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Sarah Valente Kettler, Carole Trimble
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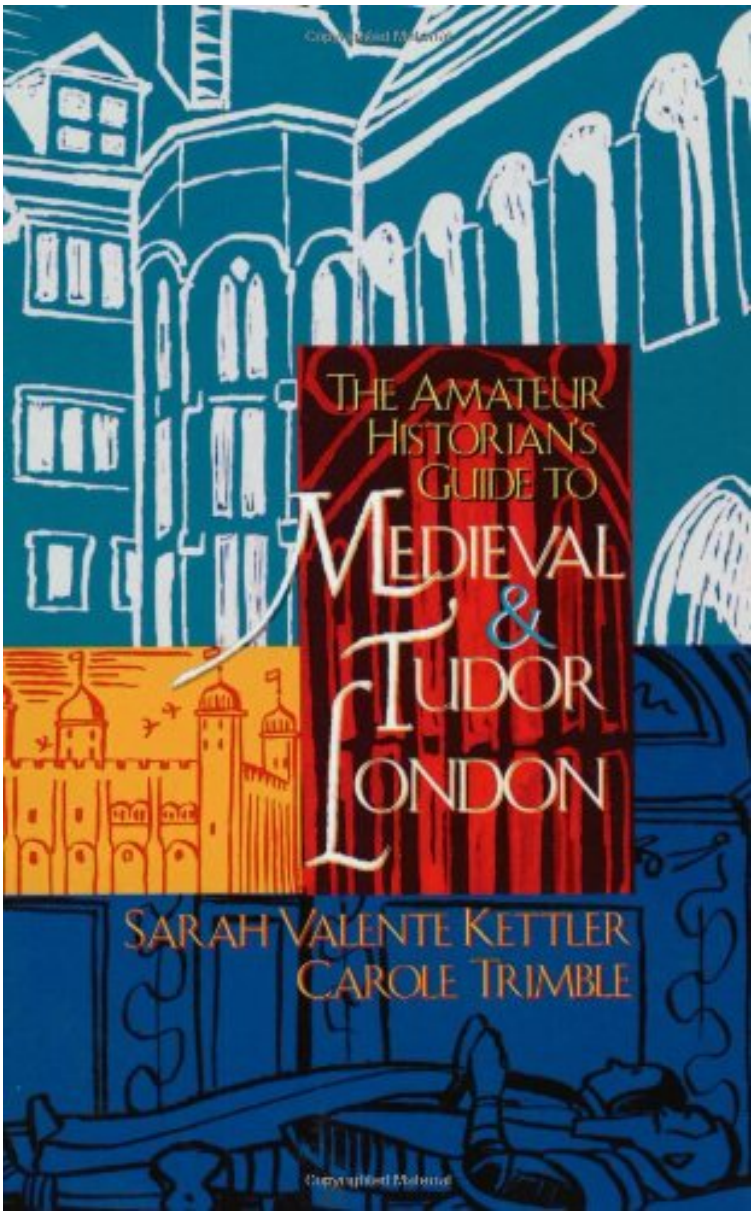

