
Mark Twain

Mark Twains Abenteuer: Bummel durch Europa

Title: Mark Twains Abenteuer: Bummel durch Europa

Author: Mark Twain

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Description

An American in Heidelberg. His tour through Germany in 1878

Insightful reviews

Rich Griese: A tour de force! Twain has a great witty writing style. No matter what he writes about I find myself reading or listening with a smile on my face. Broke out laughing multiple times at [Chapter 37](#). A jewel from a time gone by. The forerunner of both travel shows and situation comedies. Incredible writing. A delight for the ears.

Probably more popular when people had less to do. Today, I think people feel they are too busy to do anything that can't be done in 5 minutes. So, sitting and listening to a story for a half hour each night might be too much to expect of people.

- [A Tramp Abroad - via Librivox](#)

- [Librivox recording via YouTube](#)

Cheers! [RichGriese.NET](#)

Tim: This is one book that would have welcomed the efforts of a hard working editor. At times Twain's brilliance and humour come shining through, especially in his fascinating observations of the lives of Germans and the tourists who walk through their midst. But too often he gets sidetracked with less stellar tales that belong in another book: drifting back to the US for "A Tramp at Home", recounting legends and folk tales that feel ripped from another writer's guidebook, and complete fantasies of his own creation. But in between the somewhat dull sidetracking, the eminent quoteability of many of Twain's passages show his sharp eye and wit; "The Germans are exceedingly fond of Rhine wines; they are put up in tall, slender bottles, and are considered a pleasant beverage. One tells them from vinegar by the label."

Will: "A man accustomed to American food and American domestic cookery would not starve to death suddenly in Europe; but I think he would gradually waste away, and eventually die.

He would have to do without his accustomed morning meal. That is too formidable a change altogether; he would necessarily suffer from it. He could get the shadow, the sham, the base counterfeit of that meal; but it would do him no good, and money would not buy the reality.

To particularize: the average American's simplest and commonest form of breakfast consists of coffee and beefsteak; well, in Europe, coffee is an unknown beverage. You can get what the European hotel-keeper thinks is coffee, but it resembles the real thing as hypocrisy resembles holiness. It is a feeble, characterless, uninspiring sort of stuff, and almost as undrinkable as if it

had been made in an American hotel. The milk used for it is what the French call 'Christian' milk - milk which has been baptized.

After a few months' acquaintance with European 'coffee,' one's mind weakens, and his faith with it, and he begins to wonder if the rich beverage of home, with its clotted layer of yellow cream on top of it, is not a mere dream, after all, and a thing which never existed.

Next comes the European bread - fair enough, good enough, after a fashion, but cold; cold and tough, and unsympathetic; and never any change, never any variety - always the same tiresome thing.

Next, the butter - the sham and tasteless butter; no salt in it, and made of goodness knows what.

Then there is the beefsteak. They have it in Europe, but they don't know how to cook it. Neither will they cut right. It comes on the table in a small, round pewter platter. It lies in the center of this platter, in a bordering bed of grease-soaked potatoes; it is the size, shape, and thickness of a man's hand with the thumb and fingers cut off. It is a little overdone, is rather dry, it tastes pretty insipidly, it rouses no enthusiasm.

Imagine a poor exile contemplating that inert thing; and imagine an angel suddenly sweeping down out of a better land and setting before him a mighty porterhouse steak an inch and a half thick, hot and sputtering from the griddle; dusted with a fragrant pepper; enriched with little melting bits of butter of the most unimpeachable freshness and genuineness; the precious juices of the meat trickling out and joining the gravy, archipelagoed with mushrooms; a township or two of tender, yellowish fat gracing an outlying district of this ample county of beefsteak; the long white bone which divides the sirloin from the tenderloin still in its place; and imagine that the angel adds a great cup of American home-made coffee, with a cream a-froth on top, some real butter, firm and yellow and fresh, some smoking hot-biscuits, a plate of hot buckwheat cakes, with transparent syrup - could words describe the gratitude of this exile?"

Sarah-Lambert Cook: i admire to determine a brand new position by way of jogging in it. it truly is the easiest way to event the surprising because it supplies time to discover and take in the scenery. probably that is why i discovered it interesting to learn certainly one of Mark Twain's lesser identified works approximately his jogging travels in Europe round the alps whereas i am the following in Germany. Twain's descriptions of college lifestyles in Heidelberg are not so assorted from the way in which issues are actually no matter if they seem to be a little extra the nineteenth c variation. What i actually love is how his humor and love of neighborhood folklore and legends rather comes via here. i have came upon numerous locations i need to go to within the region from interpreting his descriptions of strolling (and occasionally rafting) in Germany (and the various surrounding Alpine countries). in the event you don't need to learn the total booklet (free on Kindle, by way of the way), you need to at the very least try out his very good essay from the book, "The lousy German Language" ...especially if you have had a pass at attempting to grasp the language yourself: <http://german.about.com/library/blmtw...>

Connie: i am simply on web page 20 yet blown away by means of similarities in Twain's

observations of the beer-drinking hijinks of college scholars in His day in Heidleberg and my very own observations of contemporary day collage scholars and their quest of a similar different types of drunken prowess.

S.P. Moss: the choice BAEDEKER? Published in 1880, 'A Tramp Abroad' is a mixture of autobiography and fiction protecting the author's travels in Southern Germany, the Swiss Alps and Italy. The identify units the tone for the publication in that "tramp" - in both experience of the note - is a planned misnomer, as Mr Twain/Clemens not often travels by means of foot, making the most of the shipping to be had on the time - trains, rafts, carriages, steamers, mules - and the companies of that all-important courier. This is a truly lengthy booklet and person who i discovered tremendous jumbled together its leisure value. whilst it really is reliable it's totally very good, but if it really is undesirable it is simply dull. even though I learn it diligently all of the method through, i'd suggest skipping entire sections or chapters in the event that they do not take your fancy within the first couple of pages. For example, i discovered the bankruptcy 'Harris climbs Mountains for me' - a skit on commute writing of the time, the place overseas phrases are hurled indiscriminately into the narrative - a shrewd permanent thought on the start, however it dragged on and on, labouring the purpose advert infinitum. As a contrast, a bankruptcy reminiscent of that during which the narrator makes an attempt the ascent of the Riffleberg in night gown with half of one mile of guys and mules tied together, or that during which he makes an attempt to descend a mountain through glacier are impressive - absurd and hilarious. The essay 'The lousy German Language' within the Appendix is additionally to not be neglected - this can be a vintage with such marvellous observations as 'In Germany a tender woman has no sex, whereas a turnip has.' A small element at the Kindle model - regrettably the images do not paintings that good - every one of these must be zoomed in-on to understand them, which disturbs the movement of reading. Although the e-book feels a bit 'stuck together' as a work, i'd suggest it to a person traveling to Germany or the Alps - lots of the remark at the Germans continues to be real approximately one hundred fifty years later, and it truly is certainly person who you will dip into back from time to time.

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