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Cruising The Mediterranean: From The Luminous Canals Of Amsterdam And Venice To The Stunning Mosaics Of Istanbul's Blue Mosque, This Travel Memoir Takes Readers On The Trip Of A Lifetime.



Synopsis

This joyful travel memoir by a couple well-beyond youth proves that age is no barrier to delicious fun, unexpected adventure, gentle wanderings and the dazzling beauty of lovely planet Earth. Entertaining, informative, filled with wit and wonder, this day-by-day sightseeing memoir is an easy and enjoyable read. When Al and Sunny Lockwood registered for a 12-day Mediterranean cruise, they envisioned wandering narrow stone streets in Venice, standing on the Acropolis watching morning sun paint its marble columns gold, listening to the Muslim call to prayer chanted from Turkish minarets. Their travel experience surpassed by far their expectations. Climb aboard Amsterdam canal boats to explore the city from its historic waterways. Gaze across the red roofs of Venice from the city's tallest structure: St. Mark's Bell Tower. Check out the oldest neighborhood in Athens, and the Grand Bazaar of Istanbul, and stunning Greek islands. Sink your teeth into mouthwatering meals, and hold your breath while riding the rickety cliffside Acropolis lift. Immerse yourself in the book's beautiful photographs. Although not a guide book, readers will find a banquet of digestible details on history and culture within this warm and personal travel tale. Grab your reading glasses and come along for a trip you won't forget.

Book Information

File Size: 8075 KB

Print Length: 304 pages

Publisher: Front Porch Publishing (May 27, 2016)

Publication Date: May 27, 2016

Sold by: Æ Æ Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01D8XZOY2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #307,775 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #20

in Æ Æ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Travel > Specialty Travel > Senior Travel #39

in Æ Æ Books > Travel > Europe > Netherlands > Amsterdam #41 in Æ Æ Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Senior Travel

Customer Reviews

At first, I thought it would be an account of a couple cruising in a sailboat. You see, when it comes to floating on the ocean I had been a bit of a snob. I looked down on those "loud hordes" who vomited onto a sleepy beach by looming cruise ships, their departing wake causing our sailboat to dance precariously around its anchor. Still, I got this travelogue, and now I think perhaps I am more of a fool than a snob. Especially these days when my "senior status" could greatly benefit from this calmer mode of exploration. Having finished the book, I am more of a personal cruising memoir, actually I want to pack a bag and go on a cruise. Imagine! Sunny and Al Lockwood's imagery of places they visited was that delightful, their respective narratives being interspersed with humor, information and mouth-watering baklava. What impressed me most was their positive attitude throughout even when things didn't go as planned (or as well as they had expected). They took their new experiences in foreign countries in stride and never once complained that "back home..." Thank you for a delightful warm, sunny ocean voyage on a land-locked stormy Southern day. Inge H. Borg, Author of the Legends of the Winged Scarab Series

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I am a frequent cruiser, though not with the same cruise line. Although my tastes are very different from the authors in many ways, (for one, I avoid the ship's dining rooms in favor of the buffet and snack stations) I still learned a few things. Especially interesting to me was their account of their Amsterdam visit. I could thoroughly relate to their miserable overnight flight, but I don't think I could endure the gradual resetting of my biological clock the way they did it. I was surprised that they were not allowed to keep the airplane seats they had chosen. That has never happened to me, but then I've never flown KLM. There's a lot of good information here, especially for a first-time cruiser.

I've never been on a cruise but after reading Sunny and Al Lockwood's fascinating Cruising the Mediterranean I am ready to sign up. Sunny and Al's writing style is as though they are sitting in my coffee shop with me and they're giving me a great dish on the trip. The details are fascinating, nitty-gritty, and practical. It's not the same read as a travel magazine, but rather as regular people, like me, who armed with more curiosity and sense of adventure than money. Starting with their miserable flight to Amsterdam, I was hooked into their story. After reading about their

light-filled AirBnB apartment on the quiet canal in Amsterdam I was ready to move in. I soaked in every detail about Amsterdam especially about Van Gogh and the red-light district, learned a lot about both. Then once Sunny and Al got on the ship, I was mesmerized by the color and descriptions Sunny provided me. I also appreciated their insights about life aboard ship, and off. Their description of being pulled up a hill to the acropolis in a minuscule cage (posing as an elevator) sounded terrifying and far beyond dangerous. I was relieved to learn they walked back down (thus lived to write the book.) Sunny delivers the story with a great twist of wry and keen eye for detail. I liked the descriptions of cruise quarters (and how to choose them), offshore tours, on-ship entertainment and meal details including prices. I also loved Al's delicious riffs on desserts. Keep your travel stories coming, Sunny and Al.

I enjoyed the book, loved Sunny and Al's adventures. But why, oh why do you constantly tell us how many photos you're taking, but not include them? Or add a link so we can view them. The word descriptions are great, but the disappointment of not seeing the photos I was hoping for meant I gave this four stars instead of five.

The Lockwoods have made travel as an "older" couple seem fun and exciting. Even though they have some medical issues the Lockwoods decided that sore knees and tired bodies would not keep them from taking this dream trip. As an "older" person, I can relate to their creative ways of seeing the sights. I also like it that when they were tired they would take the time to sit on a bench or go to a coffee shop with a snack, of course, and just soak up the scenery. I enjoyed having both voices in this book. Al's love for his sweets is just what I can appreciate and Sunny's practical advice make for a well balanced, fun romp on their special trip.

A well written biography of a holiday with a mediterranean cruise. Very enjoyable and the author brought the places they visited to life, I thought I was there with them.

Disclosure: I did the layout for one of the Lockwoods' other books, and wouldn't have signed on if I didn't love their writing and their stories. What delightful travelers they are, and the fact that Sunny has been a life-long journalist makes her story-telling as clear as news reporting and as fun to read as a magazine feature. If I were taking a cruise anywhere -- even one they haven't written about -- I'd read all their books, if only to learn what to look out for and how to make the voyage as pleasant as it should be.

This story captured me from the first page. Sunny and AL gave such enjoyable descriptions of their travels I felt like I was right there.

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