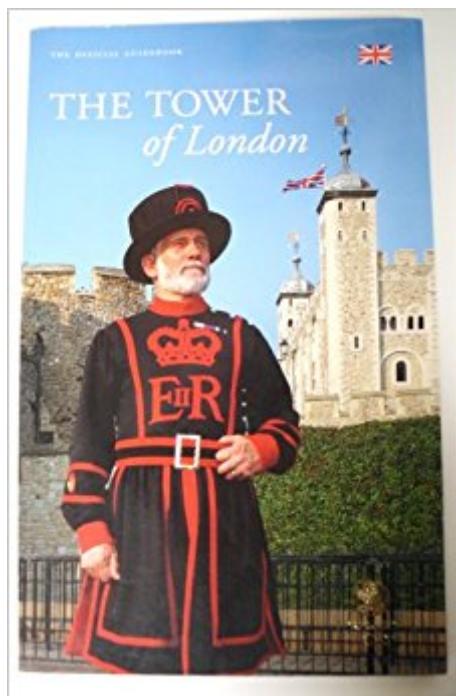


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The Official Tower Of London Guidebook



Synopsis

Royal palace, fortress, prison and place of execution; arsenal, royal mint, menagerie and jewel house - for over 900 years the Tower of London has served all these purposes. In this lavishly illustrated guide you're invited to explore this formidable citadel as it was and is now

Book Information

Paperback: 60 pages

Publisher: Historic Royal Palaces; 2000 edition edition (2000)

Language: Spanish

ASIN: B000NP8DDS

Package Dimensions: 11.5 x 7.1 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #630,635 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #105 in Books > Travel > Europe > England > London #678 in Books > Travel > Europe > Great Britain #925 in Books > Travel > Europe > General

Customer Reviews

Royal palace, fortress, prison and place of execution; arsenal, royal mint, menagerie and jewel house - for over 900 years the Tower of London has served all these purposes. In this lavishly illustrated guide you're invited to explore this formidable citadel as it was and is now

When I was in London last summer, I went on a guided tour of the city. One of the stops was a tour of the Tower of London. I got to see the Crown Jewels up close. Now that's what I call a rock collection. After I saw the Crown Jewels, I stopped in the gift shop near the exhibit and bought the book about the Crown Jewels. I didn't go to the other gift shop at the exit of the Tower, if I had I probably would have bought it while I was there. I also have the Illustrated History of the Tower of London which I just started reading. What I have read so far about the origins of the Tower are fascinating. As I get deeper into the illustrated history of the Tower and read the souvenir guide book, I'm sure that I will learn a lot from its bloody past.

The book has a very moldy smell making it very unpleasant to try to read. The fault here is not with the book but with the seller's storage procedures. The smell is strong enough that it appears that anyone picking up the book and processing it for mailing would notice the smell immediately.

I picked this as the best souvenir of the Tower. Lots of details and history await your exploration. The inside cover shows a drawing covering all the buildings and walls with names. Then using diagrams the history of the expansion of this fortress is discussed. Chapters cover the Western Entrance, the Medieval Palace, Wall Walk, Crown Jewels, Tower Green, White Tower, Fusiliers' Museum, the Wharf, and The History of the Tower. There are exterior and interior color photos. The knight's armor is not shown. The Crown Jewels are touched on but if you really want to see them, I recommend The Crown Jewels Official Guide which I wrote a review on. At the time of this writing, the price was \$3.50-10.50 which is reasonable.

This guide exceeds others on the Tower of London as far as content. You'll find information on The White Tower, The Royal Armories, The Prisoners held within the Tower, Executions, and even the Ravens. Any visit to London should require a trip to the number one castle in the world. If you'll research the Tower first with a guide like this one, you will not miss out on lesser known "must sees" like The Ceremony of the Keys and other formal displays.

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