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New Orleans: Elegance And Decadence





Synopsis

The lush, seductive, Old World elegance of New Orleans is gloriously revealed in this photographic tribute to the "Venice of North America." Richard Sexton's photographs capture balcony-lined streets, French-style parks, Caribbean-inspired gardens, and ornate public buildings, and take us inside some of the city's most intriguing private homes. This new edition marks the tenth anniversary with a new cover and binding, and a fully revised afterword. "Rarely," wrote The New Orleans Times-Picayune, "has the city been loved both so wisely and so well." A tribute to a lifestyle of insouciance and exuberance, touched by both spirituality and worldliness, New Orleans: Elegance and Decadence illuminates both the public face and the private soul of a perennially fascinating city. More than 200 full-color photographs and an insightful text capture the stories and characters of yore.

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Customer Reviews

This is a beautiful introduction to the multicultural art and architecture of the "Crescent City," the cognomen given to the city nestled along a tight bend of the Mississippi River. In this introductory history, the reader is familiarized with many new terms reflecting the multiethnic complexity of the local population. The combination of African, French, and Anglo-American immigrants formed a unique Creole culture that has produced its own music, cuisine, art, and architecture, displayed superbly in a vast variety of photographs. We are taken through interiors and enclaves, stopping in the homes and studios of several contemporary artists. The influence of French Impressionism is

juxtaposed with modern New Orleans funk art, and we are struck by Catholic religious art permeating the cultural revelry of the city's famous parades. This book will entice anyone to visit New Orleans and will serve as pleasant reflection for those who have.- Bruce Alan Hanson, Wayzata East J. H.S. Lib., Minn.Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Created by local writers and photographers, Compass American Guides are the ultimate insider's guides, providing in-depth coverage of the history, culture and character of America's most spectacular destinations. Covering everything there is to see and do as well as choice lodging and dining, these gorgeous full-color guides are perfect for new and longtime residents as well as vacationers who want a deep understanding of the region they're visiting. Outstanding color photography, plus a wealth of archival imagesTopical essays and literary extractsDetailed color mapsGreat ideas for things to see and doCapsule reviews of hotels and restaurants --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

After a trip to New Orleans, I searched in vain for a book about the architecture of the city, which was just gorgeous. Nothing was available in the gift shops and souvenir shops, surprisingly. So I came home and bought this one from . It's a bit dated, but it has pretty much what I was looking for: beautiful photos and explanations of the history and style of this unique city. Maybe the shops should pick this one up as an item to sell.My interest was exterior architecture, which this book has, but it also includes interiors and a whole section on Mardi Gras. I would have preferred more on the exterior, but I am glad to have bought this one as a "souvenir" of my stay.

What can I say? Any book even MENtioning my great former Galveston-era friend Joel Dyer and his Victorian design savvy is of great interest to me. And I was thrilled to see another antique framed poster of a New Orleans Mardi Gras krewe's tableau (parade float illustrations) like the one I found folded up in a Galveston junk shop in the early '80s. I'm proud that newspaper insert hangs in my dining room. If only my I'il darling pooch, kd, hadn't chosen to chew a good part of the book's cover! I believe the book's out of print (or is it?).

Lovely book. Bought to compliment an earlier book on the old River Road plantations. Great to have on a rainy day....

As a former resident of New Orleans I have many books on the city. This is one of my favorite so far as photographs of New Orleans, inside and out. Beautiful photography, brilliant colour and great subject matter make this book a must have for those who love New Orleans. This book is also a great gift for anyone. I never tire of looking at it! It has a history of the city in the foremost part of the book that adds to it's attraction. Just a great book! Annalisa

This rating is not for the book but for the disappointment of not getting what I thought I ordered, and an attempt to keep others from the same disappointment. I read some of the reviews, clicked on the "look inside" and then bought this book. I thought I would get the book I looked at when I "looked inside". NO. That is not what you get. When you click on "look inside" you get to see the hardcover 2003 version. It appears to be written by a different person than the paperback 1990's version you will get if you buy this one, though the photographer is the same. Though I haven't looked deeply yet, some of the pictures appear to be different between the two, and as noted the writer appears to be different. There is a small disclaimer at the top of "look inside" that tells you you won't get the book you are looking at when you order, but I didn't notice it until now, as I am trying to figure out why I didn't get the book I thought I was getting. So, be sure to be aware which book you are ordering and don't be fooled by the "look inside" option. If you want the hardcover, be sure that is what you are ordering, or you will end up with a paperback that is about ten years older than the hard cover. Also note they are both pre Katrina. I gave it four stars because I didn't want to drag down the books overall rating when I'm not reviewing the book itself, just trying to clarify what you will get if you order and wanted to warn people who don't read all the fine print, like myself.

WONDERFUL!

This is a beautiful, thoughtfully done book that transported me back to New Orleans, where I love to visit and have never had the good luck to live. It's a soulful place full of creative approaches to living and this book is a tribute to that.

Photography and Understanding of the True meaning of Elegance and Decadence in New Orleans.

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