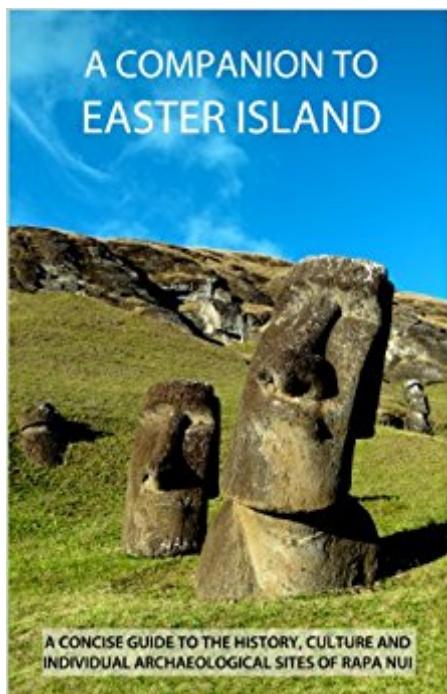


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# A Companion To Easter Island (Guide To Rapa Nui)



## Synopsis

The essential guidebook to this mysterious and enigmatic island, and the only book about Easter Island written by someone who lives there. This guidebook includes the island's history, culture and all of its significant archaeological sites. It also contains all of the practical information needed for your visit, including island activities and up-to-date restaurant and shopping recommendations. It will also tell you the best times to visit the sites in order to get the optimal light for photography and to avoid the crowds, as well as many other 'local' tips that no other guidebook will tell you. Contains over 100 color photos of Easter Island, as well as color maps of both the island and the one town, Hanga Roa.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The indispensable guidebook to the island by Scottish enthusiast James Grant-Peterkin. No-one should go to Easter Island without first acquiring this book. It's not just a guide book, it also gives all the background, the 'gossip' if you like, about the island and what you will find there." -Current Archaeology Magazine

James Grant-Peterkin was born in Scotland, and fulfilled a childhood dream when he first set foot on Easter Island in 1996, aged just 19. A graduate of Cambridge University, he wrote his finals dissertation on the unique linguistic situation of Easter Island - the only place in the world where Spanish is spoken alongside a Polynesian language. He has been living on Rapa Nui since 2001, and has been leading specialist tours of the island for over a decade. He now runs his own private touring company, Easter Island Spirit, and is also the British Honorary Consul on the island.

My wife and I are planning a cruise to Easter Island next year. As part of our preparation, we wanted to buy travel guide that describes the attractions of the island in an easy to read style from someone with detailed knowledge of its unique atmosphere. James' book fills the bill completely. As both an expert on the island (he wrote his thesis on its unique language, a combination of Spanish and Polynesian, spoken only there), and a resident of nearly 20 years (he is the honorary British Consul of Easter Island) he is perfectly qualified to write this type of book. His style is conversational, as if he was accompanying you around the island, giving you insights on its unique attractions. There is an attention to detail that's not always present in travel books of this type. We loved his book so much that we have booked a 2 day tour with his company, Easter Island Spirit. It's obvious that his book is a labor of love. We are convinced that our visit will be all too brief, but that with James' help, we can get the most out of our stay. If you are planning a trip to Easter Island, even if you don't book a tour with his company, this book is a must-read!

I was able to spend a few days on Easter Island around Christmas 2011, and this book helped me get the most out of my trip and I am convinced that without it, my experience would have been nowhere nearly as enjoyable. The book gives you key and interesting historical and cultural narratives as well as discussions about the top and even lesser known tourist destinations and even the best times to go to each to avoid crowds plus the generally accepted best photographic times. Admittedly, the island isn't swarming with tourists, (I estimate less than 1,000 while I was there on any given day), but with this book I often felt like I was the only one there, being able to hit key spots during quieter times and other hidden gems where no one else seemed to venture (the caves on the western rim are awesome and off most people's radar). If you are only going to be on the island for a few days (I arrived on a Friday and left on a Monday), then I highly suggest going around on your own and using this book to plan your itinerary as I did; there was nothing advertised on any of the tours that wasn't discussed in this book and you don't lose much if anything on island culture and history by forgoing guides. Even if you are planning a longer stay, this book is still a must in my opinion so you can go out on your own a few days and not feel the slightest bit lost or confused. I cannot overstate how happy I was that I got this book ahead of time. Even the hotel I stayed at that tried to get me to use their tour and talked about how most books are all wrong with history, etc., had to admit that this book was a good one.

This is the best resource I found for background and navigational tips for visiting Easter Island. I

read it ahead of time, and then carried my e-reader with me as we toured the island. It truly enriched my trip! I am so glad I purchased it.

Wonderful book for self-guided tours. Really added a lot to our trip. However, we were mostly biking with it, and the directions could be a bit better for bikers. Other than that, buy it!

Enormously helpful for our two weeks exploring the island. Well-organized. Full of history and thoughtful descriptions of parks and trails. Portable. Easy to use. No need to hire a tour service with this in hand.

Great details, history, and local color. This book made me excited about my upcoming visit.

easy to read ( I read it in the plane From Santiago to Easter Island). It is well written and well documented. What I liked particularly about it that it gives the best time of the day to visit each site to avoid the bus tour crowds and to have the best lights to take pictures. It is not a good hotel guide.

Just back from Easter Island. And to my surprise with a rental car and the book we could guide ourselves. Many helpful features. Clearly written. Descriptions of the sites were very accurate. Next step....an APP with GPS and details the sites appear on the phone. (Most of the island is 3G slow but it works.)

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