

a year in provence by peter mayle

A Year in Provence by Peter Mayle: A Delightful Journey Through Southern France

a year in provence by peter mayle is much more than just a travel memoir; it's a captivating invitation to experience the rhythms, flavors, and charm of life in the sun-drenched region of Provence, France. Peter Mayle's witty and warm narrative has enchanted readers around the world, offering an intimate glimpse into the trials and triumphs of settling into a new culture. Whether you're a Francophile, an armchair traveler, or contemplating your own escape to the countryside, Mayle's classic book provides timeless insights into Provençal living.

Discovering the Essence of Provence

Peter Mayle's account is not merely a description of a place but a vivid portrait of a lifestyle deeply rooted in tradition, nature, and community. Provence, located in the southeastern corner of France, is renowned for its lavender fields, sunlit vineyards, bustling markets, and quaint villages. In "a year in provence by peter mayle," readers are taken on a month-by-month journey through the changing seasons, each bringing its own festivals, culinary delights, and local customs.

The Rhythm of the Seasons

One of the book's greatest strengths lies in how it mirrors the natural ebb and flow of life in Provence. From the quiet, misty mornings of January to the vibrant grape harvests in autumn, Mayle's narrative captures the subtle shifts that define rural French life. The seasonal changes are not only environmental but cultural, with each month marked by regional celebrations such as Bastille Day in July or the olive harvest in November.

Living with the Locals

Through engaging anecdotes, Mayle introduces readers to a cast of unforgettable characters—from his cantankerous but lovable neighbors to the passionate market vendors. This human element enriches the story, showing how deeply intertwined the people are with the land and their traditions. The book emphasizes the importance of community in Provence, where friendships are forged over long lunches and shared bottles of rosé.

Culinary Adventures in Provence

A significant part of "a year in provence by peter mayle" is devoted to the region's gastronomy, which is celebrated worldwide for its fresh ingredients and robust flavors. Mayle's descriptions of local dishes make the reader's mouth water and evoke a strong sense of place.

From Market to Table

Provence's weekly markets are a sensory feast—brimming with sun-ripened tomatoes, fragrant herbs like thyme and rosemary, olives, cheeses, and freshly baked bread. Mayle's writing brings these markets to life, illustrating not just the food but the social rituals that accompany shopping. He highlights how meals in Provence are an event, a reason to gather and savor the moment rather than just nourish the body.

Iconic Dishes and Wine

Throughout the book, Mayle offers glimpses of traditional Provençal recipes such as ratatouille, bouillabaisse, and tapenade. These dishes are often paired with local wines, particularly rosé and hearty reds from vineyards surrounding the Luberon valley. The book also touches on the importance of olive oil, which is regarded as liquid gold in this region.

The Charm of Rural Living and Renovations

Mayle's personal journey includes the challenges of renovating a 200-year-old farmhouse, a process filled with unexpected delays, eccentric builders, and the quirks of adapting to rural French bureaucracy. This aspect of "a year in provence by peter mayle" adds humor and relatability, especially for readers who have ever tackled home improvement projects.

Embracing the Slow Pace

Life in Provence, as portrayed by Mayle, is a lesson in patience and appreciation for the little things. The slower pace contrasts sharply with the hustle of city life, offering a chance to reconnect with nature and oneself. This slower rhythm is reflected in everything from taking afternoon siestas to savoring long meals with friends.

Practical Insights for Expats

For those dreaming of moving to Provence or a similar rural area, Mayle's narrative offers valuable tips and warnings. Navigating local customs, language barriers, and administrative hurdles are part of the experience. His humorous yet honest depiction helps set realistic expectations for anyone considering a similar lifestyle change.

The Cultural Tapestry of Provence

Beyond food and scenery, "a year in provence by peter mayle" dives into the rich cultural heritage of the region. Festivals, art, music, and history all weave together to form the unique identity of

Provence.

