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# The Little Black Book Of Chicago (Travel Guide) (Little Black Books (Peter Pauper Hardcover))



## Synopsis

From skyscrapers to sports, from blues to bratwursts, and from the Magnificent Mile to the magnificent lakefront, Chicago has it all! This pocket guidebook, including user-friendly fold-out maps and insider tips, will walk you through the best that Chicago has to offer. "Top Picks" direct you to not-to-be-missed attractions, and handy "Notes" pages are included to jot down all your favorites. This indispensable guide to the Windy City tells you what to see and do, and where to eat, drink, shop, stay, and play-- from the Art Institute to Wrigley Field, to Oak Park and beyond! Local author and journalist Margaret Littman is a frequent contributor to 'Chicago magazine', 'Wine Enthusiast', 'TimeOut Chicago', and several other travel publications. 215 pages, plus 11 fold-out maps.

## Book Information

Series: Little Black Books (Peter Pauper Hardcover)

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Travel Roundup: Best Travel Series of the Year, 2008. Hooper, Brad (author). FEATURE. First published September 15, 2008 (Booklist). We select the Little Black Travel Books as our travel guide series of the year. The main reasons for designating these guides as best of the year are their portability and user friendliness. (The spiral binding allows the reader to keep the book open to a certain page.) Individual volumes are small enough to fit into a pocket, but in terms of helpfulness, they are twice their physical dimensions. The other reason these guides are so worthy of praise is the fact that each volume has a neat, tidy, and nicely detailed foldout map to the particular area under discussion. The chapters in each volume correspond to the geographical areas into which the authors divide the city for the tourist. Each chapter gives basics on places to see, available art, and

entertainment venues, places to eat and drink, where to shop, and where to stay. You can study a range of guides before your actual trip, but this is definitely a commendable candidate for carrying with you on site. Little Black Travel Books (Peter Pauper Press). --Booklist (American Library Association) When I buy a guidebook, I usually look for the Frommer's \$ a Day budget guides -- Washington D.C. from \$80 a Day, Paris from \$95 a Day, etc. Why? Well, mostly because I'm a creature of habit. I started buying the Frommer's and Let's Go guides years ago because they focus on budget travel. Let's Go is great for backpackers and those on a really tight budget. Frommer's is a bit more mature but still budget-minded (think hotels rather than hostels), and I like their "Suggested Itineraries" section and their maps (Frommer's maps are among the best). But now that there are so many other guidebooks to choose from, I buy Frommer's mostly because I can be in and out of the store in minutes rather than hours and I know I'll come home with a reliable guide. Then, just this past month, everything changed... I discovered something new... You see, when I went to the bookstore to pick up guidebooks for my upcoming honeymoon, I got an idea... Since we're going around the world with stops in Milan, Lake Como, Dubai, Shanghai, and Tokyo, and I needed to buy a guidebook for each destination. Why not, I thought, buy five different guidebooks (from five different publishers) and compare them to find my favorite. So that's what I did. I bought one brand for each stop and then, on my way out, I saw a little Paris guide I'd never seen (or heard of) before. So I picked that up too. (I go to Paris at least once a year so I can never have enough Paris guidebooks.) Here's what I found... and it surprised me: My favorite book of all -- for both pre-trip planning and on-the-ground support -- is The Little Black Book of Paris. The other guides I bought are all divided into sections this way: Where to Stay, Where to Eat, What to Do. But The Little Black Book of Paris is divided by area. And each area has its own fold-out map (which, to be honest, blows the Frommer's maps out of the water). While the guide doesn't have an entire history or culture section like most of the others do -- Lonely Planet, TimeOut, Fodor's, etc -- it's well written and there's an overview of each area at the beginning of each section. I liked the guide so much I went back to the bookstore to buy more. Unfortunately, they don't have guides for my other destinations as they're a fairly new series. They do, however, have one for Washington D.C., where I live, so I bought that. After reading both guides -- Paris and D.C. -- cover to cover, I got so excited about these guidebooks I called the publisher to see what other books they have in the works. Turns out, Paris, D.C., New York, and Rome are the only guides on shelves to date. But San Francisco and London --Lori Appling - The Travel Writer's Life When I buy a guidebook, I usually look for the Frommer's \$ a Day budget guides -- Washington D.C. from \$80 a Day, Paris from \$95 a Day, etc. Why? Well, mostly because I'm a creature of habit. I started buying the Frommer's and

