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Fort Jefferson And The Dry Tortugas National Park

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Synopsis

Jump into the past and follow the stories and adventures of the Dry Tortugas. Learn about the fantastic wildlife: ancient sea turtles, unique birds, fish and coral reefs. Find out why one of the largest early forts was built in one of the most remote locations. This book reveals the remarkable and colorful past of the small sandy islands and rocky reefs, from discovery by Spanish explorers, to mariners, soldiers and prisoners, up to its present use as a national park. Visitors and residents to this remote paradise have left vivid records of their different experiences. For some it was a wonderful adventure and others it was an unbearable suffering. A 9"x12" hardback book, each fitted with a laminated dust jacket and individually shrink wrapped.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fort Jefferson is one of the least-visited parts of the National Park System--no surprise when the only way to get there is by boat or small float plane. I finally made the trip in 1992, flying out and spending much of a day clambering over the huge brick fortress built in the mid 19th century. A fort, by the way, that never fired a shot in anger. Part of the extensive "Third System" of American coastal fortifications, Fort Jefferson was never completed, becoming obsolete in the age of rifled artillery during and after the Civil War. Indeed, it is best known not as a fort, but as a prison--for Dr Samuel Mudd who was accused of collaborating with the assassins of Lincoln and his cabinet in April 1865. Mudd served several years here, being released only after helping to treat victims of the recurrent yellow fever that struck the semi-tropical location almost annually. This book ranges over the whole park, including outlying coral reefs (the only ones in the Western Hemisphere) that are homes to
flocks of migrating birds and fish. But its color photos of the brooding fort are the most compelling to me. Text is minimal but the pictures are worth it, especially if you can't make the trip.

I am an avid armchair traveler, and this book enriched my visited places library. (?) A lot of pictures old and new, and a lot of interesting facts and info packed into a not very big book. If you are visiting the Tortugas, or are just interested in this fascinating place, this book is a must read. Don't miss out.

Probably the best book for telling the history and anecdotes about the Dry Tortugas. The pictures are wonderful and since they spent so much time there as a family their experiences are worth reading. Mine came autographed!

If you've never been to Ft. Jefferson, you should put it on your bucket list! About an hour plane ride from Key West and you step back in time. I highly recommend the seaplane for transportation for the scenery cannot be described! This beautiful book by Mr Wayne captures the images I saw and is a wonderful reminder for the rest of my life. ! You really shouldn't go to Key West without a side trip to Ft Jefferson.

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