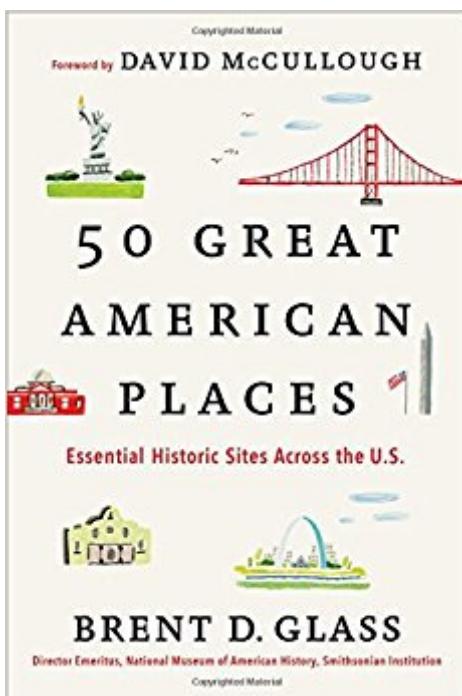


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# 50 Great American Places: Essential Historic Sites Across The U.S.



## Synopsis

A one-of-a-kind guide to fifty of the most important cultural and historic sites in the United States guaranteed to fascinate, educate, and entertain—selected and described by the former director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. From Massachusetts to Florida to Washington to California, takes you on a journey through our nation’s history. Sharing the inside stories of sites as old as Mesa Verde (Colorado) and Cahokia (Illinois) and as recent as Silicon Valley (California) and the Mall of America (Minnesota), each essay provides the historical context for places that represent fundamental American themes: the compelling story of democracy and self-government; the dramatic impact of military conflict; the powerful role of innovation and enterprise; the inspiring achievements of diverse cultural traditions; and the defining influence of the land and its resources. Expert historian Brent D. Glass explores these themes by connecting places, people, and events and reveals a national narrative that is often surprising, sometimes tragic, and always engaging—complete with photographs, websites for more information, and suggestions for other places nearby worth visiting. Sites you would expect to read about—in Boston, New York, and Washington, DC—are here, as well as plenty of surprises, such as the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe, or Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, or the Village Green in Hudson, Ohio; less obvious places that, together with the more well-known destinations, collectively tell the story of America. For families who want to take a trip that is both educational and entertaining, for history enthusiasts, or anyone curious about our country’s greatest places, this book is the perfect guide.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Author Brent D. Glass, director emeritus of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution, is a public historian who believes that history should be made accessible to all. In this excellent book, Glass travels across the geographical breadth of the United States in his search for 'essential' historic sites. . . . It's a wonderful contribution to historical literacy, with a foreword by Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough." (June Sawyers The Chicago Tribune) "Brent Glass's 50 Great American Places is a joy to read. Ripe with historical insight, this work reminds us how much of our national identity has been shaped by these historic sites. This book is a gift to all those who want to understand what it means to be an American." (Lonnie Bunch, Founding Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture) "Brent D. Glass's 50 Great American Places is a bountiful treasure trove of essays about sanctified historic sites and cultural landmarks. It should be required reading for schools across America. Every page crackles with wisdom and insight. Highly recommended!" (Douglas Brinkley)

Brent D. Glass is Director Emeritus of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. A national leader in the preservation, interpretation, and promotion of history, Glass is a public historian who pioneered influential oral history and material culture studies, an author, television presence, and international speaker on public memory and museum management. He lives in Washington, DC. David McCullough has twice received the Pulitzer Prize, for Truman and John Adams, and twice received the National Book Award, for The Path Between the Seas and Mornings on Horseback. His other acclaimed books include The Johnstown Flood, The Great Bridge, Brave Companions, 1776, The Greater Journey, and The Wright Brothers. He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award. Visit [DavidMcCullough.com](http://DavidMcCullough.com).

I enjoyed this book. I found the background material about each site and the surrounding areas very interesting. Even though I am not well traveled, I noted that I had actually been to a great many of these places. Most fascinating to me is how I didn't even know it at the time. Had I read this book prior, I would have paid more attention. My main takeaway from his education book is that there is so much history and interesting places all around us and I wasn't even aware of it. I am much more aware now and I will drive a couple of more miles and get out of the car in the future.

Quick Ship, As Promised. Book is fantastic, so much to see in the good ole USA. Will do business again.

It's an Historical tour as opposed to "touristy" attractions. Mr. Glass made this reading delightful!

Gave to history teacher as a gift. She loves it.

interesting

Book just okay. Seller good person to deal with.

A must have book for planning an educational trip or just learning about our wonderful country. You will probably use it to plan your next vacation and discover places you had no knowledge of what is special about our USA.

Thanks!

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