

READING GUIDE

Japan

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Essential

These 5 items are available as a package for \$73 including shipping, 15% off the retail price (Item no. EXJPN56). Any additional books ordered are shipped free.

Eyewitness Guides

Eyewitness Guide Japan

2003, PAPER, 408 PAGES, \$25.00

This superb guide to all of Japan features color photography, dozens of excellent local maps and a region-by-region synopsis of the country's attractions. Handsome, convenient and up-to-date, the volume is an excellent overview of the country. For more detailed practical information, especially for an independent traveler, consider Gateway to Japan. (Item no. JPN130)

Donald Richie

The Inland Sea

2002, PAPER, 255 PAGES, \$16.95

Richie's book, on its surface a travel account, is a beautiful reflection on all things Japanese by one of the country's most acute observers. Anyone with an interest in Japan would enjoy this book, those on a voyage through the inland sea even more so. Written after many decades in Japan, The Inland Sea is among the best of the master's many books. Arturo Silva, who edited the Donald Richie Reader, calls it his masterpiece (and a work of fiction). (Item no. JPN113)

Donald W. George, Amy G. Carlson

Travelers' Tales Japan

2005, PAPER, 411 PAGES, \$18.95

A collection of stories and essays by famous writers that capture experiences traveling through Japan. With a range of styles and topics, this book is a great travel companion. (Item no. JPN48)

Junichiro Tanizaki, Thomas J. Harper, Edward G.

Seidensticker

In Praise of Shadows

1980, PAPER, 56 PAGES, \$7.95

This essay by the great Japanese novelist, first published in 1933, offers tremendous insight into Japanese aesthetics. It's an earthy meditation on traditional Japanese art, architecture and design. Most illuminating. (Item no. JPN19)

Periplus Maps

Japan Map

2002, MAP, \$8.95

Handsome, accurate and updated annually, this convenient map covers the island nation with insets of the major cities. It has a variety of scales, with the majority at 1:2,000,000. (Item no. JPN06)

Also Recommended

Hamiru-aqui

70 Japanese Gestures, No Language Communication

2005, PAPER, \$9.95

A clever, useful guide to decoding body language in Japan. With 70 black-and-white photographs. (Item no. JPN193)

Citypack

Citypack Tokyo's Best

2006, PAPER, 96 PAGES, \$11.95

A shirt-pocket map and practical guide to Tokyo, including an excellent map of the city center and essential information on its highlights. (Item no. JPN05)

Margaret Price

Classic Japanese Inns and Country Getaways

1990, PAPER, 288 PAGES, \$23.00

Price, a journalist who has lived in Japan since 1982, describes favorite inns, often ancient, sometimes luxurious, in this essential, illustrated guide to the ryokan of your desire. (Item no. JPN182)

June Kinoshita

Gateway to Japan

1998, PAPER, 800 PAGES, \$24.00

An excellent planning tool, the heart of this guide to Japan is a region-by-region catalog of attractions, history, art, culture and travel information. It's the most useful and comprehensive book of its kind on the market. (Item no. JPN35)

Yoshi Abe

Lonely Planet Japanese Phrasebook

2004, PAPER, 256 PAGES, \$7.99

A palm-sized, handy guide to pronunciation, basic grammar and essential vocabulary for the traveler. (Item no. JPN136)

Diane Durston

Old Kyoto, A Guide to Traditional Shops and Inns

2005, PAPER, 240 PAGES, \$22.00

An excellent travel companion, this guide focuses on institutions that reflect the traditions of the ancient capital city. With maps, suggested walking tours, and invaluable directions, the book has at its heart wonderfully intimate, elegant essays on carefully chosen shops, often in an out-of-the-way neighborhood that you might not otherwise have discovered. (Item no. JPN24)

Charles Whipple, Morihiro Hosokawa

Seeing Japan

2005, HARD COVER, \$35.00

A wide-ranging introduction to modern Japan. Charles Whipple covers the basic elements of Japanese family and society, as well as geography, art and theater, and sports. (Item no. JPN179)

Donald Richie

Tokyo, A View of the City

1999, PAPER, 142 PAGES, \$25.00

A literate essay on the culture, history and fabric of Tokyo, where the author has lived for 50 years. Structured as a geographic tour, starting at the Imperial palace and branching out. With black-and-white photography. (Item no. JPN90)

Richard Tames

A Traveller's History of Japan

2001, PAPER, 292 PAGES, \$14.95

A lively and concise narrative history of Japan and its transformation from Shinto, Shogun and Samurai traditions to 20th-century powerhouse. (Item no. JPN09)

John W. Dower

Embracing Defeat, Japan in the Wake of WWII

2000, PAPER, 676 PAGES, \$17.95

A social and political history of the postwar years in Japan. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award, it's an eye-opening account by a leading scholar of Japanese-American relations at MIT. (Item no. JPN54)

John Hersey

Hiroshima

1989, PAPER, 152 PAGES, \$6.95

Never sensational, this classic by the Pulitzer Prize-winning Hersey, first published in 1946, puts a human face on the unthinkable. Hersey explores the tragedy through interviews with residents, scientists and politicians. (Item no. JPN20)

Ian Buruma

Inventing Japan, 1853-1964

2004, PAPER, 194 PAGES, \$12.95

Buruma, a favorite writer who has written widely on Japan, here offers an admirably succinct, tightly constructed history of the transformation of Japan from feudal state to host of the 1964 Olympics, looking especially at WWII. (Item no. JPN139)

