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Britain By Britrail 2012/13: Touring Britain By Train



Synopsis

Britain by BritRail “the best-selling and most respected rail guide to the British train system” is back with this revised and updated new edition. This time-tested book provides all the information you need on fares, schedules, and pass options. It is also packed with travel tips, including information on keeping costs down, traveling light, conquering jet lag, and exchanging currency. Learn how to use London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Cardiff as base cities for more than forty rail trips and day excursions to outlying areas and points of interest in England, Scotland, and Wales, from the medieval city of York to Dover and its famous cliffs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Edited 10/14/14 after my latest trip. I have two editions of this book including this one, so obviously I've found it worthwhile as I spend 1.5 - 2.5 weeks in England every year, travelling entirely by public transit, particularly trains. However, it's based on a few premises that I've found to be flawed, includes a few dud destinations you can get to by train, and leaves out a few great ones. THE PREMISE First, the fundamental premise is that you should stay in the major cities as a base. Don't get me wrong, London is essentially the hub of the British rail system, so it's pretty convenient to stay there if you are going to take trains. But London is expensive. If you can afford it, by all means stay there -- you can go on day trips and come back and see a show in the evening. If you're at all concerned about the cost of staying in London, look to base in other smaller cities across the country. I've used Portsmouth, Hastings, Canterbury, York, and Chester. Rather than spending a

week in London, consider a few nights in strategically located cities that you wanted to visit anyway. Which cities are best? Google yourself a "National Rail Network Diagram" and use the National Rail app or website (the app is a must if you are travelling by train and want the most up to date info). The other benefits of getting out of London are you'll find pubs less crowded, more regional ales, and it will be easier to encounter fresh, local produce. You haven't lived until you've had a farm fresh full English breakfast, and the best mussels I ever had were from Lyme Regis, where they could not have been any fresher. The second part of the flawed premise is getting the Britrail pass in the first place. Do yourself a favor and DO THE MATH.

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