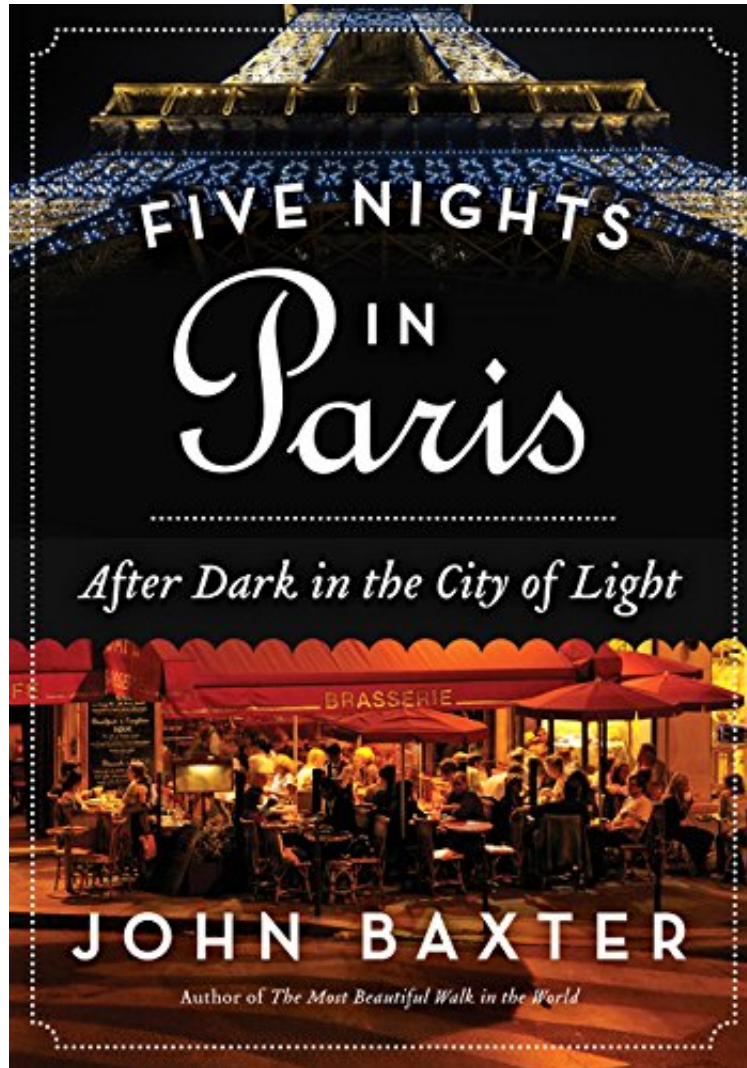


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Five Nights in Paris: After Dark in the City of Light

John Baxter

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John Baxter : Five Nights in Paris: After Dark in the City of Light before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Five Nights in Paris: After Dark in the City of Light:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A STORY TELLER TELLS OF PARIS By James L. Lockard I have been a fan of John Baxter for some time, particularly his "An Immovable Feast: A Paris Christmas," which I read every December, wherever I am. In Five Nights in Paris, he expands and expounds on some of the themes from "An Immovable Feast" and adds some more. He is a story teller - a raconteur, and Paris is filled with stories. This is not so much a guidebook (by all means keep your Rick Steves book) as a way of getting a feel for the essence of Paris - its twisted and sensational history, its idiosyncrasies, its characters, its pleasures and its difficulties. This is a book to be

read before going to Paris in my mind; or after a trip there to see what depths you probably missed as you strolled along the Seine. The use of the five senses is simply a device to open the non-Parisian to the city's true nature, although I suspect that is something that is actually closed off to anyone who does not live there for most of their life. John's books on Paris pull back the curtain a bit and give us outsiders a peek inside. This is a book I will give friends who intend to go to Paris for the first, or the twentieth time. It is a book for actual and potential loves of Paris. And by the way, his literary and artistic walking tours are a great way to see the city up close. You can find out more at his website. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Superb Guide to Paris After Dark By John H. Sterling Well, John Baxter has done it again. Just when you thought he told you everything you needed to know and love about Paris via his previous books, he publishes FIVE NIGHTS IN PARIS. In his unique and thoroughly engaging style, John takes you to parts of Paris to explore after hours that you will never find in run-of-the-mill guide books. Using his intimate knowledge of the City of Light based on years of living there, John explores the sights, sounds, and smells of restaurants, jazz clubs, and artistic hangouts that will make you want to keep a copy of the book in your coat, briefcase, or handbag as an essential resource for enjoying Paris after the sun goes down. If you really, really want to know Paris after dark, read this book!!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Paris Trifle By Chuck If you love Paris, FIVE NIGHTS is an enjoyable, light read. That said, the organizing principle of "five nights" or "five senses" is loose, at best. This is really just a bunch of random, brief pieces about (mostly) living in Paris. And I definitely wouldn't have the expectation that you've been introduced to Paris after dark if you are about to visit the city and hope for some guidance about what to do. Maybe a few hints.