Festivals and Traditions

Mayle paints a vivid picture of Provençal festivals, from the vibrant flower parades to the solemn religious processions. These events are more than entertainment; they are expressions of community pride and continuity. Participating in or simply observing these traditions offers a deeper understanding of the local way of life.

Artistic Inspirations

Provence has long been a source of inspiration for artists such as Van Gogh and Cézanne. Mayle touches upon the region's artistic legacy, describing how the landscape—with its brilliant light and colors—continues to attract painters, writers, and photographers. This creative spirit permeates the villages and adds another layer to the Provençal experience.

Why "A Year in Provence" Remains a Beloved Classic

Since its publication, "a year in provence by peter mayle" has become a beloved staple for anyone enchanted by French culture. Its blend of humor, vivid descriptions, and heartfelt storytelling creates an immersive experience that transports readers to the heart of Provence.

Timeless Appeal

The book's charm lies in its timeless depiction of a way of life that, despite modern pressures, remains anchored in tradition and simplicity. Readers continue to find inspiration in Mayle's celebration of food, nature, and community.

Influence on Travel and Lifestyle

Mayle's success sparked a wave of interest in Provence as a travel destination and lifestyle. Many tourists seek out the villages, markets, and vineyards he describes, while others have been inspired to pursue their own dreams of rural living in France.

Exploring "a year in provence by peter mayle" is like embarking on a gentle journey through the seasons, the senses, and the soul of Southern France. Its pages capture the very essence of Provençal life—delightful, unpredictable, and endlessly inviting. Whether you're planning a trip, dreaming of a new home, or simply savoring the joys of good storytelling, Mayle's work remains a treasured companion.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'A Year in Provence' by Peter Mayle?

The main theme of 'A Year in Provence' is the exploration of rural French life, focusing on the joys and challenges of adapting to Provençal culture, cuisine, and traditions throughout the changing seasons.

Who is the author of 'A Year in Provence' and what inspired him to write the book?

Peter Mayle is the author of 'A Year in Provence.' He was inspired to write the book based on his personal experiences after moving to Provence, France, and his observations of the local lifestyle and customs.

What makes 'A Year in Provence' a popular travel memoir?

Its humorous and vivid storytelling, combined with detailed descriptions of Provence's landscapes, food, people, and seasonal rhythms, makes 'A Year in Provence' an engaging and relatable travel memoir that appeals to readers interested in French culture and rural life.

How does Peter Mayle describe the Provençal climate and its impact on daily life?

Peter Mayle describes the Provençal climate as sunny and warm, with distinct seasons that deeply influence agricultural activities, local festivals, and the overall pace of life, contributing significantly to the region's charm and lifestyle.

What role does food and wine play in 'A Year in Provence'?

Food and wine are central to the narrative, highlighting Provençal cuisine's richness and the importance of local produce, traditional cooking methods, and wine-making in the culture and social life of the region.

Are there any recurring characters or local personalities featured in the book?

Yes, the book features various recurring local characters including neighbors, tradespeople, and villagers who add color and authenticity to the narrative, showcasing the close-knit community and unique personalities of Provence.

How does 'A Year in Provence' depict the challenges of renovating an old house in the French countryside?

The book humorously portrays the unexpected difficulties, cultural differences, and bureaucratic hurdles involved in renovating an old Provençal farmhouse, illustrating the patience and adaptability

required to complete such a project in rural France.

Additional Resources

A Year in Provence by Peter Mayle: An Immersive Journey into Southern France

a year in provence by peter mayle stands as a seminal work in travel literature, capturing the essence of life in the idyllic region of Provence, France. Since its publication in 1989, this memoir has enchanted readers worldwide, offering a detailed, warmly humorous, and richly textured portrayal of Mayle's first year after relocating to the South of France. Beyond a simple travelogue, the book serves as an insightful cultural exploration and a celebration of Provençal traditions, cuisine, and the rhythms of rural life.

