

The Laughs And Tears Of Holiday Home Owner

For many people, owning a holiday home is a dream come true. The thought of having a place to escape to whenever you desire, a place where you can create beautiful memories with your loved ones, is indeed alluring. However, being a holiday home owner is not all sunshine and rainbows. It comes with its fair share of laughs and tears, joy and frustration.

The Joys of Owning a Holiday Home

There are numerous reasons why owning a holiday home brings immense joy to the owners. Firstly, it offers a sense of freedom and tranquility. Having a place where you can unwind after a long week of work or simply relax during vacation time is a priceless luxury. It allows you to be immersed in nature, bask in the beauty of picturesque landscapes, and revel in the peacefulness away from city hustles.

Furthermore, a holiday home provides the opportunity to create lifelong memories with your family and friends. From the laughter-filled BBQ parties to cozy nights in front of the fireplace, each moment spent in your holiday home becomes a treasure trove of memories. It is a place where loved ones can come together and strengthen their bonds.

Swallows & Robins: The Laughs And Tears Of A Holiday Home Owner by Susie Kelly (Kindle Edition)

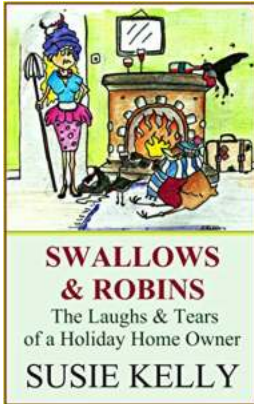
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Moreover, owning a holiday home allows you to escape the monotony of hotel stays. With your own place, you have the freedom to decorate it according to your taste, create a cozy ambiance, and enjoy the homely feeling even when you are away from your primary residence. Your holiday home becomes an extension of your personality, a space where you can truly be yourself.

The Frustrations and Challenges

While there are undoubtedly many joys associated with owning a holiday home, it is not without its frustrations and challenges. Maintaining a second property requires time, effort, and financial investments. From regular maintenance tasks to dealing with unexpected repairs, being a holiday home owner can sometimes feel like a never-ending responsibility.

Another challenge is the issue of occupancy. Depending on the location and demand, finding suitable renters for your holiday home can be a daunting task. Balancing your desire to use the property for personal vacations while maximizing its rental potential can be a juggling act. It requires careful planning, advertising, and sometimes relying on property management services to ensure your holiday home remains occupied throughout the year.

Additionally, the distance between your primary residence and the holiday home can become a logistical challenge. Planning trips to the holiday home, especially during peak holiday seasons, can be stressful. Coordinating transportation, packing necessities, and ensuring the proper security of the property while you are away are all part of the hassle that holiday home owners have to face.

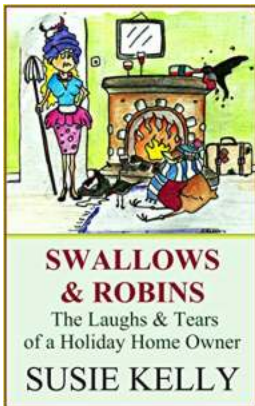
Tips for a Successful Holiday Home Ownership

Despite the challenges, owning a holiday home can still be a rewarding experience if approached with proper planning and careful consideration. Here are some tips to help make your journey as a holiday home owner smoother:

1. Research the location thoroughly before buying to ensure it aligns with your needs.
2. Create a budget for the purchase and ongoing maintenance costs to avoid any financial surprises.
3. Consider engaging a property management service to handle the day-to-day operations of the holiday home.
4. Ensure your holiday home is adequately insured to protect against any unforeseen events or damages.
5. Establish a clear plan for occupancy, whether it's for personal vacations or renting to guests, to maximize utilization.
6. Build a network of trusted local contractors who can assist with maintenance and repairs when needed.
7. Stay up to date with local regulations and tax laws related to holiday home ownership to avoid any legal hurdles.

Owning a holiday home can be a rollercoaster ride, filled with both laughter and tears. It offers an escape from the daily grind and a place to make cherished memories, but it also comes with its fair share of challenges and frustrations. By being prepared, having the right resources, and approaching the ownership with a positive mindset, you can turn your holiday home into a haven that brings more joys than tears.

The journey of a holiday home owner is an adventure worth pursuing, allowing us to experience the beauty of different landscapes and cultures while creating lasting memories along the way.