Let's Go guides years ago because they focus on budget travel. Let's Go is great for backpackers and those on a really tight budget. Frommer's is a bit more mature but still budget-minded (think hotels rather than hostels), and I like their "Suggested Itineraries" section and their maps (Frommer's maps are among the best). But now that there are so many other guidebooks to choose from, I buy Frommer's mostly because I can be in and out of the store in minutes rather than hours and I know I'll come home with a reliable guide. Then, just this past month, everything changed... I discovered something new... You see, when I went to the bookstore to pick up guidebooks for my upcoming honeymoon, I got an idea... Since we're going around the world with stops in Milan, Lake Como, Dubai, Shanghai, and Tokyo, and I needed to buy a guidebook for each destination. Why not, I thought, buy five different guidebooks (from five different publishers) and compare them to find my favorite. So that's what I did. I bought one brand for each stop and then, on my way out, I saw a little Paris guide I'd never seen (or heard of) before. So I picked that up too. (I go to Paris at least once a year so I can never have enough Paris guidebooks.) Here's what I found... and it surprised me: My favorite book of all -- for both pre-trip planning and on-the-ground support -- is The Little Black Book of Paris. The other guides I bought are all divided into sections this way: Where to Stay, Where to Eat, What to Do. But The Little Black Book of Paris is divided by area. And each area has its own fold-out map (which, to be honest, blows the Frommer's maps out of the water). While the guide doesn't have an entire history or culture section like most of the others do -- Lonely Planet, TimeOut, Fodor's, etc -- it's well written and there's an overview of each area at the beginning of each section. I liked the guide so much I went back to the bookstore to buy more. Unfortunately, they don't have guides for my other destinations as they're a fairly new series. They do, however, have one for Washington D.C., where I live, so I bought that. After reading both guides -- Paris and D.C. -- cover to cover, I got so excited about these guidebooks I called the publisher to see what other books they have in the works. Turns out, Paris, D.C., New York, and Rome are the only guides on shelves to date. But San Francisco and London are due out later this year (July and September respectively). And they hope to publish four a year from now on, with Boston and Disney World on their 2008 list. These books are a real find, and I'm glad I stumbled on them. I encourage you to check them out. --Lori Appling - The Travel Writer's Life

Author Margaret Littman contributes to Moon Metro Chicago, Real City Chicago, and Chicago SHOPS. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I waited anxiously for over a month for the publication of this 2011 Chicago edition. Since it wasn't in

the stores yet, I ordered it sight unseen based upon the description and the reviews of an older edition. I expected much more 'insider' tips and information. Most of the sights and information in this little book, can be found in any guide book - Fodor's, Frommer etc... The difference is that this guide is fairly easy to carry with you, unlike the others. It is divided into neighborhoods with small and I mean really small, fold out maps. That is one of the main reason that I ordered it. I wish that my eyes were better or that the maps were a larger, as they are very hard to read, but of course that would defeat the purpose of a smaller book. The restaurants, hotels etc.. are not new or hidden gems - they are in most other guide books too. Several of the restaurants, ie: The Pump Room, are out of business, but this cannot be avoided with publication time. Would I recommend buying this Chicago guide ... hmmm - it is a handy reference for transportation and has very basic descriptions of neighborhoods and sights, which would come in handy. I would suggest reading other books also, and going prepared with some knowledge of what you want to see and do, and use this as a carry long supplement that will fit in your purse or backpack. It certainly isn't the definitive guide book - not that there is ONE book that fits that bill - I guess I expected too much. If you can't tell - I am an obsessive - compulsive researcher when I plan a trip :- ) - once I'm on the plane, I relax and enjoy myself for the duration.

I love this book, and use it religiously when I visit Chicago for business. It was all I needed to negotiate public transportation, or navigating the city. I was pleased to discover the water taxi service it describes, which impressed my co-travelers. I don't love the spiral binding, but, can see where it is useful for opening the book fully and not worrying about breaking its spine.

This is the perfect book to tuck inside a cross body bag for easy reference! My husband and I go to Chi town a few times a year and it's always nice to be able to pull the little maps out and not have to deal with the giant maps from the train station! This is a must have for visitors. Very helpful on restaurants so you don't make the mistake of going into a high dollar place! Great!

Good.

This travel guide is small, yet packed with lots of great information. It is divided into sections of the city, and each section has a map, top sites to see, places to shop, and top places to eat and drink. It is small enough to fit in my purse. They should make these for more cities!!

This is the perfect tourist guide to Chicago! You can easily carry it with you while exploring different areas. The maps help you to choose where to go first. Its size is perfect: there are enough hints to what to see and do but not too much text.

Great historic information and the chapters are well organized so its easy to find topics of interest. I bought the kindle edition so the maps were not so easy to follow.

The Little Black Book was very helpful and handy. I just spent a week in Chicago and put it to practical use.

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