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# Perfect London Walk



## Synopsis

Three veteran London visitors take their readers on a rambling off the beaten path, into a fascinating section of the city where tourists rarely find their way. Film critic Roger Ebert, short story writer Daniel Curley, and photographer Jack Lane leads the way across Hampstead Heath and through legendary pubs and haunted cemeteries, a stately home, and the tiny cottage where Keats wrote and wooed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Three veteran London visitors take their readers on a rambling off the beaten path, into a fascinating section of the city where tourists rarely find their way. Film critic Roger Ebert, short story writer Daniel Curley, and photographer Jack Lane leads the way across Hampstead Heath and through legendary pubs and haunted cemeteries, a stately home, and the tiny cottage where Keats wrote and wooed.

I have my gripes with Ebert, but like most other people in the world, was sad when he passed away. This is a neat little book, and it is a pleasure to own and read, and anticipate the walk....have only been to London once and am really hoping to make this happen in the next 8-10 years. I recommend the book, even if you don't make the walk it is a sweet read.

If you love London like I do this is a great book to have. I've done the walk and followed the text like a treasure map. The people you meet along the way are so friendly. Lunch at Spaniards Inn (circa

1585) is a must-do. Bring your camera.

We used a friend's copy of this book to explore London- had to have a copy of mine own for my next trip... Thank you Roger Ebert!!!

Condition as described. Signed by the author was an added bonus! Highly recommend.

Nice choice! Love Roger Ebert.

This perfect London walk combines historical buildings, park settings and views of the city. The book gave great directions and descriptions of what to see and do along the way. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to visit parts of London that tourists usually don't see.

Unlike some of the other reviewers of this book, I HAVE done this walk - I don't see how you can review the book without having done it. That said, I will admit it's a bit out of date (when you use a specific tree as a guidepost, you risk the tree being gone at some point in time, and the opening times at Keats House have changed). So, if you especially want to visit Keats House, Highgate Cemetery or Kenwood, do check the opening days and times before you start so you aren't disappointed. The basic walk is still doable, and there is a map with all of the highlights marked on it. The background information on the people who lived there, loved there, worked there, or died there, is just enough to pique your interest without being dry and overwhelming. It's a great stroll through Hampstead, an area the average tourist doesn't know about, so if you want to get off the beaten path, this is perfect. Highgate cemetery is also a fascinating place - you might think a cemetery is an odd place to visit, but it's really worthwhile. Do plan on spending a whole day doing this walk! The author points out the best options to stop for a drink or meal along the way. I lunched at the Spaniards Inn and it was atmospheric and the food good.

When you have the audacity to call something "perfect", you should make more of an effort to merit the title. This is a nice little book, and the walk is lovely, but I have seen much better books (and walks). What does make this book charming is that one can imagine walking with Mr. Curley, hearing him recite the literary passages presented here and seeing the sites discussed; indeed, one need not depend solely on imagination since there are a generous number of (black-and-white) photographs included. A very good map of the area is included. But the book fails as either a ramble

or a tour guide. If it is a ramble, let there be more narrative; if it is a guidebook, then let there be more information. Taking the walk with Mr. Curley is undoubtedly a wonderful experience. Unfortunately this book does not capture that experience.

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