



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

Available from all good book stores.

## READING GUIDE

### DALMATIA & ANCIENT GREECE

#### *Venice to Athens*

#### 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.

*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.

*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. The pieces range from the sixth century, when the early lagoon-dwellers lived 'like sea-birds in huts, built on heaps

of osiers' to the exquisite city of eighteenth-century revellers and nineteenth-century art lovers. This wonderful volume also contains maps, engravings and notes on history, art, architecture and everyday city life.

*Javier Maria*

#### **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.

*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.

*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.

*Marcus Tanner*

#### **Croatia: A Nation Forged in War**

ISBN: 9780300163940, Paperback

In this book a journalist who witnessed much of the war in Sarajevo traces the rise, fall and rebirth of Croatia from its medieval origins to today's tentative peace. The book draws on eyewitness experiences of events and interviews.

*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.

*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 landscapes in Europe.

*Mark Mazower*

### **The Balkans**

ISBN: 9781842125441, Paperback

A dazzling short history of the Balkans from the Romans to the present, which provides a vital historical and cultural background to contemporary Balkan politics.

*Sofka Zinovieff*

### **Eurydice Street**

ISBN: 9781862077508, Paperback

Sofka Zinovieff had fallen in love with Greece as a student, but little suspected that years later, in the summer of 2001, she would return for good with an expatriate Greek husband and two young daughters. This book is a fresh, funny and inquiring account of her first year as an Athenian.

*Mary Beard*

### **The Parthenon**

ISBN: 9781846683497, Paperback

The ruined silhouette of the Parthenon on its hill above Athens is one of the world's most famous images. Its 'looted' Elgin Marbles are a global cause celebre. But what actually are they? In a revised and updated edition, Mary Beard tells the history and explains the significance of the Parthenon, the temple of the virgin goddess Athena, the divine patroness of ancient Athens.

*James Davidson*

### **Courtesans and Fishcakes**

ISBN: 9780006863434, Paperback

This fascinating book reveals that the ancient Athenians were supreme hedonists. Their society was driven by an insatiable lust for culinary delights – especially fish – fine wine and pleasures of the flesh.

*James H. McGregor*

### **Athens**

ISBN: 9780674047723, Hardback

Revered as the birthplace of democracy, Athens is much more than an open-air museum filled with crumbling monuments to ancient glory. *Athens* takes readers on a journey from the classical city-state to today's contemporary capital, revealing a world-famous metropolis that has been resurrected and redefined time and again.

*David Stuttard*

### **Parthenon: Power and Politics on the Acropolis**

ISBN: 9780714122847, Paperback

This book takes the reader through the dramatic story of the conception and creation of the Parthenon, setting it against a turbulent historical background and rooting the building firmly in the real and mythological landscape of Athens. Written as a pacy, narrative history, the text features a cast of memorable characters, including Themistocles, the general whose decision to evacuate Athens led to the Persian sack of the Acropolis; Pericles, visionary statesman and mastermind of the Athens building project; and Pheidias, who created the cult statue of Athene, and narrowly escaped impeachment for embezzlement.

*Robin Lane Fox*

### **The Classical World**

ISBN: 9780141021416, Paperback

Robin Lane Fox's spellbinding history, spans almost a thousand years of change from the foundation of the world's first democracy in Athens to the Roman Republic and the Empire under Hadrian.

*Michael Carroll*

### **Greece: A Literary Guide for Travellers**

ISBN: 9781784533809, Hardback

There is so much in the modern world which has its origins in Greece, most notably language and literature. This small, rugged, sea-girt country has the longest written history in Europe. Her myths and legends, so deeply embedded in Western consciousness, and her sublime landscapes, so infused with history, have been muse for writers, artists and travellers for millennia.

