

Return By Minor Road by Federico Picchianti: A Journey Through the Heart of Forgotten Italy

In his captivating book *Return By Minor Road*, renowned Italian photographer Federico Picchianti takes us on a breathtaking journey through the hidden corners of his homeland. Through stunning black-and-white photographs and evocative prose, he reveals a forgotten Italy, a land of ancient traditions, crumbling towns, and timeless beauty.



Return by Minor Road by Federico Picchianti

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 377 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Print length	: 79 pages
Paperback	: 152 pages
Item Weight	: 13.1 ounces
Dimensions	: 8.5 x 0.35 x 11 inches

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A Journey Off the Beaten Path

Picchianti's journey begins in the northernmost reaches of Italy, in the remote valleys of the Alps. From there, he meanders south, traversing the rolling hills of Tuscany, the rugged coastline of Liguria, and the sun-drenched islands of Sicily. Along the way, he encounters a cast of

unforgettable characters, from weathered farmers to eccentric artists, each with their own unique story to tell.



Picchianti's photographs capture the essence of these forgotten places with a raw and intimate honesty. He avoids the picturesque cliches that often define travel photography, opting instead for a more authentic and nuanced portrayal. His images are filled with a sense of timelessness, as if they have been frozen in a moment that has long since passed.

A Cultural Tapestry

In addition to its stunning visuals, *Return By Minor Road* is also a valuable cultural document. Picchianti delves deep into the history and traditions of

the regions he visits, shedding light on a way of life that is rapidly disappearing. We learn about the ancient craft of cheesemaking in the mountains of Lombardy, the traditional fishing techniques of the Ligurian coast, and the vibrant street markets of Sicily.



Elderly men playing cards in a village square. Photo: Federico Picchianti

Picchianti's book is not merely a travelogue; it is a love letter to a country that is both familiar and foreign. He celebrates the enduring spirit of the Italian people, their resilience in the face of adversity, and their unwavering belief in the importance of community and tradition.

A Timeless Masterpiece

Return By Minor Road is a beautiful and moving work of art that transcends the boundaries of photography. It is a journey into the heart of a forgotten Italy, a land of forgotten stories and timeless beauty. Picchianti's photographs and prose will stay with you long after you have finished the book, inspiring you to seek out your own hidden gems and to appreciate the beauty that lies off the beaten path.



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