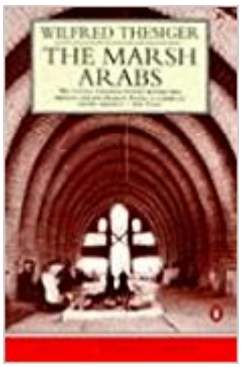
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Marsh Arabs (Travel Library)



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Synopsis

Wilfred Thesiger's classic account of the eight years he spent living with the tribes people of the Marshes of Iraq. First published in 1964 to great acclaim, this book by one of the century's greatest explorers describes a way of life which lasted for thousands of years, but has now all but vanished. Travelling with his medicine boxes and his teams of canoemen around the junction between the Tigris and the Euphrates, Thesiger visited nearly every village in the Central Marshes and came to know intimately the people who inhabit this landscape of islands, lakes and waterways, living with them in their reed houses and sharing their unique way of life. He beautifully evokes the landscape and its teeming wildlife and vividly brings to life the many friends he made among the Marsh Arabs. His extraordinary photographs provide a stunning record of the last remnants of a people and their culture. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Series: Travel Library

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Penguin UK; New edition edition (September 6, 1983)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140095128

ISBN-13: 978-0140095128

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.3 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #6,311,010 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Middle East > Iraq #5754 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Asia > General #13952 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Pictorial

Customer Reviews

Praise for The Marsh Arabs: 'A masterpiece' H.D. Ziman, Daily Telegraph 'Here is the fascination of a stange land and the power to convey it.' The Times Praise for Among the Mountains: 'A matchless portrait of a vanished world' Daily Telegraph 'Here is true grandeur in the landscape and true dignity in the man' Scotsman 'The photographs alone make it worth a place on the traveller's bookshelf' Wanderlust --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Wilfred Thesiger was born in 1910 in Ethiopia. From 1930 he travelled through remote areas of

Africa, the Middle East and Asia. His journeys and his books have won him numerous prestigious awards over the years. In 1968 he was made a CBE; he was honoured with a KBE in 1995. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

An excellent read; the writing style is both descriptive and engaging, and the story itself fascinating. The book includes over a hundred photographic plates which augment the story tremendously, especially for the amazing reed mudhifs which are frequently the setting. (The photos and more can be found in the Pitt Rivers Museum collection).I have not yet read Arabian Sands but reviews of that earlier work complained about Thesiger's primitivism and romanticization of the Bedouin - I didn't see much of that in this book, only shades, and overall the telling is fairly forthright and balanced. Clearly Thesiger is no fan of modernization, but relative to the conditions in more urban Iraq at the time, there are no clear "rights" or "wrongs" on this position. In any event, it doesn't get in the way of the narrative, which captures a disappearing culture in rich depth and perspective.

What a delightful read. Thesiger lived among the marsh Madan of Iraq several months of each year between 1951 to 1958. As he traveled thru the marshes by boat, he introduces the reader to the many friends he made and to the culture of a people he came to love. Since the marshes were drained to make way for "progress" and prosperity, this forgotten world is no more.

Interesting view of a remote part of Africa I was not familiar with. Wondering what is there today and what life is like for the people that still live there, if possible. RB

Wilfred is long gone; but his books last forever. He takes us into a little-known corner of the world and does it well. Saddam Hussein drained these marshes, but you can visit them in this book.

Excellent insight into the Marsh Arabs, by a renowned and well respected adventurer and travel writer.

This book, like Arabian Sands, captures the essence of a culture that is long lost. Thesiger had a knack for totally immersing himself into the lives of the people he chose to live among. As a result, we get a real feel for those lives. This is great, old time escapism.

This is the second of Thesiger's books I have read and they have given me a new look into the Arab

world and way of thought.

Great book-not as good as other one, but still worth reading.

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