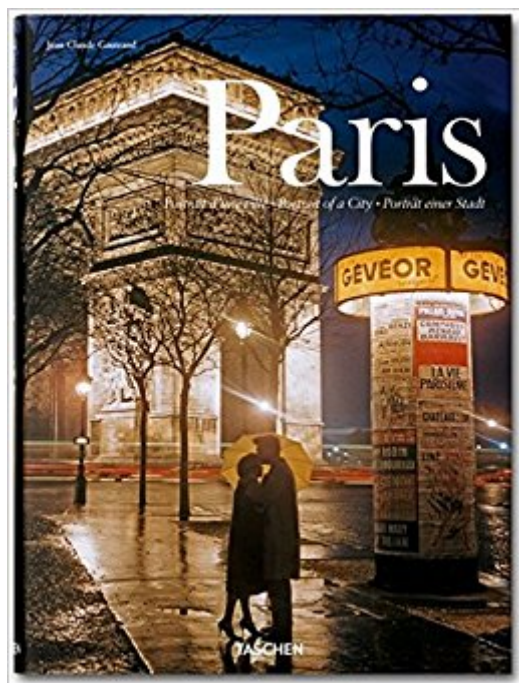


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Paris: Portrait Of A City



Synopsis

L'Air de Paris: The vivid history of the capital of love and photography — A city built on two millennia of history, Paris is entering the third century of its love story with photography. It was on the banks of the Seine that Nicéphore and Daguerre officially gave birth to this new art that has flourished ever since, developing a distinctive language and becoming a vital tool of knowledge. Paris: Portrait of a City leads us through what Goethe described as a "universal city where every step upon a bridge or a square recalls a great past, where a fragment of history is unrolled at the corner of every street." • The history of Paris is recounted in photographs ranging from Daguerre's early incunabula to the most recent images — an almost complete record of over a century and a half of transformations and a vast panorama spanning more than 600 pages and 500 photographs. This book brings together the past and the present, the monumental and the everyday, objects and people. Images captured by the most illustrious photographers — Daguerre, Marville, Atget, Lartigue, Brassai, Kertész, Ronis, Doisneau, Cartier-Bresson, and many more — but also by many unknown photographers, attempt to bottle just a little of that "Parisian air," something of that particular poetry given out by the stones and inhabitants of a constantly changing city that has inspired untold numbers of writers and artists over the ages. Presenting an exciting patchwork of images from past and present, Paris: Portrait of a City is a huge and unique photographic study that, in a way, is the true family album of all Parisians. It is to them, and to all lovers of this capital city, that this vibrant, loving, and tender testimony is dedicated. — Text in English, French, and German

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Not sure why a book would receive a downgraded review because of shipping issues, exactly. Mine arrived in pristine shape, cheaper and smarter than dragging it home on a flight from their Paris shop. All the great photographers and iconic images are represented here. Easily the best of their "Portrait of a City" books, although perhaps I am just partial to the City of Light. Easily worth 5 times the price.

This is a magnificent collection of photos of all aspects of Paris life from the earliest days of photography to today. Thank you, , for making this masterpiece available at so reasonable a price.

The format of this book is "coffee table". As such, the pictures are very generous in size and quantity. And there are many interesting period pictures, many of which I had never seen before. If you love Paris and want to see a pictorial history, then this book is highly recommended.

I love old photography. and I love Paris. it has become my favourite "floor" book, because it's so heavy I sit on the floor to look at it! I usually get a big cup of coffee and sit down and start browsing! I only left off a star because of the weight!

This is just a really wonderful series featuring big, beautiful hardcover books. Regarding Paris, I can empathize with reviewers who weren't too happy with what now appears to be the original photo choice for the dust jacket. From the looks of the listing, the Helmut Newton image of a nude model looking out over a fairly unremarkable portion of Paris has been replaced by a shot of the Moulin Rouge. I suppose that makes my copy a collectors item? Well, even if you have kids, honestly, a shot of a woman with her derriere and one breast exposed is hardly scandalous and certainly not pornographic. Crass? Cliché? Ok, but that's about it. This is otherwise an amazing photographic history of Paris and very worthy of a place on your shelf or coffee table. I've just received the New York book in this series and can't wait to order the Los Angeles one as well. As a publisher, Taschen has sacrificed...I dunno...taste? class?...in recent years. Like other art publishers, it doesn't shy away from darker themed books, even giving pride of place to human genitalia, so the original

choice of Madame Boobery for the Paris cover was hardly surprising. I'm happy to report though that for this series at least, the practice of stamping "25 Years" all over it's books to celebrate the their silver jubilee has finally been retired.

This book is a marvelous overview of art styles, architecture and history of the city of lights. Bindings and paper are all top notch as is expected of Taschen. This is a coffee table treasure to be poured over and savored for years. You'll learn something interesting on just about every page.

Don't think because the cover has a classic Helmut Newton photo that this is a book of half naked girls. It's not. It's a big, and beautiful book about Paris, full of photos organized in a timeline. I'm not going to go into depth about the material. Just buy it, grab some coffee, and start flipping the pages. You're going to love it.

Fantastic book! Another well done photography book from Taschen publishing. If you've been to Paris, this will really highlight some of the most important scenery and city landmarks not to be missed. Well done again. This book will keep you looking forward to another vacation in Paris as it does for me.

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