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Juliette de Lavour

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#2798571 in Books 2013-08-16 Original language: French PDF # 1 8.27 x .53 x 5.911, .73 #File Name: 2812308516144 pages | File size: 21.Mb

Juliette de Lavour : Paris by Bike with Velib (Les Guides Du Chene) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paris by Bike with Velib (Les Guides Du Chene):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy Marie StoneVery good book can't wait to go back to Paris and ride the bikes and check out the bike routes3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Love Velib, the book is OK.By SageWe just spent two weeks in Paris and the Velib system is fantastic and easy to use. The book provides some ideas for trips, so it is a great start, but I think there could be some improvements. First, I wouldn't recommend taking kids on any of the specific rides, there is simply too much traffic. Definitely get the Velib app which shows you where bikes or available return slots are available. The book could expand on the app. We biked through the tourist areas late at night when the city was lit and there was less traffic, it was fabulous. The canal route

gave me a great idea, but then I followed my own route. Another tip is to use a Navigo pass, if you will be in Paris for more than a couple days. Navigo is a card which allows you to go directly to the bike without having to punch in your code and go through a bunch of screens. 10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Velibert or Enchan? By Dr. M. R. James I am a fan of the Velib system but one wonders if they really make sense for this kind of city tour. To take in the sights it is much more practical to walk--probably safer too than trying to read and rubber-neck while cycling! This is especially the case for the kind of inner-arrondissement tours described in this book where the distances are quite short. My guess is that anyone taking a Velib to do the recommended tour would end up walking the bike. And of course if one wanted to stop and linger, or enter a shop or restaurant, the Velib would be a dead-weight: you just can't leave it on the street unattended because of the very real risk of theft (for which your credit card will be debited a hefty fee), and remember you get only 30 minutes "free" after which you get charged an escalating amount for each 30 min period (designed to discourage people hogging the bikes which are intended for short rides substituting for the Metro, buses or taxi). I was somehow expecting there to be a Paris-wide map of the cycle-lanes, and maybe a guide to how safe and practical they might be (many are on the Grandes Axes and are shared with buses taxis). There are maps in the book but they are of the arty hand-drawn type and there is no indication whether any of these recommended biking tours uses a bikeway--probably because none of them do, it seems, in the absence of specific info--you are expected to just use the streets? And some of these routes are very busy with cars. (I am sure one can pick up such maps in Paris, and for example my Michelin Maps Michelin Map No. 57: Paris Atlas with Metro and Regional Connections (French and English Edition) has a velo map.) The reality is that Velib is most suited for point-to-point short trips in Paris and so, while there are applications for tourists/visitors, they are not the type of short tour in the centre as described in this book. Other than getting to slightly more distant points (eg. to the catacombs, or Pere Lachaise etc, where one would return the bike to a Velib station) I suppose one could use them to get to and then do a trip around the Bois de Boulogne Bois de Vincennes. But even there the time limit (ie. the escalating cost) might make it more expensive than you had thought. For the same reason taking a Velib for a more distant trip (eg. to Auvers-sur-Oise to see van Gogh's grave) is not advisable. (I am sure there is regular bike hire available for that.)

Seven bike path itineraries to help you discover the city in a new way, using Paris's now famous public bike rental system "Vlib" Over 15 million short term tickets sold in 5 years, 157 million trips! Vlib is a huge success and a perfect way to discover Paris A unique, official guide to Paris' public bike system "Vlib" is a contraction of "vlo" (bike) and "libert" (freedom). It's the perfect way to discover the city! Paris now has a fabulous network of bike paths and this book gives seven itineraries throughout the city for safe, fun and healthy visiting. It has maps, addresses for shopping and eating, practical information and sites to visit. There is even an interactive feature using QR codes for news and activities on the blog Vlib Me. Since it was launched in 2007 Vlib has become one of the most-used means of transport in Paris, with over 120,000 daily trips. It's a fantastic and oh-so-Parisian way to see the city: along the Seine and its monuments, off the beaten track in Batignolles Montmartre, or along the "green track" to the authentic Aligre market. Visit the city by bike with confidence and at your own pace thanks to this invaluable guide. Contents: Seven itineraries; Detailed maps with Vlib stations; Bikeways using specially designated bike paths; Classic and unusual places to visit; Gourmet breaks and shopping halts; interactive guide with QR codes.