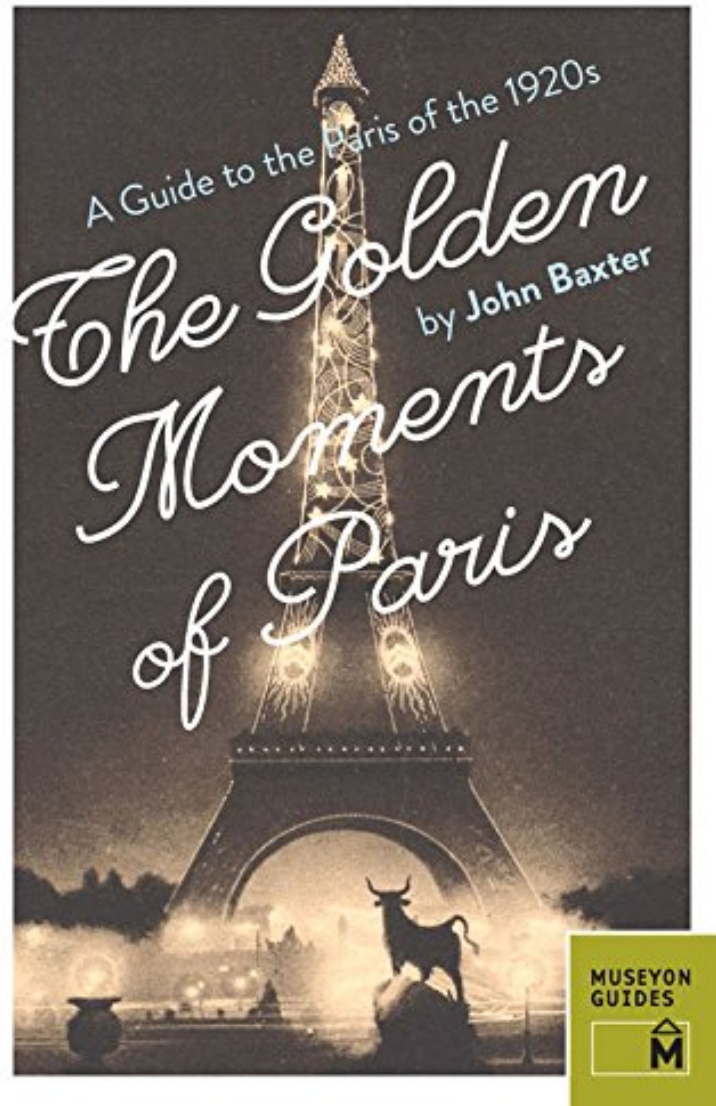


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The Golden Moments of Paris: A Guide to the Paris of the 1920s

John Baxter

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John Baxter : The Golden Moments of Paris: A Guide to the Paris of the 1920s before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Golden Moments of Paris: A Guide to the Paris of the 1920s:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Amazing detail and enticing storiesBy LynnI loved this book. Baxter knows and loves Paris. He is passionate about Paris in the early part of last century. The era of Stein, Shakespeare Co., Hemingway and Fitzgerald, Cocteau, Picasso, Matisse, Chanel. Man Ray the birth of Art Dco, the Surrealists; of a

developing caf culture, of scandals and crimes. Reading the "The Golden Moments of Paris" is like sitting down in a caf and having a chat with the writer. The structure of the book in themed chapters allows both deep and wide appreciation of Paris at that time. Each chapter offers extraordinary details, photographs and dramatic true stories. The book can be read from cover to cover or, as in a conversation, you can move back and forth as topics ebb and flow; and if you are like me to Google Maps for a quick 'streetview'! At the end of the book Baxter draws much of this together. He shares his favourite places and draws us into his Paris by outlining four walks - Seine Left Bank, Latin Quarter: Ernest Hemingway in Paris, Montparnasse and Trocadero. Baxter provides detailed directions for your walk and, along the way, directs your attention to places of note, many of which will not be found on your tourist map. This is a book, not only for those who love Paris and its cultural history of that time, but for anyone visiting Paris who wants to enjoy more than just the major tourist attractions. As Thomas Jefferson said "A walk about Paris will provide lessons in history, beauty and the point of Life" - Baxter takes us much of the way. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What Other Guidebooks Don't Tell You By Travelhound Untold reams have been written about Paris in the 1920s, but this book has information you probably won't find elsewhere. Its short 26 chapters focus on everything from perfume wars and drug use to caf society, gay life and the mass murderer who was a real-life Bluebeard. The familiar names are there, i.e., Stein, Picasso, Hemingway, Chanel, Cocteau, Dali and many more, but they're in unusual vignettes that make their stories seem fresh. There are plentiful photos and illustrations and four guided tours taking the traveler to landmarks from the fabled era. Many are gone of course but enough remain to conjure memories of Paris and the Lost Generation. The book is a colorful hybrid that will appeal to travelers, researchers or simply the curious. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Jack B. Good book with many interesting stories.

