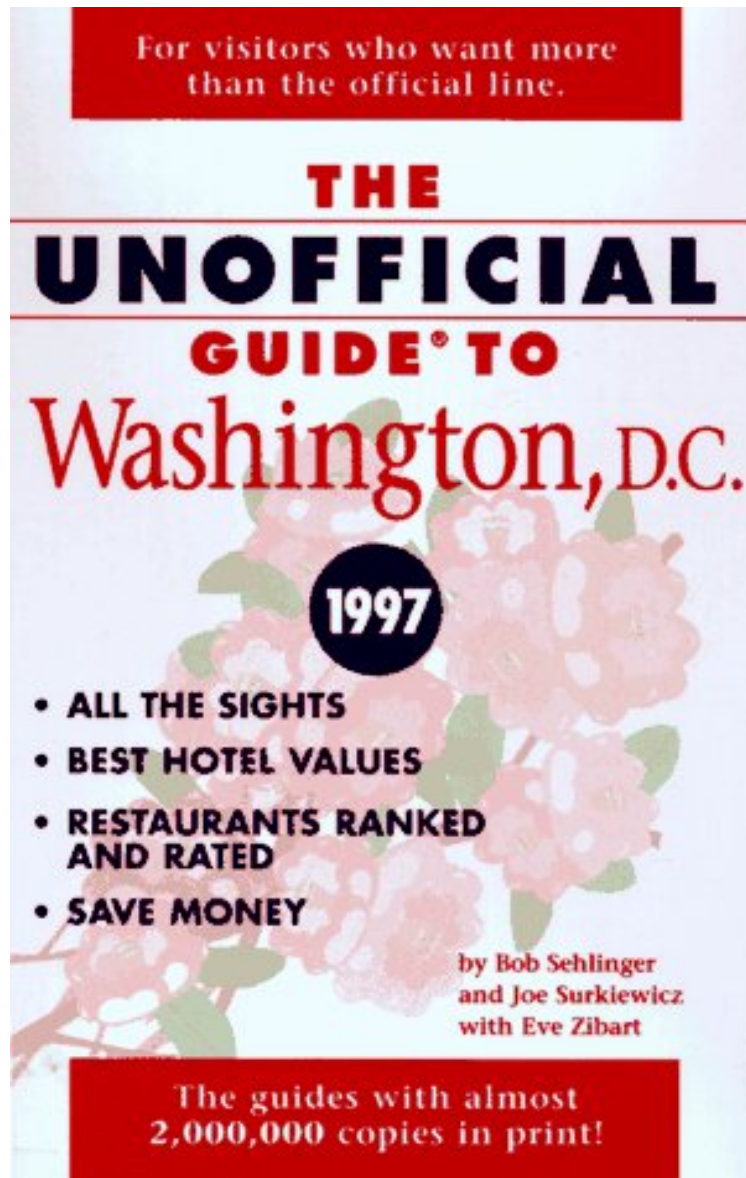


(Mobile ebook) The Unofficial Guide to Washington, D.C. 1997 (Issn 1071-6440)

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Joe Surkiewicz, Eve Zibart, Bob Sehlinger : The Unofficial Guide to Washington, D.C. 1997 (Issn 1071-6440) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Unofficial Guide to Washington, D.C. 1997 (Issn 1071-6440):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Decent book, but is outdated.By mayo222We bought this book to help plan our trip to DC and it was helpful with providing things to do and helps rate things that different age groups

would like/not like to do. The book is somewhat outdated/not complete though. Some information was incorrect or maybe geared more towards peak travel periods as we went after labor day and a lot of the opening/closing times of buildings were incorrect. One example, the book suggests getting up very early to reserve tickets for the Jefferson Monument, we decided to take our chances instead of getting up very early in the morning as the book suggested. We went and got tickets for the 2:00 tour at about 1:50. If you do get this book I would recommend using it as a source to get ideas and then researching the actual attractions on-line to get actual opening/closing times.

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great except for the food and restaurant suggestions. By a reader. For the most part, I found this guidebook terrific. The good parts include: - Very detailed and frank descriptions of the attractions (museums and monuments). I found the information accurate and thorough, including the info about who would best love each site, and which parts of the museums were best if you had limited time to visit them. Saying which Metro stations were closest to each attraction was a nice touch, as was the information about how to use the Metro, and the Metro maps. The map of the Mall with the locations of each museum was good, too, although it would have been much easier to use if it were at the front of the book instead of buried in the middle. Trying to flip back and forth through the book was a bit frustrating. - It's not padded with color photographs you don't really need. - The information doesn't read like advertising/PR for each site. It's clear the team of reviewers actually visited every place listed and evaluated it honestly. These evaluations and descriptions were more than worth the price of this guide. I paged through other guidebooks, and this was the most useful and practical of them all, and the only one I bought and brought with me.

The bad/mediocre: - The food and restaurant recommendations were way off the mark. We got shut out of the cafes at the National Gallery of Art and the Sculpture Garden Pavilion because the book didn't mention that they closed earlier than the museums in which they were located. The food court at the Old Post Office Pavilion was depressing and unhygienic (my friend had to tell the guy at the Middle Eastern station to use gloves, and he grumbled about it), and the food was gross. The guidebook's idea of what constituted affordable food was laughable. I would have appreciated more listings for cheaper restaurants; its idea of a moderate price was somewhere in the \$30-60 for an entree range. There was also no info about which museum/Mall area cafes and food courts would be best if you wanted to avoid swarms of children. - The phone number for the monuments at night tour was wrong. There were a few recs for hop-on-hop-off buses that included a tour guide, but no recs for the type that simply goes around the tourist sites without a guide (i.e., less time-consuming and costly, and doesn't skip a bunch of sites by rolling right past stuff you want to see en route to places you might not want to visit; we saw buses to that effect when we got there, but there was no info reviewing them in this guide). - As mentioned above, the maps included were great, but placed in inconvenient places in the guide. There was no big map of the whole city, which would have been nice, and there was no Circulator route map (this is a hop-on-hop-off service meeting the above requirements). Our hotel had Circulator maps, so we were fine, but they should have been included in the guidebook. - The neighborhood descriptions were pretty wimpy and short. The descriptions of stores and restaurants in each area were in separate sections of the book instead of listed within or right after the neighborhood descriptions.

Despite those drawbacks, this is definitely way better than the other guidebooks out there, especially if your trip will focus on the attractions along the National Mall.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Saves Time and Money - BIG TIME! By Marcus Oregon. This book proved itself utterly invaluable on our recent American History vacation in and around Washington DC. I can say that this small investment brought at least 50 times its value back in cost and time savings. If you are planning a trip to the DC area, you owe it to yourself to pick this resource up and buy it at least six months in advance or preferably sooner. The currency of this book seems perfect and I found no errors in it whatsoever.

What most people know about our capital is just the tip of the iceberg--this book will show them the rest. The Unofficial Guide to Washington, D.C. gives travelers the lowdown on hundreds of hotels, restaurants, and attractions. Ratings, phone numbers, and hours of operation are given.