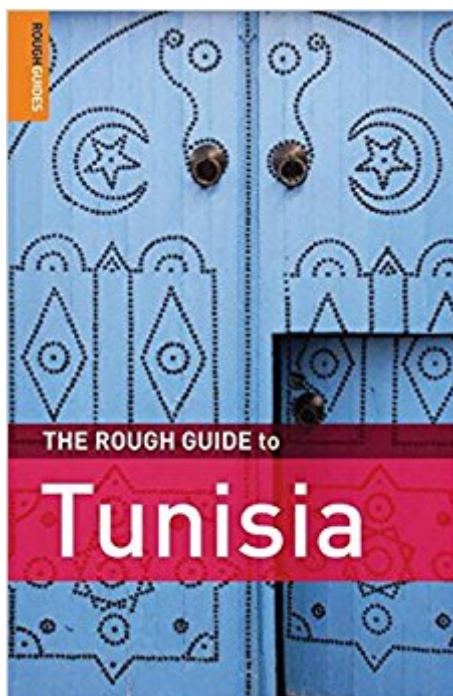


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The Rough Guide To Tunisia 8 (Rough Guide Travel Guides)



Synopsis

The Rough Guide to Tunisia is the definitive guide to this Afro-Mediterranean destination. The full-colour introduction covers the mile-long beaches of the distinctly European northern coast, as well as the fortified kasbahs of the mountainous interior and the sub-Saharan oases. There are lively accounts of all the sights, from Roman remains and Islamic monuments to the ancient Medinas of Tunis, Sfax and Sousse. You'll find two full-colour sections that highlight Tunisia's striking architecture and varied wildlife, information on the best resorts, and exciting excursions into the mountains and desert. The guide is fully updated, with expanded listings of restaurants, accommodation, and nightlife for all budgets, as well as all the practical grittiness you'd expect from a Rough Guide. Make the most of your time with The Rough Guide to Tunisia.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Daniel Jacobs has contributed to several Rough Guides, including West Africa, Morocco, Egypt and India. Peter Morris wrote the original edition of this book in 1985 and once played a game of football with Glen Hoddle.

Climate and seasons Tunisia follows usual Mediterranean patterns of climate. The best time to travel, from a scenic point of view, is spring, when the south has not yet reached full heat and the north looks astonishingly fertile - above all, around the orchards and vineyards of Cap Bon. Be warned, though, that March and April are the dampest months of the year in the south and it can bucket down in the north. Summer has mixed virtues. July and August are much the hottest months

of the year - if only slightly more so than in the southern parts of Italy or Greece - and the one time you really do need to lapse into a local way of life, for example resting through the midday hours at a caf ; or taking a siesta at your hotel. Obviously this goes above all for the deep south and the ksour (see Chapter Nine). On the more exposed beaches of the north coast, midsummer is actually a pull - some of them are only warm enough for swimming from around May until October. If you wait until autumn, you get the best of both worlds, with warm swimming and few crowds, even at the big resorts. In winter, the north and the Tell can get distinctly cold; A n Draham, the highest mountain town, commonly has a metre of snow, and in 1985 it even snowed at Bizerte on the Mediterranean coast. Tunis, Cap Bon and Sousse are not so much cold in winter as dull, with sporadic rains. But this is an ideal time for covering the ancient sites at leisure and then migrating south to Jerba's beaches and the Sahara.

The current Rough Guide (8th ed., March 2009) is better in every way than the current edition of Lonely Planet Tunisia (4th ed., April 2007), covering more and in greater detail. A glance at the accommodations section for Tunis shows 32 hotels and hostels reviewed by Rough Guide, compared to the 14 in Lonely Planet. The best hotel we found in Jerba, Hotel Arischa, comes recommended by Rough Guide, and is not even listed in Lonely Planet. Prices have increased significantly since LP was researched, and you will find generally more accurate information in RG. That's not to say the current LP isn't useful, and I'm still a big fan of their books. With so little travel information available in English, I'd recommend just getting both books and cross-referencing. But this should without a doubt be your primary resource.

Excellent guide book. Gives a great insight into Tunisia, where to go, what to expect, etc. Good looking book overall, very helpful.

The Rough Guide was pretty good, even though it wasn't the latest edition. The delivery time of the item was as expected.

Very useful!

The only downside to this book is some things were out of date. Other than that I wouldn't travel to Tunisia without it.

If you're bound for Tunisia, you won't want to leave without this book. I'm one of those people who thinks there is never any *one* guide that's ideal for a destination -- I always take 2 good guides. And, for Tunisia, the Rough Guide is definitely the first of the two. It is much, much more comprehensive than any other guide. The Blue Guide (my other choice for Tunisian visits), Lonely Planet Guide (also excellent though with less background), and others literally do not have 1/2 the content of the Rough Guide. By supplementing this book with one other one (the Blue Guide for in-depth history & cultural information, or the Lonely Planet Guide for a smaller, hipper subset of travel tips) you'll have a great Tunisian stay. Whichever "other" guide you choose, you'll want this one for the COMPLETE story of any destination in any corner of Tunisia. Whether you're basking on the corniche at Hammamet, Bizerte, or la Marsa; travelling to tourist meccas like the Tunis Medina, Carthage, Sfax, Jerba, el Djem, Matmata and the Sahara palmeries; or taking jaunts to more out-of-the-way spots like Kerkouane or Tabarka... Take this book.

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This is one of the most comprehensive country guides I have encountered in over 20 years of travel in less developed countries. The author(s) give an amazing variety of background information. Even though the guide is several years old, most of the information seemed current (aside from prices of museums, which have increased about 50-75%).

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