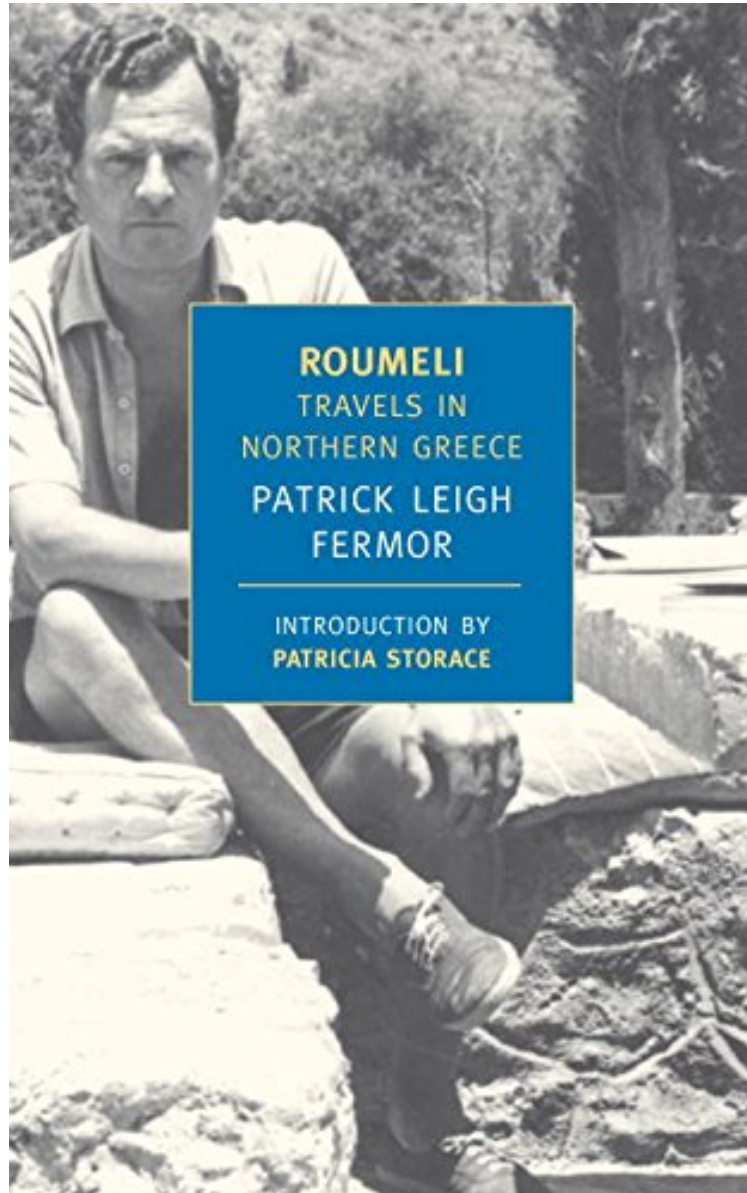


(Library ebook) Roumeli: Travels in Northern Greece (New York Review Books Classics)

Roumeli: Travels in Northern Greece (New York Review Books Classics)

Patrick Leigh Fermor

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#586778 in Books Fermor, Patrick Leigh/ Storace, Patricia (INT) 2006-06-06 2006-06-06Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .70 x 5.00l, .62 #File Name: 159017187X280 pages | File size: 53.Mb

Patrick Leigh Fermor : Roumeli: Travels in Northern Greece (New York Review Books Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roumeli: Travels in Northern Greece (New York Review Books Classics):

38 of 38 people found the following review helpful. Another Fermor ClassicBy zorbaI first encountered Fermor in his riveting accounts of his walk across Europe as World War II began descending. I was fascinated by his encyclopedic and poetic narrative. He made you feel you were walking alongside him. Now, his travels take us to Roumeli, the old name for northern Greece and Macedonia. Again, Fermor takes us on a poetic and detailed odyssey through villages and rugged Greek countryside, meeting interesting people and telling their tales. He has an uncanny ear (and eye) for the temperament and culture of the Greeks and one can sense his affection for the people he helped defend while a British commando on Crete during WWII. This is a travelogue of the old sort: careful attention to detail, wanderings off the well-trod tourist paths, and vivid description of the sounds, smells and history of this fabled land.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Roumeli; Taveln in Northern GreeceBy AlexandraExtraordinary..That is all I can say about it. It is so much more than a "travel journal". So much more than a description of landscapes and views. It is an incredibly researched history lesson, collected from people who have lived for generations in some remote areas of Greece and who have been faithfully passing on their heritage to their children, by word of mouth and traditions fiercely kept and protected. Can't wait to read all of Patrick Leigh Fermor's books, as well as his biography.Fascinating man.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a trip to a world unknown to many but well worth the time to know.By Alma Jeanne CarmanLike all of Fermor's books, it is written in a style that can prove beyond the ken of readers younger than a certain age, but it is too their misfortune that they do not expand their vocabulary to make these volumes available. This book speaks to a time when the world was truly civilized.

