



We have put together a selection of books that we feel would provide the perfect accompaniment to your voyage.

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# READING GUIDE

## ITALIAN & ADRIATIC HIGHLIGHTS

### *Rome to Venice*

#### NON-FICTION

*Colin McEvedy*

#### **New Penguin Atlas of Ancient History**

ISBN: 9780140513486, Paperback

In a chronological series of maps and accompanying text it traces the movements of races in Europe, the Mediterranean area and the Near East from 50,000BC to the fourth century AD, including Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Indians, Greeks, Celts and Romans, among many other peoples.

*David S H Abulafia*

#### **The Great Sea**

ISBN: 9780141977164, Paperback

For over three thousand years, the Mediterranean Sea has been one of the great centres of civilisation. David Abulafia's *The Great Sea* is the first complete history of the Mediterranean, from the erection of temples on Malta around 3500BC to modern tourism.

*Robert Holland*

#### **The Warm South: How the Mediterranean Shaped the British Imagination**

ISBN: 9780300235920, Hardback

An evocative exploration of the impact of the Mediterranean on British culture, ranging from the mid-eighteenth century to today. Referred to as "Magick Land" by one traveller, dreams about the Mediterranean, and responses to it, went on to shape the culture of a nation. Written by one of the world's leading historians of the Mediterranean, this book charts how a new sensibility arose from British engagement with the Mediterranean, ancient and modern.

*Georg Simmel*

#### **The Art of the City: Rome, Florence and Venice**

ISBN: 9781782274483, Paperback

The quartet of essays contained in this book includes dazzling portraits of Italy's iconic cities of art and history, Rome, Florence and Venice, as well as Simmel's hugely influential 'The Metropolis and the Life of the Spirit', one of the most important analyses of urban life and the alienation of the individual ever written.

*Brigitte Hintzen-Bohlen*

#### **Rome: Art & Architecture**

ISBN: 9783848003204, Paperback

Even into the twentieth century, artists from every corner of the globe were magically drawn to Rome, which served as their model and inspiration. This is a guide in which the magnificent panorama of the Eternal City unfolds before the readers' eyes.

*Amanda Claridge*

#### **Rome: An Oxford Archaeological Guide**

ISBN: 9780199546831, Paperback

The city of Rome is the largest archaeological site in the world, capital and showcase of the Roman Empire and the centre of Christian Europe. This guide provides coverage of all the important sites in the city from 800BC to AD600 and the start of the early middle ages, drawing on the latest discoveries and the best of recent scholarship.

*Mary Beard*

#### **SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome**

ISBN: 9781846683817, Paperback

*SPQR* is a new look at Roman history from one of the world's foremost classicists. It explores not only how Rome grew from an insignificant village in central Italy to a power that controlled territory from Spain to Syria, but also how the Romans thought about themselves and their achievements, and why they are still important to us.

*Nigel Spivey*

#### **Classical Civilisation: Greeks and Romans in 10 Chapters**

ISBN: 9781781855027, Paperback

A masterly account of how the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome came into being, by a prize-winning Cambridge classicist whose writing is as accessible as it is scholarly.

*Guy de la Bedoyere*

#### **Praetorian: The Rise and Fall of Rome's Imperial Bodyguard**

ISBN: 9780300234381, Paperback

A riveting account of ancient Rome's imperial bodyguard, the select band of soldiers who wielded the power to make – or destroy – the emperors they served. Founded by Augustus around 27BC, the elite Praetorian Guard was tasked with the protection of the emperor and his family.

*Elizabeth Bowen*

#### **A Time in Rome**

ISBN: 9780099284956, Paperback

Elizabeth Bowen's account of a time spent in Rome is no ordinary guidebook but an evocation of a city – its history, its architecture and, above all, its atmosphere. She describes the famous classical sites, conjuring from the ruins visions of former inhabitants and their often bloody activities and speculates about the immense noise of ancient Rome, the problems caused by the Romans' dining posture, and the Roman temperament.

