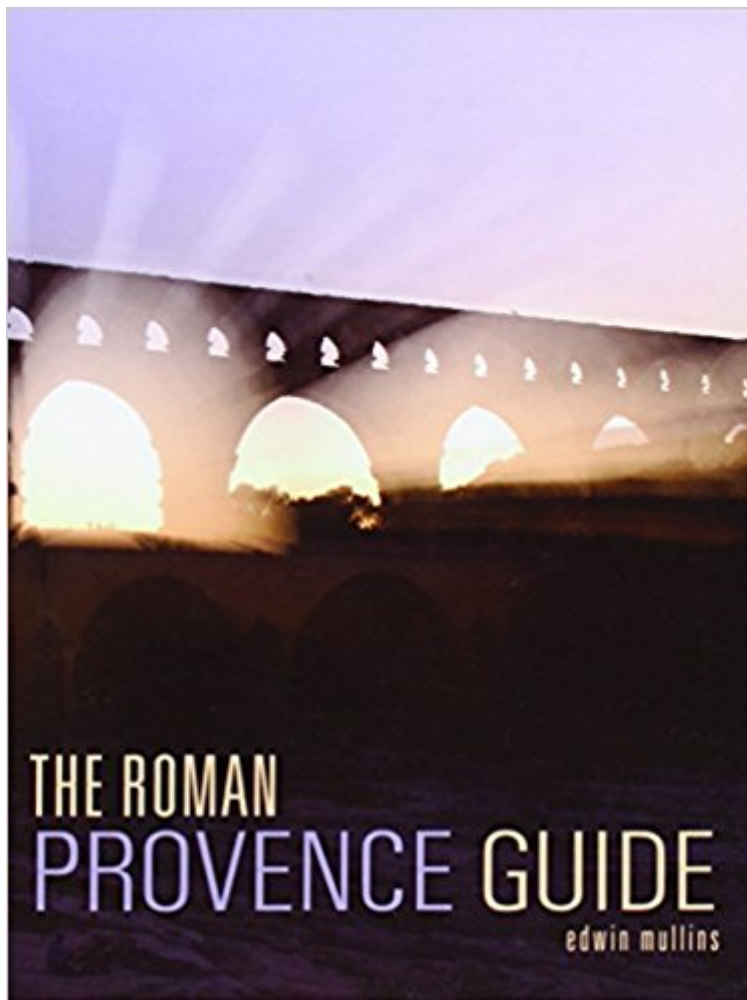


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# The Roman Provence Guide



## Synopsis

Provence owes its name to Julius Caesar who described the region as the Province of Rome. Edwin Mullins seeks out hidden traces of that ancient world along with the many spectacular monuments that today adorn the cities of Nimes, Arles, Vienne, and Orange. He tells the story of how the Romans came to invade Provence, how they stayed to colonize it, and how they transformed Provençal cities into imitations of Rome. His narrative also tells how the Emperor Constantine brought about the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity from his favorite city of Arles and how the Romans were eventually driven out by the Visigoths. Roman Provence is also a guide to the principal sites in the region as well as those rarely visited, with separate chapters on various Roman achievements: triumphal arches, aqueducts, farming, city life, bridges and road-building, temples and shrines, theaters and amphitheaters.

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## Customer Reviews

Provence owes its name to Julius Caesar who described the region as "the Province of Rome"; Edwin Mullins seeks out hidden traces of that ancient world along with the many spectacular monuments that today adorn the cities of Nimes, Arles, Vienne, and Orange. He tells the story of how the Romans came to invade Provence, how they stayed to colonize it, and how they transformed Provençal cities into imitations of Rome. His narrative also tells how the Emperor Constantine brought about the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity from his favorite city of Arles; and how the Romans were eventually driven out by the Visigoths. Roman Provence is also a guide to the principal sites in the region as well as those rarely visited, with

separate chapters on various Roman achievements: triumphal arches, aqueducts, farming, city life, bridges and road-building, temples and shrines, theaters and amphitheaters.

Edwin Mullins is a writer, journalist and film-maker. Formerly art critic of London's *The Sunday Telegraph*, he has written widely on the visual arts and on medieval history and architecture. His books include *The Pilgrimage to Santiago*, *Avignon of the Popes*, *The Camargue* and the award-winning *In Search of Cluny: God's Lost Empire*.

This is a thoroughly enjoyable book. It is well written, easy to read and totally fascinating. It won't sit on your night table for long. Your spouse will ask you to please turn off the light and go to bed. I should have taken notes as I read since I live part of the year in Provence and now I want to go on a "treasure hunt". We are all aware that the Romans were in Provence but how many of us really knew what they were doing and why they built so many roads, bridges and aqueducts, theaters and where we can go to see these amazing artifacts. If you are planning a trip to Southern France, buy this book. If you live in Southern France, buy this book. If you enjoy history, buy this book.

Lots of history of Romans in Gaul, enticingly written, makes you want to visit all the many, many sites discussed. A great intro for visiting Provence or just armchair enjoyment. Pix are all B&W; this is not a coffee table book but a portable edition small enough to travel with. Seems like quite thorough coverage of the huge Roman heritage in Provence in both physical and historical terms.

Great descriptions. Needs better photos.

Fascinating and informative . Great book

Just got back from a trip to Provence where I saw many of the antiquities described in this book. Might have been nice to have read before, but it's a joy to read all the details and history of Roman Provence. Edwin Mullins is a wonderful writer - thorough and evocative, he provides a great deal of historical context with an elegant and frequently humorous writing style. Highly recommend this book and will now be looking for others by Mr. Mullins.

Informative, but I do not like the format. All the photos are small and black & white only - nothing like the cover!

This very well-written book is replete with information on aqueducts, roads, bridges, temples, amphitheatres, cities, towns and theatres of Provence. I was particularly moved by the final two chapters relating to the conversion of Provence's inhabitants to Christianity in the post-Roman era. I didn't mind that the photos were smaller than some people might like. In fact, I preferred it, as this left more space for text.

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