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The full description is not available>Show More Travel Notes: Travel Articles: Common Travel: Guidebooks godsend and a huge amount of research has gone into them, but they can be a bit patronising at times. Do not cling to them religiously, as many travelers do. They are not the Bibles that they are made to be, and are often out of date before they are published. To get most of the guidebooks, use them sparingly for basic orientation and then discover the towns and cities on your own. Information about museums and well-made places is great when all other signs look foreign. But when it comes to hotels and restaurants, everyone is to their liking and budget. Believe me, gems are never in black and white for everyone to see. If the word comes out, deals grow in price with popularity and recommended places are usually full of foreigners - us tourists. Wandering on your own, you'll be delighted when you find, at a reasonable price, the quality of rooms and gourmet restaurants dishing up to the local atmosphere; without the need for a reservation. Just because it's not in the book doesn't mean you're entering a hellhole, or a thieves' lair. More often than not, you will encounter a refuge of calm that has not seen you wait. Don't be the type who can't wait to write to say it wasn't as they said in the book. Open your eyes, and explore for yourself! The publication date must be printed on the book's internal page. Lonely Planet usually gives the first publication date, the date of publication of the copy in your hands, and the reprint with updates of travelers. They have an army of followers who freely update their books; often without credit. The biggest of the credits should go to Tony and Maureen Wheeler, who started it all with their onshore journey through Southeast Asia. Don't be fooled by the crooks at Hachette, who took it all a little further. Le Guide du Routard, Vietnam (in French), which I bought at the end of 1996, boldly declared 1997/98 on the cover, and even 1997 inside. Okay, we're not talking Turner Broadcasting repeating yesterday's news here, but even the new one seems old already. As an example of how quickly things change: I wanted to praise a particular hotel in Hanoi that offered us a beautifully furnished, spacious room for \$20 a night (deal), and an amazing restaurant near the station whose food and service were excellent for a reasonable price. Ok..... Hotel Cuu Long changed our room after two nights and only told us about it when we walked in at eleven in the evening. (We paid \$15 for a smaller room and moved the next morning). And, after we got out of our way to return to the Hanoi bar and restaurant, because of the special dish that was so delicious two days noodles the next time tasted like a scaold pot Without enough water added to them before roasted. So take the guides' recommendations with a pinch of salt. This discussion is always served with a large dose of opinion, and our list does not serve to put one guide over another. Besides, we don't have the money for lawsuits. Lonely Planet Lonely Planet: If you're traveling on a meager, then the LP is probably the one for you. My favorite guides are on China, India and Asia, but many people use them for Europe too. Lonely Planet guides cover the overall history and give good details about places to visit. How to go and side sections are always good for crossing the border. Lots of simple cards to give you an idea of where you are, and of course they are always tracking down cheapo cafes with the best banana milkshakes; if you are willing to trust milk in some of these countries. Use prices as a reference point only, as some of the guides are several years old, and as I've noted, a lot can change overnight. Some Lonely Planet recommendations may even have closed. Let's go: Let's go to Europe, a group of Harvard students, there was a pamphlet that started it all. Let's go now claim that this is the best-selling international guide. There are many Americans coming to Europe, of course. Personally, I prefer them for Let's Go: USA. I think students can tell us more about their hometown in North America. Let's Go guides attract a young crowd looking low down on nightlife as well as what to watch during the day. Rough Guide rough guide: I used the Rough Guide to West Africa instead of Lonely Planet. Maybe not so good at the score map, but I found the music section and other cultural snippets more useful than some of the confident comments in Lonely Planet. Trace Guides Trace Handbooks: The South American Handbook (updated annually) is the pope in this series; it is quite possible, The Mother of all guidebooks. I first used this guide to South America when it was still a Trade and Travel Publishing title and included Central America and the Caribbean. The hard back guide contained so much information that even the fine paper and fine print were not enough to preserve it; Both the Caribbean and Central American sections have become guidebooks in their own right. In the 1990s,Trade and Travel also published guides to India, Southeast Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Moving to 2008, Footprint has now printed 80 guidebooks for hundreds of destinations; presented guidebooks for London, Dublin, Edinburgh and Rio de Janeiro and even Surfing Europe (2nd edition). Rick Steves Rick Steves: Rick Steves really came through the backdoor in the guidebook market, especially with Americans visiting Europe. Europe through the back door open the way for more guidebooks to europe's most visited destinations: Italy, Paris, Paris, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and Scandinavia. The Mona Winks guide is also an excellent companion when visiting the Vatican and other famous museums. Michelin Michelin: I first traveled to Europe without a guidebook, just a collection of Michelin maps. I still think their maps are the best, and their green guides are often overlooked by people covering guidebooks. If you're going to really see the country, which means being on a car rather than a train, then you'd be fine to have a Michelin or two in the glove compartment. They also have great pocket guides for many major cities in Europe. Bradt Travel Guides Bradt Travel Guides: Bradt publishes guidebooks to all corners of the world, from Antarctica to zanzibar, as well as guides in rail travel, wildlife, mountaineering and hiking. The first Bradt guidebook was written by Hilary and George Bradt in 1974 on a river barge floating on an Amazon tributary; Bolivia. From their base in Boston, Massachusetts, they went on to write and publish four other mountaineering guides on America and one to Africa. In the 1980s, Hilary continued to develop the Bradt list in England, and established herself as a travel writer and tour leader. The company's publishing focus has evolved towards broader guidelines on new trends; usually the first to be published in these countries (such as Mali and Palestine), supplemented