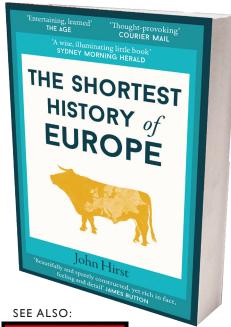


ADVANCE INFORMATION

THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF EUROPE • JOHN HIRST • HISTORY I APRIL 2018 • £8.99 • 978-1-910400-80-7 • BF PB • 224PP





9781910400739

John Hirst (1942–2016) was a Australian historian and social commentator known for his fearless commitment to 'the rigorous pursuit of historical truth that drove him to explore the deeper patterns and meanings of the past, and the contemporary implications, that others had missed' (Jeremy Sammut). He taught at La Trobe University in Melbourne from 1968 until his retirement in 2006.

'A wise, illuminating little book' SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

In this concise, lucid and entertaining book, with more than forty maps and illustrations, acclaimed historian John Hirst explores the qualities that have made Europe a world-changing civilisation.

Beginning with a rapid historical overview from the ancient Greeks to the present day (the 'shortest history' itself), Hirst goes on to examine what makes Europe unique: its political evolution; the shaping influence of its linguistic boundaries; the crucial role played by power struggles between Pope and Emperor; and of course the great invasions and conquests that have transformed the continent.

Written with clarity, feeling and wit, *The Shortest History of Europe* is a tour-de-force: read in a single afternoon, it will be remembered for a lifetime.

'Beautifully and sparely constructed, yet rich in fact, feeling and detail' James Button

'The balance of analysis and description, generalisation and specific instance, is beautifully maintained' *ABR*

'An entertaining, learned piece of historical compression' *The Age*

'Constantly thought-provoking' Courier Mail

- Sales rising year on year
- Rejacketed edition to match the bestselling SHORTEST HISTORY OF GERMANY