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Rick Steves, Gene Openshaw
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Rick Steves, Gene Openshaw : Rick Steves' London 2014 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rick Steves' London 2014:

37 of 37 people found the following review helpful. Rick Steves' guidebooks are the best. By Glenn Murphy We spent three weeks traveling in England, Scotland and Paris after months of planning, including reading many different tour guides. Steves' books are as thorough and detailed as you could possibly want and include many personal commentaries about how to smartly spend your money and in some cases how to not waste it on some over hyped tourist traps. We found his recommendations/opinions to be accurate in almost all situations. Another big benefit is that his guides are more compact and lighter weight due to the paper and fonts used so are great for carrying around in a small shoulder bag. For the first time, we stuck to his advice to use only one carry-on piece of luggage per person and are glad we did because we depended solely on public transportation which is far better developed in Europe due to the many differences between there and the US. He includes directions, hours and prices for many of the available sites which helped greatly in our daily planning, giving us the flexibility to make changes on the fly as opportunities presented themselves. We bought his guides for Scotland, England and London and were completely satisfied. We did not buy a Paris guide as we spent only a couple of days there for a teaser trip in hopes of a longer tour of France in the future. As Steves' states, most planning can and should be done on the Internet to take advantage of significantly lower tickets prices for advance purchases for transportation and specific sights. The drawback here is lower pricing is often due to non-refundable fares and non-changeable times so allow some flexibility in your scheduling for unanticipated delays. Our trip went very well due in part to Steves' many suggestions and insights. His sense of humor in many of his commentaries is delightful too.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful guide, great time and money saver. By werdiness This is an excellent guide for those traveling on their own or who might not be able to afford group tours around London. I used this during my week-long trip for walking tours of the city and tours of specific locations (the Tower of London and the British Museum). They are excellent highlights tours, with just enough info to keep you interested but not an overwhelming amount. Has excellent info about available restrooms and transportation. Clear and well-written. Just a few things to note: 1. READ IT BEFORE LEAVING. You will get a lot more out of it that way, and your trip will be better for it. If you're worried about "spoilers", at least read the introduction to each section. They offer helpful alternatives such as bus routes to take if you aren't willing to walk. 2. SOME TOURS ARE ALREADY NO LONGER UP TO DATE. The National Gallery currently has a big exhibition up, and some things (the Arnolfini Wedding Portrait for one) are no longer in the galleries they may have been before. So look in to the places you want to visit and update your plans accordingly. 3. I had the Kindle version of this book. I found it difficult to navigate on my smartphone, which is a Kindle problem and not an issue with the book. The paper version would have been much easier to use, especially when flipping back to maps. 4. Reading this book in your head in Rick Steves' voice dramatically improves the experience.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. London through the back door By cala Rick Steves' travel guides are a must before going to any city in Europe "through the back door", as he puts it. In this book in particular, I found a lot of useful tips. The maps are better, the photographs are updated and there are lots of interesting links to explore on-line. Besides, I enjoy Steves' sharp comments and his sense of humour describing londoners and their city. It is a guide to enjoy, and advice to follow!

You can count on Rick Steves to tell you what you really need to know when traveling in London. With the self-guided tours in this book, you'll explore historic Big Ben, bustling Trafalgar Square, and the Tower of London—home of the crown jewels. Learn how to save time and money on the Tube, and how to avoid the mobs at the Changing of the Guard. Investigate London's world-class museums, where you can trace Western civilization from the Magna Carta and Shakespeare to Van Gogh and Picasso. Venture into Soho's theater district for a glitzy musical or a delicious Indian dinner. End a great day at a neighborhood pub, sharing a pint and a chat with a friendly local. Rick's candid, humorous advice will guide you to good-value hotels and restaurants in delightful London neighborhoods. You'll learn how to get around by bus and on the Tube, and which sights are worth your time and money. More than just reviews and directions, a Rick Steves guidebook is a tour guide in your pocket.

About the Author Rick Steves has spent 100 days every year since 1973 exploring Europe. Rick produces a public television series (Rick Steves' Europe), a public radio show (Travel with Rick Steves), and an app and podcast (Rick Steves Audio Europe); writes a bestselling series of guidebooks and a nationally syndicated newspaper column; organizes guided tours that take thousands of travelers to Europe annually; and offers an information-packed website (RickSteves.com). With the help of his hardworking staff of 80 at Europe Through the Back Door—in Edmonds, Washington, just north of Seattle—Rick's mission is to make European travel fun, affordable, and culturally broadening for Americans. Gene Openshaw is a writer, composer, tour guide, and lecturer on art and history. Specializing in writing walking tours of Europe's cultural sights, Gene has coauthored eight of Rick's books and contributes to Rick's public television series. As a composer, Gene has written a full-length opera (Matter), a violin sonata, and dozens of songs. He lives near Seattle with his daughter, and roots for the Mariners in good times and bad.