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A Gaijin's Guide to Japan: An alternative look at Japanese life, history and culture

Ben Stevens

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A Gaijin's Guide to Japan: An alternative look at Japanese life, history and culture Ben Stevens From **Ben Stevens**, International Bestselling Author of **THE ENNIN MYSTERIES**, **BIG SOUND TEMPLE** & **PARKER: AN APOCALYPSE SURVIVOR**

A GAIJIN'S GUIDE TO JAPAN

An alternative look at Japanese life, history and culture.

Your Rough Guide or Lonely Planet book can tell you where to stay or what to see, but how do you really get under the skin of Japan?

In this book, long-term Japan resident Ben Stevens (**CONFESSIONS OF A JAPANESE TEMPLE GARDENER**) explores the serious and the frivolous, the history and the obsessions of a fascinating nation.

Taking an A-Z walk through Japanese culture, **A GAIJIN'S GUIDE TO JAPAN** looks at everything from akachochin bars to chikan (the weird blokes who touch you up on trains), geisha, inari shrines, karaoke, omikuji (sacred lottery) and ending up at zen.

With a fair sprinkling of celebrity mentions - from David Beckham to soap opera star Yong-sama - and handy guides to kanji and sushi this is the perfect book for the Japanophile in all of us.

Ideal for readers planning a visit to Japan but also to armchair fans of Japanese culture.

Amazon reviews for **THE ENNIN MYSTERIES**

'I confess to being addicted to them for the depiction of medieval Japan, the characters and the enjoyable stories. I treasure each Ennin mystery that I have...' westernwood

'This Japanese detective is a fine addition to the burgeoning field of Asian historical detectives which began with Judge Dee (China) and runs through I.P. Parker's Akitada...' Mcb.

'Once you start this, I'm betting you won't be able to set it down until you finish it...' Judy

'A fascinating crime-mystery book... The author weaves intrigue, subterfuge and cunning into a very enjoyable story...' J. Cepeda

'In the tradition of Holmes and Watson, transferred to Japan... Historical setting and cultural background are excellently researched...' D. Werdin

'Wonderful... Like a Japanese room arrangement with clean lines keeping clutter to a minimum...' AcerAcer

'If you like the Akitada books, you will enjoy this....' Mamakile

'The Sensei is a brilliant detective. Ben Stevens, as always rocks. He's one heck of a storyteller...' Lisa

'Atmosphere, poetry and menace... Conan Doyle-ish...' ThisandThat

'A feudal Japanese Sherlock Holmes... This ever-evolving excellent series... Vivid imagery and graphic detail which are a trademark of this writer...' Deborah Chaytor

'Try it... and like it... I don't look for mysteries from the middle ages, even ones set in Japan, but for some reason I love this series... Well-written...' Amazon Customer

'The story develops wonderfully...' Dave. N

'Loved it!... Simply amazed... I thoroughly enjoyed this read...' Edwina Callan

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'A prime example of deductive reasoning, set within feudal Japan...' Jennifer

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'The mysteries are intriguing and unusual... Couldn't put the stories down... Well worth the price...' Jay Gold

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