W. Scott Morton

Japan, Its History and Culture

2004, PAPER, 311 PAGES, \$18.95

An introduction to Japanese history, people and culture from ancient origins to contemporary society. With selections from Japanese literature and arts, anecdotes and illustrations. (Item no. JPN03)

Kakuzo Okakura

The Book of Tea

2003, HARD COVER, 116 PAGES, \$14.95

A 1906 cult classic on the Japanese Tea Ceremony. It's not an instruction manual, but rather a graceful, witty meditation on Japanese aesthetics and culture. Mr. Okakura headed the Japanese department at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts from 1904-1913. (Item no. JPN21)

Christopher Benfey

The Great Wave: Gilded Age Misfits, Japanese Eccentrics, and the Opening of Old Japan

2004, PAPER, 352 PAGES, \$14.95

The fascinating tale of a tightly-knit group of late Victorian travelers, scientists and adventurers dedicated to the idea of Japan. (Item no. JPN138)

Giei Sato

Unsui, A Diary of Zen Monastic Life

1973, PAPER, 142 PAGES, \$16.95

The daily life of the monastery as depicted in 97 watercolor sketches. Giei Sato looks back at his time as an apprentice with warmth and grace. (Item no. JPN145)

Joan Stanley-Baker

Japanese Art

2000, PAPER, 223 PAGES, \$16.95

Concise, thoroughly illustrated and comprehensive, this handsome book in the "World of Art" series is a fine survey of Japanese art from the prehistoric period to modern Japan. With 167 illustrations. (Item no. JPN08)

Michiko Kimura Young, David Young

The Art of the Japanese Garden

2005, HARD COVER, 176 PAGES, \$40.00

An illustrated profile of aristocratic gardens, graveled courtyards, Zen and other Japanese gardens, featuring 250 color photos. (Item no. JPN181)

Teiji Itoh

The Gardens of Japan

1998, HARD COVER, 244 PAGES, \$60.00

A beautifully illustrated overview of the history and tradition of Japanese gardens featuring 75 color photographs, accompanying essays by professor Itoh and a guide to 50 of Japan's best-known gardens. (Item no. JPN38)

Mineko Iwasaki

Geisha, A Life

2003, PAPER, 368 PAGES, \$15.00

The memoir of a celebrated Geisha, rich in details of life in Kyoto's Gion Kobu district. Iwasaki was the chief source of information for Arthur Golden's best-selling "Memoirs of a Geisha." (Item no. JPN131)

Bruce Feiler

Learning to Bow, Inside the Heart of Japan

2004, PAPER, 321 PAGES, \$13.95

An insightful account of travels and teaching in Japan, as surprising, helpful and informative as it is funny. Feiler presents anecdotes on the rituals, personality traits and cultural peccadilloes of the Japanese. (Item no. JPN111)

David Mura

Turning Japanese, Memoirs of a Sansei

2005, PAPER, 376 PAGES, \$14.00

The riveting, wonderfully observed tale of a thoroughly American Sansei (i.e. Japanese-American), born and raised in California, who heads to Japan with his American wife. (Item no. JPN44)

Isabella Bird

Unbeaten Tracks in Japan

2000, PAPER, 400 PAGES, \$14.95

Bird's narrative of her travels in Japan in 1878, just after the country re-opened its doors to the world. She wasted little time on the cities, heading straight out to meet the peasants in their fields. (Item no. JPN94)

Arthur Golden

Memoirs of a Geisha, A Novel

1999, PAPER, 434 PAGES, \$14.95

The runaway best-selling novel about a geisha in the celebrated Gion district of Kyoto. A major feat of literary impersonation, the novel is rich in period detail and ceremony. (Item no. JPN45)

Nobuyuki Yuasa, Basho Matsuo

Narrow Road to the Deep North and Other Travel Sketches

1967, PAPER, \$11.95

These poems by the Japanese master invoke the pleasures and mystery of the cosmos manifested in the Japanese landscape. The haiku included are acknowledged as some of the best ever composed. (Item no. JPN91)

Natsuo Kirino

Out

2005, PAPER, \$12.95

In this well-received mystery, Masako Katori, a middle-aged wife and mother working the night shift at a Tokyo factory, strangles her abusive husband. (Item no. JPN196)

Shusaku Endo

The Samurai

1997, PAPER, 272 PAGES, \$12.95

This historical novel by one of Japan's best-known modern writers is set in the world of the 17th-century Samurai. Endo, a Roman Catholic, explored Christianity and morals in his many novels and stories. (Item no. JPN157)

Yasunari Kawabata, Edward G. Seidensticker

Thousand Cranes

1996, PAPER, 147 PAGES, \$12.00

This novella by the great Kawabata may be Japan's best-known literary work. It's a story of love, grief, and redemption. Kawabata's prose is as economical as the tea ceremony itself, and very beautiful. (Item no. JPN34)

Marc P. Keane

The Art of Setting Stones & Other Writings from the Japanese Garden

2002, PAPER, 196 PAGES, \$16.95

In these lyrical essays Kyoto-resident and landscape architect Marc Peter Keane takes eight gardens of his adopted home as a point of departure for reflections on nature, religion and aesthetics. (Item no. JPN124)

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