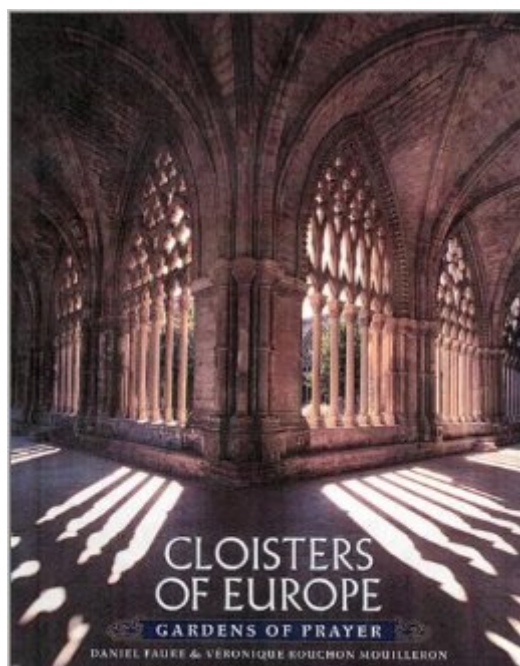


The book was found

Cloisters Of Europe: Gardens Of Prayer



Synopsis

If the church is said to be the soul of an abbey, the cloister is surely its heart. The cloister, a space secluded as its Latin derivation suggests; within four galleries is at once a place of peace and a ceaseless crossroads. As the hub of all activity, through which monks progressed from task to task and prayer to prayer throughout the day from matins to vespers, its classic layout inspired some of the most extraordinary and varied architectural treasures of the world. Cloisters of Europe covers the cloister throughout western Europe; Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, and Britain; between the ninth and fifteenth centuries and is a celebration of art and architecture from stark pre-Romanesque to flamboyant late Gothic. With an enlightening introduction to the history of religious orders and their devotional life, it is a magnificently illustrated monument to art, antiquity, and spiritual profundity. Photographs by Daniel Faure.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a wonderful book... it just came in the mail and it's one of the best books I've received all year. It is oversize with 192 pages, not "thin" at all, with large full color and full page photos, and appropriate text about the history of monasteries and more. Most of the book is devoted solely to the photos, so you can study the details and see what made this building technique so long-lasting and special. As described on the cover, The cloister is "the symbol of space at the heart of the universe of silence and mysticism." You cannot help but be moved when you read these lines. I have always described some of the work I do as creating a "symphony of silence and sound." I spend a lot of

time in the peace and tranquility of the mind, and until now I never considered it "prayer." But perhaps in fact it is. The sanctuary I have created in my own small world is my own private monastery, and with this incredible book I can now create it in wood and in stone. The large scale museum-quality photographs show close up details and long view shots from Cloisters all over Europe, including some of the most beautiful in Spain. The Camino de Santiago awaits. I will begin exploring with this tome, and work to create these beautiful "Gardens of Prayer." I want to live in the space shown on the cover, in a reflection of shadow and sun. What could be more peaceful than this? I will also look at the book "The Great Monasteries of Europe." I have visited a few and hope to build my own. It will be my crowning glory to donate to the town and my final resting place in silence and sound.

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