



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

### THE AEGEAN EXPERIENCE

*Athens 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 50,000 BC to the fourth century AD.

*John Julius Norwich*

#### **The Middle Sea: A History of the Mediterranean**

ISBN: 9781844133086, Paperback

The Mediterranean has nurtured three of the most dazzling civilisations of antiquity, witnessed the birth or growth of three of our greatest religions and links three of the world's six continents. It has inspired writers from Homer and Virgil to Norman Douglas and Patrick Leigh Fermor. Geographically, it is unlike any other sea in the world; in historical importance also, it stands alone.

*Anthony Everitt*

#### **The Rise of Athens**

ISBN: 9780812984989, Paperback

A magisterial account of how a tiny city-state in ancient Greece became history's most influential civilisation, from the bestselling author of acclaimed biographies of Cicero, Augustus and Hadrian.

*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.

*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.

*Michael Scott*

#### **Delphi**

ISBN: 9780691169842, Paperback

This work engages with the complex archaeological development of the religious sanctuaries of Delphi and Olympia. It investigates the physical remains of both sanctuaries to show how different visitors interacted with the sacred spaces of Delphi and Olympia in an important variety of ways during the archaic and classical periods.

*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, Paperback

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.

#### *Donald Preziosi and Louise A. Hitchcock* **Aegean Art and Architecture**

ISBN: 9780192842084, Paperback

The amazing discovery of the 'first European civilisation' in Crete, Greece and the Aegean islands during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was beyond what anyone had imagined. Beginning with the Neolithic period, before 3000 BCE, and ending at the close of the Bronze Age and the transition to the Iron Age of Hellenic Greece (c.1000 BCE), this is the first comprehensive introduction to the visual arts and architecture of this extraordinary era.

*Lawrence Durrell*

#### **The Greek Islands**

ISBN: 9780571214266, Paperback

As every reader of Durrell knows, his writing is steeped in the living experience of the Mediterranean, and especially the islands of Greece. This captivating and highly unusual text, originally conceived as a picture book and now reset in paperback format, weaves together evocative descriptions, history and myth with Durrell's personal reminiscences. No traveller to Greece or admirer of the genius of Durrell should miss it.

*Jill Dudley*

### **Lap of the Gods**

ISBN: 9780955383465, Paperback

In *Lap of the Gods*, Jill Dudley explores the ancient Greek myths and legends of Crete and other Aegean islands, describing the landscape and the individuality of each as well as the characters she meets.

*Thucydides*

### **The Peloponnesian War**

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*'The greatest historian that ever lived'*. Such was Macaulay's verdict on Thucydides (c. 460-400 BC) and his history of the Peloponnesian War, the momentous struggle between Athens and Sparta as rival powers and political systems that lasted for twenty-seven years from 431 to 404 BC, involved virtually the whole of the Greek world, and ended in the fall of Athens.

*Jenny March*

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

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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**

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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**

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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.

*Adam Nicolson*

### **The Mighty Dead: Why Homer Matters**

ISBN: 9780007335534, Paperback

'The Mighty Dead' is a magical journey of discovery across wide stretches of the past, sewn together by some of the oldest stories we have – the great ancient poems of Homer and their metaphors of life and trouble. In this provocative and enthralling book, Adam Nicolson explains why Homer still matters and how these vital, epic verses – with their focus on the eternal questions about the individual versus the community, honour and service, love and war – tell us how we became who we are.

*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.

*John Freely*

### **Crete**

ISBN: 9781845116927, Paperback

This guide includes information on places of historical and cultural significance including Graeco-Roman ruins, Byzantine churches and Venetian churches. It also contains the myths, legends and folklore of the island.

*Cathy Gere*

### **Knossos**

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In the spring of 1900, British archaeologist Arthur Evans began to excavate the palace of Knossos on Crete, bringing ancient Greek legends to life just as a new century dawned amid far-reaching questions about human history, art and culture. This title relates the story of Evans' excavation and its long-term effects on Western culture.

*Leonard Cottrell*

### **The Bull Of Minos**

ISBN: 9781845119423, Paperback

This is the story of two of the most heroic, and controversial, figures in archaeology: Heinrich Schliemann, who discovered the remains of Troy, and Arthur Evans who unearthed the great city of King Minos at Knossos. Replete with drama and adventure, "The Bull of Minos" tells of the 3,000-year-old civilisations that were brought back to life, of the extraordinary men who toiled in their dusty ruins, and of the magic and mystery of life in a world of gods and warriors.

*Stephen P. Kershaw*

### **A Brief History of Atlantis: Plato's Ideal State**

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The Atlantis story remains one of the most haunting and enigmatic tales from antiquity, and one that still resonates very deeply with the modern imagination. But where did Atlantis come from, what was it like, and where did it go to?

*Lawrence Durrell*

### **Reflections on a Marine Venus**

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Here Durrell explores Rhodes, ranging over its past and present, touching with wit and insights on the history and myth which the landscape embodies, and presenting some real and some imagined. Reflections on a Marine Venus is an excellent introduction to the Eastern Mediterranean.

