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This Is Israel: A Children's Classic



Synopsis

Like the other Sasek classics, these are facsimile editions of his original books. The vibrant illustrations have been preserved, remaining true to his vision, and where applicable facts have been updated, appearing on a "This is...Today" page at the back of each book. The charming illustrations, coupled with Sasek's witty, playful narrative, make for perfect souvenirs that will delight both children and their parents, many of whom will remember them from their own childhood. This is Britain, first published in 1974, encompasses the nation's many facets, from the mystery of Stonehenge to the monuments of the British Isles. Among his stops are the White Cliffs of Dover; Brighton's Prince Regent's Royal Pavilion; the castles and Tintern Abbey in Wales; and Scotland's four Royal Palaces and long lochs. This is Israel, first published in 1962, visits the Promised Land, a sun-drenched panorama of many hues and many traditions. From the Sea of Galilee to the Red Sea (it's really blue); from modern Tel Aviv to Jerusalem new and old; from Mt. Zion to King Solomon's mines; Sasek presents the biblical glory of its past and the golden hope of its future.

Book Information

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Age Range: 7 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

Author and illustrator M. Sasek (1916-1980) was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia. He is best remembered for his classic stories on the great cities of the world.

sasek's books are all visually lovely, no doubt about it, however they are also incredibly informative, which i quite appreciate. this book is littered with amazing images and interesting facts. i would definitely say this entry has some of the more whimsical and exotic images present in sasek's books. on a totally unrelated note, the book smells good too, just like the library books of yore. and as with all the updated printings of sasek's books, there is a welcome list of "this is the country...today!" at the end of the book with changes listed since the original printing. it is great to see both the way the country WAS as well as the present day differences. i highly recommend this book if you are interested in either israel, or simply in wonderful illustration.

I just returned from a trip to Israel and purchased the book for my two young daughters- the illustrations are awesome and they love to hear all about the places mommy visited while there. Personally, I love this author and the fact that a couple of the places (Jericho) are no longer part of Israel (for now, I guess) I think it provides a learning opportunity to explain to your children (or whomever) the tumultous and volatile state of this area of the world.

Inspires to travel

This is a great historical presentation. Within the series. It's a place to visit sometime. For now this speaks to countries origin.

Really outdated book. Even though it was (lightly) described as such, it might as well have been written 100 years ago. Israel is a very modern country with a reverence for it's cultural and historic heritage. This book has camels as transportation.

great sasek art as usual. Actually fun to talk about it "as it was" then and to fast forward to today. It's a neat little "time capsule" read with amazing illustrations.

Wonderful book. I'm a huge fan of Sasek's work, and I absolutely love all of his books. Paris and Rome are my favorites, and now I can add Israel to that list!

This book has beautiful illustrations of Israel (no photographs), from the artist's perspective, as a Christian TOURIST in the late 1950's/early 1960. It is a fun book to look at for children and adults,

who want to see this perspective from long ago. I tell my child that it was what Israel was like if we visited when his grandparents were growing up. It will NOT help prepare your child for a trip to Israel, nor tell them what it is like today. It is a lovely coffee table book, for nostalgia. It does not include anything about Israel's capital, Jerusalem, since it says that the city "belonged to Jordan" at the time.

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