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******* 'There are a handful of authors who will achieve that elusive trick of making you laugh out loud. For me it's James Herriot, Bill Bryson & Susie Kelly.' French Entree Magazine**

******* 'Reading a Susie Kelly book is like sitting down for a cuppa and a chat with your best friend... your funny, witty, generous, big-hearted, kind, eloquent, compassionate, intuitive, sometimes poignant, often hilarious best friend.' Author Tanya Bullock**

******* 'It's absolutely brilliant, it made me laugh - in fact snort - out loud and then cry. Susie is a marvellous writer.' The Good Life France.**

As the world's worst housekeeper, running holiday homes wasn't, with hindsight, a sensible idea. But two collapsing buildings on Susie Kelly's land would cost more to demolish than to restore. Thus she became a seasonal landlady.

But before the guests came the builders.

No's 1, 2, 3 all started promisingly, but by builder No. 4, and with her first guests just hours away, Susie's patience was stretched to its limit.

Her summer and winter visitors couldn't, as they say, be made up, though, to spare their blushes some of them have been air-brushed. They brought with them laughter, tears, romance, friendship and occasional madness. And they all left behind jars of jam and pots of pepper. From them Susie learned that you don't need to travel to find adventure. If you run holiday homes it comes to your doorstep.

Unfortunately for Susie, this included Ivy. The cleaning lady from hell.

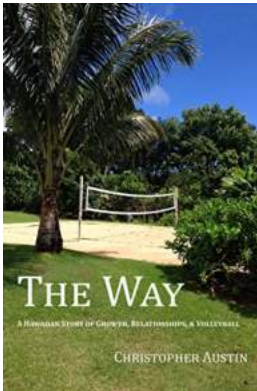
******* 'This is another Susie Kelly great read that often had me laughing out loud as we meet the various builders, her local friends, the good guests and the bad who popped into her life over a four year period.' French Village Diaries**

***** 'I really enjoy reading Susie Kelly's books and this one was no exception. I was really sorry that she no longer rents out the gites - I was ready to book one for a holiday just so I could meet her.' Goodreads

***** 'I loved this book so much, I couldn't put it down. I laughed and cried at all the characters. Excellent. I highly recommend it.' Goodreads

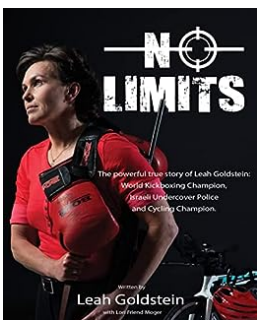
***** 'Reading her books is like listening to relaxing music...' Amazon reviewer

The best in French travel writing. If you enjoy books by Bill Bryson and Chris Stewart you will love this tale of the ups and downs of holiday letting.



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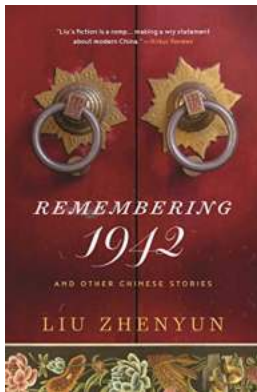
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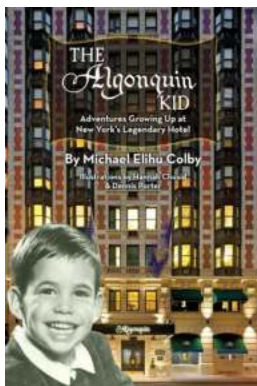
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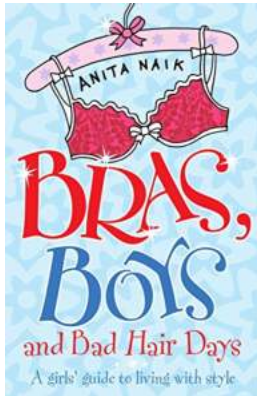
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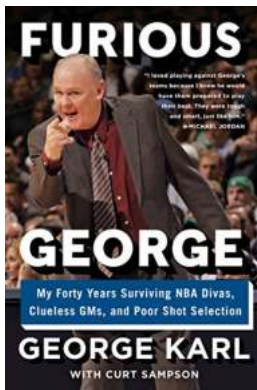
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