*Jenny March*

### **The Penguin Book of Classical Myths**

ISBN: 9780141020778, Paperback

The myths of ancient Greece and Rome are the most dramatic and unforgettable tales of love, war, heroism and betrayal ever told. Whether it's Ikaros flying too close to the sun, Prometheus stealing fire from the gods, or the tragedy of Oedipus, their characters have inspired art, literature, plays and films, and constellations named after them fill the night sky. But how much do you really know about them?

*Edith Hall*

### **The Ancient Greeks**

ISBN: 9780099583646, Paperback

Edith Hall gives us a revelatory way of viewing this scattered people, identifying ten unique personality traits that she shows to be unique and central to the widespread ancient Greeks.

*Plutarch*

### **Greek Lives**

ISBN: 9780199540051, Paperback

Lycurgus, Pericles, Solon, Nicias, Themistocles, Alcibiades, Cimon, Agesilaus, Alexander. "I treat the narrative of the *Lives* as a kind of mirror... The experience is like nothing so much as spending time in their company and living with them: I receive and welcome each of them in turn as my guest."

In the nine lives of this collection Plutarch introduces the reader to the major figures and periods of classical Greece.

*Nigel Spivey*

### **Greek Art**

ISBN: 9780714833682, Paperback

Nigel Spivey sets the formation of the classical style in its proper historical context. He explores the question of how Greek art was inextricably bound up with the social, religious, philosophical and political factors of the period and explains the art not only in terms of those who commissioned and created it, but also with reference to the archaeology of the places which hosted it.

*Barbara Graziosi*

### **The Gods of Olympus**

ISBN: 9781846683220, Paperback

Elegant and entertaining, this is the history of the most vibrant characters in classical civilisation. With their vast appetites, great beauty and warlike tendencies, it's hard to resist their pull on the imagination, even though, in antiquity, the gods of Olympus were just as often seen as cruel, over-sexed, mad or just plain silly. And yet they were survivors, whose story only began with classical civilisation.

*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.

*Stefan Buczacki*

(Lecturing on Board)

### **Earth to Earth: A Natural History of Churchyards**

ISBN: 9781910787748, Hardback

The only book to look at this fascinating subject. A perfect gift for all those interested in natural history and nature lovers. Beautifully illustrated throughout.

*Stefan Buczacki*  
(Lecturing on Board)

**My Darling Mr Asquith: The Extraordinary Life and Times of Venetia Stanley**

ISBN: 9780993418600, Hardback

The Hon. Venetia Stanley was remarkable for what she was, what she did and the people she knew. This is a tale that embraces politics, sex, scandal, love and betrayal, the English aristocracy, the Asquiths and the Churchills.

*Stefan Buczacki*  
(Lecturing on Board)

**From Blenheim to Chartwell: The Untold Story of Churchill's Houses and Gardens**

ISBN: 9781911604235, Paperback

Churchill was born amidst the splendour of Blenheim Palace but, ever a restless spirit, he owned, rented and was provided with many houses, both grand and relatively modest, over the course of his long life, including country retreats, town apartments and, as a statesman, Admiralty House, 10 and 11 Downing Street and Chequers. But it was his own house at Chartwell that will be for ever associated with his name. *From Blenheim to Chartwell* charts the life of Winston Churchill through the houses he lived in and the gardens he made. It culminates with the full story of his purchase, alteration and creation of Chartwell, Kent, his home for more than forty years before and after the war, and which is now, in keeping with his intentions, owned and run by the National Trust.

**FICTION**

*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.

*Sarah Dunant*  
**In the Company of the Courtesan**

ISBN: 9781844089109, Paperback

From the author of *'The Birth of Venus'*, comes a novel set in Venice, about love, beauty, the politics of sex, and the power of loyalty.

*Sarah Dunant*  
**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, Louis XIV of France, to protect his secret daughter.