*Christopher Hibbert*

#### **The Borgias**

ISBN: 9781849019941, Paperback

The name Borgia is synonymous with the corruption, nepotism and greed that were rife in Renaissance Italy. The powerful, voracious Rodrigo Borgia, better known to history as Pope Alexander VI, was the central figure of the dynasty. This title presents a portrait of the Borgia family.

Mary Beard

**Pompeii: The Life of a Roman Town**

ISBN: 9781846684715, Paperback

'The world's most controversial classicist debunks our movie-style myths about the Roman town with meticulous scholarship and propulsive energy – scrutinising and animated in equal measure,' *Laura Silverman, Daily Mail*.

Joseph Jay Deiss

**Herculaneum**

ISBN: 9780892361649, Paperback

A vivid portrayal of life in Pompeii's sister city, this book includes a detailed description of the ancient Villa dei Papiri, on which the present Getty Museum in Malibu is modelled.

Robert Etienne

**Pompeii: The Day a City Died**

ISBN: 9780500300114, Paperback

From the NEW HORIZONS series of pocket-sized information books, an introduction to the life and times of Pompeii as revealed by modern archaeology.

Matthew Fort

**Summer in the Islands: An Italian Odyssey**

ISBN: 9781783523320, Hardback

The celebrated food and travel writer takes us through the culinary and cultural history of the 52 Italian islands – from Capri to Elba and Pianosa.

Jeremy Black

**A Brief History of Italy**

ISBN: 9781472140890, Paperback

This concise history covers, in very readable fashion, the formative events in Italy's past from the rise of Rome, through a unified country in thrall to fascism in the first half of the twentieth century, right up to today.

Helena Attlee

**The Land Where Lemons Grow: The Story of Italy and its Citrus Fruit**

ISBN: 9780241952573, Paperback

A delightful book about Italy's unexpected history, told through its citrus fruits. The story of citrus runs through the history of Italy like a golden thread, and by combining travel writing with history, recipes, horticulture and art, Helena Attlee takes the reader on a unique and rich journey through Italy's cultural, moral, culinary and political past.

Goethe

**Italian Journey**

ISBN: 9780140442335, Paperback

In 1786, Goethe set out on a journey to Italy to fulfil a personal and artistic quest and to find relief from his responsibilities and the agonies of unrequited love. As he travelled to Venice, Rome, Naples and Sicily he wrote many letters filled with observations on art and history, plants, landscape and the character of the people he met which he later used as the basis for this remarkable work.

John Julius Norwich

**Sicily: A Short History, From the Greeks to Cosa Nostra**

ISBN: 9781848548954, Hardback

'Sicily is the key to everything' *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*. A colourful and lavishly illustrated history (fifty years in the making) of the Mediterranean's largest and most turbulent island from much-loved historian John Julius Norwich.

Peter Robb

**Midnight in Sicily**

ISBN: 9780099595809, Paperback

A journey into the heart of Sicily, using art, food, history and literature to shed light on southern Italy's legacy of political corruption and violent crime.

Clare Horatio

**Sicily: Through Writers' Eyes**

ISBN: 9780907871941, Paperback

A useful companion for those travelling to Sicily, this work is part of a series that is a collection of writing, aiming to invest the traveller with a cultural and historical background to Sicily.

Daphne Phelps

**A House in Sicily**

ISBN: 9781860496486, Paperback

A delightful and moving homage to the 'most beautiful house in Taormina, Sicily' and the colourful people of the local community by the modest, independent and generous woman who has inhabited it for over fifty years.

Lawrence Durrell

**Prospero's Cell**

ISBN: 9780571201655, Paperback

A guide to the landscape and manners of the island of Corfu. 'One of Lawrence Durrell's best books – indeed, in its gem-like miniature quality, among the best books ever written,' *Freya Stark*.

Gerald Durrell

**The Corfu Trilogy**

ISBN: 9780141028415, Paperback

The trilogy that inspired ITV's television series *The Durrells*. Three classic tales of childhood on an island paradise – *My Family and Other Animals*, *Birds, Beasts and Relatives* and *The Garden of the Gods* by Gerald Durrell – are available in a single edition for the first time in *The Corfu Trilogy*.

