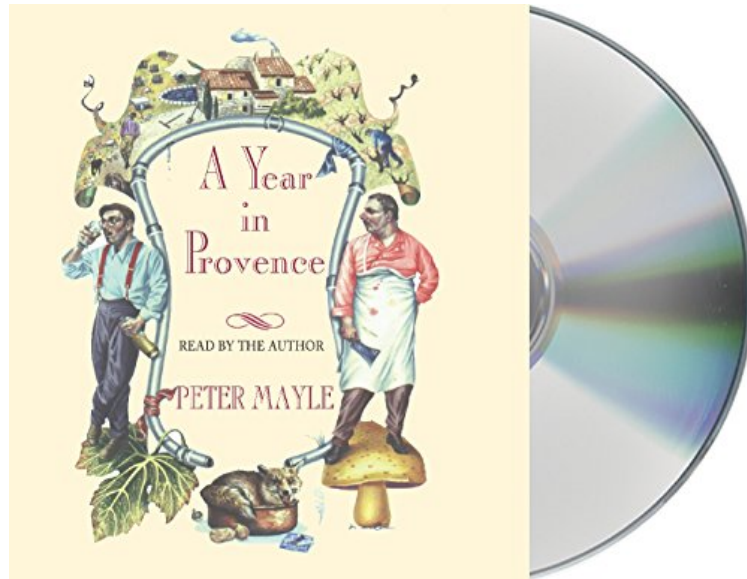


[Download pdf ebook] A Year in Provence

A Year in Provence

Peter Mayle

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Peter Mayle : A Year in Provence before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Year in Provence:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful book for insight into the area of Provence By Nana G We are traveling in Provence this summer, and a friend recommended that I find and read this book to get a feel for the area. Although it is an older book and times surely have changed somewhat in the almost twenty-five years since it was written, I found it to be highly entertaining as I read about his experiences living in the area. His style is conversational, as if he were sitting in your living room for a chat. His descriptions of the local people, and semi-quoting their conversations is, at times, hilarious. Mayle also does a credible job depicting the countryside, food, travel, and slower lifestyle of the natives of the area. I found this book so entertaining that I also read two others: *Toujours Provence*, and *Encore Provence: New Adventures in the South of France*. If you're looking for an insight into the area of Provence France from someone other than a factual travel guide, I highly recommend Peter Mayle's books. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Like a mimi vacation By C. Snyder I loved the different characters the author met and discussed. The descriptions of the towns, food and weather were all splendid. I would have appreciated an explanation of the French terms used throughout the book, but Google translate helped when I was stuck. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It was a slow read (or listen, as the ... By D. L. It was a slow read (or listen, as the case may be), but probably accurately reflects the author's first year in Provence. Not much happens, and I am not sure to what extent this being an abridged audiobook affects that. But it filled the hours driving on vacation.

More than 40,000 listeners have enjoyed this story on cassette. Now anyone who's ever dreamed of getting away from it all can enjoy the charms and challenges of *A Year in Provence* on CD! Peter Mayle and his wife had been to

Provence as tourists. They had dreamed of one day trading the long, gray winters and damp summers of England for the blue skies and sunshine of the coast of southern France. And then they made it happen. They moved into an old farmhouse at the foot of the Luberon mountains and embarked on a wonderful, if at times bewildering, new life. Among their experiences that first year: being inundated with builders and visitors, grappling with the native accent, taking part in goat races and supervising the planting of a new vineyard. Peter Mayle personally recounts the pleasures and frustrations of Provençal life--sharing in a way no one else can, the unique and endearing culture that is Provence. *A Year in Provence* was a New York Times bestseller for three years and won the British Book Awards' "Best Travel Book of the Year."

.com Who hasn't dreamed, on a mundane Monday or frowzy Friday, of chucking it all in and packing off to the south of France? Provençal cookbooks and guidebooks entice with provocatively fresh salads and azure skies, but is it really all Ctes-du-Rhne and fleur-de-lis? Author Peter Mayle answers that question with wit, warmth, and wicked candor in *A Year in Provence*, the chronicle of his own foray into Provençal domesticity. Beginning, appropriately enough, on New Year's Day with a divine luncheon in a quaint restaurant, Mayle sets the scene and pits his British sensibilities against it. "We had talked about it during the long gray winters and the damp green summers," he writes, "looked with an addict's longing at photographs of village markets and vineyards, dreamed of being woken up by the sun slanting through the bedroom window." He describes in loving detail the charming, 200-year-old farmhouse at the base of the Lubron Mountains, its thick stone walls and well-tended vines, its wine cave and wells, its shade trees and swimming pool--its lack of central heating. Indeed, not 10 pages into the book, reality comes crashing into conflict with the idyll when the Mistral, that frigid wind that ravages the Rhne valley in winter, cracks the pipes, rips tiles from the roof, and tears a window from its hinges. And that's just January. In prose that skips along lightly, Mayle records the highlights of each month, from the aberration of snow in February and the algae-filled swimming pool of March through the tourist invasions and unpredictable renovations of the summer months to a quiet Christmas alone. Throughout the book, he paints colorful portraits of his neighbors, the Provenaux grocers and butchers and farmers who amuse, confuse, and befuddle him at every turn. *A Year in Provence* is part memoir, part homeowner's manual, part travelogue, and all charming fun. --L.A. Smith
From Publishers Weekly
An account of the author's first frustrating but enlightening year in Provence opens with a memorable New Year's lunch and closes with an impromptu Christmas dinner. "In nimble prose, Mayle . . . captures the humorous aspects of visits to markets, vineyards and goat races, and hunting for mushrooms," said PW. Author tour. Illustrated. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
An amusing account of an English couple's first year as residents of rural Provence, from the unpleasantness of the winter mistral to the transgressions of summer tourists. Since the old farmhouse they purchased needed repairs, they were immediately beset with problems in dealing with the foibles of local craftspeople and officialdom, not to mention the neighbors--human and animal. Nowhere in France is the consumption of food and drink taken more seriously, and food preparation, dining, and wining anecdotes are prominent in virtually every chapter. A Francophile's delight, this is a highly entertaining book which also teaches a lesson in social life and customs. Recommended for most collections. Mayle is the author of such popular books for children as *Where Did I Come From* and *What's Happening to Me*. --Ed.- Sondra Brunhumer, Western Michigan Univ. Libs., Kalamazoo
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