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Best Of The National Air And Space Museum



Synopsis

Experience the thrill of flying some of the world's most important airplanes and spacecraft. Best of the National Air and Space Museum provides unprecedented access to the most popular museum in the world. The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum hosts an average of seven million visits every year. The Udvar-Hazy Center—three football fields long and ten stories high—receives more than one million visits annually. Best of the National Air and Space Museum features the best of both museums, from the Challenger space shuttle and the Wright flyer to the Spirit of St. Louis and the stealth bomber. Robert Van der Linden, curator of aeronautics, has selected the most important, popular, and just plain impressive aircraft and spacecraft from the collections of both museums to be showcased in this beautiful book. Each page spread includes intriguing facts of the item's design, use, mission, specifications, and dimensions. A must-have for space and aviation buffs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

F. ROBERT VAN DER LINDEN is the curator of special purpose aircraft and commercial aviation in the Smithsonian Institution National Air & Space Museum's Aeronautics Division. He is also the author of *The Nation's Hangar: Aircraft Treasures of the Smithsonian*.

An excellent overview of the collections at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Even if you are not an aviation buff, this book provides a good example of the wonderful work the Smithsonian does

in all fields.

You can't beat anything the Smithsonian does.

I recently visited the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum. It was the first time I'd been there since they moved into their current facility in the mid-1970's. It was breathtaking. The best way to describe the effect of walking in the main entrance is to envision the bedroom of a boy who hangs model airplanes from the ceiling. Only at the NASM, the "models" hanging from the ceiling are full-size. I was a model-building boy in the 1950's, and my favorites were planes I'd built from kits. Unfortunately, the museum was undergoing some of its regular updating and a few of my favorite planes weren't on view, such as the F89 Super Saber. Fortunately, that plane and most (if not all) the permanent collection are profiled in the Best of the National Air and Space Museum. If at all possible, visit the museum. If you can't get there, buy the book. Actually, buy the book in either case. You won't be disappointed.

Good book

This is enjoyable for those who really appreciate background of the Museum's top exhibits; the author clearly enjoys his detail. Some will be confused by strict alphabetical order instead of a timeline, but just appreciate it as a rich historical collage, far more than just a coffee table volume.

Teriffic collection of fine aircraft photos from all eras!!

Everyone should read this, very interesting

Ordered this for Christmas gifts for grandchildren who live in the Washington DC area. They were very happy to receive this book.

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