Emma Tennant

**A House in Corfu**

ISBN: 9780099422532, Paperback

The story of one of the most beautiful places on earth, still astonishingly unspoilt, on the west coast of Corfu. In the early 1960s, Emma Tennant's parents, on a cruise, spotted a magical bay and decided to build a house there. This book is the story of that house, Rovinia, set in 42 hectares of land above the bay where legend has it Ulysses was shipwrecked and found by Nausicaa, daughter of King Alcinoos.

John Waller

**Corfu Sketches**

ISBN: 9780954788742, Hardback

It contains over 200 sketches and shows a magical Corfu, its town and villages, as seen through the eyes of an artist who has lived on the island since 1961.

Clarissa de Waal

**Albania**

ISBN: 9781780764849, Paperback

Clarissa de Waal here explains Albania's 'transition' from Communism via the experiences of a diverse range of families, highland villagers, urban elite and shanty dwellers – whose lives she has followed since 1992.

Robin Hanbury-Tenison

**Land of Eagles: Riding Through Europe's Forgotten Country**

ISBN: 9781780765020, Paperback

Determined to discover the country behind the stereotypes and preconceptions, Robin Hanbury-Tenison and his wife Louella rode across Albania, from Thethi in the north to the border with Greece in the south. Following in the footsteps of Byron, Edward Lear and Edith Durham they crossed some of the most wild and arrestingly beautiful landscape in Europe.

Barnaby Rogerson

**Croatia: Through Writer's Eyes**

ISBN: 9780907871897, Paperback

Croatia, with its unspoiled dramatic coast, is a place of bewitching beauty, one of the hidden jewels of the Mediterranean, and sometimes referred to as the "New Tuscany". Yet most travellers know little more than that it was once part of Yugoslavia. This book provides the perfect introduction.

Robin Harris

**Dubrovnik**

ISBN: 9780863569593, Paperback

Since emerging as a settlement in the seventh century, Dubrovnik held a significant position beyond what could have been expected of this tiny city-state. This is a comprehensive history of Dubrovnik's progress over centuries of European development, encompassing arts, architecture, social and economic changes, and the traumas of war and politics.

Edited by John Julius Norwich

**Venice: A Traveller's Reader**

ISBN: 9781472140302, Paperback

John Julius Norwich has put together a dazzling anthology, drawing on the writings of Byron, Goethe, Wagner, Casanova, Jan Morris, Robert Browning and Horace Walpole, among many others.

Javier Marias

**Venice: An Interior**

ISBN: 9780241248874, Paperback

An essential companion for every traveller to Venice, this is the hidden city revealed in a gorgeous non-fiction account by one of Europe's greatest living writers.

*Jan Morris*  
**Venice**

ISBN: 9780571168972, Paperback

Often hailed as one of the best travel books ever written, Venice is neither a guide nor a history book, but a beautifully written immersion in Venetian life and character, set against the background of the city's past. Analysing the particular temperament of Venetians, as well as its waterways, its architecture, its bridges, its tourists, its curiosities, its smells, sounds, lights and colours, there is scarcely a corner of Venice that Jan Morris has not investigated and brought vividly to life.

*Peter Robb*

**Italian Venice: A History**

ISBN: 9780300216127, Paperback

In this elegant book Richard Bosworth explores Venice—not the glorious Venice of the Venetian Republic, but from the fall of the Republic in 1797 and the Risorgimento up through the present day. Bosworth looks at the glamour and squalor of the belle époque and the dark underbelly of modernisation, the two world wars, and the far-reaching oppressions of the fascist regime, through to the “Disneylandification” of Venice and the tourist boom, the worldwide attention of the biennale and film festival, and current threats of subsidence and flooding posed by global warming.

*Paul Sterry*

**Birds of the Mediterranean**

ISBN: 9780713663495, Paperback

This photoguide covers all the species occurring in the areas bordering the Mediterranean. This area holds a rich variety of habitat types and supports a range of highly characteristic species.

