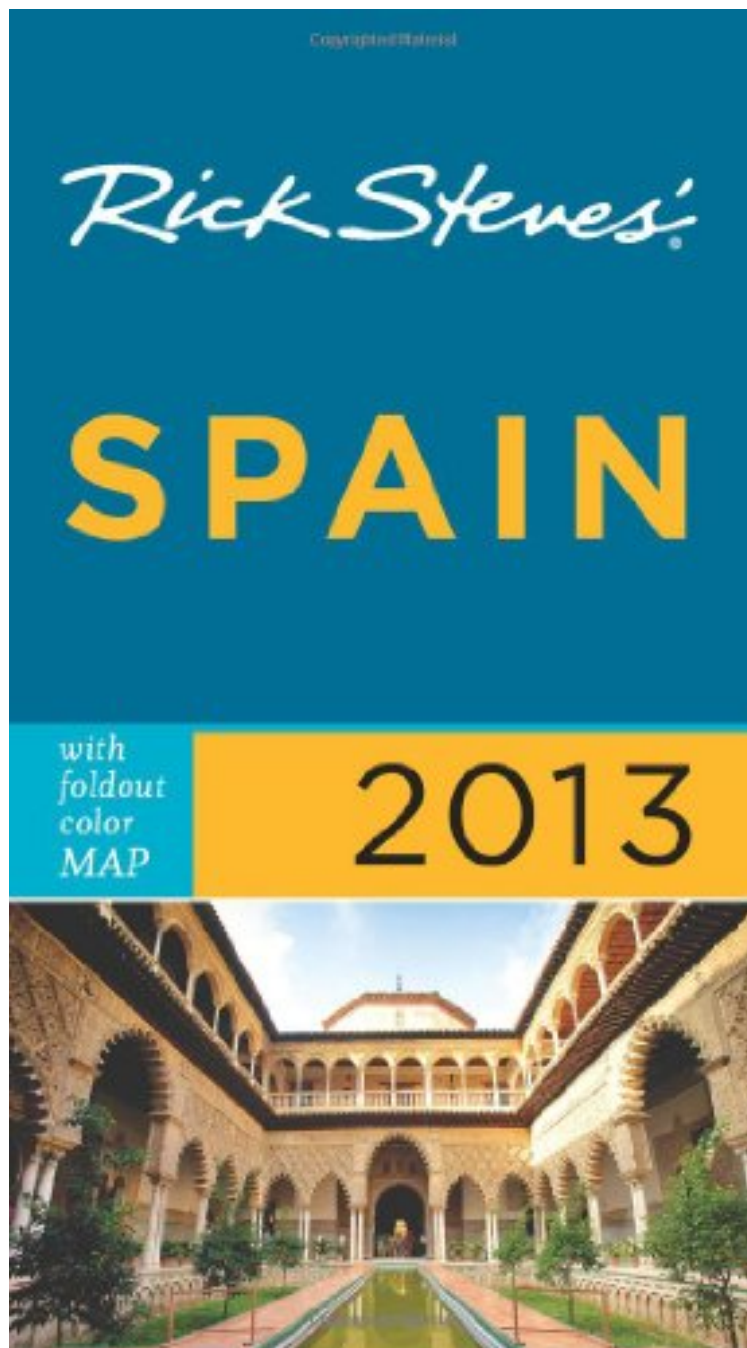


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Rick Steves : Rick Steves' Spain 2013 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my

time, and all praised Rick Steves' Spain 2013:

34 of 35 people found the following review helpful. How can a book about Spain omit entire parts of the country? By HWWomanReviewers of the 2012 version apparently commented on this glaring omission already, but, stupid me, I didn't do my research and read the 2012 edition reviews. Of course who would think that a book about Spain and not about one particular region in Spain would omit the entire east coast of Spain south of Barcelona? No mention is given to the cities of Alicante, Murcia, Cartagena or Valencia. We are planning a trip to Barcelona and then traveling down the coast to the La Manga area in the vicinity of Murcia. The book provides considerable detail about Barcelona, but aside from that, we are going to need to purchase an additional guidebook. We are very disappointed. If we find a better guidebook, we may return this one. Update: I ended up ordering the Lonely Planet Guide to Spain (not the Discovery version) and also the EyeWitness Guide. I don't want to lay any blame on Rick Steves and his staff, but it was already late in our trip planning schedule before we were able to order other guidebooks that included the southeastern part of Spain. In hindsight, we would have stayed in Valencia two nights rather than one night had we read up on the many sights. The cities of Valencia, Murcia and Cartagena are all worth a visit. Cartagena has incredible Roman ruins. Murcia has a stunning Cathedral square. More on this later. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Rick Steves is My Go To Guy By RosesRed I've used Rick Steves' books in the past, and always found them very useful and user friendly. His books are intended for people who are touring on their own - not on formal guided tours. He has a whole compliment of travel products that supplement his books, including walking tours you can download. Check out his website. He knows travel. This book on Spain is set up like his other books, so once you become familiar with the format it's easy to find the information you're looking for. Everything you need to know is included, such as information on money exchange, transportation, places to be sure to see, where to eat, where to stay. If you're looking for 5-star hotels, this is probably not the book for you. Rick's style is to be comfortable in your hotel but spend your money and time outside with the people - get to know how they live, where they eat, where they shop, etc. - but not at the exclusion of museums and other touristy spots. In fact he loves these places too. He just knows how to get around, get the best deal, and often ways to avoid standing in line for hours. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Steves is Steves By Nick A Steves recommends safe-for-american things. All the hotels we booked were from his book, and his assessments were spot on. Some good food recommendations, some not so good. His briefing on food culture, Tapas and Pinxos, was quite useful to the uninitiated. In general, we had amazing food in Spain, but I'll just say this: trust your instincts. If a place stinks of tourist trap, it is a tourist trap. If it's intimidatingly full and nobody's speaking english, GO TO THERE!!! My biggest issue is that he seems to mainly drive people to tourist attractions (duh) and I learned on this trip that I think tourist attractions are usually stupid. Museums are almost always cool, but a lot of the others, like Las Ramblas in particular, left me very cold. I had more fun meeting interesting people in Sevilla's only craft beer shop. That said, his self-guided tours of various attractions are useful. Not his fault that a lot of the tourist stuff is lame. As far as the kindle edition goes, it needs help. This is the main reason I'm giving 3 stars. Namely, the maps were of uselessly low quality. Did it not occur to the e-publishers to check that the map text can be read? They're horribly compressed images and are only useful for finding large labels. There are a lot of words that are simply obliterated by the jpeg compression. Stupid.

You can count on Rick Steves to tell you what you really need to know when traveling in Spain. In this guide, you'll find an inviting mix of exciting cities and cozy towns. Explore the lively cities of Madrid, Barcelona, and Sevilla, and follow the Route of the White Hill Towns in Andaluca's sun-drenched countryside. Experience the works of the great masters from El Greco to Picasso to Dalí and learn how to avoid the lines at the most popular museums. Self-guided walks lead you through the castles, cathedrals, and villages of this ancient but modern land. End your day with a glass of Rioja wine and a plate of tapas then join the locals for an evening of flamenco. Rick's candid, humorous advice will guide you to good-value hotels and restaurants. He'll help you plan where to go and what to see, depending on the length of your trip. You'll get up-to-date recommendations about what is worth your time and money. More than just reviews and directions, a Rick Steves guidebook is a tour guide in your pocket.