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Sarah Valente Kettler, Carole Trimble : The Amateur Historian's Guide to Medieval Tudor London (Capital Travels) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Amateur Historian's Guide to Medieval Tudor London (Capital Travels):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable style, a good read, not a true "guide book"By JLeeI very much enjoyed this book for many reasons, not just that it provides information you will never find anywhere else. The book covers many sites that I was familiar with and many that I have heard of and didn't know were accessible and many that I have never heard of. I will definitely take it with me on my upcoming trip, my 18th to London.I like the style of the book, just casual enough to let you know the authors are real people (and have really been to the sites), but not overdone, which can get annoying with other authors. In fact, I skimmed through the entire book at one sitting, reading many parts entirely, as I found it interesting.I have a few minor criticisms. (I'm still giving a five-star rating, especially since there is no other book quite like this, so invaluable.)A few things people should know in advance: there is one general map at the beginning -- the authors state you need to pick up a map in London as this is not an easy city to navigate (I use London A-Z) -- and there are no floor plans of the sites. This is good (smaller size and price) and bad (toting and flipping from book to book or purchasing high-priced on-site guides). I'm sure it would be impossible to locate a floor plan for some of the more obscure buildings, so really can't blame the authors.My main complaint (not major) is there is not a rating system, formal or informal, for sites. I know a lot of what is "worth seeing" depends on a person's individual interest, but, well, just because a site exists doesn't mean it's worth taking time out for if you just have a week or so in London. There's a big difference between "don't miss this hidden treasure" and "seek this out if you are in the neighborhood" or "best for those with a special interest in Edward IV, or stained glass windows, or gothic arches, or whatever."Once again let me state that a major plus is the feeling that the authors have really been there and know what they are talking about.By comparison, many years ago I bought a guide to London by a very well known guidebook publisher. I made a bed-and-breakfast booking on their recommendation of a charming hotel with a bright, cheery breakfast room. I won't tell you the full horrors of the place, other than to mention the tiny rooms with plywood walls and door, and the very dark basement breakfast room done up like a dungeon, complete with instruments of torture on the walls. And one shared toilet per floor, which sometimes actually flushed. I didn't just check out -- I escaped. It was very obvious that the authors of that other book had never set foot in the place, and I have more or less ignored mass-produced guidebooks ever since.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Useful if you have time to study itBy KEI bought this for my trip to London, where I wanted to retrace Tudor history. It has some interesting information but I found I would really have had to sit down and study this book to find many of the places it was talking about. That might work if I was spending a month or more there, but in the week and a half I had it just wasn't practical. If I were to go again, I would really study this book ahead of time and know where I wanted to go.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Illuminating and readableBy David Koppesergives you an appreciation of the history behind what you are looking at. Well organized into themes. goes far beyond the standard tour guidebook fair

"Medieval and Tudor London" is a thoroughly enjoyable travel guide aimed at the vast number of travelers who like to trace history as they explore the British Isles. Chapters cover the people, places and artifacts that are central to medieval Londons history (1066 to 1600) and that can be visited by amateur historian travelers today. Each entry includes details such as open hours, telephone numbers, address, and nearest Tube station, along with historical comment and description, suggestions for other sites to visit while in the neighborhood. Entries are cross-referenced with a people index and sidebars testing historical knowledge.

From Library JournalIf you are interested in Medieval and Tudor London, this exhaustive compendium of information is for you. Covering the years 1066 through 1600, the guide lists accessible historical locations in the city where the remnants of those times can still be seen. There is useful information about hours and prices, contact numbers, the nearest tube station, etc. There are also brief descriptions of other museums in London. Entries are cross-referenced with a "people" index and sidebars testing historical knowledge. Kettler and Trimble are avid amateur medieval historians and travelers. When not traveling, Kettler is founder and president of an advertising and marketing agency, as well as an officer of the Board of Trustees of the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, DC. Trimble is a public affairs specialist and founder of a consulting fund dedicated to helping Native Americans. Their highly informative book is well suited to academic libraries with a strong history department and of interest to public libraries with a well-traveled population. Sandy Knowles, Henderson Cty. P.L., NC Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. "History enthusiasts will appreciate this compendium of facts..." -- Transitions Abroad"Provides fresh insight and perspective." -- Tyler Courier Times Telegraph"These best friends and co-authors have combined their interests and expertise to create this fun book." -- Seattle Times/ Post Intelligencer"focuses on excursions for history-loving travelers." -- Publishers Weeklya travel guide to the sites and artifacts of London, covering the years 1066 to 1600. -- LaCrosse TribuneAbout the AuthorSarah Valente Kettler is founder and president of an award-winning advertising and marketing agency, as well as an officer of the Board of Trustees of the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C.Carole Trimble is the founder and president of Communications Management Strategies, a Washington-based public relations/public affairs consulting firm.