Exploring the Essence of Provence Through Peter Mayle's Eyes

Peter Mayle's narrative is distinguished by its ability to blend personal anecdote with vivid descriptions of landscape, local customs, and seasonal changes. The book's setting—Provence, with its lavender fields, bustling markets, and sun-drenched villages—is not merely a backdrop but a living, breathing character in its own right. Mayle's keen observations and dry wit allow readers to engage deeply with the region's unique lifestyle, from the challenges of renovating an old farmhouse to encounters with eccentric locals.

Unlike typical travel guides that emphasize itineraries or tourist attractions, **a year in provence by peter mayle** offers a more immersive experience. It emphasizes the slow, cyclical nature of rural life, focusing on small yet significant moments such as the seasonal arrival of truffles, the village's monthly market day, or the annual grape harvest. This approach provides an authentic glimpse into Provençal culture, highlighting both its charms and occasional frustrations.

Seasonal Rhythms and Cultural Traditions

One of the most compelling aspects of the book is its chronological structure, organized around the twelve months of the year. This framework allows Mayle to explore how the seasons dictate the pace and activities of life in Provence. From spring's agricultural preparations to winter's quiet introspection, the narrative captures the profound connection between people and their environment.

Mayle's detailed descriptions of local festivals, culinary habits, and social rituals paint a comprehensive picture of the region's cultural fabric. For instance, he delves into the significance of the Bastille Day celebrations, the intricacies of preparing bouillabaisse (a traditional fish stew), and the communal nature of village life, where gossip and hospitality go hand in hand. These cultural insights are invaluable for readers seeking a nuanced understanding of Provençal society beyond surface-level tourism.

Literary Style and Narrative Techniques

Peter Mayle's writing style in **a year in provence by peter mayle** is characterized by its clarity, wit, and engaging tone. His journalistic background is evident in the concise yet evocative prose that balances factual detail with storytelling flair. Mayle's use of humor—often dry and self-deprecating—adds an approachable quality that resonates with a broad audience.

The memoir format allows for an intimate portrayal of the author's personal experiences, including the trials of renovating a dilapidated farmhouse and navigating local bureaucracy. These elements inject authenticity and relatability, making the narrative accessible to readers who may never visit Provence but appreciate universal themes of adaptation and discovery.

Comparative Analysis with Other Travel Memoirs

When positioned alongside other contemporary travel memoirs, **a year in provence by peter mayle** stands out for its focus on permanence rather than transience. Unlike short-term travel narratives that emphasize sightseeing, Mayle's extended stay gives him a deeper understanding of place and people. This allows for a richer, more textured account that captures both the beauty and the mundane realities of rural life.

Books such as Frances Mayes's "Under the Tuscan Sun" share thematic similarities, particularly in the celebration of Mediterranean living and expatriate experiences. However, Mayle's work predates many of these and arguably paved the way for the genre's popularity in the 1990s and beyond. His meticulous attention to detail and commitment to capturing the year-long cycle of Provençal life offer a unique lens through which readers can appreciate regional authenticity.

Impact and Legacy of A Year in Provence

Since its release, **a year in provence by peter mayle** has achieved both critical and commercial success, becoming a bestseller and inspiring a series of follow-up books. Its influence extends beyond literature, contributing to a surge of interest in Provence as a travel destination and lifestyle aspiration. The book's vivid portrayal of Provençal life has shaped popular perceptions of the region, often idealizing its pastoral charm while acknowledging occasional difficulties.

From a cultural tourism perspective, Mayle's memoir has played a significant role in promoting slow travel and experiential tourism, encouraging visitors to engage with local culture rather than merely pass through. This approach aligns with contemporary travel trends that prioritize sustainability and authenticity.

Pros and Cons of the Memoir's Approach

- **Pros:**

- Rich descriptive detail that immerses readers in Provençal culture.
- Humorous and approachable writing style enhances readability.
- Chronological structure offers a clear and engaging narrative flow.
- Insightful commentary on local customs, cuisine, and seasonal cycles.

