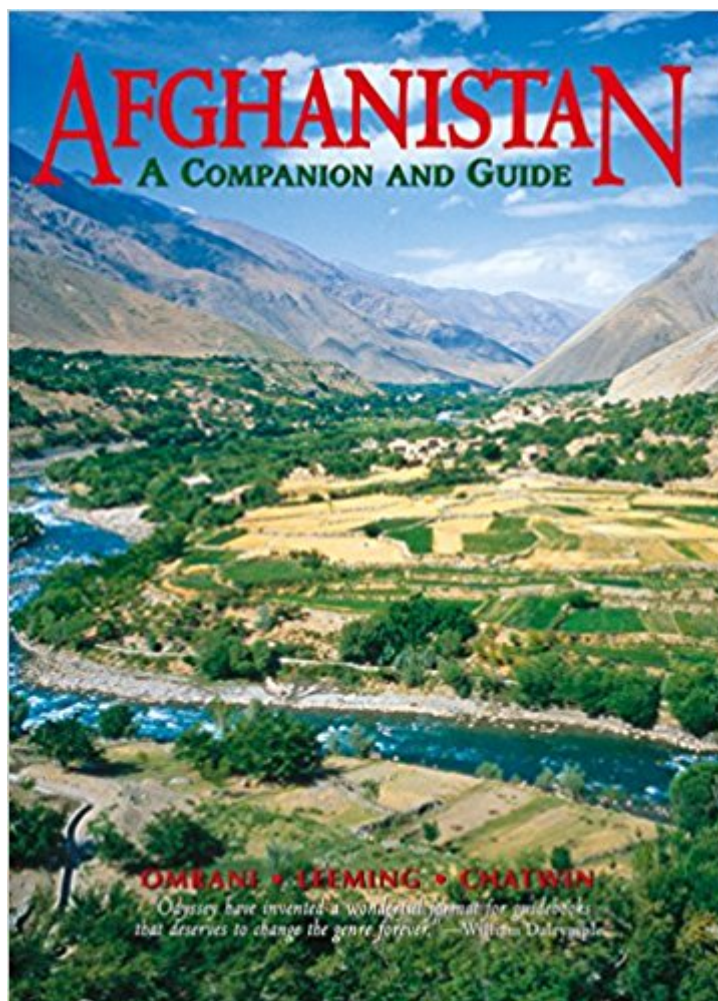


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Afghanistan: A Companion And Guide (Odyssey Illustrated Guides)



Synopsis

Thanks to 20 years of civil war and its association with terrorism, Afghanistan is often unjustly thought of in the West as a barbarous backwater. This guide dispels that image in a comprehensive introduction to 3,500 years of Afghan culture. Each chapter

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Thorough and beautifully illustrated, this book is a comprehensive and fun window into Afghan history, culture, and traditions. A must-have for travel readers and a gripping read for anyone with even a passing interest in Afghanistan.” —Khaled Hosseini

Bijan Omrani attended Lincoln College, Oxford. His first book, *Ticking Tom and the Tornado*, was published when he was 10 years old, which he followed with contributions to *The Spectator* as an undergraduate. His research interests include Euripides, mysticism, Henry Purcell and the history of the Afghan-Pakistan frontier. He is the author and editor of various works on Central Asia including *Asia Overland: Tales of Travel on the Trans-Siberian and Silk Road* (Odyssey Books & Guides), and also a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and the Royal Geographical Society. He teaches Classics at Westminster School. Matthew Leeming was educated at Trinity College, Oxford. He has written on Afghanistan for the *Times* (London), *Sunday Telegraph*, *Spectator*, and the *Literary Review*. He is based near Winchester in southern England and travels often to Kabul.

Every Odyssey Guide I have picked up was excellent -- this one is great. For up-to-date information about a country we know little about (except for alarming news stories), read it.

Afghanistan: A Companion and Guide reads like a travel novel. The book had me from the opening pages. I didn't put it down until I had read large portions of it and perused the rest. The photographs are a plus. Afghanistan has some beautiful scenery, and the photos do most of it justice. For my use, it was a great starting point looking at the country from a Western perspective. It is not a primer on life in Afghanistan, though. If you are traveling there on a military assignment, you won't see much of what is described here for the business traveler. Overall I would still suggest it for a military reader who wants to learn more about this fascinating country.

Hi, This book was printed in 2005, and it is nothing more than a rehash of what Afghanistan was back in the 60's and 70's when the author traveled the country. If you are looking for a companion guide to what Afghanistan is currently like, this book will be of no use to you. The wonderful colorful photos were taken back in the 1970's before the Russians, Taliban, and the Coalition trashed the country. The author really misrepresents her book with this misleading title!

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