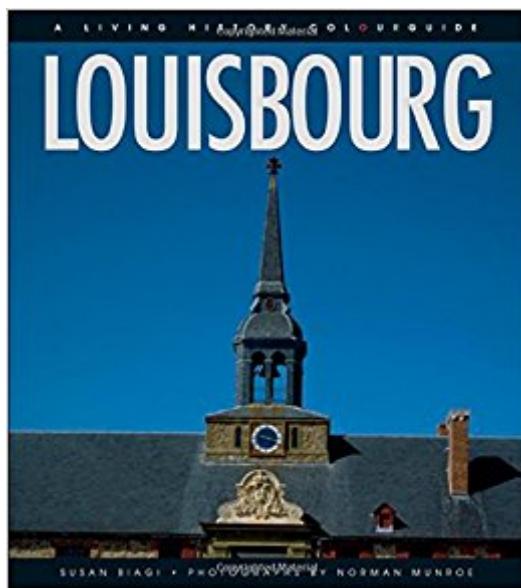


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# Louisbourg: Experience The History (Formac Illustrated History)



## **Synopsis**

At the Fortress of Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island, the 18th century comes alive. Park historians and interpreters have recreated the sights, sounds and sensations of life in a French military town in the year 1744. Author and historian Susan Young de Biagi relates the fascinating story of Louisbourg's birth, growth and eventual destruction. Her vivid descriptions of people, culture, fashions, food and politics provide a rich context for the story of Louisbourg's battle for supremacy in North America. This new edition offers completely new full-color photographs of the site and its characters along with a description of the ambitious restoration process that made Louisbourg one of the world's greatest outdoor museums; it is also a guide to nature walks and activities in the area around the fortress. Louisbourg is both a compelling history and a comprehensive guide to the unique and powerful experience of Louisbourg. This new edition, offered in both French and English, is completely redesigned with new photography and a detailed map.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"This visually appealing and well-organized visitor's guide to the reconstructed 18th-century fortified town of Louisbourg features a brief survey of the town's history before, during, and after the French period; a sensibly organized walking tour with informative essays on all the major buildings and structures on site; a perspective explanation of the challenges faced and met in reconstructing Louisbourg; and even advice on sights and trails in and around Louisbourg for those who seek more than a day visit experience. This is unquestionably the best Louisbourg visitor's guide to date. Its

first-rate introduction to the history of Louisbourg makes it a valuable resource for high-school and undergraduate students as well." (Olaf Janzen 1997-01-01)

SUSAN BIAGI is a native Cape Bretoner and a historian by training. She specializes in the history and culture of Cape Breton Island. She is the author of Louisbourg: A Living History Colourguide and Touring the Cabot Trail.

We are headed to Nova Scotia this fall and I used this book to read about what we will see. This book was well illustrated and written. This is the type of book that one might purchase in the gift shop at the site, but by purchasing through before our trip, I feel that more will be gained when we visit. Plus, it cuts down I weight in my suitcase returning home. I am always picking up these type of books when I travel, and after many stops along the way, the weight of them accumulates!

This 72 page book is packed with excellent views of Louisbourg, artifacts, reenactors, food, interior & exterior views of homes, etc. by Norman Munroe. There are 171 full color photos, plus an excellent 3-D map. The author, Susan Biagi, covers the history of each building, gives helpful brief tourist information, includes short histories of some of the inhabitants, discusses the sieges, and writes a little about the reconstruction. This is NOT a definitive history of "all" of Louisbourg, but it is a valuable quick history no tourist should be without. For those who reenact or like historical subjects, the photos and cultural info are a big help. Face it, Louisbourg is remote for most, so this is the next best thing to being there and staying warm. The format is like a virtual tour, because each site has a brief history and several photos. Pages are cued to a tourmap/sitemap, so you can pick and choose at will while firmly knowing where you are. Because the author and photographer are locals, their insight on various locations surpasses in depth the typical guidebook. For F&I Reenactors, this is a "must-buy", like the Osprey books. (Companies Frances de la Marine are largely featured, but the Karrer Regt. is also shown.)

This booklet has great full-color photos of the Canadian historical recreation of French Colonial Fortress/City/Port of Louisbourg, as well as excellent narration concerning the typical locations in the town a tourist would visit, like the bakery, tavern, King's Bastion, barracks, officer quarters, private homes, etc. There is a nice map for tourists with the locations numbered with information about the recreation and even information on the parts left un-reconstructed. Plenty of photos of personnel in colonial clothes doing military and civilian chores, too. This book might invite you

ponder the similarities and differences with Colonial Williamsburg (which also has a helpful guidebook).

The book helped me prepare for my visit to Fort Louisbourg. It gave a detailed background to the various buildings and fortifications, and I felt better prepared when I visited the largest fortification in North America.

This little book in its seventy two pages provides the reader a basic map and background of the existing reconstruction of Colonial Louisbourg. It serves quite well. Easy to read. Nicely illustrated. Personally, I would like one day for somebody to produce a three dimensional reconstruction of the entire colonial city, especially its great hospital.

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