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**From Thomas Cook Publishing : Syria (Traveller Guides) by Diana Darke (2009-12-17)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Syria (Traveller Guides) by Diana Darke (2009-12-17):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very InterestingBy Nur ArnautI liked this book because it actually makes reference into how divided the so called Arab People are in Syria in different religious groups, such as three quarters of all Arabs in Syria being Sunni Muslims.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good book Helped in my travelBy Elena GoncharovaGood bookHelped in my travel6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. a good guidebookBy Dale KinneyI just returned from two weeks in Syria with a friend who had brought Darke's guidebook with her, and we found it extremely useful. We had no trouble finding the sites and amenities she describes, and her accounts of sites outside Damascus are thorough and well-informed. She has done her homework on the history and archaeology, and the book contains dozens of helpful vignettes about daily life, customs, dress, language, religious practice, etc. that illuminated what we were seeing. The book is well-written and we enjoyed the incisive and occasionally tart asides. We were mid-level tourists, not budget, and it may be that the guide is better suited to the former. For the first-time traveler, it offered just the quantity and quality of information that were needed.