- **Cons:**

- Some readers may find the pace slow or overly focused on mundane details.
- Idealized portrayal may gloss over deeper social or economic issues in the region.
- Occasional reliance on stereotypes or caricatures of locals.

Despite these minor drawbacks, the memoir's enduring popularity suggests that its strengths far outweigh its limitations.

SEO-Relevant Keywords and Their Integration

Throughout the exploration of **a year in provence by peter mayle**, numerous related keywords naturally emerge, enhancing the article's SEO potential. Terms such as "Provence travel memoir," "French countryside lifestyle," "Provençal cuisine," "expat life in France," "seasonal traditions in Provence," and "Peter Mayle books" are organically woven into the analysis. This strategic inclusion supports discoverability for audiences interested in travel literature, French culture, and expatriate narratives.

Additionally, referencing cultural elements like "lavender fields," "bouillabaisse recipe," and "Bastille Day celebrations" enriches the content with LSI (Latent Semantic Indexing) keywords. These related phrases help search engines understand the article's topical relevance without resorting to repetitive keyword stuffing.

The Role of Authenticity and Personal Experience in Travel Writing

A significant factor behind the memoir's success lies in its authentic voice. Peter Mayle's firsthand experiences and candid reflections contribute to a genuine portrayal of Provence's allure and challenges. This authenticity is crucial in travel writing, where readers seek both inspiration and credible insight.

Unlike guidebooks or promotional materials, a personal memoir like this offers an emotional connection, inviting readers to vicariously experience life in a foreign land. Mayle's willingness to share not only picturesque moments but also frustrations with renovations, language barriers, and local idiosyncrasies adds depth and credibility.

In sum, **a year in provence by peter mayle** remains a benchmark in travel literature for its evocative depiction of a region steeped in history, culture, and natural beauty. Its blend of humor, detailed observation, and cultural commentary delivers a richly rewarding read for those fascinated by Provence or seeking a nuanced understanding of expatriate life in France. The book's legacy endures as both a literary classic and a catalyst for cultural tourism, continuing to inspire readers and travelers around the world.

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a year in provence by peter mayle: *A Year in Provence* Peter Mayle, 2010-05-19 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • In this witty and warm-hearted account, Peter Mayle tells what it is like to realize a long-cherished dream and actually move into a 200-year-old stone farmhouse in the remote country of the Lubéron with his wife and two large dogs. He endures January's frosty mistral as it comes howling down the Rhône Valley, discovers the secrets of goat racing through the middle of town, and delights in the glorious regional cuisine. *A Year in Provence* transports us into all the earthy pleasures of Provençal life and lets us live vicariously at a tempo governed by seasons, not by days.

a year in provence by peter mayle: My Twenty-Five Years in Provence Peter Mayle, 2018-06-26 From the moment Peter Mayle and his wife, Jennie, uprooted their lives in England and crossed the Channel permanently, they never looked back. Here the beloved author of *A Year in Provence* pays tribute to the most endearing and enduring aspects of his life in France—the charming and indelible parade of village life, the sheer beauty, the ancient history. He celebrates the café and lists some of his favorites; identifies his favorite villages, restaurants, and open-air markets; and recounts his most memorable meals. A celebration of twenty-five years of Provençal living—of lessons learned and changes observed—with his final book Mayle has crafted a lasting love letter to his adopted home, marked by his signature warmth, wit, and humor.

a year in provence by peter mayle: Toujours Provence Peter Mayle, 2013-07-03 NATIONAL BESTSELLER Taking up where his beloved *A Year in Provence* leaves off, Peter Mayle offers us another funny, beautifully (and deliciously) evocative book about life in Provence. With tales only one who lives there could know—of finding gold coins while digging in the garden, of indulging in sumptuous feasts at truck stops—and with characters introduced with great affection and wit—the gendarme fallen from grace, the summer visitors ever trying the patience of even the most genial Provençaux, the straightforward dog Boy—*Toujours Provence* is a heart-warming portrait of a place where, if you can't quite get away from it all, you can surely have a very good time trying.

