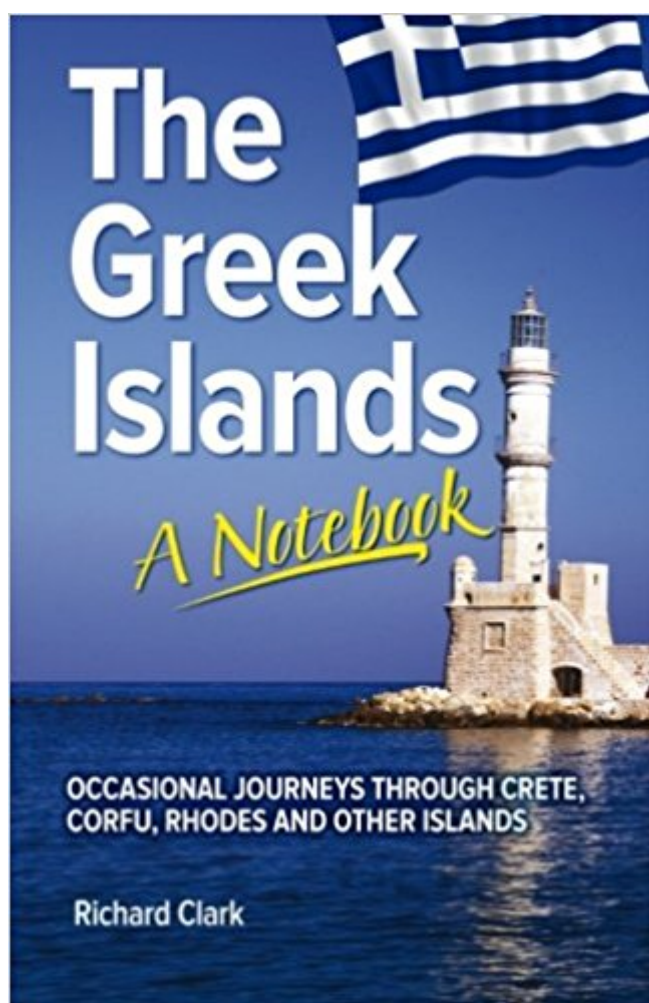




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The Greek Islands – A Notebook: Occasional Journeys Through Crete, Corfu, Rhodes And Other Islands



Synopsis

In 1982, on a whim, the English journalist Richard Clark upped sticks and left the country of his birth to go and work as a teacher in Crete. So began a love affair with the Greek Islands, to which he now returns on a regular basis. The Greek Islands - A Notebook is a series of snapshots of Journeys and Places, Culture and History, and People and Island Life on Greece's enchanted triangle of islands - Corfu, Crete and Rhodes and the islands in between. Whether a regular visitor or a first time traveler there, this book provides an invaluable insight into life past and present on these beautiful islands. The author is a writer, editor and journalist who has worked on an array of national newspapers and magazines in the UK. He is married with two grown up children and lives in Kent.

REVIEW 'My library contains almost all of the noteworthy books about Greece and her islands and this will be a welcomed addition. I will place it next to my collection of books by the late and great Patrick Leigh Fermor, because I think Richard Clark's writing is as close to Fermor as we will ever come again.' Aurelia Smeltz, author 'Labyrinthine Ways', 'A Lone Red Apple'

Clark is particularly good on the colours, flavours and scents of Greece. He has got under the skin of the place in a way few outsiders have been able to.

Mark Hudson, winner Somerset Maugham Award, Thomas Cook Travel Book Award, Samuel Johnson Prize

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Customer Reviews

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again.' ~Aurelia Smeltz, author 'Labyrinthine Ways', 'A Lone Red Apple'

Richard Clark is a writer, editor and journalist who has worked on an array of national newspapers and magazines in the UK. He is currently Editor of TVEasy magazine. In 1982, on a whim, he decided to up sticks and go and live on the Greek island of Crete. So began a love affair that has continued to this day, when he still visits Greece on a regular basis. He is married with two grown up children and lives in Kent.

This is a book with short stories about the author who lived in Crete. This is not a guide book, but it was exactly what I was looking for! You get an insight on how it is in Greece. Things like customs, Greek hospitality, favorite artists, Greek food, the history of Greece, authentic places you might want to visit but also a summary of Homer's Iliad and the Odyssey, Zorba the Greek.... and many more things. Thanks to I found this wonderful book that gave me so much insight into the Greek culture. PS: The author just published his second book. It's on Crete!

pretty good book to read before visiting the Isles, written by a been there, done that guy. Easy style. Gives you good information on what to see, and what to skip. Good background info as well.

It is about an English teacher moving there. Now he returns to Crete. Nice story, humorous, culturally informing.

Not much info about the islands themselves; it is boring

What a lovely book. Although it claims it is not a guide book if I ever visit any of the places mentioned (even those I have already visited) I will be sure to take this book with me, it is packed with historical notes and insights as well as being beautifully descriptive of Greece and the Greek way of life. Having said that it did not read as a guide book, I read it like a novel with the narrator as the 'hero', some of his boat trips were dreamy, allowing me to escape the pouring rain of my present outdoor reality. What I liked most about the book was that it was personal and with that came an honesty, no wrappings, no embellishments other than descriptions of Greece itself. I would recommend this book both to people who have never been to Greece as well as to seasoned travelers. It was a joy.

I'm only a third of the way through this book but what a journey of discovery. It's 20 years since I visited a Greek Island (Crete) but this book has reawakened a lot of happy, happy memories - of the wonderful food, the welcoming locals and the stunning landscape. I love the way it combines the author's personal experiences with Greek history and culture - if I'd never been to these islands, I'd sure as hell be itching to go. I must admit, I think of these lands as being inextricably linked with the distant past - real and mythological - so what a surprise to see lots of references to popular culture (from Zorba the Greek to Captain Corelli's Mandolin). Richard Clark lovingly expresses his passion for these islands but I'm pleased to say he's not blind to the shortcomings of the places blighted by the worst excesses of tourism. Thankfully those are few, which is why I suspect that by the end of this 'notebook' I'll be booking my ticket to visit these paradise islands once more.

This is a very personal account of a life spent living on and visiting the Greek Islands. As such, it has a wonderfully intimate feel which helps to give a real sense of place. It provides a great guide to the islands but so much more besides, including an understanding and passion for the way of life that it absolutely infectious. Besides the very handy 'Get by in Greek' section, the wealth and breadth of experience on offer have made this not just a useful guide, but an excellent book.

Interesting anecdotes and info but too randomly put together to refer back if you wanted

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