From its twin sources high in the Swiss Alps to its delta in the North Sea, the Rhine is Europe’s most important river—historically, culturally, and artistically. Flowing majestically through the continent, it serves as a boundary between nations and a unifying force, timelessly conveying both spiritual currents and merchandise and inspiring pilgrims, painters, sculptors, architects, poets, writers, and composers. This superb panorama of the Rhine’s artistic landscape shows the river and the cities, villages, cathedrals, monasteries, and castles that abound along its course in all their true magnificence. World-renowned masterpieces of painting (such as Grünewald’s Isenheim Altarpiece), sculpture (the Breisach Altar), and goldsmiths work (the Shrine of the Three Kings in Cologne) are among the astonishing variety of treasures in every field of art, all gloriously illustrated and knowledgeably described in their historical, art historical, and geographical context. For the armchair traveler and connoisseur who wishes to indulge in all that this great river has to offer, no journey could be more rewarding. 400 illustrations, 350 in color.

My Personal Review:
In June of 2000 I cycled 750 miles in Germany along the rivers Mainz, Rhein (Bingen to Koblenz), Mosel and Saar.

In preparation for a cycling trip along the length of the Rhein I purchased this book for use as a resource to guide me through my journey.

While I thought this would be a great travel tool I had no idea how much insight it would provide in the way of history, culture, art and the sights the towns and villages along the river had to offer. While the Library Journal review expresses all of this, words alone can not describe what this book has to offer.

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