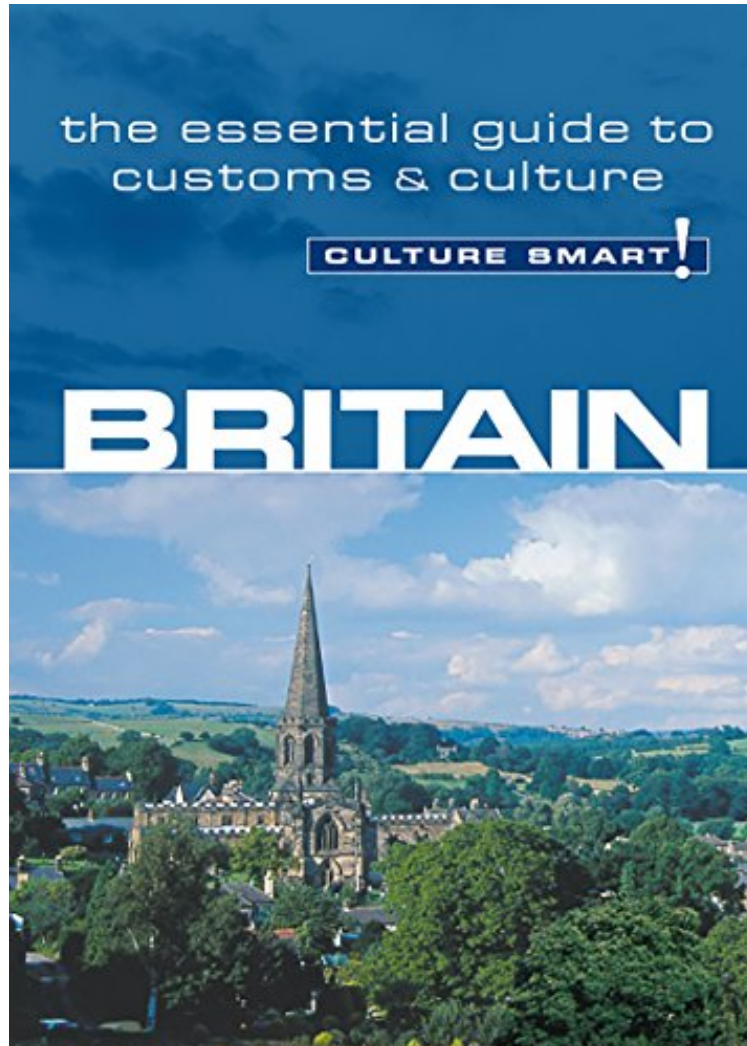


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Britain - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Paul Norbury

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Paul Norbury : Britain - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Britain - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Don't waste your money, read internet blogs and Wikipedia instead. By Saint Michael I purchased this book shortly after moving to the UK from the US, and it is quite useless for helping overcome culture shock. As mentioned in a prior review, it does provide a light overview of the demographics, historical timeline, customs, faux pas, sights to see, etc, but all this could easily be found with a quick internet search or just going to Wikipedia, or buying a travel book. It is definitely not written by someone who moved here and took rigorous notes of all the social nuances and issues one experiences when being immersed in a completely new culture. The author does mention some of these issues, such as customer service in the UK (I'm from the US, so you may feel

different moving here from somewhere else), but he only does so by lightly touching on service at restaurants, claiming that "the English today do not like serving others," instead of going into real depth. What do you do? What is considered rude on both service and customer sides? Customer service is entirely different at least between the UK and US (and some parts of Asia, from my limited travel there), beyond just having to get adjusted to service at restaurants, and it will affect multiple aspects of your life abroad. This is one example of many in the book in which the author does not go into sufficient depth to help one cope with the differences and overcome frustrations. Knowing the history of the UK or old customs that no one follows anymore won't help you become "Culture Smart" enough to get through all the different so-called "little things" in everyday life that truly may lead to homesickness and even depression. Don't get me wrong, I love the UK, and I'm adjusting quite well (everyone who moves abroad is going to get a bit homesick and bummed), but just saying this book WILL NOT HELP YOU. Don't waste your money, google the expat blogs and read them instead. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great Little Book to Put in the Back Pocket By Drewcephus I love this little book! It gives you the overall snapshot view of Britain. This book will help keep you from being an example of the Ugly, Ignorant American! It must be said though that this book is very basic. It is not going to give you details about any of the sections. It provides a foundational understanding of the nation. If you do not have the time to dig into a deep study of Britain, this is where you start. It includes demographics, historical timeline, customs, faux pas, sights to see, etc. However, it is not a tourist book. It doesn't give prices or hotels etc. For the price, it will save you much money and embarrassment in the long run. You can fit this little tome into your carry-on, purse or even your jacket pocket. Forget Amex, don't leave home without this guide! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good short intro By LiteraryTech It is a good short intro. His overview of British history is accurate and effective in its selective nature. I enjoyed it, and I'd recommend Kate Fox _Watching the English_ as a followup.

Culture Smart! provides essential information on attitudes, beliefs and behavior in different countries, ensuring that you arrive at your destination aware of basic manners, common courtesies, and sensitive issues. These concise guides tell you what to expect, how to behave, and how to establish a rapport with your hosts. This inside knowledge will enable you to steer clear of embarrassing gaffes and mistakes, feel confident in unfamiliar situations, and develop trust, friendships, and successful business relationships. Culture Smart! offers illuminating insights into the culture and society of a particular country. It will help you to turn your visit-whether on business or for pleasure-into a memorable and enriching experience. Contents include * customs, values, and traditions * historical, religious, and political background * life at home * leisure, social, and cultural life * eating and drinking * dos, don'ts, and taboos * business practices * communication, spoken and unspoken