

Recommended France Books

General France History/Biography

Cardinal Richelieu. Anthony Levi.

A fascinating study of the man who has justifiably been called the founder of modern France.

The Gothic Cathedral. Otto Georg von Simson.

History and theory of Gothic cathedral construction, including Notre Dame in Paris and Chartres.

The New France: A Complete Guide to Contemporary French Wine. Andrew Jefford.

A comprehensive guide of French winemaking and the 14 wine-producing regions of France.

The Sun King. Nancy Mitford.

Life of King Louis XIV, from the time he transformed his father's modest hunting lodge at Versailles into Europe's most magnificent palace until his death there 54 years later.

A Traveller's History of France. Robert Cole.

General French history from the first conquests of ancient Gaul, through the Renaissance, French Revolution and the 20th century.

When in France, Do as the French Do. Ross Steele.

An entertaining guide to France's people, culture and language.

Paris

The Hunchback of Notre Dame. Victor Hugo.

The timeless love story with marvelous detail about Gothic architecture, the magnificent cathedral and 15th century Paris. Also a classic 1939 film starring Charles Laughton.

The Impressionists' Paris. Ellen Williams.

Pocket-sized guide to the homes and studios of Monet, Degas, Manet and other great impressionists.

The Louvre. Knopf Guides.

Beautiful photographs and interesting text chronicling the history of this grand building and its incredible art treasures.

A Moveable Feast. Ernest Hemingway.

Hemingway's enchanting personal memoir of 1920s Paris.

The Paris Shopping Companion. Susan S. Winkler.

A practical, purse-sized guide to the shops of Paris, including maps.

Through the Windows of Paris. Michael Webb.

Beautiful descriptions, photographs and fascinating history of 50 unique shops in Paris.

Normandy

Beyond the Myth: The Story of Joan of Arc. Polly Brooks.

A scholarly biography of France's great heroine, the 15th century "Maid of Orleans."

The Gardens at Giverny: A View of Monet's World. Stephan Shore.

A photographic representation of the gardens beloved by Claude Monet.

The Most Beautiful Villages of Normandy. Hugh Palmer.

Stunning photographs and descriptions of charming villages in the Normandy region.

Beaches of Normandy

The Battle of Normandy: 1944 The Final Verdict. Robin Neillands.

Examines the initial success of the invasion and the difficulties of the following months.

The D-Day Landing Beaches: A Guide. Georges Bernage.

An extraordinarily detailed guide to the beaches, the battles and the landmarks.

The Longest Day. Cornelius Ryan.

The classic history of the invasion by the author of *A Bridge Too Far*. Also an epic 1962 film.

Southern France – Provence & Burgundy

Cézanne and Provence. Nina Athanassoglou-Kallmyer.

An in-depth study of how the region affected the painter and his works—with lavish illustrations.

Cote d'Or: A Celebration of the Great Wines of Burgundy. Clive Coates.

A fascinating look at the region producing some of the world's most celebrated wines.

The Most Beautiful Villages of Burgundy. James Bentley.

Stunning photographs and descriptions of charming villages in France's Burgundy region.

Roman Remains of Southern France. James Bromwich.

A comprehensive guide to the extensive Roman legacy throughout southern France.

A Year in Provence and Toujours Provence. Peter Mayle.

The international bestsellers about adventures of an English couple living in Provence.

Van Gogh in Arles. Alfred Nemecek.

Describes the brief years of the great artist in Arles—when he created many of his most important works.

Cookbooks

The Cuisine of the Sun. Mireille Johnston.

Classical French cooking from Nice and Provence by a former aide to Robert F. Kennedy.



Herbes de Provence. Ethel Brennan.

Cooking with the classic herbs of southern France—lavender, thyme, sage, fennel and more.

Mastering the Art of French Cooking. Julia Child.

The definitive French cookbook by “The French Chef” herself.