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Harvard Student Agencies : Let's Go before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Let's Go:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Essential reading for students and seniors who travelBy Eibhlin MoreyIf you're visiting the U.K. and Ireland, especially on a shoestring budget, "Let's Go - Britain Ireland 2005" is a great choice. It focuses on budget travel, plus cheap free destinations. It's a superb resource for hostel reviews, and tells you exactly where the best pubs, clubs, and night spots are. If you're a student who enjoys travel, the "Let's Go" series is practically required reading.Because this book covers so much territory (literally), don't expect as many details or as much advice as more specialized guides. If all you need is an overview and important travel tips, this is the one to buy.Frankly, if your schedule is flexible and you have a little extra cash for touring, you can go to the U.K. and Ireland with just this book. Pick up tourist brochures for each area when you get there, and plan your day-by-day activities as you travel. Like many "Let's Go" guides, their Britain Ireland 2005 guidebook makes travel fun and easy.This book is an excellent reference for informal travel. It includes good maps, common sense advice, and the kinds of practical information in each chapter that can spare you hours of getting lost while looking for the bus stop or a place for a good, affordable lunch.Oh, if you're traveling with small children or want a guidebook that reviews the better hotels and BBs, "Ireland for Dummies" is probably a better choice. But, if you favor hostels and want to eat where the locals do, this Let's Go guide is worth throwing into your backpack or suitcase as you head to the U.K. and Ireland.I recommend "Let's Go - Britain and Ireland 2005" most for students and adventurous seniors, and this book will be in my own suitcase when I'm visiting the U.K. and Ireland.--reviewed by Eibhlin Morey, editor, "All Info

About Ireland" and "All Info About Literary Britain" 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Go UK! By Richard R. Carlton You're going to LOVE BRITAIN! I've spent a year in England and have made 30 visits all together. Here are my reviews of the best guides....to meet your exact needs.....I hope these are helpful and that you have a great visit! I always gauge the quality of my visit by how much I remember a year later.....this review is designed to help you get the guide that will be sure YOU remember your trip many years into the future. Travel Safe and enjoy yourself to the max! Let's Go Let's Go is a great guide series that specializes in the niche interest details that turn a trip into a great and memorable experience. Started by and for college students, these guides are famous for the details provided by people who used the book the previous year. They continue to focus on providing a great experience inexpensively. If you want to know about the top restaurants, this is not for you (use Fodor's or Michelin). Let's Go does have a bewildering array of different guides though. Here's which is what: Budget Guide is the main guide with incredibly detailed information and reviews on everything you can think of. City Guide is just as intense but restricted to the single city. Pocket Guide is even smaller and features condensed information. Map Guide's are very good maps with public transportation and some other information (like museum hours, etc.) Fodor's Fodor's is the best selling guide among Americans. They have a bewildering array of different guides. Here's which is what: The Gold Guide is the main book with good reviews of everything and lots of tours, walks, and just about everything else you could think of. It's not called the Gold guide for nothing though....it assumes you have money and are willing to spend it. See It! is a concise guide that extracts the most popular items from the Gold Guide. Pocket Guide is designed for a quick first visit. Up Close for independent travel that is cheap and well thought out. City Pack is a plastic pocket map with some guide information. Exploring is for cultural interests, lots of photos and designed to supplement the Gold guide. Map Guide Map Guide is very easy to use and has the best location information for pubs, hotels, tourist attractions, museums, churches etc. that they manage to keep fairly up to date. It's great for teaching you how to use the underground and the double decker buses. The text sections are quick overviews, not reviews, but the strong suite here is brevity, not depth. I strongly recommend this for your first few times learning your way around the classic tourist sites and experiences. Map Guide is excellent as long as you are staying pretty much in the city centre. When you get to be an old London hand, remember that the classic Londoners guide will always be an A to Z (zed) map and guide. If you want to go a bit beyond the central core of the city (perhaps to Windsor, Hampton, or further away) you really need the proper A to Z to be able to find exact routes and streets. Time Out The Time Out guides are very good. Easy reading, short reviews of restaurants, hotels, and other sites, with good public transport maps that go beyond the city centre. Many people who buy more than one guidebook end up liking this one best! Blue Guides Without doubt, the best of the walks guides.... the Blue Guide has been around since 1918 and has extremely well designed walks with lots of unique little side stops to hit on just about any interest you have. If you want to pick up the feel of the city, this is the best book to do that for you. This is one that you end up packing on your 10th trip, by which time it is well worn. Michelin Famous for their quality reviews, the Red Michelin Guides are for hotels Restaurants, the Green Michelin Guides are for main tourist destinations. However, the English language Green guide is the one most people use and it has now been supplemented with hotel and restaurant information. These are the serious review guides as the famous Michelin ratings are issued via these books. Lonely Planet Lonely Planet has City and Out To Eat Guides. They are all about the experience so they focus on doing, being, getting there, and this means they have the best detailed information, including both inexpensive and really spectacular restaurants and hotels, out-of-the-way places, weird things to see and do, the list is endless. Frommer's These are time tested guides that pride themselves on being updated annually. Although I think the guides below provide information that is in more depth or more concise (depending on what the guide is known for), if your main concern is that the guide has very little old or outdated information, then this would be a good guide for you. Rick Steves' books are not recommended. They may be an interesting read but their helpfulness is very poor. They don't do well on updates, transportation details, or anything but the first-time-tourist routine and even that is somewhat superficial on anything but the mega-major sites. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. the new 2005 edition By Thrillho Just in response to one of the other reviews, I'd like to point out that they may refer to the 2004 edition of BI. I am currently studying in Britain with the sexy new 2005 edition and I'm happy to report that, yes, the prices have been updated and, in the case of trains and buses, they tend to list the highest possible price so you may even find things cheaper than the guide says. There are guides with more extensive coverage, but none cover Britain with nearly as much style: if anything, this is certainly the coolest of the Britain travel guides.

For backpackers, cost-conscious families, first-time or seasoned travellers, these guides, updated annually, contain listings covering both cities and countryside, plus information on culture, history and people. Features include rail, city and regional maps, advice on work, study, hiking and biking, nightlife and even shopping tips. The researchers are all Harvard-Radcliffe students. They have to "make it on their own" - they have no expense accounts, no free hotel rooms and they travel on budgets as limited as do the people the books are aimed at.

"The granddaddy of budget guides" --The New York Times "Guides that penetrate the veneer of holiday brochures and

mine the grit of real life"--The Economist