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Bikes Of Burden



Synopsis

In Vietnam the motorbike is the main mode of transport, not only for people but for every imaginable and unimaginable product and produce. Without the motorbike the economy would come to a halt. Bikes of Burden shows in 148 stunning, full color photographs how the motorbikes, the drivers and their loads ride around the cities and countryside in acts that defy your wildest imagination.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

(this book) captures a most distinctive aspect of (Vietnam's) streetlife. -- SF Chronicle, November 16, 2006 (books to buy as gift this season)An amazing collection of wonderful images... ...a truly fascinating book to explore. --Shutterbug Magazine, July 2006, page 136

Hans Kemp is a well known photographer and writer based in Asia since the early nineties. His books about Asia and Vietnam have received universal acclaim. Bikes of Burden, illustrating Vietnam's amazing motorbike transportation, has become the must have book about daily life in Vietnam with more than 100,000 copies sold worldwide. For a gallery of other photos by Hans Kemp visit hanskemp.photoshelter.com/

I've seen this book on other coffee tables and have seen for myself many examples of these piled-high motorbikes in Vietnam last year. Not one of the photos I took on that trip compares to the least of those in this delightful book. Such a subject is impossible to adequately describe in words. If the cover photo makes you smile, get the book and show it to your friends.

If you are a photographer or a biker (I am both) I think you'll love this book! The photos are crisp and clear, and although the bikers are the focus (and rightfully so) you'll get a tantalizing glimpse of neighborhoods in the backgrounds of the photographs. I thought I and some of my friends have been creative in what we have strapped to our big v-twin motorcycles; I bow in respect before these ingenious people, not just for what they're able to cart around on these small motorcycles, but for their bike handling abilities: Many of my riding compadres totter pathetically while trying to navigate a u-turn on their unloaded machines...can you imagine the skill it takes to zip through heavy traffic on a tiny machine that's dramatically overloaded to the point of outlandishness? And the variety of the loads these bikers carry! You will not believe your eyes! Just when you think you've seen it all you'll turn the page and be even more amazed, and you will want to gaze at these photographs again and again. This is, for me, the ultimate coffee table book, and if you have bikers for friends I'm sure they'd love a copy of this book for their birthdays or for the holidays.

I had put my hands on what I thought was the exact book. It was shared with me by a friend who had lived in Vietnam and he said the book was only available in Vietnam. I was thrilled when I found the book on line however disappointed when my wife said this was not the same book we held before. The picture quality also seemed much darker.

This book showed in pictures what I was unable to capture when I visited Viet Nam just a few years ago. The loads carried by those two wheeled beasts of burden were incredible. I could have added a couple more to the authors collection. Great Book.

A friend had just got back from Vietnam and Thailand and told me about the bike system there. They also mentioned this book. It is truly incredible what this book captures. A great book to leave out for people to look at. I bought it as a gift for a friend who is a cyclist and they also loved it as much as I did. The author/photographer really captures how bikes are the center of the economy there.

I brought the book mainly because I had just been to Vietnam. Great pictures, and they are very real. So many scooters on the roads in Vietnam, bedlam.

I initially saw this book for sale in the main post office in Hanoi. While I fell in love with it then, I didn't

want to schlep back a book, so I hoped I could find it on .com upon my return. I did, it's on my coffee table and everyone who looks at it is fascinated with the beautiful photos and the amazing story they tell about life in Vietnam and the main means of transportation - the motorbike.

everyone who sees this thing has to pick it up. If you ride a scooter or motorcycle or know someone who does, get it or give it as a gift. the photography is fantastic and the content will grab anyone's attention. even a non-rider. a real wake up call for americans and our huge suv's that never offer enough room b/c you can't play a flag football game in the back. shows how the rest of the world gets to work and school..(sometimes 5 on one 50cc scooter).

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