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## The Le Corbusier Guide

*Deborah Gans*

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**Deborah Gans : The Le Corbusier Guide** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Le Corbusier Guide:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Guide and ReferenceBy L. HainesA most valuable reference. The descriptions provide insight into both the conceptual and literal origins of each work. Locales are well described. Nearby works by other early modernists are mentioned together with addresses. Though it is well worth reading on it's own, it is an excellent companion to larger books by authors such as Jencks.0 of 0 people found the

following review helpful. Excellent guide. Article by Plattus is excellentBy Bruce M. ColemanExcellent guide. Article by Plattus is excellent. Only problem: at 30 years old some info is wrong. While the buildings haven't moved, their condition has often chaged (Fondation has been meticulously restored), the opening hours have changed and, perhaps, how to get there may have changed.

The Le Corbusier Guide presents the architecture of Le Corbusier. The focus is on Paris given that it is his adopted city and the place where he came of age. Within its environs is a representative sample of his built work. It contains most of his purist houses, and an early foray away from the crisp surfaces of Purism. This itinerary follows the outlines of Le Corbusier's life's work. Beginning at his birthplace in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, the route continues to Paris, to the perimeter of France, and finally to the international scene architects, architecture, Paris. Also presented are Le Corbusier's work in Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Italy, United States, Argentina, Brazil, Tunisia, Iraq, Japan, USSR, and India. The itinerary includes not only the buildings but also the process of getting from one to the next. On the ""open road"" it is a pleasure to remember Le Corbusier's own joy of self-propulsion in the automobile, efficiency, and speed in the train; and the thrill of flight as he experienced it with the poet of flight, Antoine de Saint Exupery. All these mimetic pleasures are ancillary to the experience of the buildings in situ in their complex relationship to local landscape, national spirit, and international vision.

"This is the kind of book I have been waiting for, I think, for the better part of my life. Nothing is more frustrating to architecture buffs than to travel across the continent to see a celebrated building and then, since scholarly histories never deign to offer practical information, not to be able to find it... [With] Deborah Gans' superb book, life [is] vastly easier. Her excellent text is detailed...[and] contains excellent maps and photographs." - Paul Goldberger, The New York Times"About the AuthorDeborah Gans is an associate professor in architecture at Pratt Institute and a partner in Gans and Jelacic, an architectural and design studio based in New York City.