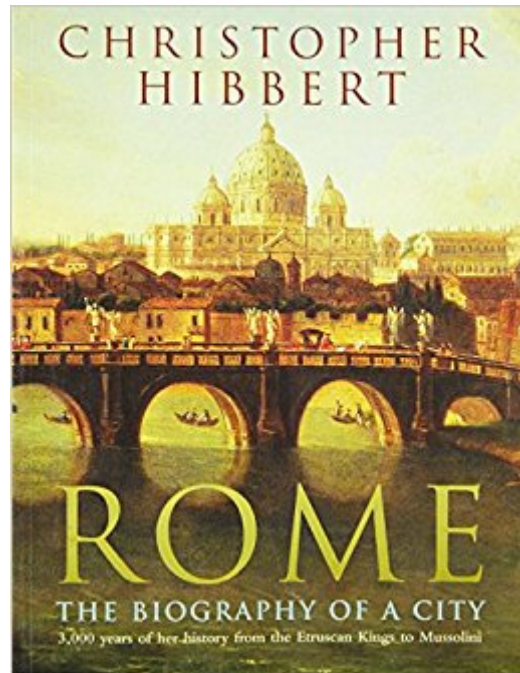




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Rome: The Biography Of A City



Synopsis

This beautifully written, informative study is a portrait, a history and a superb guide book, capturing fully the seductive beauty and the many layered past of the Eternal City. It covers 3,000 years of history from the city's quasi-mythical origins, through the Etruscan kings, the opulent glory of classical Rome, the decadence and decay of the Middle Ages and the beauty and corruption of the Renaissance, to its time at the heart of Mussolini's fascist Italy. Exploring the city's streets and buildings, peopled with popes, gladiators, emperors, noblemen and peasants, this volume details the turbulent and dramatic history of Rome in all its depravity and grandeur.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Excellent history of the City of Rome. This is a relatively short book, and it is older, but it still does a nice job of walking through the history of the city in a clear and concise manner. It's a good read for anyone interested in the entire history of Rome--not just the Ancient Rome or High Renaissance periods.

Hibbert offers one of the few overall studies on Rome, from the Tarquins to the modern era. The book is necessarily rather shallow, and makes no pretense to original scholarship. But it is informative, easy to read, and visually attractive -- its primary virtue is the breadth of its treatment. I use it as a text in my "History of the City of Rome" course (university level), along with monographs on specific periods. I would certainly recommend it as an introduction to a city where the multiple layers of History are still tangible.

Nice book

This book is best savored slowly, so you can let the information sink in. History books like this tend to be pretty dry, but it does have lots of interesting information in it. I bought it because I wanted to know more about Rome that isn't "classics", like the Roman empire. Probably a third of the book is still Roman republic/empire stuff, but then you get to find out what other Romans did when the empire went out the backside of the divine turtle we live on. Rock on, Romans. Eat that spaghetti.

Christopher Hibbert is a knowledgeable and entertaining writer of history. Having been to Rome many times, I found this book made me appreciate the Eternal City more than ever. Get this if you love Rome or are planning a trip

More than I needed to know but informative and entertaining. I bought this as a primer on Rome before vacationing there. Wish I could have gotten it on my Kindle, then I could have taken it with me for reference when I visited that area.

Well written, informative - a pleasure to read. I'm going to enjoy my upcoming trip to Rome even more now that I have a broader knowledge of its rich history.

An excellent coverage of a subject as rich and broad as history itself. Falls down only in Hibbert's cracking pace, some material seems to require more background and context

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