The preeminent expat writer on Paris and author of *The Most Beautiful Walk in the World* takes you on an unforgettable nocturnal stroll through five iconic Parisian neighborhoods and his own memories. John Baxter enchanted readers with his literary tour of Paris in *The Most Beautiful Walk in the World*. Now, this expat who has lived in the City of Light for more than twenty years introduces you to the city's streets after dark, revealing hidden treasures and unexpected delights. As he takes you through five of the city's greatest neighborhoods—Montmartre, Montparnasse, the Marais, and more—Baxter shares pithy anecdotes about his life in France, as well as fascinating knowledge he has gleaned from leading literary tours of the city by dark. With Baxter as your guide, you will discover the City of Light as never before, walking in the ghostly footsteps of Marcel Proust, the quintessential night owl for whom memory was more vivid than reality; Hungarian photographer Gyula Halsz, known as Brassai, who prowled the midnight streets, camera in hand, with his friend Henry Miller; Louis Aragon and Philippe Soupault, who shared the Surrealists' taste for the city's shadowed, secret world; and Josephine Baker and other African-American performers who dazzled adventurous Parisians at late-night jazz clubs. A feast for the mind and the senses, *Five Nights in Paris* takes you through the haunts of Paris's most storied artists and writers to the scenes of its most infamous crimes in a lively off-the-beaten-path tour not found in any guidebook.

Charming. ... An entertaining meditation with plenty of digressions and detours into nocturnal Paris that should appeal to France lovers everywhere. ... A sharp-eyed, unsentimental look at the City of Light, its dark corners and midnight blues. (Chicago Tribune) This is armchair travel at its very best. Baxter, whose knowledge of Paris's recent cultural history is vast, is a worthy guide. Fascinating stories and anecdotes. ... Readers will emerge from the experience of this book feeling like well-traveled experts. (Library Journal (starred review)) An entertaining mix of amusing autobiography and fluent expertise. ... Baxter makes after-dark visits to the sites of once fashionable brothels and jazz clubs, follows the scent of perfume, and sumptuously indulges his passion for food, writing, at each turn, with wit and rapture. (Booklist) A MAIN SELECTION OF THE QUALITY PAPERBACK BOOK CLUB (*) From the Back Cover An irresistible nighttime tour of Paris, past and present, by the bestselling author of *The Most Beautiful Walk in the World*. Every guidebook to Paris is crammed with sites to see during the day, but visitors are often cast adrift once the sun sets and the Louvre, Notre Dame, and other tourist attractions shut their doors. Sadly for those who have retreated into their hotel rooms, it's only when darkness falls that the City of Light shines brightest. Full of as many unexpected detours and delightful digressions as the city itself, award-winning author John Baxter's *Five Nights in Paris* is the ultimate off-the-beaten-path guide to exploring the French capital after hours. Baxter leads readers on five evening tours across Paris's great neighborhoods. Each night's itinerary is selected for its connection to one of the five senses: the first, "Sound," explores the great jazz clubs of Saint-Germain-des-Prs; "Taste" samples the eclectic restaurants and bakeries of the Marais; "Touch" brings alive the city's legendary cabaret scene, including Montmartre's nearby Moulin Rouge; "Smell" describes Parisians' love of perfume and takes us to the infamous former opium fumeries along the Bois de Boulogne; and "Sight" traces the favorite haunts of the Surrealist artists, beginning in Montparnasse. About the Author John Baxter has lived in Paris for more than twenty years. He is the author of four acclaimed memoirs about his life in France: *The Perfect Meal: In Search of the Lost Tastes of France*; *The Most Beautiful Walk in the World: A Pedestrian in Paris*; *Immoveable Feast: A Paris Christmas*; and *We'll Always Have Paris: Sex and Love in the City of Light*. Baxter, who gives literary walking tours through Paris, is also a film critic and biographer whose subjects have included the directors Fellini, Kubrick, Woody Allen, and most recently, Josef

von Sternberg. Born in Australia, he lives with his wife and daughter in the Saint-Germain-des-Prs neighborhood, in the same building Sylvia Beach called home.