

[Free download] Transylvania and Beyond: A Travel Memoir

Transylvania and Beyond: A Travel Memoir

Dervla Murphy

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#2657648 in Books Overlook Hardcover 1993-12-01 1993-12-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.22 x .97 x 6.28l, 1.20 #File Name: 0879514728256 pages | File size: 52.Mb

Dervla Murphy : Transylvania and Beyond: A Travel Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Transylvania and Beyond: A Travel Memoir:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Dennis Lippincottinsight on the region shortly after the split from Soviets0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. TransylvaniaBy gailromaniaLove reading this book again and again. Each time I recognize scenes from new places I travel. Have purchased this book for friends who love Romania as much as I do.8 of 26 people found the following review helpful. DisappointedBy A CustomerI ordered and read this book in advance of a planned trip to Romania with a church group that is building orphanages and working to help abandoned kids there. Ms. Murphy's book was helpful in showing the deplorable state the Communist regime left Romania and one must marvel at the hospitality shown by people who are living, in many cases, in poverty unknown in the Western world. And I admired her ability to travel solo throughout the troubled nation (on foot and bicycle, no less!), and felt for her when she suffered physical injury and stolen possessions.However, I found it extremely disappointing that Ms. Murphy chooses to mock a couple of Romania's favorable cultural attributes -- she is baffled by people's "old fashion" views of limiting sexual relationships to marriage, and she sees liberalizing the country's strict abortion laws as a positive step. Finally, she is strident in her opposition to the first Gulf War, slams Margaret Thatcher, believes the United States is successfully peddling propaganda to not only a gullible Romania but gullible West as well, (I guess people in democracies with access to all sorts of information are too stupid to make up their own mind...at least if they tilt right), and late in the book she

apparently fails to understand the views held by many Americans that our nation feels blessed by God and a responsibility to share that blessing as well as His message of Salvation. If you share Ms. Murphy's liberal views, you'll probably enjoy this book. If not, then they may cast a pall on the rest of her observations, which may be quite enlightening. It would have been nice if the reader would have been warned of the author's worldview up front.

The intrepid explorer's journey to Romania. Dervla Murphy spent eight months in Transylvania - and beyond - sharing the everyday lives of ordinary Rumanians. Her book describes a journey on two levels - wandering through the remotest corners of the Carpathians, on foot or by bicycle, and into the often daunting mental terrain of a post-Communist society where nothing was quite what it seemed.

From the Back Cover While world attention was focused on Bucharest after the execution of Ceausescu, acclaimed travel writer Dervla Murphy spent eight months in Transylvania sharing the everyday lives of ordinary Romanians. Upon her arrival soon after the revolution, Murphy found a nation both exhilarated and bewildered; unlike other East Europeans, the Romanians had had no warning that they were about to be liberated. During a return visit in 1991, she noticed a profound change in the national mood. Candid and eye-opening, *Transylvania and Beyond* describes a journey on two levels - wandering through the remotest corners of the Carpathians, on foot or by bicycle, and into the often daunting mental terrain of a post-Communist society where nothing is quite as it seems. Murphy was overwhelmed by the warmth of the hospitality she received. In urban blocs, small towns and traditional villages she spent time with teachers, factory-workers, writers, farmers, professors, engineers, vets, army officers, shepherds, students and doctors. As they revealed their hopes, fears and prejudices to her, Dervla gained some unexpected insights into what she calls "one of Europe's least European countries". About the Author Dervla Murphy has written more than twenty books recounting her adventures all over the world on foot, mule, bicycle, and just about every other conveyance imaginable. Her books *Full Tilt*, *Eight Feet in the Andes*, *The Waiting Land*, *Muddling Through in Madagascar*, *On a Shoestring to Coorg*, *Cameroon with Egbert*, *Transylvannia and Beyond*, *The Ukimwi Road*, and *South from the Limpopo* are available from The Overlook Press.