Roumeli is not to be found on present-day maps. It is the name once given to northern Greece stretching from the Bosphorus to the Adriatic and from Macedonia to the Gulf of Corinth, a name that evokes a world where the present is inseparably bound up with the past. Roumeli describes Patrick Leigh Fermor's wanderings in and around this mysterious and yet very real region. He takes us with him among Sarakatsan shepherds, to the monasteries of Meteora and the villages of Krakora, and on a mission to track down a pair of Byrons slippers at Missolonghi. As he does, he brings to light the inherent conflicts of the Greek inheritance the tenuous links to the classical and Byzantine heritage, the legacy of Ottoman domination along with an underlying, even older world, traces of which Leigh Fermor finds in the hills and mountains and along stretches of barely explored coast. Roumeli is a companion volume to Patrick Leigh Fermor's famous Mani: Travels in the Southern Peloponnese.

"Mani and Roumeli remain extraordinarily engaging books. This is partly thanks to Leigh Fermor's ability to turn an insight into a telling phrase and partly thanks to his capacity to weave a compelling story out of sometimes unpromising material. One of the best tales of all is the hilarious digression in Roumeli on the attempted recovery of a pair of Byrons slippers from a man in Missolonghi, on behalf of Byrons very odd great-granddaughter Lady Wentworth. When you see through all the nonsense about Hellenic continuity, there is, underneath, a much more nuanced account of the ambivalences of modern Greece, its people and its myths (its own myths about itself and us, as much as our myths about it)." Mary Beard, *The London of Books* "Recommended to those who admire exotic people, unbookish intelligence and captivating style." Gilbert Highet "Here it all is once again: brilliance, the felicitous profusion, the exuberance of learning and information. . . . Roumeli is not a beginning and middle and end book, but a series of pictures loosely related, mainly placed in Roumeli, in the north of Greece. Its unity, however, is not geographic so much as psychological. It deals with secluded ways and people communities but not minglers people who either by the necessities of their crafts or the strength of their traditions have kept to their own stream, side by side but not deeply affected by the changes around them. Placed as we are at probably the most sudden turn in history, any writing that deals with what has so short a time of survival ahead adds, as it were, a museum interest to its own intrinsic qualities. These pictures of Greece are things that a coming generation will look for in vain among the realities of their day." Freya Stark, *The New York Times* Patrick Leigh Fermor has written great travel books besides Roumeli and Mani, but I like to think that his extraordinary style is especially well suited to the subject of Greece, that the beautiful cragginess and almost blinding brilliance of his prose correspond particularly to that country's rugged, dazzled landscapes. Here Fermor establishes an ideal of travel writing: no one responds to a people and a place with more erudition and sensitivity. Benjamin Kunkel [Leigh Fermor] becomes fascinated by the last true nomads of the region, the Sarakatsans. His description of their wanderings is, for me, the best sort of literary geography lesson, and has even more geopolitical relevance now than when he wrote it. - Robin Hanbury-Tenison, *Geographical Praise for Patrick Leigh Fermor*: "One of the greatest travel writers of all time" *The Sunday Times* A unique mixture of hero, historian, traveler and writer; the last and the greatest of a generation whose like we won't see again. *Geographical* The finest traveling companion we could ever have . . . His head is stocked with enough cultural lore and poetic fancy to make every league an adventure. *Evening Standard* If all Europe were laid waste tomorrow, one might do worse than attempt to recreate it, or at least to preserve some sense of historical splendor and variety, by immersing oneself in the travel books of Patrick Leigh Fermor. Ben Downing, *The Paris About the Author* Patrick Leigh Fermor (1915-2011) was an intrepid traveler, a heroic soldier, and a writer with a unique prose style. After his stormy schooldays, followed by the walk across Europe to Constantinople that begins in *A Time of Gifts* (1977) and continues through *Between the*

Woods and the Water (1986), he lived and traveled in the Balkans and the Greek Archipelago. His books *Mani* (1958) and *Roumeli* (1966) attest to his deep interest in languages and remote places. In the Second World War he joined the Irish Guards, became a liaison officer in Albania, and fought in Greece and Crete. He was awarded the DSO and OBE. He lived partly in Greece in the house he designed with his wife, Joan, in an olive grove in the Mani and partly in Worcestershire. He was knighted in 2004 for his services to literature and to British-Greek relations. Patricia Storey is the author of *Heredity*, a book of poems, *Dinner with Persephone*, a travel memoir about Greece, and *Sugar Cane*, a children's book. She lives in New York.