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Havana



Synopsis

Havana. Just saying the name evokes images of bright Caribbean colors, American cars with fins from the 50s, and once-glorious buildings fallen into ruin. Now that this socialist island country is open once more, this picture will soon change. Now is the time to pause for a moment and take a closer look at Cuba's capital city. Bernhard Hartmann starts on the streets, showing us cafes, shops, and boxing clubs, but he also takes us behind the facades of the mansions, whose well-worn charms immediately captivate the viewer. Crumbling plaster, cracked walls, worn stair treads—we see all of this in the pictures, and yet these places are vibrant and alive. Traces of bourgeois life, dignified and stylish, survive despite the adversity, masterfully captured in brilliant photographs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bernhard Hartmann was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany in 1955 and taught himself landscape and architectural photography while working at a newspaper and studying law. His photographs have appeared in solo and group exhibitions and in international publications.

I was hesitant to buy this book as there wasn't a single review about it since it just came out a few months ago. All hesitation was gone once I received it. An incredibly beautiful hardback photo book with photos of Havana showing people, historic & dilapidated buildings, and more. Rather than on each page, the captions of the photos are all in the back of the book along with the year the photographs were taken. Would have been easier if they were on each page but most of the photos

in the book are full page photos so it would have been difficult to do so. Most photos were taken 2010-2016 so they are very recent. The book isn't a travel guide, it's a photography book. I found it useful as a travel resource so that I could see what places I want to see when I visit Havana.

This book is beautiful and deserves 5 stars BUT it has 22 blank pages scattered throughout. I contacted both the distributor and the publisher and neither were able (or bothered) to explain whether it was a printing fault or some new design trend I'd missed. I don't intend to return the book as it is for my own interest in Havana but it is very disappointing that a large, expensive and fabulous book has all those blank pages.

I was very disappointed with this book. There are so many blank pages throughout the book and also many other pages are half blank. Not what I expected at all. I should have listened to the other review I read that actually said the same thing. Thought it might have been a printing error in just that book. I will be returning this book.

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