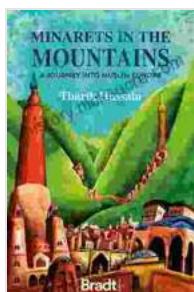


# Journey Into Muslim Europe: A Journey of Discovery Through the Hidden Heritage of Europe

By Robert Irwin



## Minarets in the Mountains: A Journey into Muslim Europe (Bradt Travel Guides (Travel Literature))

by Tharik Hussain

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 12574 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 358 pages



Muslim Europe is a fascinating and often overlooked part of the world. This book takes you on a journey of discovery through the hidden heritage of Europe, from the Great Mosque of Cordoba in Spain to the Hagia Sophia in Turkey. Along the way, you'll learn about the history of Islam in Europe, the architecture and art of Muslim Europe, and the lives of Muslims in Europe today.

### A Journey Through Time and Culture

The history of Islam in Europe dates back to the early days of the religion. In the 7th century, Muslim armies conquered large parts of Spain and Portugal. They also established a presence in Sicily and Greece. Over time, Islam became an integral part of European culture. Muslim scholars made important contributions to science, mathematics, and medicine. Muslim architects and artists created some of the most beautiful buildings and works of art in the world.

In the 15th century, the Reconquista began. This was a period of time when Christian kingdoms in Spain and Portugal gradually reconquered the land that had been lost to the Muslims. The Reconquista ended in 1492, when the last Muslim kingdom in Spain, the Emirate of Granada, fell to the Catholic Monarchs. After the Reconquista, many Muslims were expelled from Spain and Portugal. Others converted to Christianity.

In the 19th century, there was a revival of interest in Muslim culture in Europe. This was due in part to the work of scholars such as Edward Lane and Richard Burton. These scholars traveled to the Middle East and translated many Arabic works into English. As a result, Europeans began to learn more about the rich history and culture of Islam.

## **The Architecture and Art of Muslim Europe**

The architecture and art of Muslim Europe is a testament to the skill and creativity of Muslim artists and architects. The Great Mosque of Cordoba in Spain is one of the most famous examples of Islamic architecture. This mosque was built in the 8th century and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Hagia Sophia in Turkey is another famous example of Islamic architecture. This church was built in the 6th century and was converted into a mosque after the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453.

In addition to mosques, Muslim architects also built palaces, castles, and other buildings. The Alhambra in Spain is a beautiful example of a Muslim palace. This palace was built in the 13th century and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Topkapi Palace in Turkey is another example of a Muslim palace. This palace was built in the 15th century and was the home of the Ottoman sultans for over 400 years.

Muslim artists also made important contributions to European art. They produced beautiful ceramics, textiles, and metalwork. Muslim artists also influenced European painting and sculpture. The works of artists such as Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo show the influence of Islamic art.

## **The Lives of Muslims in Europe Today**

Today, there are over 20 million Muslims living in Europe. They come from a variety of backgrounds and have different experiences. Some Muslims in Europe are descendants of those who lived in Europe before the Reconquista. Others are immigrants from the Middle East and North Africa. Still others are converts to Islam.

Muslims in Europe face a variety of challenges. They often experience discrimination and prejudice. They also face challenges in practicing their religion. However, Muslims in Europe are also making important contributions to their communities. They are opening businesses, serving in government, and working to promote understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims.

## **A Journey of Discovery**

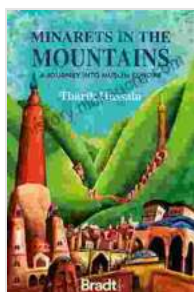
Journey Into Muslim Europe is a fascinating and informative book that takes you on a journey of discovery through the hidden heritage of Europe.

This book is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the history, culture, and art of Islam in Europe.

## About the Author

Robert Irwin is a British historian and author who specializes in the history of the Middle East. He has written over 30 books, including *The Alhambra*, *The Middle East in the Middle Ages*, and *The New Cambridge History of Islam*. Irwin is a leading expert on the history of Muslim Europe and his work has been praised by critics for its clarity and insights.

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