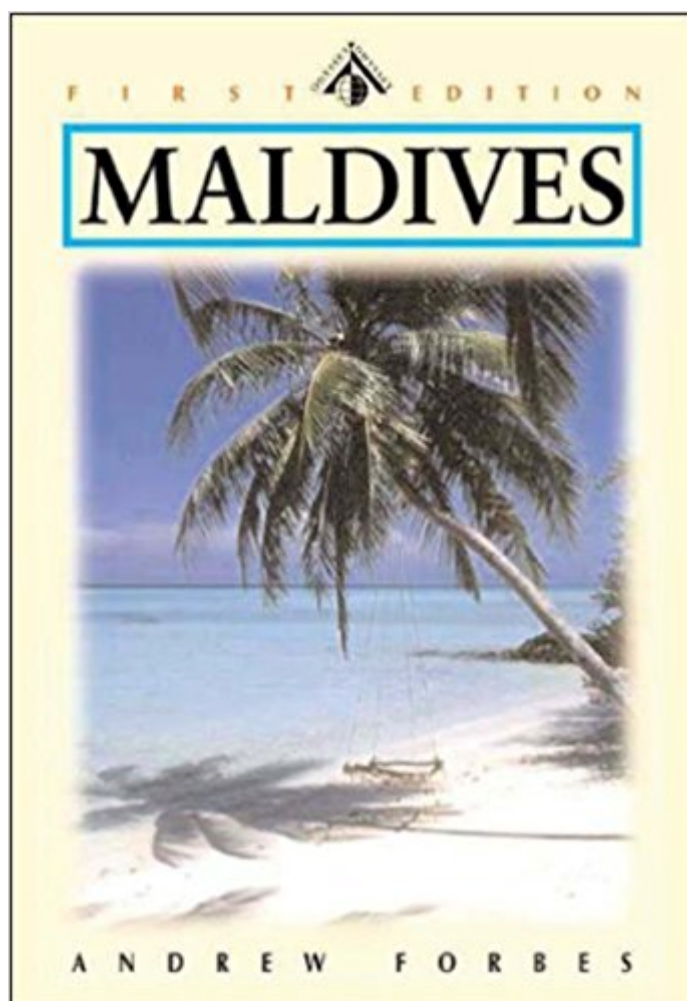


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Maldives: Kingdom Of A Thousand Isles, First Edition (Odyssey Illustrated Guide)



Synopsis

An idyllic marine retreat brought to life through sumptuous color photography and crisp, knowledgeable text. Sometimes known as "The Paradise Isles," the Maldives are made up of hundreds of idyllic islands that are famed for their tropical beaches, coral

Book Information

Series: Odyssey Guides Maldives

Paperback: 228 pages

Publisher: Odyssey Books & Maps; 1 edition (February 16, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9622177107

ISBN-13: 978-9622177109

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #4,566,948 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Books > Travel > Asia > Maldives #1337 in Books > Travel > Food, Lodging & Transportation > Hotels & Inns #2211 in Books > Travel > Asia > India > General

Customer Reviews

Andrew Forbes graduated in Chinese Studies at the University of Leeds before going on to complete an MA in Islamic Studies and a Ph.D. in Central Asian History. He first visited the Maldives in 1976 and has traveled extensively throughout the archipelago, including a four-month period collecting traditional artifacts for the Museum of Mankind in London. Forbes has written about the Maldives for numerous academic journals such as South Asia, Archipel, The Geographical Magazine and the Encyclopaedia of Islam, as well as for the Guardian, Far Eastern Economic Review, Asian Wall Street Journal and Hemispheres. He is currently editor of Crescent Press Agency and a Senior Associate Member of St Anthony's College, Oxford.

Precious little is written on the Maldives besides guide books on posh resorts. This book goes a long way toward filling that gap. The author is well read on the subject and has spent considerable time travelling around the archipelago. He provides fairly exhaustive historical and cultural analyses. He is a bit weaker on the political and economic aspects. In addition to the main body of the book, he reprints a series of essays he has previously published in many journals and newspapers over

the years. These are usually interesting and relevant, and do add to the book. However they are collated in a sometimes haphazard fashion. The reader is sometimes thrown off balance as he moves from one topic to another. I would say this book is more of a reference work, to go back to for detailed information, with a good index and bibliography with suggested further reading, than a book to be read from cover to cover. Many good pictures add a lot to the book, which is printed in sturdy heavy paper and bound for durability.

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