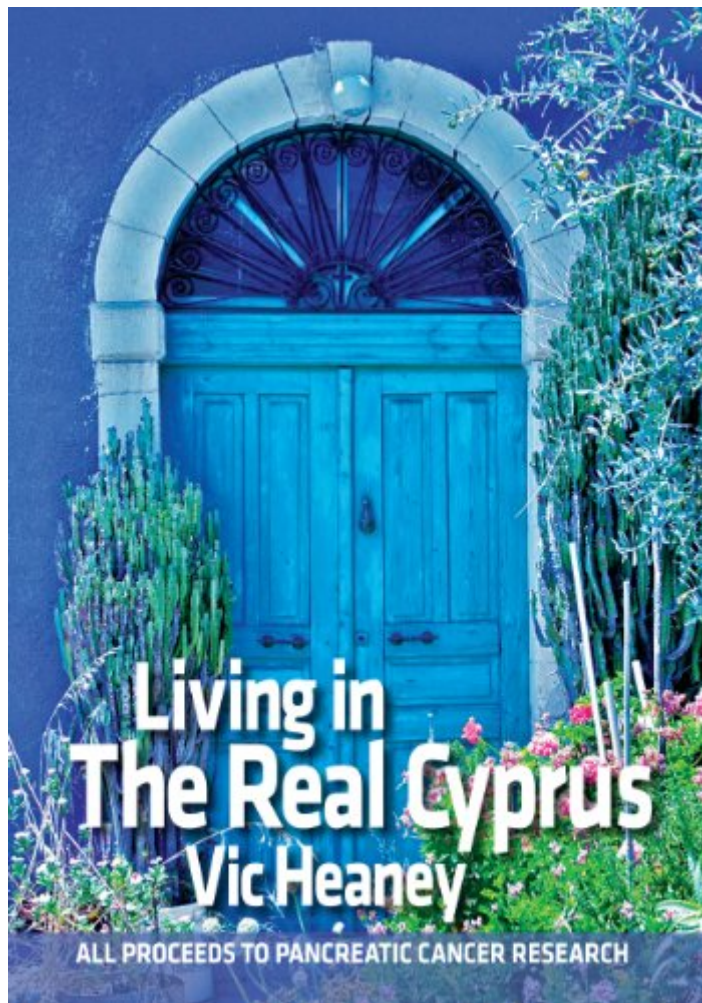


The book was found

Living In The Real Cyprus



Synopsis

Cyprus ticks all the boxes. Sun. Sea. Cheap food and drink. Friendly, smiling people. How would you like to live there? Is this island heaven too good to be true? Surely there can be no darker side? Is there no lingering resentment from the colonial period and the bitter and vicious guerrilla war which ended it? What happens when Vic and his wife Gay come into contact with the real Cyprus, away from the garish, overdeveloped tourist resorts? They quickly find people even more friendly and generous than in the towns, although less likely to speak English. But they also discover terrible cruelty to animals; winter weather worse than tourists are led to believe; snakes, dangerous driving and earthquakes; hunters, armed to the teeth, excited and trigger happy; institutionalised hatred between Greek and Turkish Cypriots; racism and sexual exploitation of women tricked into coming to Cyprus from abroad. Is paradise lost? Vic and Gay lived in Cyprus for 8 years while researching for this book which reveals how one only scratches the surface of a place when spending a holiday there and how one learns little of a country and its people in such a short stay.

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Customer Reviews

This is a lovely insight into living in Cyprus, and all the quirky things that happen when you settle in.

Good reading

It's been a while. It's been a while since this book was lived, written, and since I discovered it. The world scene has shifted dramatically since then, and Cyprus was not exempt. Vic Heaney lived in Cyprus in its 'golden days' and brings over his heartfelt love for the country and its people. In the 70s I used to travel to (and in) Cyprus regularly for various reasons and can only confirm the Cypriots' natural generosity, their gentle machism, their total hospitality which is almost oriental in nature and, even though not based on a conscious quid pro quo, you would be expected to show the same to your Cypriot host when he/she travels to your country. The flora and fauna naturally is still the same, even though the world economics have left no country unscathed; and I would recommend you read Heaney's Cyprus-logue if you wonder where to go on your next holiday to escape for a while. Armed with Heaney's vision, you can rediscover the true Cyprus under the rubble of the crisis fallout.

This book has been written as a guide to anyone who is thinking of living in Cyprus, to point out the pros and cons, and is full of useful advice that would prove invaluable to anyone who is considering this. I'm not considering moving to Cyprus but I still found the book to be fascinating. My husband and I had a holiday in Cyprus just before the country joined the euro zone. The country had made quite an impression on us, good and bad, so I found it very interesting to find out more about areas that we had visited, learn more about the Greek Cypriots and about the effect that the divided country and joining the euro had on their lives. Although the book is aimed at giving advice to anyone who is thinking of living in Cyprus, either full time or part time, I think that others would find this book interesting. If you enjoy travel books, which I do, you may also enjoy this.

Cyprus is a country that has held great attraction for me for a few years. It's close enough to be able to return to my home country of England, where my children live, but far enough from there to promise a warm, sunny climate, inexpensive cost of living, and a relaxed lifestyle. But I didn't actually know anything of the reality of living there, so this book has been invaluable. It is obvious that the author has a deep affection for the country and its people, and he has many charming anecdotes to tell. But it is not all sunshine and wine in Cyprus, as some of us might think, and this book does an excellent job of alerting potential buyers regarding the possible pitfalls they could encounter, particularly as regards travel to and from the island. Well worth reading for anybody considering moving there. Very informative, covering the good and the bad. I avoided reading the

chapter regarding cruelty to animals. I'm quite surprised by the negative comments by two other readers, as I didn't find the book either boring or politically biased, just filled with useful information (in my opinion) for anybody considering moving there. Still, horses for courses. Personally I thought it was well-worth a couple of quid.

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