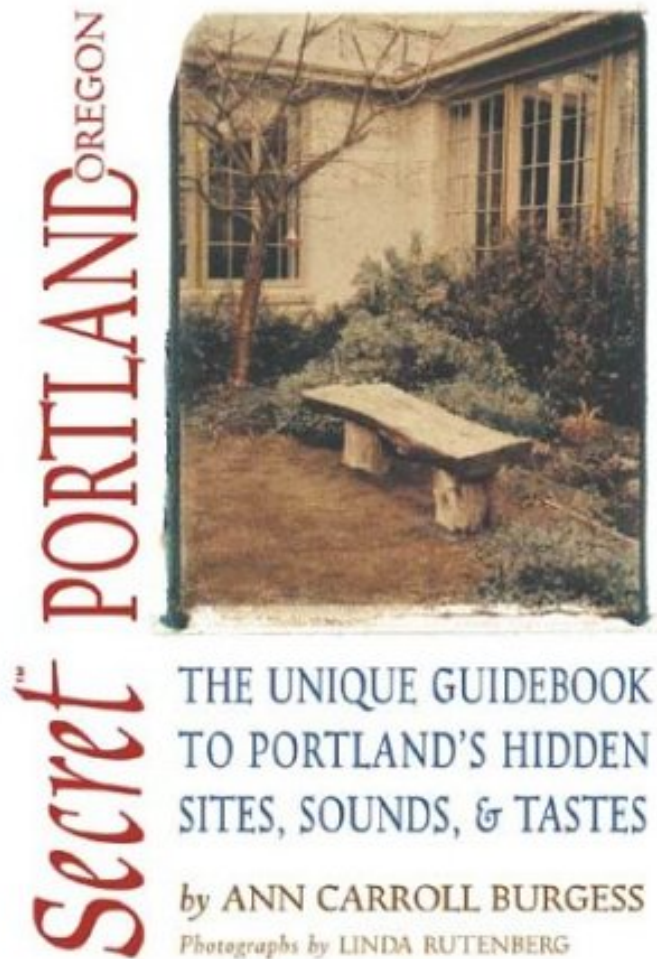


(Free pdf) Secret Portland (Oregon): The Unique Guidebook to Portland's Hidden Sites, Sounds, Tastes (Secret Guide series)

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Ann Carroll Burgess

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Ann Carroll Burgess : Secret Portland (Oregon): The Unique Guidebook to Portland's Hidden Sites, Sounds, Tastes (Secret Guide series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Secret Portland (Oregon): The Unique Guidebook to Portland's Hidden Sites, Sounds, Tastes (Secret Guide series):

49 of 49 people found the following review helpful. Nothing too secret about this guidebook. By Rose City

ReaderHaving greatly enjoyed Secret New York and Secret San Francisco from the same series, I was looking forward to reading Secret Portland. But this one doesn't stack up to the other two. I confess that I am a Portland native (now living in San Francisco), so may be more picky than a visitor reading the book, but it does not have the same insider flair that the New York and San Francisco books have. The other two were written by people who live in the cities they wrote about. It is obvious that this author does not live in Portland and has not spent much time there. The information is standard for any guidebook of the city. In addition to only covering the "sites, sounds, tastes" that you can find in any hotel room visitors' guide, this book is full of several small, but irritating, errors. For example, while the book includes a truly secret Portland gem, Martinotti's Italian cafe and deli, it misspelled the name as Marinotti's. Another, more confusing example: under "Secret Luxury," the author praises the RiverPlace Hotel as "small, elegant, personal . . . more like a posh home than a hotel" and, under "Secret Al Fresco," describes the hotel's restaurant Lucere as "European" and "chi chi." But under "Secret Rooms with a View," the author describes the same hotel as "a fairly standard, but pricy, modern hotel" and misidentifies the restaurant. Even more confusingly, several listings misidentify the neighborhood, for example, listing many downtown locations in southwest Portland as being in the "Buckman" neighborhood -- a neighborhood across the river in southEAST Portland. The nail in the coffin was the author's tip on how to pronounce the name of Portland's river, the Willamette: "Want to sound like a local? Make sure to pronounce it "will-uh-met," with the accent on the "uh." Wrong-o! As any Portlander will tell you, it's Will-A-mitt, damn it! 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Too many mistakes

By J. Howard I have to agree with the other reviewer that mentioned too many mistakes. I picked up this book, and it fell open to "Secret Dog Friendly", with the information that "only two city parks allow dogs to run off the leash." Wrong! There are many parks in Portland with off-leash areas, and there were at least 4 at the time this book was published (2003). On the same page, under the heading "Secret Driving Rules", the author writes, "Don't you wonder every time you visit a new place whether you can turn right on a red light?" What?? This has been the law in all 50 states since 1980!! Where has she been for the last 20+ years? The fact that I found these 2 errors/bizarre statements on the FIRST PAGE I looked at do not bode well for the accuracy of this book. And then I flipped to the last category, "Secret Yurts", where the author writes, "You'll find them in state parks in the Portland area as far south as Coos Bay..." Coos Bay is 220 miles from Portland- a pretty loose definition of "the Portland area". It's as if she wanted to include this category because it was cute or funny or offbeat, regardless of whether or not it fit in this book. Her definition of "secret" is mystifying, at best. Let's take a look at "Secret Waterfalls"- the first one listed is Multnomah Falls. Oh, you mean the MOST POPULAR TOURIST DESTINATION in Oregon?? That secret?? Or under "Secret Libraries"- Multnomah County's Central Library. The #1 ranked library by circulation IN THE COUNTRY? Do you think maybe this library is not really much of a secret? Finally, again just flipping around in the book, I came across "Secret Personality", and find this statement: "So beneath the ponytails, beards, Levis and tie-dye,..." Well, I didn't even want to finish the sentence! Talk about stereotyping- sheesh. Did this author even VISIT Portland? I would love to see a native or long-time Portlander write this book- I think it would be really interesting.

This intimate pocket-sized guide to the City of Roses features quirky eccentricities known only to locals, such as the weather machine in Pioneer Courthouse Square, the International Rose Test Garden, and the only three-door elevator west of the Mississippi. Also included are details about a bookstore that occupies an entire city block, bus routes, and sites for science fiction aficionados.

About the Author Ann Carroll Burgess has contributed to Natural History, Easy Living, and the Boston Globe. She is the author of The Guide to Western Canada and Atlanta Alive. She lives on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.