

Trading since 1879, Blackwell of Oxford is the largest academic and specialist bookseller in the UK.

Blackwell's has put together a selection of books that we feel would provide the perfect accompaniment to your voyage.

# READING GUIDE

## HISTORIC SPAIN, SICILY & ITALY

### *Seville to Rome*

#### 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.

*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 3500 BC to modern tourism.

*Jan Morris*

##### **Spain**

ISBN: 9780571241767, Paperback

Spain is one of the absolutes. Nothing is more compelling than the drama, at once dark and dazzling, of that theatre over the hills - the vast splendour of the Spanish landscape, the intensity of Spain's pride and misery, the adventurous glory of a history that set its seal upon half the world. Passionate, evocative and beautifully written, *Spain* is a companion to the country: its people, its history - and its character.

*Brigitte Hintzen-Bohlen*

##### **Andalusia: Art and Architecture**

ISBN: 9783848003266, Paperback

Seville, Cordoba, Cadiz or Malaga - Andalusia, at the crossroads of Europe and Africa, has figured prominently in the history of Europe and the Mediterranean. Many cultural phenomena that are seen internationally as distinctively Spanish are largely Andalusian in origin. This guide shows you all hidden artistic and architectural gems of Andalusia.

*John Gill*

##### **Andalucía: A Cultural History**

ISBN: 9781904955443, Paperback

A garden at the foot of Europe and a crossroads between Spain, Africa and the New World, Andalucía has been a cultural customs house on the border of the Mediterranean and Atlantic civilisations for more than ten thousand years. This book covers the whole history of the region.

*Norman Lewis*

##### **The Tomb in Seville**

ISBN: 9781780600086, Paperback

In 1934, Norman Lewis and his brother-in-law, Eugene Corvaja, travelled across the breadth of Spain on what turned out to be the eve of the murderous civil war. Commissioned by his Sicilian father-in-law to locate the tomb of the last Spanish Corvaja in the cathedral of Seville, Lewis and his companion are quickly caught in the crossfire of a fractious country, sometimes literally. Lewis makes light of this and instead glories in the beauty of nature and the common humanity of the Spaniards he meets on the way.

*Steven Nightingale*

##### **Granada**

ISBN: 9781857886313, Paperback

Literary and sensual, Steven Nightingale produces a portrait of Granada and the cyclical nature of darkness and light in the history of Andalusia.

*Gerald Brenan*

##### **South from Granada**

ISBN: 9780141189321, Paperback

Between 1920 and 1934, the author lived in the remote Spanish village of Yegen. This book depicts his time there, evoking the essence of his rural surroundings and the Spanish way of life before the Civil War. It portrays the landscapes, festivals and folklore of the Sierra Nevada, the rivalries, village customs, superstitions and characters.

*Robert Irwin*

##### **The Alhambra**

ISBN: 9781861974877, Paperback

The Alhambra, the 'red fort' on its rocky hill above Granada, with its fountained courts and gardens, and intricate decoration, has long been a byword for exotic and melancholy beauty. This book examines its history.

*Gijs Van Hensbergen*

##### **Guernica**

ISBN: 97807475668735, Paperback

Of all the great paintings in the world, Picasso's *Guernica* has had a more direct impact on our consciousness than perhaps any other. In this absorbing and revealing book, Gijs van Hensbergen tells the story of this masterpiece.

*Karen Armstrong*

##### **Islam: A Short History**

ISBN: 9781842125830, Paperback

One of the world's foremost commentators on religious affairs on the history (and destiny) of the world's most misunderstood religion.

*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.

*Horatio Clare*

##### **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.

Leonie V. Hicks

**A Short History of the Normans**

ISBN: 9781780762128, Paperback

How a band of marauding warriors established some of the most powerful kingdoms in Europe - in Sicily and France, as well as England - is an improbably romantic idea. In exploring Norman culture in all its regions, Leonie V Hicks places the Normans in the context of early medieval society.

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.

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.

David Gilmour

**The Last Leopard**

ISBN: 9780955010514, Paperback

David Gilmour's biography of Giuseppe di Lampedusa unearths the life story of the creator of "*The Leopard*", one of the great novels of the twentieth century. A book whose imagery, once tasted, haunts the reader forever.

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*

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.

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.

Mary Beard

**S.P.Q.R.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.

Robert Hughes

**Rome**

ISBN: 9780753823057, Paperback

For almost a thousand years, Rome held sway as the spiritual and artistic centre of the world. Hughes vividly recreates the ancient Rome of Julius Caesar, Marcus Aurelius, Nero, Caligula, Cicero, Martial and Virgil. With the artistic blossoming of the Renaissance, he casts his unwavering critical eye over the great works of Raphael, Michelangelo and Brunelleschi, shedding new light on the Old Masters.

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 800 BC to AD 600 and the start of the early middle ages, drawing on the latest discoveries and the best of recent scholarship.

Paul Sterry

**Birds of the Mediterranean**

ISBN: 9780713663495, Paperback

This photo guide 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.

**FICTION**

Arturo Perez-Reverte

**The Seville Communion**

ISBN: 9780099453963, Paperback

Murderous goings-on in a tiny church draw the Vatican into the dark heart of Seville. A hacker gets into the Pope's personal computer to leave a warning about mysterious deaths in a small church in Seville that is threatened with demolition. Father Quart, a suave Vatican trouble-shooter is sent to investigate.

Giuseppe di Lampedusa

**Childhood Memories and other Stories**

ISBN: 9781847493989, Paperback

From the atmospheric recollections of the Palazzo Lampedusa in Palermo at the turn of the twentieth century in 'Childhood Memories' to the delightful fantasy 'The Professor and the Siren', from the gently humorous, bittersweet tones of 'Joy and the Law' to 'The Blind Kittens', this volume showcases Lampedusa's unparalleled narrative skills.

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.

Giuseppe di Piazza

**The Four Corners of Palermo**

ISBN: 9781590516652, Paperback

Palermo in the 1980s. Fourteen hours from any place in what one might call the civilised world, a city of great beauty but torn by the second great Mafia gang wars. A perfect place for a young crime reporter to get his start.

Leonardo Sciascia

**The Wine Dark Sea**

ISBN: 9781847089281, Paperback

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

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.

*Freytag and Berndt*

**Mediterranean Cruise Map**

ISBN: 9783707912906

*Eyewitness Travel Guide*

**Cruise Guide to Europe**

ISBN: 9781409370222

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.

*Eyewitness Travel Guide*

**Seville & Andalusia**

ISBN: 9780241189245

*Eyewitness Guide*

**Sicily**

ISBN: 9781409370215

*Blue Guide*

**Sicily**

ISBN: 9781905131549

*Marco Polo Pocket Guide*

**Malta**

ISBN: 9783829706711

*Marco Polo Travel Handbook*

**Rome**

ISBN: 9783829768245

*Blue Guide Concise*

**Rome**

ISBN: 9781905131303

