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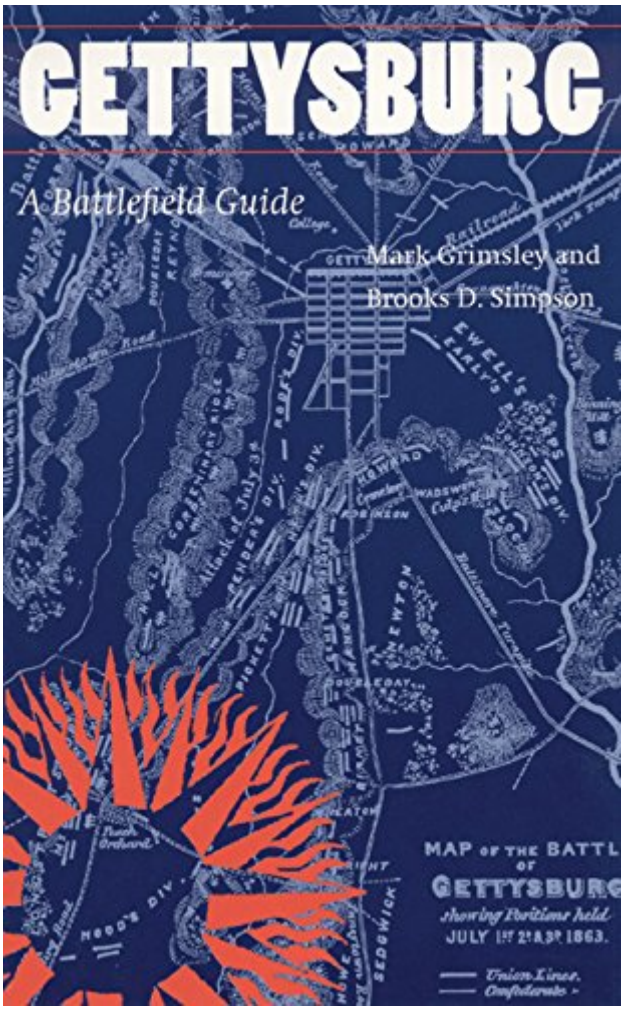
Gettysburg: A Battlefield Guide (This Hallowed Ground: Guides To Civil War Battlefields)



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Synopsis

Little Round Top, the Railroad Cut, Pickettâ ™s Chargeâ ”these are the turning points within the most important battle of the Civil War. Even careful students of Gettysburg, however, can find themselves disoriented when visiting the site itself. Here, finally, is a convenient guide for serious student and casual visitor alike that makes plain the sweep of events and the geography of the battlefield.Â This invaluable guidebook was created by scholars who have walked the battlegrounds, consulted with local experts and park guides, and studied the testimony left behind by the participants. Gettysburg will help you find all the important locales and understand what the participants saw in 1863, even if you have no prior knowledge of the battle. Designed to enhance the experience of both first-time and returning visitors, this guide can be used alone or as a supplement to a tour. Clearly written and illustrated with maps and photographs, this is the book to have when you explore Gettysburg.

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Customer Reviews

I have tramped over the Gettysburg Battlefield a half dozen times with various books in hand. My hat is off to Mark Grimsley & Brooks D. Simpson. I found this book to be the most thorough and well written of any text I have used. In November, 1999 I went to the battlefield with the main purpose of studying the fighting around the Peach Orchard and Wheatfield. This book was very helpful in helping me understand the chain of events that occured in these places July 2, 1863. I also found the descriptions of the fighting July 1st around the McPherson Farm to be excellent.A very good and practical guide.

I found this a good general overall guide and helpful in understanding each day of battle. The maps are clear. However, the book does not live up to the promotion of taking you to areas unknown to most visitors. Barlows Knoll and the Brick Yard certainly are such places. The Second Day of battle is superior in its narration. Overall this is just the standrd auto tour and avocal naration by the stardard auto tours, that are readily available, will serve visitors well and perhaps better.

I grew up near Gettysburg & have been there numerous times. I just spent 2 days there with this book on the battlefield--this book made the battle crystal clear! I ran out of time exploring the battlefield (it takes more than the 6 hours described in the book--my only criticism). This book brings the battle to life and explains the terrain like never before. I learned a lot about the battle that I never knew and many components of the battle came into focus in new and exciting ways. In particular, this book does a good job on overviews of each day and with it's clear directions, leads the reader through each stop--I really felt as if I had an expert by my side explaining all the facets of each aspect of the battle. Along the way, everything was just as the book described. The maps were excellent & it's nicely complimented with various portraits of leaders, common soldiers, etc. The guide brings the 3 days together as a cohesive whole. This is the book to get if you're going to visit Gettysburg; forget all the others.I now live near Chickamauga and I plan on getting their book on that battle!

There are many books about the battle of Gettysburg, but this is the one guidebook you want to have in hand when you head out to the battlefields. Written in sequential order, the book tells you everything you want to know about where you are, what happened, and who was involved in the three days of conflict. The personal vignettes and expert commentary bring the the battle to life for novice and Civil War buff alike. I felt well-prepared for my visit because I read this guidebook before I left home. This is a must have guide before you visit Gettysburg!

One of the best battlefield guides from two excellent scholars that students will learn from their armchairs or on the battlefield.

Good book in that it is a basic guidebook for anyone interested in The Battle of Gettysburg. There are a few grammatical errors, but otherwise it is a good read for the average Civil War enthusiast and novice to the battlefield.

Great

An excellent work, which we will be using as our guide, during our visit to Gettysburg for the 150th anniversary commemoration.

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