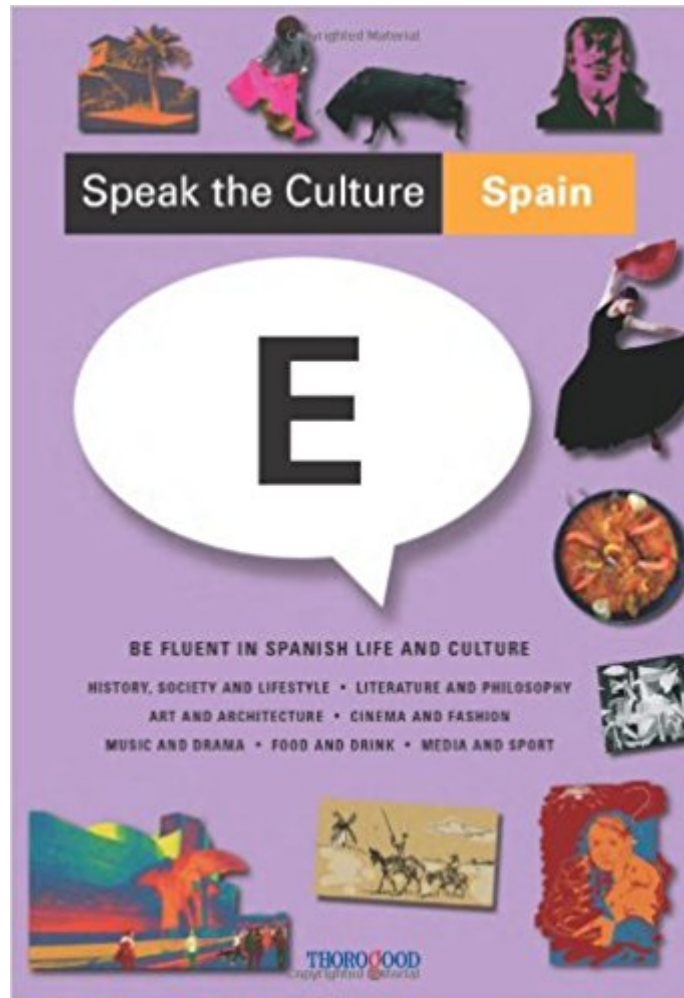




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Speak The Culture: Spain



Synopsis

* Provides a deeper, long-term understanding of the nation and its people* Designed to supplement the usual suspects • guide booksA guidebook can show you where to go, a phrasebook what to say when you get there. Only *Speak the Culture: Spain* will lead you to the nation's soul. Spain boasts a rich and sometimes misunderstood culture, itself infused with the influences of other great and distant civilizations. Spanish life, language and culture in its widest sense is a major force of growing influence. How many outside it understand its origins and significance?Through exploring the people, the movements and the lifestyles that have shaped the Spanish experience, you will come to an intimate understanding of Spain and the Spanish. There are many travel guides and manuals on living in Spain. *Speak the Culture: Spain* is different: a superbly designed, informed and entertaining insight into Spanish life and culture and who the Spanish really are. For new residents, business travelers, holidaymakers, students and lovers of Spain everywhere, *Speak the Culture: Spain* is an engaging companion and guide to an enviably rich civilization at the heart of Europe. ExcerptAs you might expect Spain's traditional vernacular architecture isn't easily pigeonholed; regionalism generates marked variation. Available building materials and, more significantly, climate have always dictated how people build their houses or outbuildings. The Spaniards' approach to living arrangements is more easily summed up. They're nothing if not sociable; while northern Europeans anxiously section off their own plot of terra firma, in Spain they seem to enjoy living on top of each other, clustered in apartments and houses around the plaza mayor. It's not like they're short of space either • a population density of around 85 per sq km is one of the lowest in Europe. •

Book Information

Series: *Speak the Culture*

Paperback: 343 pages

Publisher: Thorogood (June 30, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1854186051

ISBN-13: 978-1854186058

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.9 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #696,264 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Travel > Specialty

Travel > Students #1155 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Customs & Traditions #5407 in Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Foreign Language Dictionaries & Thesauruses

Customer Reviews

"There's more to understanding people than language. Speak the Culture: Spain is a guide to those who may be visiting the land of Spain in the future. A guide to understanding the Spanish people, their culture, and how to avoid cultural misunderstandings, as well as what to expect, the contents within are as vital as a fluent grasp of the Spanish language. Also serving as a book of history, Speak the Culture: Spain is highly recommended to armchair and onsite world travelers alike." (Midwest Book Review Travel Shelf)"Essential addition to any Spain fan's library. To get to grips with Spain and the Spanish, you have to get to grips with the culture argues a fabulous new book." (Living Spain Magazine)"When I'm off sunning my self in Espana I always make sure I look and feel the part. Hey, I may not speak the language but thanks to Thorogood's Speak the Culture I feel just as Spanish as the next person. Rather than just concentrating on useless phrases to disappoint your waiter with, this book focuses on the history and lifestyle of the country, while also looking at their architecture, food and literature. So rather than going to a gorgeous country and spending all day cemented to the beach go there with a little knowledge and embrace it." (Beauty and the Dirt)"The second in a series of books (the first was on France) that promises to unravel the DNA of a nation. It's like a breezier, brighter version of one of those Contexts sections in the back of a Rough Guide, a tapas menu with bite-sized chunks on everything from history to film." (Michael Kerr The Daily Telegraph)"Whether you own a second property in Spain or visit as a tourist, you can get much more out of your experience by exploring what makes the Spanish tick." (CachÃf Magazine)"Captures the true spirit of Spain." (Spanish Homes Magazine)

Andrew Whittaker has travelled widely and written extensively on France and the Mediterranean countries.

The unreadable orange color is used in everything but the actual text of the book. It made it annoying to read. Maybe not an issue to many but it kept me from even wanting to read the book casually. The book has nothing to do with language. It is pretty much an encyclopedia of Spanish life. In hard to read orange.

There's more to understanding people than language. "Speak the Culture: Spain" is a guide to those who may be visiting the land of Spain in the future. A guide to understanding the Spanish people, their culture, and how to avoid cultural misunderstandings, as well as what to expect, the contents within are as vital as a fluent grasp of the Spanish language. Also serving as a book of history, "Speak the Culture: Spain" is highly recommended to armchair and onsite world travelers alike.

This is a good and interesting book for anyone who's now learning Spanish and want to know more about its rich and wonderful culture including ways of life written in English.

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