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Ukraine (Other Places Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Palaces that emerge from the mountains, beaches with names like “New World,” ski resort towns straight out of a Bond film, and clubs where passwords must be whispered to enter it must be Ukraine. A secret favorite of backpackers for years, Ukraine is finally getting recognized by the outside world for what it is: a can’t miss travel destination. This unique travel guide provides insight into Ukraine’s vast history in a way we dare we say is fun. Travelers will be eased into this Eastern European country’s cultural norms and introduced to its taboos in order to avoid embarrassing cross-cultural no-no’s. With transliterations of all entries, first-hand reviews and recommendations, and a focus on the country’s must-see places and off-the-beaten-path gems, this guidebook will act like your international chaperone; making falling in love with Ukraine that much easier. The author, Ashley Hardaway, has lived and worked in Ukraine for over two years; getting to know the culture overtime through the slow-burn of a budding relationship. This isn’t merely a one-off observation – this is true love. - Explore the “secret-city” of Balaclava and tour its hidden nuclear submarine base. - Blaze new trails in hidden ski towns where military-grade vehicles serve as impromptu ski-lifts. - Uncover the odd bars of Lviv, its speakeasies and how to get in. - Sleep in the grandiose apartments of past oligarchs in Odessa. - Drink horilka with the locals and learn to toast with the best of them. - Have an existential crisis while touring the deserted town of Prypiat in Chernobyl. - Learn why Ukrainians fear “the draft,” why not to whistle indoors, and what is meant by a flick of the neck.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book on recommendation from a friend when I began planning a trip to Ukraine. I usually dread picking up a travel guide, feeling overwhelmed by too much information, but this one has been a pleasant read. Ashley Hardaway writes with a bit of humor and complete honesty. She provides the kind of knowledge beyond tourist attractions that only someone with her experience and attitude can provide. I have had my copy for a week and already it is covered in notes, highlighting and earmarked pages. Ashley's book has been a great tool for planning our trip, which we couldn't be more excited about. She has provided a lot of great tips and insider information for questions I didn't know to ask. This isn't a book full of shiny advertisements of places to visit in Ukraine, it's an honest interpretation of actual experience that has left me feeling confident about our upcoming travels.

This book was, I general, a good read. The writer did provide useful information about locations and places to see, stay & eat throughout the book. However, this boom was never proofread before being released and there are not only many grammatical errors, but also some geographical ones as well. (For example, Poltava IS NOT located west of Kiev...it is located east of Kiev.) It is a handy book for someone planning any kind of extensive or frequent visits to Ukraine. From my own travels to Ukraine, there are a few things that I would debate with the author about, but all in all, I think he did a good job. I just wished he had covered more of the Donbas region and also more on Kharkiv.

Informative, yet quirky at times. As someone who's spent time in the "Soviet-bloc", I could appreciate the level of humor when describing the country's culture and transition from the communist umbrella. Hardaway also did a great job of distancing herself from the Lonely Planet series, adding colorful backgrounds to locales and a thoughtful approach to everyday life that could only come from a person who lived in the region.

Its absolutely awesome. The way the places are described make them even more attractive than they actually are. It's like a fiction and I enjoy reading every word. Probably the best travelbook I have ever had. Thank you, Dearest Liaison!

I've never had any desire to visit Ukraine ... until I read Hardaway's book. The way she describes the country -- through witty, conversational writing -- made me want to add it to my list of places to visit.

I know Ukraine quite well. Ms. Hardaway gives a perspective that only a person living in the country for a decent period of time would understand. Ukraine is a wonderful country to visit.

The author invest a lot of time in researching this guide. It has far more information than I require for my intended visit. The book provides many restaurants and sites of interest in each area that I hope to explore, so I will be busy enough pursuing the featured locations.

Useful and fun. The author explains things about Ukraine that other travel guides do not.

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