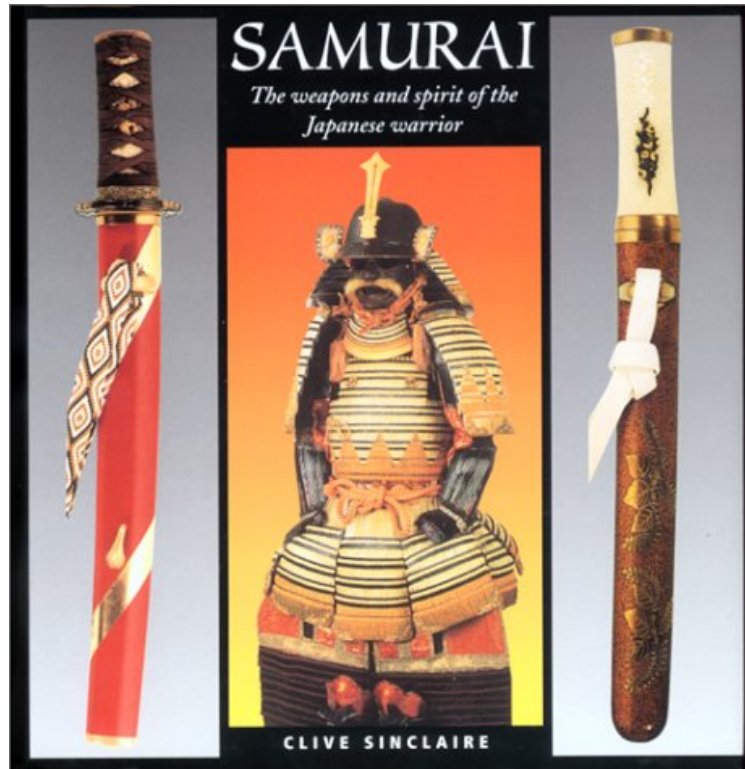


(Download ebook) Samurai: The Weapons and Spirit of the Japanese Warrior

Samurai: The Weapons and Spirit of the Japanese Warrior

Clive Sinclair

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Clive Sinclair : Samurai: The Weapons and Spirit of the Japanese Warrior before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Samurai: The Weapons and Spirit of the Japanese Warrior:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. NiceBy Brandon Bohlmann Good information and pictures. Well written and informative. the armor section is particularly good! My only beef is his determination to show that swords have no tactical value. He works on the assumption that if one carries a sword one does not carry a gun. in close combat, the sword is king, its a back up tool for anybody who gets too close, not a primary weapon anymore like he assumes, and then derides their use in battle. a civil war officer with a revolver and pistol is a close combat monstrosity if he knows what hes doing, and a couple of my army friends who are combat veterans say there were lots of times they wish they had a tactical shortsword and training for it. 14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. solid background material with wide appealBy Merrily Baird On a first encounter with "Samurai: The Weapons and Spirit of the Japanese Warrior," I was so distracted by the vast number of misspelled Japanese names that I made it no further than the fifth page and quickly consigned the book to a remote shelf. For a second encounter, I approached Clive Sinclair's book determined to overlook both the spelling issues and the relatively weak and inappropriately sentimental first chapter that outlines a history of the Japanese warrior. This time, I jumped straight to chapter two and concentrated instead on the book's strengths. And these strengths are notable. As most customer reviewers have here noted, the book provides outstanding introductory material on various classes of Japanese

weapons as well as traditional armor. A combination of photographed artifacts, annotated line drawings, and excellent captions make learning from this book particularly easy. Edo-period woodblock prints, moreover, are used to good effect in showing the weapons as they were used in premodern times. Needless to say, the primary appeal of Sinclair's book will be to that large body of people who enthusiastically study Japanese martial arts and military history. However, "Samurai: The Weapons and Spirit of the Japanese Warrior" also merits a place on the bookshelf of anyone generally interested in Japanese culture or more specifically tasked, for example, with decoding the military activities depicted in Japanese art.

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Best entry level book on Samurai weapons Japanese swords! By Joss Delage This should probably be considered the best book to buy when interested in Japanese swords. It is a great 1st book, but will also interest more seasoned collectors. Mr. Sinclair is the Chairman and a 30 year veteran of the To-Ken Society of Great Britain. He is also a 4th Dan Kendo practitioner. As such, Mr. Sinclair is able to appreciate both the beauty and balance of fine Japanese swords. The book is organized as follows: 1 - What is a Samurai? 2 - The Samurai's Armour 3 - A brief history of Japanese swords 4 - The sword of the samurai (Nihon-to) 5 - Polearms (Yari, Naginata and Nagamaki) 6 - Archery (Yumi and Ya) 7 - Guns of the Samurai (Tanegashima) Plus a glossary, bibliography, etc. The book presents a vast quantity of pictures, displaying many swords, fittings, other weapons, and other art pieces such as woodblock prints. There's at least 1 picture per page, and probably an average of 2 - many pages have up to 5 pictures. The book is also heavy on hard data, especially historical. On the other hand, the book is lighter in terms of construction methods and associated crafts. For those, Kapp Yoshihara's book "The Craft of the Japanese Sword" is a must have. This is in my mind a better entry level book than Irvine's. Sato's book might be slightly richer if your interest is only and purely on blades as opposed to other weapons, the history of Japan, and the culture of the samurai. Highly recommended!

A fascinating look at ancient Japanese weaponry, complete with 150 dazzling full-color photos.

From Booklist This is a lavishly illustrated introduction to the martial art and artistry of the samurai, the ancient Japanese military class that generated a unique culture-within-a-culture. While the visual emphasis is on the intricately designed weaponry and armor of the samurai, the fascinating text details the history and the philosophy of this elite group of warriors. As the samurai culture evolved, their arms became increasingly more elaborate and sophisticated. Individual chapters are devoted to examining the stylistic details and the practical employment of swords, polearms, bows and arrows, and guns through the centuries. Both browsers and scholars will appreciate this aesthetically and historically significant homage to the samurai tradition. Margaret Flanagan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "Clive Sinclair has written an amazingly complete, riveting history of the Japanese samurai, their culture, and weapons. This book is a welcome surprise. Sinclair is absolute master of his subject." -- Midwest Book