*Lawson Wood*

**Sea Fishes of the Mediterranean Including Marine Invertebrates**

ISBN: 9781472921789, Paperback

*Sea Fishes of the Mediterranean* reveals the fascinating wealth of sea life found in this diverse but little-documented region. This compact and easy-to-use guide, illustrated with many specially-commissioned colour photographs taken in a number of unique and exotic locations.

*Kate Adie*

**Fighting on the Home Front: The Legacy of Women in World War One**

ISBN: 9781444759693, Paperback

When World War One broke out and a generation of men went off to fight in 1914, the world changed forever. Bestselling author and From Our Own Correspondent presenter Kate Adie shows how women emerged from the shadows of their domestic lives and began to take up essential roles - from transport to policing, munitions to sport, entertainment and even politics.

*Robert Harris*

**Conclave**

ISBN: 9781784751838, Paperback

**Book Club Selection**

The Pope is dead. Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and eighteen cardinals from all over the globe will cast their votes in the world's most secretive election. They are holy men. But they have ambition. And they have rivals. Over the next seventy-two hours one of them will become the most powerful spiritual figure on earth.

*Helen Constantine*

**Rome Tales**

ISBN: 9780199572465, Paperback

In ways no guide book can achieve, these twenty absorbing tales by Italian authors ranging from Boccaccio in the Middle Ages to Giacomo Casanova in the eighteenth century, to Pier-Paolo Pasolini in the twentieth and contemporary new writers such as Melania Mazzucco and Igiaba Scego, offer the delight of discovering and exploring one of the world's most unique cities through a wide variety of individual lives and epochs.

*Dario Fo*

**The Pope's Daughter**

ISBN: 9781609452742, Paperback

Lucrezia Borgia is one of the most vilified figures in modern history. Daughter of the notorious pope, she was twice betrothed before the age of eleven and thrice married, and according to rumours had several lovers, including perhaps her own brother and father. In this remarkable novel, Fo reveals Lucrezia as a real person, as a true child of the Renaissance, and in many ways one of the world's first modern women.

*Jonathan Keates* (Lecturing on Board)

**Rome Stories**

ISBN: 9781841596228, Pocket Hardback

*Rome Stories* explores the city's fateful impact through the writing of classical historians, a Renaissance sculptor, 18th-century tourists, American, British and French novelists and the authors of modern Rome, each testing and unravelling the city's ageless paradoxes.

*Irving Stone*

**The Agony and the Ecstasy**

ISBN: 9780099416272, Paperback

Michelangelo Buonarroti lived in the time of the turbulent Renaissance, the years of poisoning princes, warring popes, the powerful Medici family, and the fanatic monk Savonarola. Working with a God-driven fury he created “David”, painted the Sistine ceiling, and was the architect of the dome of St Peter's.

*Robert Harris*

**Pompeii**

ISBN: 9780099527947, Paperback

As sweltering week in late August. Where better to enjoy the last days of summer than on the beautiful Bay of Naples? But even as Rome's richest citizens relax in their villas around Pompeii and Herculaneum, there are ominous warnings that something is going wrong.

*Leonardo Sciascia*

**The Wine Dark Sea**

ISBN: 9781847089281, Paperback

A fine selection of the great Sicilian author's very best short stories.

*Giuseppe di Lampedusa*

**The Leopard**

ISBN: 9780099512158, Paperback

In the spring of 1860, Fabrizio, the charismatic Prince of Salina, still rules over thousands of acres and hundreds of people, including his own numerous family, in mingled splendour and squalor. Then comes Garibaldi's landing in Sicily and the Prince must decide whether to resist the forces of change or come to terms with them.

*Alessandro Baricco*

**The Young Bride**

ISBN: 9781609453343, Paperback

Ascintillating and sensual novel about a young Italian woman's ingress into a fantastically strange family.

*Francesca Melandri*

**Eva Sleeps**

ISBN: 9781609453121, Paperback

Eva, a forty-year-old public relations officer living in Northern Italy, receives an unexpected message from the South. Vito, one of her mother's lovers and the man who is the closest thing to a father that she has ever known, is very ill and would like to see her one last time. Her journey brings her in touch with her past and the complex relationships which bind her family. A sweeping modern epic about a modern Italian woman whose search for what she can call home is as touching as it is universal.