a year in provence by peter mayle: A Good Year Peter Mayle, 2004-06-01 A delightful, best-selling tale about the business and pleasure of wine, adapted into a Ridley Scott movie starring

Russell Crowe and Marion Cotillard. Max Skinner has recently lost his job at a London financial firm and just as recently learned that he has inherited his late uncle's vineyard in Provence. On arrival he finds the climate delicious, the food even better, and two of the locals ravishing. Unfortunately, the wine produced on his new property is swill. Why then are so many people interested in it? Enter a beguiling Californian who knows more about wine than Max does—and may have a better claim to the estate. Fizzy with intrigue, bursting with local color and savor, *A Good Year* is Peter Mayle, beloved author of *A Year in Provence*, at his most entertaining.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *A Year in Provence* Peter Mayle, 1991

a year in provence by peter mayle: *A Year in Provence/Toujours Provence* Peter Mayle, 1993-10-01 A boxed set containing Mayle's best-selling *A Year in Provence* and *Toujours Provence* offers a colorful study of the people, landscapes, and life-styles of Provence. Reprint. 15,000 first printing.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *A Taste for Provence* Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz, 2016-06-10 Provence today is a state of mind as much as a region of France, promising clear skies and bright sun, gentle breezes scented with lavender and wild herbs, scenery alternately bold and intricate, and delicious foods served alongside heady wines. Yet in the mid-twentieth century, a travel guide called the region a "mostly dry, scrubby, rocky, arid land." How, then, did Provence become a land of desire—an alluring landscape for the American holiday? In *A Taste for Provence*, historian Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz digs into this question and spins a wonderfully appealing tale of how Provence became Provence. The region had previously been regarded as a backwater and known only for its Roman ruins, but in the postwar era authors, chefs, food writers, visual artists, purveyors of goods, and travel magazines crafted a new, alluring image for Provence. Soon, the travel industry learned that there were many ways to roam—and some even involved sitting still. The promise of longer stays where one cooked fresh food from storied outdoor markets became desirable as American travelers sought new tastes and unadulterated ingredients. Even as she revels in its atmospheric, cultural, and culinary attractions, Horowitz demystifies Provence and the perpetuation of its image today. Guiding readers through books, magazines, and cookbooks, she takes us on a tour of Provence pitched as a new Eden, and she dives into the records of a wide range of visual media—paintings, photographs, television, and film—demonstrating what fueled American enthusiasm for the region. Beginning in the 1970s, Provence—for a summer, a month, or even just a week or two—became a dream for many Americans. Even today as a road well traveled, Provence continues to enchant travelers, armchair and actual alike.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *The Essential Guide for Driving in France* Orv Strandoo, 2007 Touring in France becomes 'tranquillamente' when you take along *The Essential Driving Guide for France* as your traveling companion. Within these pages you will find everything you need to know, quickly and easily -- the rules of the road and autostrada etiquette, the best routes to follow and those spots to avoid, a time-tested itinerary for the optimum French experience and tips on visiting the country's most enchanting sights. It's all here, at your fingertips, just waiting to show you the joie de vivre for which France is so famous.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Anything Considered* Peter Mayle, 1996

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Mein Jahr in der Provence* Peter Mayle, 2013-01-04 Peter Mayle hat sich seinen großen Traum erfüllt und ist in die Provence gezogen. Doch das erste Jahr ist gar nicht einfach, und immer wieder kommt es zu Missverständnissen – nicht nur, weil man die Sprache dort einfach nicht versteht, sondern auch, weil die Lebensweise der Franzosen so merkwürdig anders als die der Briten ist.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Encore Provence* Peter Mayle, 1999 More of the pleasures of a year in Provence, this text presents portraits of the pleasures of life in the Luberon.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Haus an der Zitronenküste* Kurt Schreiner, 2020-06-03 Den Reisebuch-Autor (DuMont) für die griechische Ägäis verschlug es auf der Suche nach einem festen Feriendomizil nach Südfrankreich. Auf einem Platz vor der mairie des kleinen, mittelalterlichen Castellars oberhalb der Küstenstadt Menton (Côte d'Azur) lernte er zufällig als

