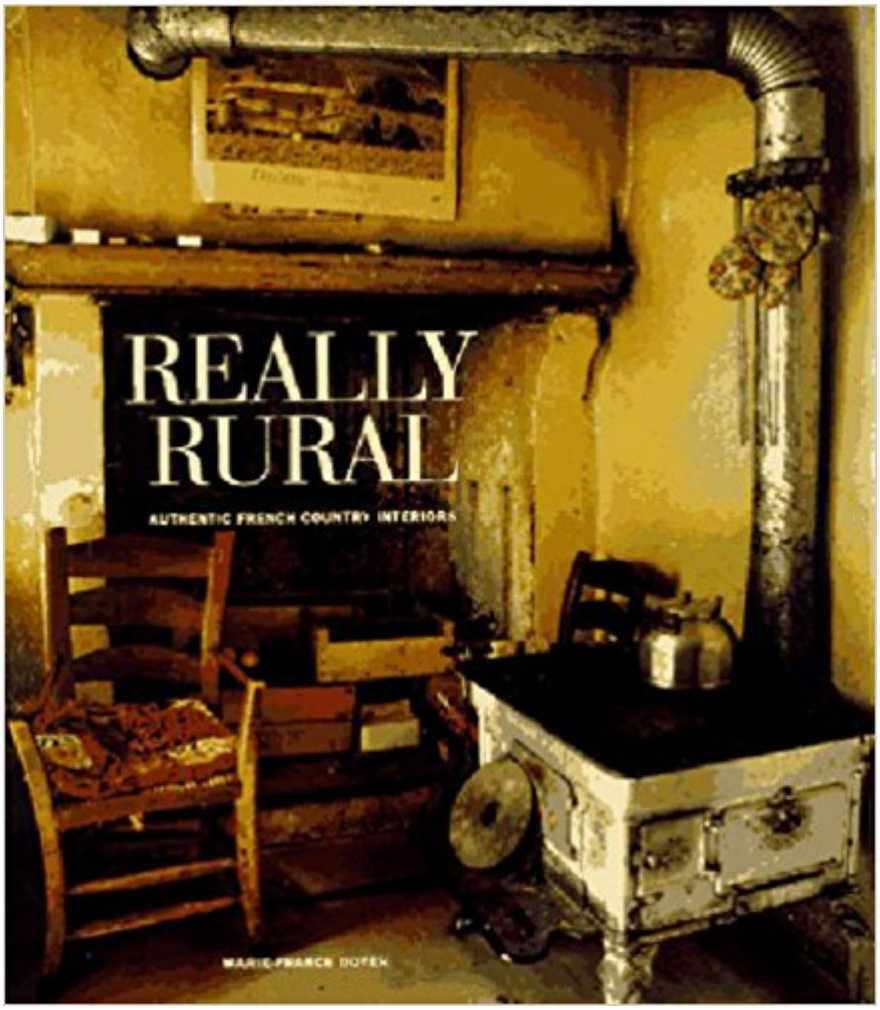
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Really Rural: Authentic French Country Interiors



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Synopsis

This volume presents a photographic record of the last traces of French rural life, which despite its enviable simplicity, is soon to be lost for ever. In France the traditional mode de vie has almost disappeared, but there are places, far from the big cities and the tourist trails, where it can still be found. The author has travelled to several isolated regions of France to seek out the interiors of country working life and describes them, and the people who live in them and presents them in a series of photographs of kitchens and stove corners, living rooms and bedrooms, souvenirs and family mementoes. The book includes a guide providing information about sources for the objects and furniture that evoke French country style, and on the regional museums that commemorate it.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Boyer (The French Cafe, Thames & Hudson, 1994) visits homes from Brittany to Provence to show examples of authentic country living from which the popular stylized country decorating takes its inspiration. She has captured a lifestyle that is soon to disappear, as France moves away from its agrarian base. Through photographs and text, she gives a detailed, intimate look at the lifestyle of the inhabitants of a few rural homes and shows how the home is decorated, highlighting an item such as a cherished mantel cloth or cooking utensils. She concludes with a list of museums that display regional items as well as a list of sources for purchasing such items. Recommended where there is an interest in country life and the country style.Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Text: English (translation) Original Language: French

I had borrowed this book many times from our local library and finally my husband told me I should just buy it. If you want to see what true french country style was truly like this is the book for you! This is not French Country bought from a store and arranged my a designer, this is how people used to live. It is rustic, old fashioned and very charming. You will find this a very interesting book.

Once you know the rules, you can break them and this book will take you into a REAL life rural cottage (poor country home) to teach you the foundation rules of cottage decor. Sounds bad but it’s not- it explains why cottages are decorated they way they are and gives you context as to why cottage-chic has certain themes that are repeated throughout its style. Beautiful yet enlightening book if your an interior designer and wants to understand the "dirty" roots of the modern cottage.

This is not your glossy decorating book but a straight-from-the-gut look into the deep pockets of countryside still to be found in the corners of France, where people live in the modest uncomplicated ways that have always prevailed. Dust, grease and grime, and less than perfect old things are at home in some of these dwellings, not interfering with the coziness of home. I felt the honesty of this book to be refreshing and warmhearted.

Nice read! I was hoping for more pics on dinner tables. This book really shows you the real life of french country living

Really a good read and takes you back in time

Despite previous reviews, this book proved to be a lovely and heartwarming insight to French Rural Life. Beautifully illustrated, with enchanting essays, this book offers a glimpse into a life far removed from the everyday American existence. Part coffee table illustrations, part loving essay, this book captures a way of life totally alien to what most of us call day to day life. This is a lovely collection of life in rural France and is sure to make you smile and anticipate your next adventure there. Read it and be Happy!

The "review" below made me laugh out loud! Obviously the reader has the "french poodle" view of

rustic life in France and little familiarity with the real thing. This is a fine book displaying an exquisite level of detail and an authentic view of agricultural life on ancient soil. Very, very nice, indeed, and a solid reference.

Rural France is a perfect complement to "cafÃƒÂ©s" from the same author. Marie France Boyer is one of the most sensitive authors that I know. Her books are the best documented you might ever search for (see her book about Marie-Antoinette in Versailles asin:0500016909). She is a reference in terms of elegance, good taste and french etiquette. Most of all, she really loves people. If you really love people, you'll really love "Really rural". If your roots are rural or if you think your grand-grand mama came from a tiny village in Europe, buy this book. You might cry looking at these old women posing close to their Aga cooker in the center of their kitchen/living-room/bed-room. The most exciting feature of this book lies in the fact that you can still meet thousands of people and interiors like this in France, and spend good time with them. These peasants will allways be happy to meet you. You might be the only person who will have visited them since months. Within ten years, most of these houses and people will have disappeared. Because of new security regulations, all the items that make these interiors warmful will be removed: coal heater, wood chimneys, candle lights, dwells in the garden. Cheese will never be made anymore on the sink of the kitchen. Come and take pictures. Then send them to your new friends from France. They will frame them and fix them on the wall above the fireplace. Near Bois-Briand (Nantes) where we live, you can discover many of these wonderful, inspiring interiors and people. Come and visit us.

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