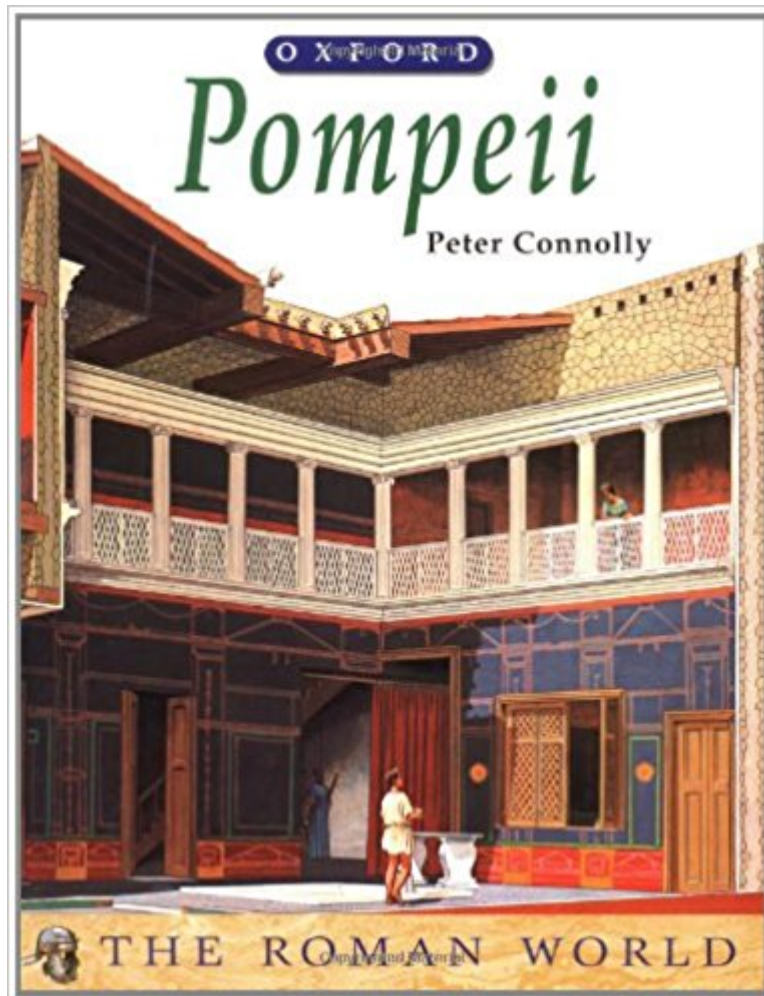




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Pompeii



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Synopsis

From the remarkable pen of Peter Connolly comes a comprehensive look at the ancient city of Pompeii. He begins with the scientific facts: How was Pompeii destroyed? How did Mount Vesuvius become an active volcano? What happened during the eruption? How long did Pompeii lay buried and how was it finally rediscovered? What was Pompeii's history before the disaster? Then, Peter Connolly does what he does better than anyone--he rebuilds the past in words and pictures, allowing us to imagine what it was like to live in old Pompeii. Like an archaeological detective, he sifts through the ruins and artifacts to reconstruct one area of the town in minute detail. With maps and cross-sections, photographs, drawings, and engrossing, fact-filled text, Connolly takes us into the very homes of its citizens--into the kitchens, atriums, bedrooms and out into the gardens. We learn what the furniture looked like, how the homes were lighted and heated, what kind of jewelry was popular, and what the gladiators wore. We view the varied styles of architecture and decoration, attend a grand dinner party, visit local shops, go to the theater, to a public bath, and to the gladiators' arena. We gain an understanding of this ancient civilization, and begin to see how much was lost when the city fell prey to the tons of lava and ashes that fell on it during the devastating disaster.

Book Information

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Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 6-8-- Full-color photographs and illustrations and detailed sketches grace every page of this entry in an already crowded field of books on the subject. Detailed drawings of houses, shops, and public buildings such as baths, theatres, and temples in their original conditions help readers understand the day to day workings of a Roman town in the first century a.d. Particularly striking are the full-page cutaways of buildings. Each subject is addressed in a two-page layout. Such prosaic details as sewage systems and laundering techniques are given as much attention as gladiator games and drama. The accompanying text is sometimes a bit technical, and some Latin terms are not fully explained. A careful introduction illuminates not only the eruption, but also the early history of the city and the surrounding area. This is as complete and thorough a documentation of the story of Pompeii as any that can currently be found in children's collections. --David N. Pauli, Missoula Public Library, MT
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"The range and wealth of information here offer an insight into the potential of scholarship that is rare in books for young people."--Kirkus Reviews
"Full-color photographs and illustrations and detailed sketches grace every page.... Particularly striking are the full-page cutaways of buildings.... This is as complete and thorough a documentation of the story of Pompeii as any that can be currently found in children's collections."--School Library Journal
"Superb illustrations, combined with a sparse text that packs an enormous amount of scholarly information, presented in a way that is understandable and accessible... For the YA reader interested in what has actually been discovered there, and how those discoveries illustrate the daily life of Romans, this book is probably the best place to begin."--Kliatt
"The carefully researched text is effectively extended by the many maps, drawings, and photographs in this book. Like the other books in Oxford's Rebuilding the Past series, Pompeii is an excellent resource."--The Reading Teacher

This book had illustrations of artifacts from Pompeii I had never seen in other books on the subject. I especially enjoyed the recreation of the homes in 3D and where they were located next to each other on the streets of the town. It was easy to visualize how it must've been before the eruption. This book is going to Pompeii with me next year and I will be using it as a guide.

Concise and easy to read with plentiful illustrations. A good supplement to other books on the subject. Will keep as a reference.

I loved this book. I am interested in ancient civilizations, how they built their cities and how they lived. This book is beautifully illustrated to a very high details. I feel like I have lived in Pompeii. I bought this book along with "City: A Story of Roman Planning and Construction". They were both more than what I have expected.

This book was for our son who loves Roman History, however, we have not have been able to set aside sufficient time to read it through as well as examine the photos and paintings. As a homeschooler, we'd like to maybe one day, travel to Rome, Herculaneum, Oplontis, Pompeii and Stabiae.

Love this book. This book really gives you an idea of everyday life in Pompeii. Great illustrations and tons of information. I am fascinated by this period of history and this book gave me great insight into it.

This was a fantastic guide! And it was very light so I was able to pack it in my bag when we went to Pompeii. -jonathan's wife

Wonderful book for adults as well! I read it from cover to cover, it is very informative and inspiring, illustrations are beautiful. I love it!

fills in a lot of information that we missed during our 4 day visit wish that we had purchased the book before our visit

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