

[Free read ebook] The Cats and the Water Bottles: and Other Mysteries of French Village Life

# The Cats and the Water Bottles: and Other Mysteries of French Village Life

*David Bouchier*

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with illustrations by Diane Bouchier

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**David Bouchier : The Cats and the Water Bottles: and Other Mysteries of French Village Life** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cats and the Water Bottles: and Other Mysteries of French Village Life:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Mysteries" of French VillagesBy ManusThis book needs editing

so that the more interesting stories are extended and the rather trite ones are omitted. This may sound harsh but I wonder what the inhabitants of these French villages themselves, think of this rather shallow account from a visitor to their village. I found myself looking at the chapter headings and wanting to read only those that "looked interesting". The actual title about the water bottles is well known throughout the developed world as a way of keeping animals off gardens, so I don't really get the "mystery" that is over emphasised on this point. The book is, as said above, far too shallow, and I doubt if the writer stayed in villages for any length of time. It takes all 4 seasons and even longer to experience the minimum of perhaps a year in a village to understand the different moods of its people, its characteristics and variety of life - this book doesn't really give that feeling. A village in summer is a very different place to a village in winter - where is the atmosphere? It could have been written about the different people in an apartment block in a major city. Enough said. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Easy Pleasant Journey Into SmallTown French LifeBy A CustomerThis book is a pleasant and easy to get through journey into an outsider's experiences in a small town in the South of France. The book is easy to read and enjoyable. Lighter than the usual Peter Mayle fare (who's books I find excellent). Overall, a simple compilation of entertaining essays. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Delightful Afternoon ReadBy A CustomerSome wonderful things in life are just simple. That is what this book is. Not pretentious, not complicated and served in easy to chew bite-size essays. Overall a pleasant read that can warm you like an afternoon sunshine. (Not great literature, of course), but still a satisfying read.

Life in a French Village "Like any new immigrants, we arrived with many anxieties. How would we live here, so far from the familiar culture and comforts of Long Island? Would we be able to manage life's basic survival tasks like understanding the TV schedule, making friends with the neighborhood cats, and finding a bakery that had really good croissants? This is a good example of how we always worry about the wrong things. Croissants were not a problem: there was a bakery at each end of our street. The TV was so exceptionally bad that the schedule was irrelevant, and the local cats were rather more friendly than was strictly necessary."From: The Cats and the Water Bottles David and his wife Diane spent their sabbatical in a small village in the south of France. In this book, which he describes as "An antidote to Peter Mayle," recounts stories of their encounters with the villagers, village cats and village culture. Language problems, travels in France and Italy and reflections on French life make up this entertaining collection of essays about how it feels to become a foreigner.