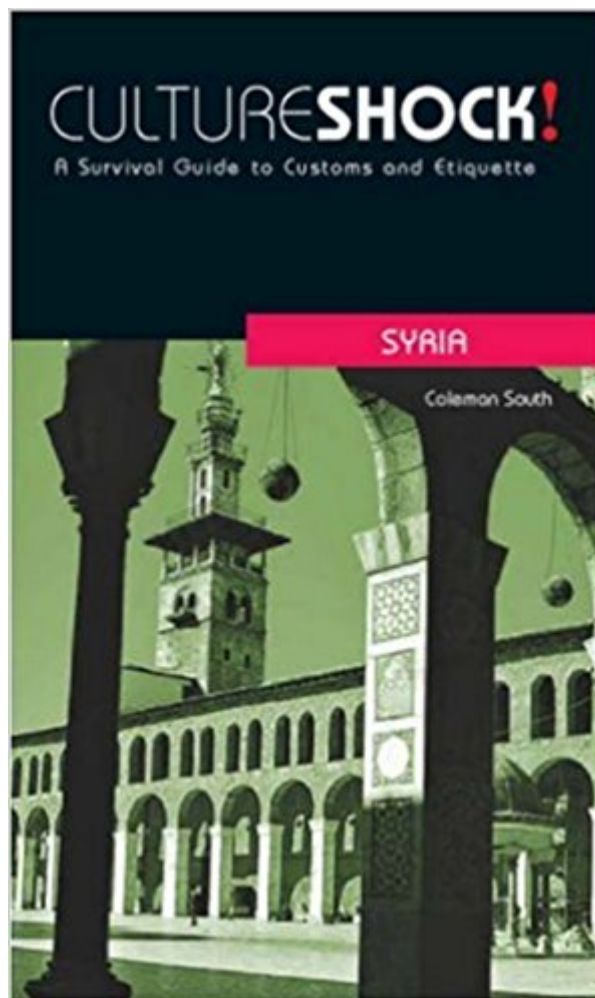




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# Culture Shock! Syria: A Survival Guide To Customs And Etiquette (Culture Shock! Guides)



## Synopsis

With over three million copies in print, CultureShock! is a bestselling series of culture and etiquette guides covering countless destinations around the world. For anyone at risk of culture shock, whether a tourist or a long-term resident, CultureShock! provides a sympathetic and fun-filled crash course on the do's and don'ts in foreign cultures. Fully updated and sporting a fresh new look, the revised editions of these books enlighten and inform through such topics as language, food and entertaining, social customs, festivals, relationships, and business tips. CultureShock! books are packed with useful details on transportation, taxes, finances, accommodation, health, food and drink, clothes, shopping, festivals, and much, much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 6-10?Straightforward, up-to-date overviews of two Arab nations. In addition to the standard coverage of country books, these well-written texts address the changing roles of women; marriage and funeral customs; examples of typical wages; and the manner in which different social, ethnic, and religious groups interact with one another. The attractive layout features a high-quality full-color photo on each page. Pastel-colored blocks of text give more in-depth information about high-interest topics. An uncluttered physical map of the country is useful, as is a world map that shows the nation's relative size and continent placement. A "Quick Note" section outlines major statistics and ready-reference facts. Arabic words are defined in the text and in the glossary. Two valuable additions that flesh out cultures that Americans need to know more about.?Sandra L. Doggett,

Urbana High School, Walkersville, MD Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Coleman South is a Marshall Cavendish author.

When I worked in Damascus, the director of the office asked me to read and review this excellent guide to Syria and Syrian culture. He praised the book. As a Spanish expatriate, 10 years resident in Syria, fluent in Arabic, married to a Syrian woman, with Syrian children, he told me he had learned much by reading the Culture Shock guide. And as I read the chapters, I saw page after page of text describing my own experiences in Damascus and Syria. Marvelous. I recommend this guide to anyone visiting Syria. I bought my own copy when I returned to the United States. ( And the text includes a very quick explication of the Arabic language. A good introduction to Arabic language students. The value of those few pages repays the price of the guide. ) However, there are sections requiring updating. Be prepared for changes. Even though thousands of years of the past remain on every street, Damascus is now accelerating into the 21st century. I encourage foreigners to visit Damascus before towers of glass and stainless steel replace the past. I also encourage students of the Arabic language to study Arabic in Damascus. As stated again and again in Culture Shock: Syria, the Syrian people welcome Americans and enjoy their acquaintance. An American professor / student of Arabic in Damascus

Very North American oriented book, some interesting and accurate economic informations (to open your company in Syria for example). Some funny quiz about social situations, but globally outdated, new laws since two years are not included, prices have changed, as well as services, especially in the Old City. Unless it's soon uptaded, and you come from Canada or the States; I would not really recommend it.

I've just returned from a month long stay in Syria where I traveled throughout the country. During my travels I met many interesting people young and old and from every political persuasion. All were extremely friendly to me as an American and stated that they viewed the American government (read Bush) differently from the American people. I was very disappointed in how out of date the Cultural Shock book was in almost all areas. The country is no where near as conservative as you would be led to believe by this text. On many occasions I couldn't believe that he was writing about the same country as I visited. I read the book before I went and then reread it upon return. I wouldn't

recommend this book because it is so very dated. An added point: I have traveled extensively in the middle east and am very familiar with the history and cultures. of many of the countries. This book sorely needs updating!!!

The country of Syria means a lot to me, because I have been there six times already to visit family and have enjoyed each visit, Second it is a wonderful country to visit, learn, and study about, because in Syria there a lot of interesting groups of people to learn and get to know about like the Arabs, Kurds, Armenians, Turkmens, Circassians, and the Jews.

I found this book to be 97% accurate of what my experiences were for the week I spent in Damascus and immediate areas. I highly recommend anyone planning a trip to Syria to use this book as a guide to understanding Syrian customs. Coleman South's attention to the details of everyday life helped immensely. The Syrian people were indeed friendly and became even more so when they found out I was an American. I would only add that since Culture Shock: Syria! was written, information access is widespread, as judged by the forest of satellite dishes seen on rooftops and CNN in my hotel rooms.

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