

(Get free) The Western Shores of Turkey

The Western Shores of Turkey

John Freely

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John Freely : The Western Shores of Turkey before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Western Shores of Turkey:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Top drawer!By Larry N. StoutThis book greatly exceeded my expectations, going far beyond the meager array of major group-tour stops and providing a virtual encyclopedia of historic sites, not only along Turkey's western shores, but also along the Mediterranean shore, across Lycia, Pamphylia, and Cilicia. Although the book is rather encyclopedic, Freely has a congenial style, neither bombastic nor sterile, and only inoffensively, charmingly romantic; he presents a wealth of ancient lore rather uncritically, which is necessary to refrain from inordinately expanding the already-sizeable book and to abstain from inapposite, drab argumentation. When and if I am able to travel to such extent as to follow in Freely's many footsteps here, this book will be my companion. History, geography, culture, architecture -- a literary cornucopia. [Footnote: In spanning such distances of time and space in a single volume, Freely lends uncritical credence to a great deal of ancient lore, including the Mopsos fable. So, keep an open mind on nebulous ancient history.]12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Travelogue of Western Aegean TurkeyBy Patrk71This is a great followup to the Blue Guide for Turkey but is focused on the Western Aegean shores of Turkey. Written in a style that feels like John Freely (Author) is sitting with the reader talking about his visits to many fascinating ancient sites from the western (Aegean) part of Turkey.This is not the typical guide book to the sights, but rather a visit to the many places Freely visited himself and an explanation of what he found and saw.Although out of date by a few years, the ruins and ancient cities described in the book are several thousand years old.I found a copy of the Blue Guide to Turkey and it covers other areas besides

the western part of Turkey. It is even further out of date but that matters little when you read about a city that was founded 2,500 to 3,000 years ago and the abandoned 1,500 years ago. This is a good read if you are interested in knowing what it is you are seeing when you go to the ancient sites in western Turkey. 13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Intro to Turkish history archaeology By Paul This is a personal account of travels along Turkey's Aegean shore, with a strong emphasis on history and archaeology. The author has a detailed knowledge of all the periods of Turkish history and places each archaeological site in its historical context: original inhabitants, Greeks, Romans, Persians, Byzantines, Selcuk Turks and Ottomans, into the twentieth century. He also identifies sites associated with various mythologic and biblical events and those related to Homer's Troy. It's a bit encyclopedic but never boring, and greatly enhances a trip to Turkish Anatolia.

Resting on two continents, Turkey reflects and absorbs the cultures of both East and West and nowhere is this more evident than along its Aegean and Mediterranean coasts. This is a land immersed in history and mythology: it is where Anthony met Cleopatra, where Herodotus, the *father* of history, was born and where legendary battles were fought--from Alexander the Great to Gallipoli. *The Western Shores of Turkey* is the distillation of a succession of journeys that John Freely made along this coast--an odyssey spanning a quarter of a century. By bus, car and caique, on foot and post boat, from Istanbul to Antakya (Antioch) on the Syrian border, he discovered the charm of modern Turkey and the wonders of its past. The result is both an informative guide and a remarkable travelogue for all who follow in his footsteps.

The knowledge and experience which [John Freely] has compressed into his book make it remarkably authoritative and comprehensive...the record of a journey undertaken by a man effortlessly able to convey in depth the meaning of what he sees.--Marlena Frick, Scotsman, Edinburgh*John Freely, in this highly informative book, aims to provide an informal guide to the archaeological sites and historical monuments of this beautiful part of Asia Minor...and to evoke the spirit of these places for those who are embarking upon their own odysseys...he succeeds admirably in both.*--Geoffrey Page, *Going Places**With modern map and classical atlas to hand he [John Freely] makes his way along the Aegean and Mediterranean coasts, skillfully merging past and present as he visits scores of ancient sites, quotes Herodotus and Homer, Sappho and Scripture, and provides detailed plans and useful appendices for like-minded travellers. For them it is to be hoped that a paperback version will soon be available.*--Church Times*John Freely is the perfect guide to the fabled cities of Turkey's epic past bringing alive the many civilisations that once flourished along her Mediterranean and Aegean coasts. An essential book for all visitors to Western Turkey.*--Publishing News