In *The Golden Moments of Paris*, John Baxter uncovers fascinating true stories about the characters that gave Paris its character in the years between World War I and World War II. Explore one of the world's most beautiful and loved cities in 26 fact-filled, humorous, and dramatic stories about the famed *Années Folles* at the turn of the 20th century in Paris. Learn about Gertrude Stein and her famous writers salon, Salvador Dali and the Surrealists, the birth of Chanel No. 5, and the antics of Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and the lost generation. Then see what these areas look like today by following along on the guided walking tours of Paris's historic neighborhoods and the cafes, clubs, and brothels that were home to the intellectuals, artists, and Bohemians, illustrated with color photographs and period maps.

Few locales and epochs sound more intriguing than Paris, France, in the sizzling 1920s. Baxter (*We'll Always Have Paris: Sex and Love in the City of Light*; *The Most Beautiful Walk in the World: A Pedestrian in Paris*; *Chronicles of Old Paris*) crafted 25 compelling stories that evoke *les années folles*, or "crazy years" when American expatriates flocked to the City of Light to partake in romance, recreational drugs, and gender-bending fashions, while rubbing elbows with luminaries from the art world. Larger-than-life and unconventional characters include author and art connoisseur Gertrude Stein, artist Pablo Picasso, ballet dancer Vaslav Nijinsky, photographer Man Ray, writers F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, jazz singer Ada "Bricktop" Smith, poet Ezra Pound, and many others. This richly illustrated and beautifully formatted work also includes four walking tours of the Seine Left Bank, the path of Ernest Hemingway from the Latin Quarter and beyond, Montparnasse, and Trocadero. Francophiles and libertines alike will savor this book as they explore Paris and walk in the footsteps of so many notable and talented individuals. The index and detailed table of contents assist with finding specific information. VERDICT For larger travel collections and readers who enjoy lesser-known details of a particular travel destination. Elizabeth Connor, Daniel Lib., The Citadel, Military Coll. of South Carolina, Charleston Library Journal Booksmack! LJXpress Prepub Paris, especially the Paris between the two world wars, continues to resonate with many people around the globe. The city has had many golden ages but probably none as famous as the 1920s: the Paris of the Lost Generation. This is the Paris of Hemingway and the Fitzgeralds, of Gertrude Stein and so many others, when the City of Light was a veritable living museum of cultural activity: literature, music, art, dance. It was a time when surrealism and cubism flourished, when small presses flourished and when conversation flowed in the city's countless cafes. Cafes, in fact, were the places not only to meet but also, notes the book's author, John Baxter, "to gossip, to plot, to seduce." A few even wrote in them (Hemingway composed some of his short stories and a portion of "The Sun Also Rises" in his famous haunts). Given the rich literary history of 1920s Paris, it seems only right that Baxter devotes an entire chapter to Sylvia Beach (whom he calls "the first lady of Bohemia") and her famous bookstore, Shakespeare and Company (its modern film equivalent appears in Richard Linklater's *Before Sunset* and Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris*). Beach, the American daughter of a Presbyterian minister, not only founded and ran the English-language bookstore, she also published James Joyce's controversial novel *Ulysses* because of its risqué subject matter, publishers in the U.S. and Britain steered clear of it. Another chapter is devoted to the bob. Women who cut their hair, Baxter reminds us, were participating in a scandalous act of rebellion, for to bob one's hair "expressed contempt not only for style but the entire social order." Other chapters are devoted to Josephine Baker's hot jazz moves, opium and absinthe, American songwriters in Paris

(including George Gershwin and Cole Porter) and the little-known yet fascinating Harry Crosby, a movie-star handsome self-destructive publisher obsessed with death. Some, like Beach, found him delightful; others, not so much (Edith Wharton, for one, dismissed him as a "sort of half-crazed cad.") Chicago Tribune By June Sawyers, Special to Tribune Newspapers