by hiking, rail and wildlife guides. Cadogan Guides Cadogan Guides: The Cadogan series seeks more on vulture culture. Dana Facaros is credited with many titles, and really knows Italy. I also bought Peter Neville-Hadley in China: Silk Roads. Peter also ran the popular Eastern list for people traveling to China and you didn't need to buy a book to join. Eyewitness Eyewitness Guides: Eyewitness, from D.K. Publishing, have expanded their popular Italy Guide series. Eyewitness guides are illustrated guidebooks, where every significant landmark, building, museum and gallery (as well as large shops, hotels and restaurants) are illustrated on the page along with interesting and practical information. These are great books to look at before and after traveling too. Philing Filing: A growing selection of guides is here too. My favorite was Filing in the most dangerous places in the world. Fodor's Fodor's: I've seen people carrying Fodor guides across Europe and the States, but I've never used it myself. Frommer's Frommer's: I never used these guides either, but after their editorial director (@davitdave) read one of my tweets (@TravelTweet) on Twitter, he very kindly sent me a couple of guidebooks to try. A guide to France I looked at is clearly aimed at Americans and misses out on some sights that michelin Green Guides and cards will not be. To be fair, Frommer do a good job of the job Offering routes for people with limited schedules (one or two weeks); depending on the region you're interested in. With so many trains once mentioned, I assume that most people using these guides will travel on SNCF (Societe Nationale de Chemins de Fer). As I told Dave that I do a lot of driving around France and Italy, he also sent me Frommer's 25 Great Drives in France; Guide you too should consider if you prefer to see the French village by car and try the products in the various markets of the village along the way. Insight Guide Insight Guide: These guidebooks, from APA publications, are a bit special. The quality of the photo is excellent; they even used some of mine in their Insight Guide: Peru, and articles written by journalists. I would even recommend adding something like Lonely Planet or Rough Guide with Insight Guide. If you don't have room for insight guide on your travels, they really give an insight into people and culture and do a good reading while you wait for your departure day. Be wise, and get an idea of your destination before you go. There are even thin lines (Insight Pocket Guide) versions in major cities around the world. Karen Brown Karen Brown Guides: Explore old towns and friendly villages with cozy cottages, quaint country hotels and ancient castles in Europe and California. Regardless of your travel budget, you'll find delightful rooms and highlights highlights that editors have personally experienced. Berlitz Berlitz: Pocket phrasebooks to get you out of the mix.com. It's one thing to find a hotel or restaurant without a guidebook, but it helps if you know a few local words when you get there. Berlitz are a world leader in learning the language for the traveler, and their phrasebooks slip into your back pocket or carry-on bag easily. Mini-guides are also available. This is already quite a list of guidebooks I have submitted, but if you go to any travel bookstore you will see even more travel titles. AAA, Access Guides, Adventure Guides, Avant-Guide, Baedeker, Berkeley, Best Places, Blue Guide, Cheap Eats and Steeps, Culture Shock!, Highlights, Globetrotter, Great Destinations, InsideOut Guides, Insiders, Simply Marvelous Walking Tours, Knopf, Moon Handbooks, National Geographic Guide, National Geographic Park Profiles, National Geographic Traveler This list is also just a guide for guidebooks, and there are still many out there covering what might have been called a specialty travel. There are bed and breakfast guides in New York, travel guides to the outback, full at Walt Disney World, and even airport guides. However you like your journey, there will be an author or two who have written enough words about it to publish a book: Adventure, Air Travel, Budget Travel, Business Travel, Ecotourism, Family Travel, Honeymoon, Senior Travel, Individual Travel, Special Needs, Student Travel, Travel with Pets. Then there are travel tips; Learn from the experience of other type books, or books about travel with beautiful pictures: Beaches, Cruises, Essays and Travelogues, Food and Shelter, Pictorial, Handbook, Spas, Tips, Tourist Destinations and Museums and Travel Writing. I always like to read good travel books when I'm on the road, sitting in a moving train or patiently waiting for a ferry. Some of the best authors even make a humble travel book to read as a quality literature. Literary Traveler: There are travelers who have come back to write a great book and then there are great writers who travel. Learn more about travel writing at its best. Becoming a travel writer: Travel writers and photographers can get more exposure to their work (and perhaps earn a little more money) by getting published on Travel Notes - an online guide to travel. Bradt Guides: You can't read the guidebooks here, but you get a snippet about the country, chapter outlines and a little something about writers. Fodor's: Online mini-guides to destinations around the world. Follow the Internet Handbooks: Get a foot in the door by reading snippets from your guide directions. Frommer's: The Frank Encyclopedia of Travel, as it used to be called, is quite large; with lots of travel tips at destinations around the world. Karen Brown's World of Travel: Karen's website has improved greatly since we first listed it and recommended you buy a book rather than visit the website since there wasn't much there. Now it seems that if you visit a website you may not have to buy a book. Knowhere Guide: Knowhere is not your average guide to the UK. No postcards and purple prose, but you'll find out where the youth hang out around the island. Let's go: Selling guidebooks is the motto here; especially since their community section doesn't always seem to work. Lonely Planet - Thorn Tree: Of course they want to sell more of their guidebooks, but the Thorn Tree bulletin board area is an excellent hangout for budget travelers. Moon Handbooks: The moon has improved its website tremendously; now include destination information and maps. Rick Steves Europe: If you're a Rick fan, you'll be able to read on his latest tips, catch him on TV or even go on one of his European tours. Maybe someday we ourselves Surprise. Rough guides: Rough guides offer the full text of their guidebooks online, but when you're stuck in Timbuktu and your printed copy is all crumpled you can sorry you bought the book. And of course we would like to sell ourselves too; So just choose a destination from our website: TravelNotes.org - an online travel guide. Michelle. Regional directory - Search on the Internet. Web. rough guide vs lonely planet vietnam

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