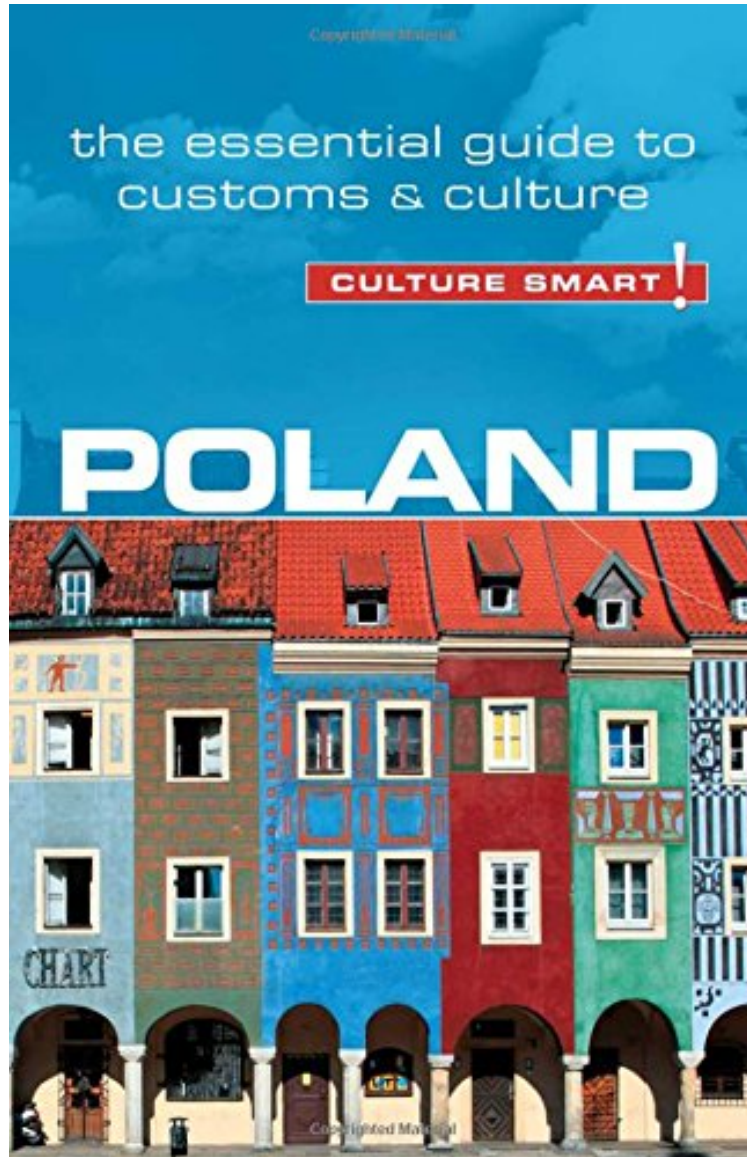


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Poland - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Greg Allen

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Helpful Preparation for Business Trip to PolandBy S. UlrichI've used the Culture Smart series to help prepare for extended business trips to new countries before and Poland was no exception. What I like about these books is they are quick reads that are precise and to the point. Obviously, this book didn't prepare me for every encounter with a Pole, but it helped put a culture's psyche and history into context to help me better understand various situations and reactions. This is not a travel book and it isn't an in-depth essay on the massive and complex Polish history. It is simply a valuable prep tool that summarizes and explains Polish culture today and includes some helpful tips on how to deal with potential cultural clashes that may be encountered both on the street and in the boardroom. It won't waste your time and I believe it to be a good value.

The changes in Polish life, culture, economics, and development have been remarkable. And the pace of change shows little sign of abating. Through twenty-five years of post-Communist transformation and ten years as a member of the European Union, some Polish cities, like Warsaw, Krakw, Poznan, and Wroclaw, have experienced an economic renaissance thanks largely to direct foreign investment, EU funds, and an influx of tourists. Much of the countryside, and cities like Ldz and Lublin, however, are shadows of their former selves. The mass emigration of Polish workers following European integration has had as significant an effect on Poland as it has on the destination countries, such as the UK. Despite a crisis of confidence in the countrys direction, a swing toward political populism, and the tragic death of the Polish president in the Smolensk disaster of 2010, Poland is the only EU member not to have suffered economic contraction in the years following the 200708 global financial crisis. That Poland continues to develop in growth and influence is a testament to the legendary Polish resolve in the face of adversity. This new, updated edition of Culture Smart! Poland provides visitors with an insight into everyday life in todays Poland. From the countrys rich and tragic history to the growth of a modern economy, from the rustic rural countryside to the Warsaw hipster scene, the reader will gain an appreciation of Polish culture much deeper than that to be found in conventional travel guides.

Culture Smart! has come to the rescue of hapless travellers, Sunday Times Travel the perfect introduction to the weird, wonderful and downright odd quirks and customs of various countries, Global Travel - full of fascinating, as well as common sense,About the AuthorGregory Allen, Ph.D., is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Bolton, specializing in cross-cultural management in Central and Eastern Europe and contemporary philosophy. He has written a number of academic publications on Poland and other countries in the region as well as magazine articles and book editorials. After twelve years living and working in Poland, Gregory now lives in Lancashire, England, although he continues to travel regularly to Poland.