*Richard M. Berthold*

### **Rhodes in the Hellenistic Age**

ISBN: 9780801475979, Paperback

An excellent study of both the military and political aspects of Rhodes. It includes detail on the state, its constitution and its effect on the region around it.

*Caroline Alexander*

### **The War that Killed Achilles**

ISBN: 978057134301, Paperback

The Iliad is still the greatest poem about war that our culture has ever produced. For a hundred generations, poets and thinkers in the West have pored over, retold and argued about the events described in this martial epic, even when direct knowledge of it was lost. Various empires have admired it as a book that in telling the story of the siege of Troy also extols the warrior ethic, and teaches the young how to die well.

*Michael Squire (Lecturing on Board)*

### **Image and Text in Graeco-Roman Antiquity**

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By using the ancient world to rethink our own ideologies of the visual and the verbal, this interdisciplinary book brings together classics and art history, as well as a sustained reflection on their historiography: the result is a new and explosive cultural history of Western visual thinking.

*Pliny the younger edited by Christopher Whitton (Lecturing on board)*

### **Pliny the Younger: Epistles book 11**

ISBN: 9780521187275, Paperback

Pliny the Younger's nine-book Epistles is a masterpiece of Roman prose. Often mined as a historical and pedagogical sourcebook, this collection of 'private' letters is now finding recognition as a rich and rewarding work in its own right. The second book is a typically varied yet taut suite of miniatures, including among its twenty letters the trial of Marius Priscus and Pliny's famous portrait of his Laurentine villa.

*Paul Sterry*

### **Birds of the Mediterranean**

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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.

## FICTION

*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.

*Leo Kanaris*

### **Blood & Gold**

ISBN: 9781910213100, Paperback

Athens. Autumn. The start of a crazy week for private investigator George Zafiris. On Monday a friend is killed by a hit and run driver. On Tuesday the body vanishes. On Wednesday Zafiris begins to ask questions, and on Thursday the first death threats are made. By Friday things are starting to get complicated. A brilliant young concert violinist disappears, followed by her husband. The police seem to be cooperative, but everywhere Zafiris looks, he finds obstructions and mysterious delays. Zafiris finds his own life spinning dangerously out of control.

*Vassilis Vassilikos*

### **Z**

ISBN: 9781609807122, Paperback

A progressive parliamentary deputy is scheduled to appear at a political rally. Meanwhile, local political bosses plot his assassination. Thugs are recruited to disrupt the rally. Rumours begin to spread. But the forces already set in motion are irresistible. Z is the story of a crime, a time, a place, and a people transformed by events. A vital and iconic classic, Z was published in Greece in 1966 and banned a year later. It is based on an actual political assassination in 1963 in Salonika.

*Homer (Robert Fagles Translation)*

### **The Iliad**

ISBN: 9780140275360, Paperback

Dating to the ninth century B.C., Homer's timeless poem still vividly conveys the horror and heroism of men and gods wrestling with towering emotions and battling amidst devastation and destruction, as it moves inexorably to the wrenching, tragic conclusion of the Trojan War.

*Madeline Miller*

### **The Song of Achilles**

ISBN: 9781408821985, Paperback

Greece in the age of heroes. Patroclus, an awkward young prince, has been exiled to the court of King Peleus and his perfect son Achilles. Despite their differences, Achilles befriends the shamed prince, and as they grow into young men skilled in the arts of war and medicine, their bond blossoms into something deeper – despite the displeasure of Achilles's mother Thetis, a cruel sea goddess. But when word comes that Helen of Sparta has been kidnapped, Achilles must go to war in distant Troy and fulfill his destiny. Torn between love and fear for his friend, Patroclus goes with him, little knowing that the years that follow will test everything they hold dear.

*Patrick Dillon*

### **Ithaca**

ISBN: 9781681774428, Paperback

Telemachus's father, Odysseus, went off to war before he was born – and never came back. Aged 16, Telemachus finds himself abandoned, his father's house overrun with men pursuing his beautiful mother, Penelope, and devouring the family's wealth. He determines to leave Ithaca, his island home, and find the truth. What really happened to his father? Was Odysseus killed on his journey home from the war? Or might he, one day, return to take his revenge?

*Mary Renault*

### **The Last of the Wine**

ISBN: 9781844089611, Paperback

Athens and Sparta, the mighty city states of ancient Greece are locked together in a quarter century of conflict: the Peloponnesian War. Alexias the Athenian grows to manhood in these troubled years. Of good family, he and his friends are educated in the things of the intellect and in athletic and martial pursuits. They learn to hunt and to love, to wrestle and to question. And all the time his star of destiny is leading him towards the moment when he must stand alongside his greatest friend Lysis in the last great clash of arms between the cities.

*John Fowles*

### **The Magus**

ISBN: 9780099478355, Paperback

On a remote Greek Island, Nicholas Urfe finds himself embroiled in the deceptions of a master trickster. As reality and illusion intertwine, Urfe is caught up in the darkest of psychological games. John Fowles expertly unfolds a tale that is lush with overpowering imagery in a spellbinding exploration of human complexities. By turns disturbing, thrilling and seductive, *The Magus* is a feast for the mind and the senses.

## MAPS & GUIDES

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ISBN: 9783707912906

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