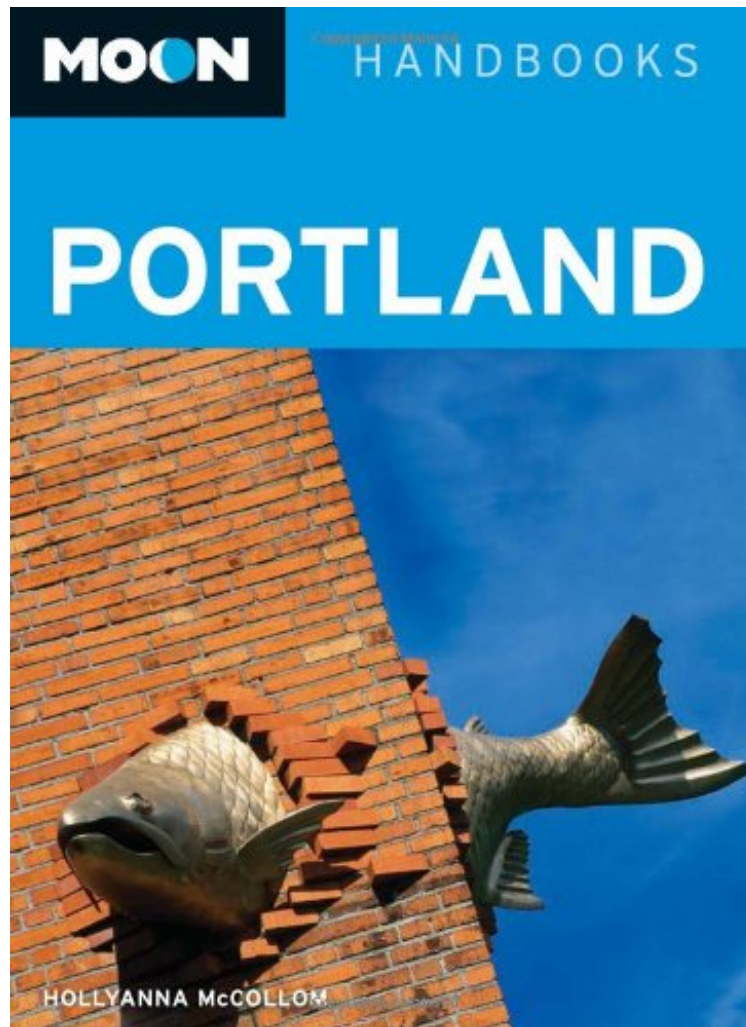


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Moon Portland (Moon Handbooks)

Hollyanna McCollom

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Hollyanna McCollom : Moon Portland (Moon Handbooks) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Moon Portland (Moon Handbooks):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Terrific Moon Handbook -- detailed and thoroughBy James KunzWhen Moon Handbooks are on their game, so to speak, they're my top choice for U.S. guides. Portland's is no exception. Let me try to outline the ways this is such a good guide.First off, the book begins with 14 pages of full-color maps. Since Portland is such a walking town, it's great having them as a reference. In addition, these maps show the location of every sight/museum/restaurant/shop/nightclub recommended by the guidebook, using color-coding to keep things simple and uncluttered. Again, this is really useful reference.After the map comes a short and handy section called "Discover Portland" which gives a sample three day itinerary, gives suggestions about where in Portland to spend your time, etc. After that the guidebook shifts into its recommendations, which is done very intelligently and

logically. Ms. McCollom is a good writer, and her obvious love of her city shines through her prose. She takes the reader through Sights, Restaurants, Nightlife, Arts Leisure, Shops, and Hotels, all of which have thorough descriptions. Then there's a section on excursions from Portland, and finally a long background section, covering everything from local customs to the city's history. Finally, just in case you didn't find the book useful enough, the editors place not only a general index, but also a nightlife index, a restaurant index, a hotel index, a sights index, and a shops index. Again, really very user-friendly and helpful. All things considered, this is a terrific guidebook. My only complaint is that some of the map pages ripped out fairly easily. Seriously -- that's the only negative thing I have to say. So please, if you're in the market for a Portland guide, get this one. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ended up being my go-to guide in Portland. By a reader from I'm extremely obsessive about researching my vacations completely in advance online but didn't have much time to do that this time, so this book was one of several that I ended up buying months ahead of my solo vacation to the Rose City, but in the end it was the one I carried around and made notes from each evening for the following day's activities. The colored maps in the front turned out more helpful than the removable one included in the day-by-day tourist guide, and the author seemed to have pretty good insight into many of what turned out to be my favorite places. While I believe it's nearly impossible in any major city to keep up with the hottest restaurants and shops for more than a few months, she did a pretty good job. Clearly, Ms. McCollom is a carnivore since her food lists favored the meat-centric menus (Beast, Le Pigeon, Lardo) of the Beard-award darlings, but she includes some of great foodie-lovers non-touristy spots as well. After reading this, I was able to easily delve further into areas that I wanted to explore online in more detail. I especially appreciated the couple pages on trendy strolling neighborhoods, and tips similar to "this is a popular artsy area full of galleries, but the boutiques are spread out over 20 blocks or so, so expect to walk a lot or move the car often" really helped narrow down choices on super hot days or when I had just an hour or two. I guess you have to walk the line between what Portlanders love and what tourists go for in a tourist guide. I did appreciate inside tips like 'carrying an umbrella will label you a tourist; Portlanders just wear jackets with hoods,' and that nobody honks in Portland except in cases of emergency (or if you're a tourist). They also drive the speed limit everywhere, even on the freeway! I'm from L.A.; we honk to communicate and drive like "The Transporter" even if it's just to the end of the block. But then we never have to worry about cyclists or pedestrians! All in all, I would agree with most of the advice and sights and eats in this book. In spite of hating to be seen as a tourist or carrying around much weight, I made an exception for this book because I didn't want to write that many notes on my phone. In the end, I scribbled a few of my own notes of "Bests" in the book and gave it to a friend who's headed up there in a few months. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A great guidebook. By Lisa Rechisky I bought this on a whim on our way to the west coast for a spur the moment vacation we'd done zero planning for. This book was great! I read it on the plane and picked out several things I wanted to be sure we hit on our visit. I would highly recommend it for people planning a trip to Portland. The layout of the MOON books is designed for a quick read and is well put together to be a guide book - not a historical novel about the place you are visiting as some guide books are.

Longtime resident Oregonian Hollyanna McCollom covers the best of the Portland area including the Cultural District, the Alphabet District, and Alberta Street. She provides a variety of travel strategies such as The Best of Portland, Pint-sized P-Town, and Rainy Day Portland. The guide also covers the most popular sights, including Ankeny Square, Skidmore Fountain, Union Station, and the Alberta Art Walk. Complete with expert tips on the best dining that spans different cuisines, as well as the best bars and nightclubs, Moon Portland gives travelers the tools they need to create a memorable travel experience.

About the Author More than half of the telephone calls Hollyanna McCollom receives are from friends, family, and colleagues asking her for advice. The questions vary she's heard everything from "My mom is in town, where should I take her to dinner?" to "What's the best strip club in town?" So far, she hasn't once been stumped. A native Oregonian, Hollyanna spent two years as the editor-in-chief of PDX Magazine, a "where to go, what to do" publication for the city of Portland, before leaving to pursue a career as a freelance writer and full-time advocate for the city. Mother of two rambunctious, sword-obsessed boys, Hollyanna is a part-time poet and part-time pirate who lives in southeast Portland and spends her free time shopping in thrift stores and singing terrible karaoke punk songs.