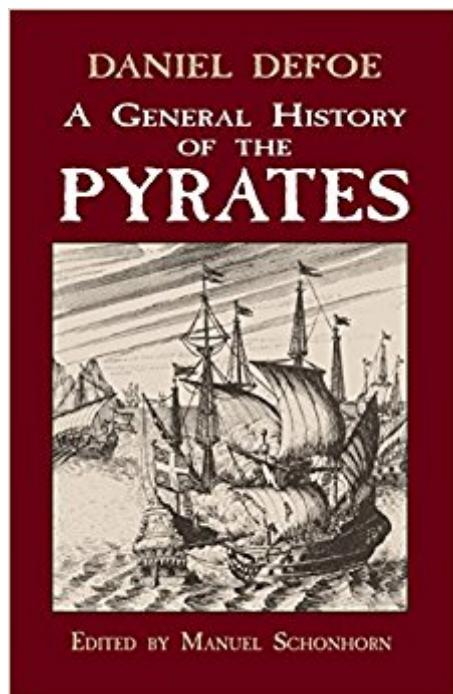


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A General History Of The Pyrates (Dover Maritime)



Synopsis

Famed for his enduring fictional masterpieces *Robinson Crusoe* and *Moll Flanders*, Daniel Defoe also possessed considerable expertise in maritime affairs. As a commission merchant, importer, shipowner, and an active journalist who reported "ship news" and interviewed surviving pirates, Defoe achieved a high degree of authority on the subject of buccaneers. His knowledge was such that his book, *A General History of the Pyrates*, remains the major source of information about piracy in the first quarter of the 18th century. Reprinted here in its entirety, this fascinating history abounds in tales of flamboyant outlaws and their bloody deeds: Captain Edward Teach, alias Blackbeard; Captain William Kidd, whose trial and execution created a sensation throughout London and the world; Bartholomew Roberts, one of the most successful pirates of the era, whose crews captured an estimated 400 prizes in three years; Mary Read and Anne Bonny, who disguised themselves as men to sail under the Jolly Roger with the ill-fated Captain John Rackham; and many more. An engrossing blend of fact and fiction — incorporating Defoe's celebrated flair for journalistic detail — these lively tales of seafaring rogues and rascals and their ill-gotten gains will captivate armchair sailors, maritime enthusiasts and any lover of adventure on the high seas. This unique work has been edited by noted scholar Manuel Schonhorn, who has also supplied a provocative Postscript to the Dover Edition offering insights into the vast popularity of this subject in today's theater, movies, TV specials, magazine articles, lavish books, and maritime exhibitions. In an added "Note on the Author and the Text," Professor Schonhorn also examines the arguments for and against Defoe's very authorship of this important book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Despite varying titles, these are essentially the same book. Published in 1724, Defoe's chronicle of the scourges of the sea was a smashing success, finding a wide audience eager for tales of those cutthroat sailors who flew the skull and crossbones. The Dover edition is more scholarly, including several essays on Defoe, indexes (ships, names, and places), photos, and a postscript. If you don't need any of that, save a couple of bucks and go with the Carroll & Graf edition. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Daniel Defoe (1660-1731), born in London as Daniel Foe, was a novelist, pamphleteer, journalist, and political spy. He is celebrated for his frank and dramatic realism in fiction and the accuracy, vigor, and lucidity of his journalism. Considered the father of the English novel, he was also the first author of ghost stories in English literature. He is best known for his novels Robinson Crusoe and Moll Flanders. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

This book is so delightfully comprehensive, all others will pale in comparison. Massive footnotes and fantastic bibliographical references included to make for an easy transition in investigating historical piracy. Must-read!

Wonderful book on the history of pirates. It's a little tough to read because it's truly the grammar of 1725, but it's detailed and the closest to a first hand account we have. He covers all the main pirates we know, and gives a good account of each.

Such a great book. Written in "ye old english"... Yet not so obtrusively that you spend twice as long trying to decipher the words! Very well written accounts of those scurvy dogs! I sincerely hope the author considers making a second volume with other notorious pirates like Jean Lafite!

If you struggle with 17th Century English you're going to have a slog but this is a great contemporary source for details on the real Pirates of the Caribbean.

Reviews mention illustrations, there are none. So, either the reviews are wrong or the item has

changed.

The perfect introductory text to the life of the most well known pirates.

A VErrierrrry slow read, but very interesting!

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