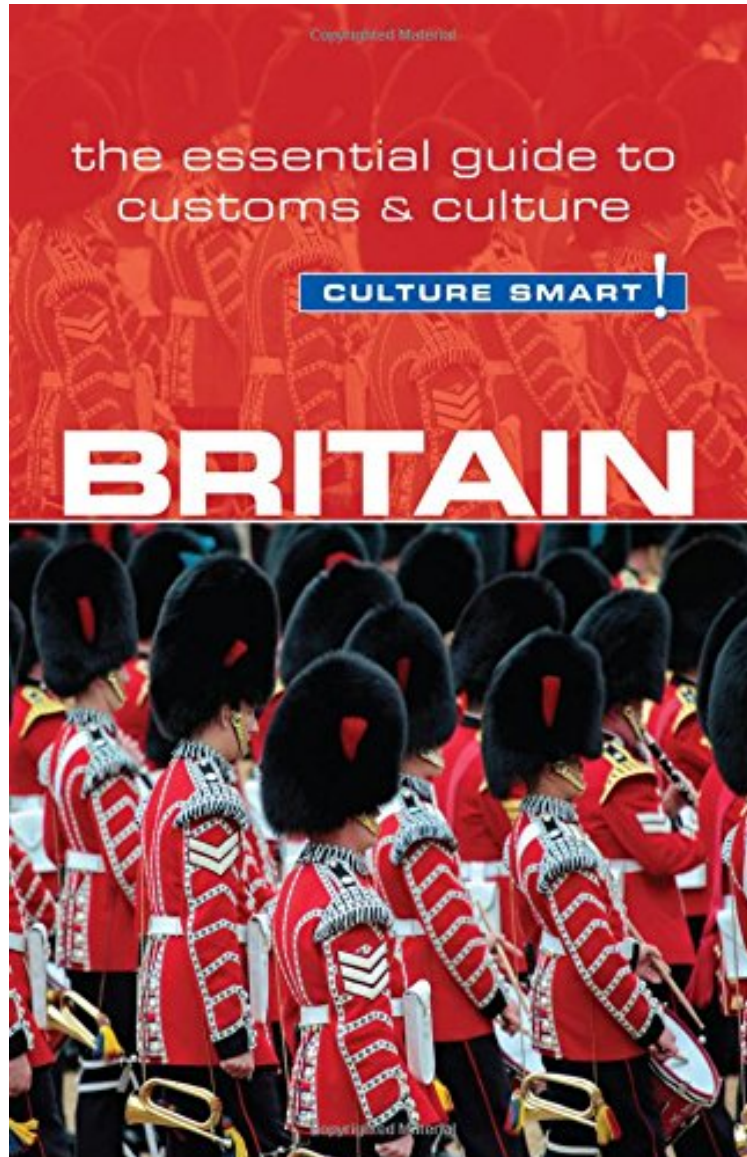


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Britain - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Paul Norbury

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Paul Norbury : Britain - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Britain - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Don't waste your money, read internet blogs and Wikipedia insteadBy Saint MichaelI purchased this book shortly after moving to the UK from the US, and it is quite useless for

helping overcome culture shock. As mentioned in a prior review, it does provide a light overview of the demographics, historical timeline, customs, faux pas, sights to see, etc, but all this could easily be found with a quick internet search or just going to Wikipedia, or buying a travel book. It is definitely not written by someone who moved here and took rigorous notes of all the social nuances and issues one experiences when being immersed in a completely new culture. The author does mention some of these issues, such as customer service in the UK (I'm from the US, so you may feel different moving here from somewhere else), but he only does so by lightly touching on service at restaurants, claiming that "the English today do not like serving others," instead of going into real depth. What do you do? What is considered rude on both service and customer sides? Customer service is entirely different at least between the UK and US (and some parts of Asia, from my limited travel there), beyond just having to get adjusted to service at restaurants, and it will affect multiple aspects of your life abroad. This is one example of many in the book in which the author does not go into sufficient depth to help one cope with the differences and overcome frustrations. Knowing the history of the UK or old customs that no one follows anymore won't help you become "Culture Smart" enough to get through all the different so-called "little things" in everyday life that truly may lead to homesickness and even depression. Don't get me wrong, I love the UK, and I'm adjusting quite well (everyone who moves abroad is going to get a bit homesick and bummed), but just saying this book WILL NOT HELP YOU. Don't waste your money, google the expat blogs and read them instead. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great Little Book to Put in the Back Pocket By Drewcephus I love this little book! It gives you the overall snapshot view of Britain. This book will help keep you from being an example of the Ugly, Ignorant American! It must be said though that this book is very basic. It is not going to give you details about any of the sections. It provides a foundational understanding of the nation. If you do not have the time to dig into a deep study of Britain, this is where you start. It includes demographics, historical timeline, customs, faux pas, sights to see, etc. However, it is not a tourist book. It doesn't give prices or hotels etc. For the price, it will save you much money and embarrassment in the long run. You can fit this little tome into your carry-on, purse or even your jacket pocket. Forget Amex, don't leave home without this guide! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good short intro By LiteraryTech It is a good short intro. His overview of British history is accurate and effective in its selective nature. I enjoyed it, and I'd recommend Kate Fox _Watching the English_ as a followup.

Cool Britannia is alive and well today. British culture is at the top of its game in fashion, popular music, art and entertainment, science and technology, new inventions, and in the rediscovered skills and excellence in engineering that make it Germany's leading trading partner in Europe. As a family of nations, the British are inventive, reflective, good humored, funny, focused, and tenacious. Today's multicultural Britain is managing the challenges of integrating minorities in a way that remains true to its fundamental values and beliefs as a fair and open society, one that continues to see itself as a model for others to follow. Since the first edition of this guide appeared, Britain has faced huge and accelerated change in its cultural, economic, and political life. In ten years immigration has added a further five million to its population. Confidence in its banks and regulatory structures was shaken by the global financial crisis. The very unity of the United Kingdom was tested in 2014 in the referendum on Scottish independence, and although those wishing to retain the Union triumphed, it prompted a debate about national identities and rights, and the prospect of a new fairer settlement for the English. While the desire of Scottish nationalists for independence remains as strong as ever, the surge in support for the UK Independence Party (which wants Britain to leave the EU) may well result in a new form of power sharing in parliament. This revised and updated edition of Culture Smart! Britain examines the impact of these issues on British society and guides the reader through the quirks, customs, values, and changing ways of British life. It is a must-read for the record-breaking numbers of visitors coming to these islands.

"Culture Smart has come to the rescue of hapless travellers." Sunday Times Travel