*Alessandro Baricco*  
**The Young Bride**

ISBN: 9781609453343, Paperback

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

*Santa Montefiore*  
**Last Voyage of the Valentina**

ISBN: 9781471132001, Paperback

Italy, 1945. The war is over but its shadow still lingers, and deep in the lush countryside an eccentric aristocrat is savagely murdered in his beautiful palazzo. London, 1971. Years later, this unsolved crime touches the life of Alba, a hedonistic girl who lives on a houseboat in swinging Chelsea. Between these two distinctive times runs a thread of love, decadence and betrayal that takes Alba to the olive groves of the Amalfi Coast, rich with the scent of figs, the drama of wartime and the lingering decay of tragedy.

*Italo Calvino*  
**Italian Folktales**

ISBN: 9780141181349, Paperback

Meticulously selected and artfully recreated, the selection of stories in *Italian Folktales* 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.

*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.

*Angus Kennedy*  
**Two Tickets to Dubrovnik**

ISBN: 9781469176871, Hardback

A novella centred on the bittersweet memories of an Australian wine writer's visit to Croatia. Tightly written, the book is filled with information about the area's history and could even work as something of a travel guide to Dubrovnik.

*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 who are unable to reconcile their disparate loyalties.

*Tia Obreht*  
**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.

*Madeline Miller*  
**The Song of Achilles**

ISBN: 9781408821985, Paperback

A breathtakingly original rendering of the Trojan War – a devastating love story, and a tale of gods and kings, immortal fame and the human heart.

*Homer (Robert Fagles Translation)*  
**The Odyssey**

ISBN: 9780140268867, Paperback

Homer's best-loved and most accessible poem, recounting the great wandering of Odysseus during his ten-year voyage back home to Ithaca, after the Trojan War.

Zachary Mason

### **The Lost Books of the Odyssey**

ISBN: 9780099547075, Paperback

Zachary Mason uses Homer's linear narrative and explodes it: presenting alternative and contradictory fragments of familiar stories – *The Trojan Horse*, *The Cyclops Circe* and *The Sirens* – allowing us to see Homer's masterpiece afresh.

Zachary Mason

### **Metamorphica**

ISBN: 9780224097970, Hardback

In the tradition of Zachary Mason's bestselling first novel, he now reimagines Ovid's epic poem of endless transformation, *Metamorphoses*. Just as the Roman poet reinvigorated the Greek Classical legends 700 years after Homer, so Mason now gives us a radical and exciting renovation of those myths, 2,000 years after Ovid. It retells the great stories of Narcissus, Orpheus, Persephone, Icarus, Midas, Medea and Actaeon, and strings them together like the stars in constellations – with even Ovid himself entering the narrative.

Rachel Cusk

### **Outline**

ISBN: 9781784702441, Paperback

A woman arrives in Athens in the height of summer to teach a writing course. Once there, she becomes the audience to a chain of narratives as the people she meets tell her one after another the stories of their lives. The storytellers talk of their loves and ambitions and pains, their anxieties, their perceptions and daily lives. In the stifling heat and noise of the city the sequence of voices begins to weave a complex human tapestry: the experience of loss, the nature of family life, the difficulty of intimacy, and the mystery of creativity itself.

Jose Carlos Somoza

### **The Athenian Murders**

ISBN: 9780349116181, Paperback

In classical Athens, one of the pupils of Plato's Academy is found dead. Suspecting this wasn't an accident, his teacher asks Herakles, the "Decipherer of Enigmas", to investigate. A second plot unfolds in parallel through the footnotes of the translator of the text.

## MAPS & GUIDES

*Freytag and Berndt*

### **Mediterranean Cruise Map**

ISBN: 9783707912906

*PopOut Map*

### **Venice**

ISBN: 9781910218228

*Insight Flexi Map*

### **Athens**

ISBN: 9781786718877

*Eyewitness Travel Guides*

### **Cruise Guide to Europe**

ISBN: 9781409370222, Paperback

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.

*Dorling Kindersley Top 10*

### **Venice**

ISBN: 9780241310717, Paperback

*Francis Russell*

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Superb cultural guide to all the most important masterpieces of Art and Architecture in Italy.

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