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Palm Springs Holiday: A Vintage Tour From Palm Springs To The Salton Sea



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Synopsis

This is the story of Palm Springs in its golden years, a city that had it all, including marvelous midcentury Modern architecture, fabulous fly-in hotels, and a swinging nightlife. Through vintage photographs, postcards, and other ephemera, Palm Springs Holiday recalls the Palm Springs area from the 1910s through the 1960s, where people vacationed in the desert, dined, danced, and lounged poolside. Features vintage images of the Coachella Valley and shots of the areaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s famous hotels and gambling dens. Peter Moruzzi is the author of Havana Before Castro: When Cuba Was a Tropical Playground. An architectural historian by profession, he is an acknowledged expert on midcentury Modern architecture and design. He is the founding president of the Palm Springs Modern Committee, an organization dedicated to preserving modern architecture and historic neighborhoods in the Coachella Valley. He lives in Los Angeles and Palm Springs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the story of Palm Springs in its golden years, a city that had it all, including fabulous fly-in hotels, marvelous midcentury Modern architecture, Hollywood stars and starlets, and a swinging nightlife. Through vintage photographs and postcards, Palm Springs Holiday recalls this famous vacation resort from the beginning of the twentieth century through the 1960s. Come take a trip to Paradise!

Peter Moruzzi graduated from the University of California at Berkeley and later attended the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. In 1999, he founded the Palm Springs Modern Committee

(PS ModCom), an architectural preservation group. He is the author of Palm Springs Holiday, Palm Springs Paradise, and Havana Before Castro.

This is a fun book, but do not buy the Kindle edition. Pages are chopped up in weird ways, and illustrations are not kept together with the descriptions. It’s just a mess. When in PS, I saw a copy in a book store and it’s much much easier to appreciate on paper. Some books just weren’t made for Kindle.

My copy of Peter Moruzzi’s last gem just arrived and come September I’ll have a complete set!!While more moderate in scope than his book "Havana...", a bible for those interested in the socio-political construct that was Havana before the Cuvan Revolution, "Palm Springs Holiday" offers the subject matter the same in-depth treatment, absolutely saturating the reader in the culture and color of the time.This gorgeous tome BRIMS with fabulous images and stories, serving in many cases as the sole unifying historical record of a time and place that was such an incredibly massive part of the "American Experience" of the period.Moruzzi, an art historian and expert on mid-century ’modern’ architecture, sprinkles architectural history throughout every chapter of the book, offering lively discussion on styles from Spanish Colonial Revival to Rustic Ranch, but his chapter dedicated to ’Desert Modern’ styles and techniques, influences that would become so very prominent in much if the rest of the country in the third quarter of the century, provides the reader with a depth of understanding uncommon in what may initially be seen as a coffee-table book.Whether intentional or not, Mr. Moruzzi treats this subject with more personal input than his previous book. That is to say, one gets a sense, going from page-to-page, less of reading an historical analysis on the art and architecture of the times, and more like they are listening to an educational newsreel (possibly one produced by the Chamber of Commerce?) on the Coachella Valley area. If this rowdy, delicious book had been assembled by anyone else I don’t think it would have come off as well as it did, but the author does such a splendid job of setting the stage and pulling the characters together (the hotels, the visionaries, the scenery) that it would almost seem academically-heavy if not for his occasional tongue-in-cheek observations. .Why not 5 stars? Simply put, while a terrifically interesting look at a colorful, sometimes pivotal, often kitschy period of sun, fun, and fashion, I don’t personally see it as a 5-star subject, and that’s okay. Mr. Moruzzi’s presentation through photos and stories truly brings this corner of history to life. The book is just a joy, and makes me anxious for his next offering. (Which I’ve already per-ordered, by the way...)

This book is not a good format for Kindle. The pages and pictures could not be expanded. The caption font was so small, I had to use a magnifying glass to read it! The history of Palm Springs wasn't light hearted reading as expected, but it was interesting and often surprising. There are good historical photos and information, but skip the Kindle version if you are interested.

Ordered both this book and Palm Springs Paradise in anticipation of our first trip to Palm Springs. I've spent hours enjoying these books and they've really added to excitement of our upcoming trip. Love all the vintage photos.

I very much enjoyed this book, but the digital version is riddled with problems. Pictures get diced up, captions refer to pics two pages later, et cetera. Too many distractions give me pause.

Beautiful book with gorgeous photos. Love it.

this book is filled with pictures and descriptions of the amazing getaway of the stars in the mid century. the architecture and style highlight how wonderful Palm Springs was then and how the history lives on today. A jewel in the desert. read and enjoy

wish there were more photos on home architecture and neighborhoods

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