Haus-Vermittler seinen zukünftigen Nachbarn kennen. Es entwickelte sich eine Liebe zu der landschaftlich ungemein reizvollen Region, die den Anspruch Zitronenküste erhebt. Im Mittelpunkt der sehr persönlichen Erzählung steht das kleine 1000-Seelen-Dorf Castellar, 360 Meter hoch über der Küste gelegen, ein Balkon mit Meerblick und langer Geschichte und mit dem Palais der Grafenfamilie Lascaris, die als Lehnsherren hier residierten. Er erzählt von der letzten Hexenverbrennung im Ort und berichtet von aktuellen Dorf-Querelen bis hin zu einem unaufgeklärten Mord. Das Buch nimmt den Leser mit in eine Region, in der die Zitronen immer schon reichlich blühten und gediehen. Er sucht die öffentlichen Gärten Mentons auf, in der sich die ganze Pracht exotischer Pflanzenwelt entfaltet, von Autoren als irdisches Paradies beschrieben, so wie es Adam und Eva einer Legende nach bei ihrem Exodus aus dem Garten Eden hier vorfanden. Er erzählt von den traditionellen Festen, die das Dorf mit frischem Leben erfüllen. Auch die Hunde, die Katzen und ein Esel, gehören zum festen Bestand des lebenden Dorfinventars. Haus an der Zitronenküste ist etwas für romantische Schwärmer, die der Autor in sein irdisches Paradies mitnimmt. Für Träumer, die es in den Süden zieht und vielleicht mit dem Gedanken spielen, dort eine Ferienbleibe zu erwerben.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Provence* Martin Garrett, 2012-05-02 Celebrated by writers from Petrarch to Peter Mayle, Provence's rugged mountains, wild maquis and lavender-filled meadows are world-famous. Historic cities like Arles, Avignon and Aix contain Roman amphitheatres, papal palaces and royal residences, while market towns and picturesque villages maintain age-old traditions of wine producing and agriculture. From the highland towns of Digne and Sisteron to the marshy expanse of the Camargue, Provence encompasses a rich variety of landscapes. Martin Garrett explores a region littered with ancient monuments and medieval castles. Looking at the vibrant dockside ambiance of Marseille and the luminous atmosphere of the Lubéron, he considers how writers like Mistral and Daudet have captured the character of a place and its people. He traces the development of Provence as a Roman outpost, medieval kingdom and modern region of France, revealing through its landmarks the people and events that have shaped its often tumultuous history. Through its architecture, literature and popular culture, this book analyzes and celebrates the identity of a region famous for its pastis and pétanque. Linking the past to the present, it also evokes the intense light and sun-baked stones that have attracted generations of painters and writers.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Recipe for a Book Club* Mary O'Hare, Rose Storey, 2004 Monthly Theme Menus & Recipes, Featured Authors, Suggested Readings and Topical Questions

