



Temple of the Goddess

Sacred Places of Goddess: 108 Destinations

by Karen Tate

In a fascinating fusion of travel, cross-cultural mythology and the Divine Feminine, author Karen Tate takes us to one hundred and eight places around the globe. *Sacred Places of Goddess* provides both travelers and general readers with a vast array of information. Its richly composed pages include many drawings, photographs and maps, and this helps create the effect of what is really a resource encyclopedia. Aside from the well-organized contents listing, I found the index highly useful in locating the Goddess, place or subject matter that was of special interest to me. Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Oceania, North and South America, the West Indies and Mexico are all featured.

Sites chosen by Tate demonstrate the indisputable fact that Goddess religion was a deeply personal and meaningful force in the lives of many of the world's ancient peoples. In her introduction, she points to the many artifacts worldwide that attest to the universal belief in Goddess. "Belief in the Divine Feminine," she states, "has not only continued without interruption for thousands of years to the present, but most scholars cite evidence for worship of Goddess as far back as 30,000 years, possibly predating worship of a male deity. . ." [Read on. . .](#)

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Continued . . . Tate's passion for both Goddess and travel is clearly evident in what might be the first crossover book between the modern Goddess movement and the mainstream travel industry. The reader is provided with useful information on temples, statuary, wall paintings, pottery, textiles, writings and more. Included in this work are the female petroglyphs in the caves of northwestern China, museums in the Indus Valley ripe with Goddess artifacts, ancient temples throughout Europe and the Middle East, Goddess statuary and sites in North Africa and so much more. Certain modern-day icons and temples are also included in the section on North America. Tate also adds Gaia Alerts, which she describes as "notices of ongoing or impending ecological or cultural devastation" which remind us of the need for the protection and preservation of these sites.

Travel directions, special places to visit in and around the sites and fascinating bits of myth and history all blend together to create a travel book that is unique in its breadth of information. Armchair travelers will be deeply engaged with this work, and world travelers will want to keep it close at hand. A highly recommended read, *Sacred Places of Goddess* is a resource book that will stand the test of time.

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Review by Jennifer Reif, author of *Mysteries of Demeter; Rebirth of the Pagan Way* (1999), *Morgan Le Fay's Book of Spells and Wiccan Rites* (2001), *Aphrodite's Riddle: A Novel of Goddess Worship in Ancient Greece* (2003), and the co-authored book *The Magical Crone: Celebrating the Wisdom of Later Life* (2003).

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