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New Europe

Michael Palin

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#6137504 in Books 2016-09-20 2016-09-20 Formats: Audiobook, MP3 Audio, Unabridged Original language: English PDF # 1 6.75 x .50 x 5.25l, Running time: 7 Hours Binding: MP3 CD | File size: 46.Mb

Michael Palin : New Europe before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New Europe:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read, a bit of proof-reading would help By A Reader from PAI am a big fan of Michael Palin's. His books partially inspired me to visit over 50 countries on 5 continents. Here, he

ventured a bit on my turf as i'm a native polish speaker. I think his chapter on Poland could benefit from proof-reading by a polish speaker. Unlike english, polish is almost 100% phonetic and has constant stress (on penultimate syllable). The name Lech Walesa (Lech Wa??sa) is NOT pronounced 'Lek Wayensa.' "Ch" is pronounced like ch in scottish "loch," close to h (never mute). So "Lech" is "Leh" with h pronounced. "w" is like english v. "?" is a special characted similar to english w. "?" is a nasal vowel (no english equivalent) similar to french -ain as in Pétain. So Walesa or Wa??sa is Vaw-ain-sa or vaw-??-sa. I'm pretty sure Andrej is actually Andrzej (Andrew) unless his parents preferred a russian version of the name. The spelling in the book is inconsistent as D?ugi Targ uses the special character correctly. Ulica D?ugi should be Ulica D?uga as it is female gender (like in spanish). The content is mostly good and entertaining. I learned a bit more about the war in Bosnia. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. MehBy ddwWasn't as impressed as with his other books, this seemed more like a lesson in recent European history than a travel journal. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A familiar patternBy Paul LawrenceThe pattern of Michael Palin product is pretty well established. First there is the decision to undertake another trip and where that will be. Then there is the shooting of it and the release of it on DVD and it being played on TV etc. Coinciding with it's release on DVD is usually a book written by Palin with a number of colour plates usually supplied by Palins mate Basil Pao. Lastly there is often a spoken word audio where Palin reads the book. In short I find all three useful mediums. For the New Europe book Palin sticks to his formula of a chronological retelling of the journey and this makes for very easy reading. Whether you are whiling away a Sunday afternoon or killing time on a train or plane, the compartmentalised format lends itself to a brisk feeling read. As to the subject matter itself, for this series Palin decided to fill in the gaps in his own knowledge as much as ours by selecting Eastern Europe as his target. Now of course many will quip quite rightly that this is in fact Old Europe and I think we all know what they mean. But the context Palin is using is also quite obvious, this is a huge chunk of Europe that for cultural and often political reasons has not really been taking part in the life of the greater European community. Countries that Palin - and I - grew up thinking of as basically Soviet minions adding their numbers to the glowering Communist threat now have the chance to select their own path, with all the opportunities and pitfalls that entails. What parts of this highly readable account appeals to the reader the most will very much depend on your personal tastes. Do you hanker after the old world charm of the gorgeous cities of central Europe? Do you find the rugged beauty of Turkey beguiling? Or are you more enamoured of finding out a few snippets of information about new nations like Moldova and the Ukraine? What about the combination of beautiful nature and cobblestone streets of the Baltic states or mayhaps you hanker after a summer of exploring the Eastern shores of the Adriatic? Regardless of your fancy you will find tempting morsels about them all or have your interest piqued enough to find deeper information on these areas for yourself. While I found the actual DVD series of this release one of his less inspired and less enthusing offerings I found the book more enjoyable in comparison probably due to the differing anecdotes and conversational style of Palins well worn writers pen.

In his latest voyage of discovery, Michael Palin reads his own account of a journey into a "new" Europe. He starts with a simple idea: that only a couple of hours from home is a half of Europe that is for him as unknown and unexplored as the plateau of Tibet or the vastness of the Sahara.

About the AuthorNo BioNo BioFrom AudioFileTwenty Eastern-European countries--that's a lot of languages, histories, vistas, and cups of espresso. In his latest travelogue Michael Palin crosses the borders of lands that until 15 years ago were hidden behind the Iron Curtain. One can hear his delight in digging up truffles, discovering Bulgarian Gypsies, and watching wrestling Turks. Appropriately, Palin finds a more somber tone for the aching weight of visiting Balkan mine fields, the concentration camp of Auschwitz, and the city of Dresden. ³Overwhelmed by significance,² he comments. Overall, he sees a cautiously optimistic future for the New Europe. As always, Palin escorts us armchair travelers down many a less-traveled road. We come away feeling enriched and thoroughly entertained. B.P. © AudioFile 2008, Portland, Maine-- Copyright © AudioFile, Portland, Maine