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Malta: An Archaeological Guide (Archaeological Guides)



Synopsis

The large stone temple structures on Malta are amongst the earliest such constructions in the world, long before the pyramids were built in Egypt. This super book forms a pictorial record of all the temples on Malta, whilst also providing background information on the social and cultural history of the period. Built between c.3500 and 2500 BC, the temples reflect, and were part of, a period of great development on Malta and Gozo, especially in artistic and architectural terms. This is a clear, well illustrated account of the temple-building period, as well as of what went before and what came after. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Malta's earliest stone structures predate Stonehenge and the Pyramids and historians still don't know what happened to the civilization that produced them. They seem to have virtually disappeared from history without any indication of their fate. So far, nobody has found mass graves or other indicators of mass famine, war, or disease. Given this, it's hard to understand why Malta is less of an archaeological tourist site than it might otherwise be, so this is the only widely available book on the topic. Fortunately, it is an excellent one. The writing is accessible but thorough, the maps and illustrations are well-chosen and beautifully executed (especially the aerial views of the various temple sites), and, in a small but pleasing detail, the paper is wonderful glossy-quality with a lovely feel. (So, call me shallow!) The author does make it clear which theories he favors about topics such as whether some of the sites are designed to echo the contours of a fertile female body,

but presents the other sides fairly. This book is a must for a traveler with a serious interest in Malta's archaeology sites, but somebody with a general interest in archaeology will enjoy it just as well.

Read this text before or after visiting Malta. If you haven't visited these prehistoric temples you will want to go or if you have you will want to go back.

After reading Graham Hancock's book *Underworld* I was interested in finding any good book that details Malta's megalithic ruins in factual detail. This book is very good on details and diagrams and facts.

Great Read

"The great temples of Malta lay claim to be the world's most impressive prehistoric monuments. They stand out as the single great achievement of the society which created them - a society without cities or written records or any attributes of a civilization other than the monuments themselves. Most of the temples were built before 3,000 B.C. and perhaps several centuries earlier, and this in itself makes outside inspiration unlikely. This book presents a superb pictorial record of all the temples, hypogea, and other sites. It describes the wonderful statuettes, pottery, and other material that has been excavated from each site, with more than 300 photographs and illustrations, in full color ... explore[s] key themes such as dating, architecture, stratification, ceramics, and the artistic objects found in the temples ... features a detailed visual treatment of 30 key sites with photography, artwork, and maps of Malta and Gozo, showing the exact locations of the prehistoric temples." -- from the back cover. Great diagrams and photos and still affordable! CAUTION: "Hardcover" and "Paperback" attached to this entry are not the same book.

The book is very nice but was not well packaged. When it arrived, the edges were all bent up and curled under because it was simply put into a bag with very little protection for a rather expensive book.

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