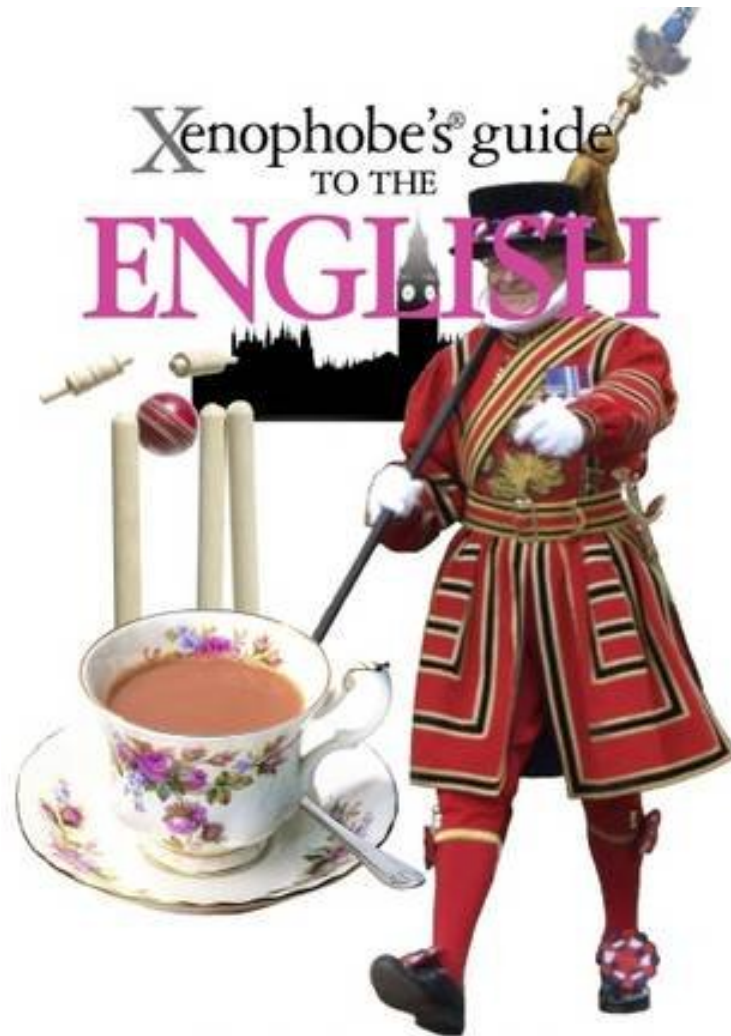


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Xenophobe's Guide to the English

Antony Miall, David Milsted

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A frank and amusing look
at what makes the English ENGLISH

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Antony Miall, David Milsted : Xenophobe's Guide to the English before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Xenophobe's Guide to the English:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Witty and informative guide to the culture of specific countries By kanakukkula I look forward to the publication of this xenophobe series--written informatively by authors who seem to know the culture they write about. A witty and realistic evaluation of the positives and negatives of specific countries.

I've given several books in this series as gifts, and all recipients like them, and find they are true to their experience with specific countries. Will continue to buy more as published in this series. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Xenophobe's Guide to the English By A. Kinnunen This one is also very close to the truth, more like 95%. In my opinion the Brits have the best sense of humor, the international Mr Bean, Benny Hill, Dad's Army, Allo Allo... The Brits are very good on popular music and film making, far better than Americans. England is a Country run by the Foreigners, and therefore the present trend seems to be that the natives are becoming more and more scared of the Foreigners, but the truth is that 'we all stand together' and make the Britain even Greater. The real Brits have a very good hearts, very friendly and always there to help. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Mediocre By Judith The goal of this book is to tell us about the English, and make us laugh while doing so. It pretty much fails on both counts. It's not a terrible book, but it is fairly useless. First, it's just not witty. Second, the book is full of stereotypes that don't fit the English people I know and love. A better book, if you want to know about English culture, is Watching the English.

Never overstep the mark Moderation—a treasured ideal—means a lot to the English. Their respect for it is reflected in their shared dislike of any person who “goes too far.” Irrational rationality The English can admire something without enjoying it, or enjoy something they suspect is fundamentally reprehensible. You can never be sure which stance they are going to take—the reassuringly reasonable, or the wildly irrational. I'm fine, really Stoicism, the capacity to greet life's vicissitudes with cheerful calm, is an essential ingredient of Englishness. Push-me, pull-you Two equally fundamental but contradictory English characteristics are a love of continuity and a yearning for change. In the English character these two opposite desires vie with each other constantly, which produces some curious behavior patterns and several characteristics most usually observed in the classic split personality.

"Each book is an entertaining essay on the failings, foibles and good points of their subjects. Their humour is relaxed and gentle and it would be a sour, churlish native of a subject country who would object seriously." --"The Northern Times" "The Xenophobe's Guides raise a smile and give you an understanding of the beliefs and foibles of nationalities." --"Glasgow Evening Times" "From the Back Cover Because the English do not like being told what to do, any order has to be given with a degree of politeness which many other nations find incomprehensible. Should you follow custom and express an order as a request, you will achieve the desired effect. Express it simply as an order, with no hint of personal choice, and the English will invariably break for tea. Xenophobia is an irrational fear of foreigners, probably justified, always understandable. Xenophobe's Guides - an irreverent look at the beliefs and foibles of nations, almost guaranteed to cure Xenophobia. About the Author Antony Miall was born in the Lake District but migrated south at the age of nine months. He spent his childhood in Royal Tunbridge Wells where he had ample opportunity to observe the English at their most characteristic. Apart from a brief spell in an educational establishment in one of the northern home counties, he has spent his life safely south of the Thames within easy reach of the South of France. This suits him very well because he has never quite qualified in Englishness. Among the subjects he is unable to get to grips with are discomfort and moderation. In addition to shopping, his enthusiasms include playing the piano better than he thought he could. He also enjoys seeing his name in print and has written several books on Victorian songs and society. Now a public relations consultant, his clients have included the manufacturer of water beds for convalescent dogs. Once happily married, he is now just happily in Wandsworth, has one daughter, three cats and a very significant other. David Milsted, a typically mongrel Englishman (in his case, one-quarter Scots with trace elements of Viking), was born in Sussex in 1954 and subsequently drifted northwards, eventually spending 15 years on various Scottish islands before relocating, more or less accidentally, in Dorset, where he and his four sons constitute a 0.75% typical English family. A former teacher, fireman and postman, he is now a full-time writer, researcher and editor who makes occasional forays into broadcasting, the theatre, and the strangely beautiful world of corporate malt whisky tasting. He has published four novels and a number of other books, the latest being The Cassell Dictionary of Regrettable Quotations.