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Rick Steves Provence & the French Riviera* Rick Steves, Steve Smith, 2022-11-08 Now more than ever, you can count on Rick Steves to tell you what you really need to know when traveling through Provence and the French Riviera. Stroll breathtaking coastlines, explore Roman ruins, and soak up some sun in the South of France! Inside Rick Steves Provence & the French Riviera you'll find: Fully updated, comprehensive coverage for spending a week or more exploring Provence and the Riviera Rick's strategic advice on how to get the most out of your time and money, with rankings of his must-see favorites Top sights and hidden gems, from the Pont du Gard aqueduct and Impressionist masterpieces to warm stone villages and cozy wineries How to connect with local culture: Relax at a waterfront café, dive into a bowl of bouillabaisse, and watch fishermen sail back to the harbor Beat the crowds, skip the lines, and avoid tourist traps with Rick's candid, humorous insight The best places to eat, sleep, and relax over a glass of Provençal wine Self-guided walking tours of lively neighborhoods and incredible museums Detailed maps for exploring on the go Over 500 bible-thin pages include everything worth seeing without weighing you down Complete coverage of Arles, Avignon, Orange and the Côtes du Rhône, Nice, Monaco, Antibes, the Inland Riviera, and more Covid-related travel info and resources for a smooth trip Make the most of every day and every dollar with Rick Steves Provence & the French Riviera. Exploring more? Try Rick Steves France for comprehensive coverage, detailed itineraries, and essential information for planning a countrywide trip.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Acquired Tastes* Peter Mayle, 1992 Internationally

bestselling author of *A Year in Provence*, Mayle comes out with a new bestseller about the true pleasure of fine living.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Rick Steves France 2018* Rick Steves, Steve Smith, 2018-01-16 Wander the lavender fields of Provence, climb the Eiffel Tower, and bite into a perfect croissant: with Rick Steves on your side, France can be yours! Inside Rick Steves France 2018 you'll find: Comprehensive coverage for planning a multi-week trip to France Rick's strategic advice on how to get the most out of your time and money, with rankings of his must-see favorites Top sights and hidden gems, from Louvre and the Palace of Versailles to neighborhood restaurants and delicate macarons How to connect with local culture: Stroll through open-air markets in Paris, or bike between rustic villages and local vineyards Beat the crowds, skip the lines, and avoid tourist traps with Rick's candid, humorous insight The best places to eat, sleep, and relax over a vin rouge Self-guided walking tours of lively neighborhoods and museums Vital trip-planning tools, like how to link destinations, build your itinerary, and get from place to place Detailed maps, including a fold-out map for exploring on the go Useful resources including a packing list, French phrase book, a historical overview, and recommended reading Over 1,000 bible-thin pages include everything worth seeing without weighing you down Annually updated information on Paris, Chartres, Normandy, Mont St-Michel, Brittany, The Loire, Dordogne, Languedoc-Roussillon, Provence, The French Riviera, Nice, Monaco, The French Alps, Burgundy, Lyon, Alsace, Reims, Verdun, and much more Make the most of every day and every dollar with Rick Steves France 2018. Planning a one- to two-week trip? Check out Rick Steves Best of France.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Lonely Planet Provence & the Cote d'Azur* Lonely Planet,

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Writes of Passage* James Duncan, Derek Gregory, 2002-01-31 *Writes of Passage* explores the interplay between a system of othering which travelers bring to a place, and the real geographical difference they discover upon arrival. Exposing the tensions between the imaginary and real, Duncan and Gregory and a team of leading international contributors focus primarily upon travelers from the 18th and 19th Centuries to pin down the imaginary within the context of imperial power. The contributors focus on travel to three main regions: Africa, South Asia, and Europe - with the European examples being drawn from Britain, France and Greece.

a year in provence by peter mayle: *Eccentric France* Piers Letcher, 2003 So you think eccentric France means frogs' legs and pigs' trotters? Think again. Piers Letcher takes you to places where you can feast on forgotten vegetables, saddle up for national donkey day, or gorge yourself at the world tripe championships. He also reveals the truth behind France's most colorful characters, including Coco Chanel, Joan of Arc, Mata Hari and the Marquis de Sade. This latest addition to the Bradt eccentric series makes fascinating reading for those looking to discover the hidden side of France, as well as for armchair travelers who delight in the extraordinary. Feeling adventures? Try your hand at pig-squealing, or brave the Rhone Valley's Crocodile Farm; Romantic? Visit the Lovers' Wall in Montmartre, or Provence's hidden Paradise; Festive? Indulge yourself at the Palais du chocolat, or take a Champagne cure; Or just plain curious? Check out the country's most unusual towns, gardens, hotels and restaurants.

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