*Gregory Dowling*

**Ascension**

ISBN: 9781846973130, Paperback

Venice in 1749 – the city has lost its political and financial primacy but has become Europe's pleasure capital, famous for its gambling dens, its courtesans, its hectic carnival, its music, art and theatre – and the most highly organised secret service in Europe.

*Italo Calvino*

**Italian Folktales**

ISBN: 9780141181349, Paperback

Meticulously selected and artfully recreated, the selection of stories in Italian is vast and ranges geographically from Corsica and Sicily to Venice and the Alps. Calvino is himself clearly captivated by the folkloric imagination and communicates this in what is a fascinating and rich addition to folk literature.

*Marina Fiorato*

**The Glassblower of Murano**

ISBN: 9781848547940, Paperback

1681. Glassblowing is the lifeblood of the Republic and Venetian mirrors are more precious than gold. Jealously guarded by the murderous Council of Ten, the glassblowers of Murano are virtually imprisoned on their island in the lagoon. But the greatest artist of their number, Corradino Manin, sells

his methods and his soul to the Sun King, Louise XIV of France, to protect his secret daughter. Centuries later his descendant, Nora Manin, escapes an unhappy life in London, determined to apprentice as a glassblower in the city of her ancestors.

*Gerald Durrell*

### **The Corfu Trilogy**

ISBN: 9780141028415, Paperback

Just before the Second World War, the Durrell family decamped to the glorious, sun-soaked island of Corfu where the youngest of the four children, ten-year-old Gerald, discovered his passion for animals: toads and tortoises, bats and butterflies, scorpions and octopuses. Durrell's memories of those enchanted days gave rise to these three classic tales, loved by generations of adults and children alike.

*Ivo Andrić*

### **The Bridge Over the Drina**

ISBN: 9781860460586, Paperback

In the small Bosnian town of Visegrad, the stone bridge of the novel's title, built in the sixteenth century on the instruction of a grand vezir, bears witness to three centuries of conflict. This title chronicles the lives of Catholics, Moslems and Orthodox Christians that are unable to reconcile their disparate loyalties.

*Ismail Kadare*

### **Siege**

ISBN: 9781847671226, Paperback

In the early fifteenth century, as winter falls away, the people of Albania know that their fate is sealed. They have refused to negotiate with the Ottoman Empire, and war is now inevitable. Soon enough dust kicked up by Turkish horses is spotted from a citadel.

*Tia Obrecht*

### **The Tiger's Wife**

ISBN: 9780753827406, Paperback

A spellbinding journey through the troubled history and colourful folklore of the Balkans, from the youngest ever winner of the Orange Prize. Natalia is on a quest: to discover the truth about her beloved grandfather. He has died far from home, in circumstances shrouded in mystery.

*Aminatta Forna*

### **The Hired Man**

ISBN: 9781408843161, Paperback

Gost is surrounded by mountains and fields of wild flowers. The summer sun burns. The Croatian winter brings freezing winds. Beyond the boundaries of the town an old house which has lain empty for years is showing signs of life. One of the windows, glass darkened with dirt, today stands open, and the lively chatter of English voices carries across the fallow fields. Laura and her teenage children have arrived. A short distance away lies the hut of Duro Kolak who lives alone with his two hunting dogs. As he helps Laura with repairs to the old house, they uncover a mosaic beneath the ruined plaster and, in the rising heat of summer, painstakingly restore it. But Gost is not all it seems; conflicts long past still suppurate beneath the scars.

## MAPS & GUIDES

*Freytag and Berndt*

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*PopOut Map*

### **Rome**

ISBN: 9781910218334

*PopOut Map*

### **Venice**

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A multi-country guide to Europe's most spectacular cruising destinations. From Oslo to Athens, it covers 70 ports of call. It also features photos and illustrations, unique 3-D models, and bird's-eye-view maps of all the major sites.

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*Francis Russell*

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