

**PRACTICAL EUROPEAN
GUIDE:
PREPARATION, COST,
ROUTES, SIGHT-SEEING**

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Practical European guide: preparation, cost, routes, sight-seeing by M. D. Frazar

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M. D. FRAZAR

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EUROPEAN GUIDE

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SIGHT-SEEING

BY

M. D. FRAZAR

FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS IN THE TOURIST
BUSINESS



SECOND EDITION

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1907

INTRODUCTION.

The idea, still prevalent among many people, that only the favored few can enjoy the pleasure and edification of European travel, is quite a mistaken one. Not many years ago a trip abroad was a supreme luxury. To the average man or woman the hope of seeing Venice was little more than a fanciful dream. We spoke of the "Eternal City" without the idea that we might some day look upon it from the Summit of the Janiculum Hill. We knew of Paris as the Capital of the Cosmopolitan World, but a stroll on the boulevards was not within our reach, as it is to-day. For the eager demand which has developed among all classes of our citizens for a chance to visit the "Old World" has resulted in the achievement of conditions that now allow any one to plan for a journey to Europe as easily as for a trip to California or a season at a seaside or mountain resort, and with possibilities of economies in expense which will bring the cost within the limits of a very modest income.

The American people are exceptionally able to absorb and appreciate what they find in foreign lands, and it is impossible to overestimate the benefits which accrue to them and to our country from the familiar association with European

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scenes and life gained by travel. It is from these sources that we are reaping a bountiful harvest of good results in all lines of progress and refinement. Our business men bring back practical ideas and open new markets for our industries. Teachers find new inspiration in becoming familiar with scenes that were merely visionary until they wandered through them. Artists not only bring back upon their canvases their expression of the lands and life which have impressed them, but are awakened to higher ideals by the atmosphere of the glorious galleries in all the principal European cities. Our scientists are stimulated by observing the wonderful work which is being done in all the great universities, and gain broader visions from the comparison of our conditions with those of other environments. Social conditions may be improved by the study of what older countries have accomplished, and our business institutions may benefit from some infusion of the conservatism which is an essential feature of European methods. And it must be remembered that all these forces operate to a greater or less extent upon the ordinary individual who seeks and finds self-development by European travel. With intelligent observation he returns mentally broadened and deepened, quickened for new effort and achievement, and with a store of rich memories

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from which he will draw an unfailling dividend of pleasure to the end of life.

When it is suggested that Americans take too much money out of the country each year to leave in Europe, it is well to remember what equivalent it returns to us. We need just what the money buys,—a knowledge of other people and other methods, a broadening of thought, the experience of seeing how the world moves and what keeps it progressing, and, best of all, a realizing sense of how great our own new country is in its lofty ideas of right and justice, its zeal in good works, and its rare prosperity for the masses.

Our system of education encourages a taste for reading which develops individual culture, so that a constant preparation for travel—the real school of culture—is going on. It is well, therefore, that every aid should be given to all who may contemplate a trip abroad, and that it may be seen how easily such a journey can be managed with a little care. It is my aim in this book to give some practical and useful hints in regard to foreign travel,—hints that I hope may be really useful, and many of which will aim to supply necessary information not found in any of the many guide-books which compete for the prospective traveller's attention.

In essaying to give helpful information, I have

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found it necessary to specify with approval certain transportation companies, foreign agencies, hotels, and other business institutions. These have been selected from my personal knowledge of their reliability gained through my long experience in European travel, and are recommended solely for the benefit of the prospective traveller. In no case has any such name been inserted for any pecuniary consideration either to myself or to the publishers of this book.

M. D. F.

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