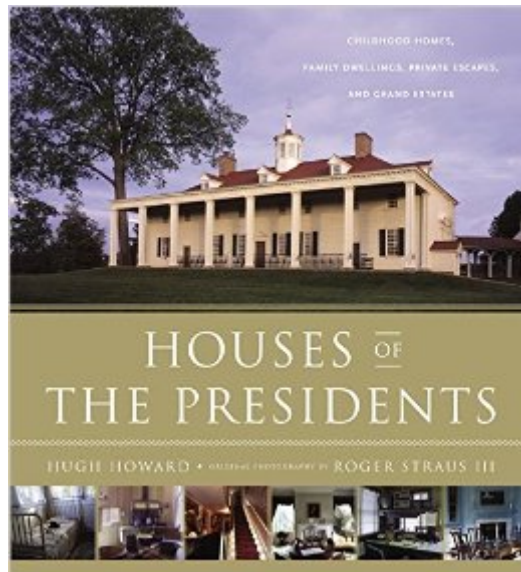


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# Houses Of The Presidents: Childhood Homes, Family Dwellings, Private Escapes, And Grand Estates



## Synopsis

HOUSES OF THE PRESIDENTS offers a unique tour of the houses and day-to-day lives of America's presidents, from George Washington's time to the present. Author Hugh Howard weaves together personal, presidential, and architectural histories to shed light on the way our chief executives lived. Original photography by Roger Straus III brings the houses and furnishings beautifully to life. From Jefferson's Monticello to Reagan's Rancho del Cielo, with fascinating and surprising stops between and beyond, HOUSES OF THE PRESIDENTS presents a fascinating alternative history of the American presidency.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #81,650 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Architectural > Houses & Hotels #85 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Residential #295 in Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > United States > US Presidents

## Customer Reviews

Forty-three men have served as U.S. president. Their homes have ranged from Washington's spacious mansion overlooking the Potomac and surrounded by 8,000 acres to much more modest settings in which JFK and RMN were born. The book includes 22 chapters that focus on the homes of individual presidents, along with another 15 presidential residences covered in a final chapter. Having had the opportunity to visit the homes of Washington, Jefferson, Clinton, and Eisenhower, as well as the birthplace of Lincoln I found both the photography and narrative excellent - especially since photography within those homes is generally frowned upon. Be forewarned, however - this book is not something to simply sit down and read through in one or two settings. Readers will want to take it in small bites, allowing time to envision the various presidents and their families within the various settings.

We purchased this book for my 85-year-old mother who has traveled to many of the Presidents' homes and who has enjoyed reminiscing about her visits. Mother is quite knowledgeable, but this book provided numerous unfamiliar stories of interest which she will enjoy. It's the type of book one can glance through or pick up and read for a while without having to read the entire book or selection. It was the perfect gift for her.

Photography in this book is gorgeous. Nicely written with ample photos. A fun history lesson. A perfect gift book for someone whose eyes might glaze over at a history lecture, but who can come alive when learning things visually and experientially.

This was a wonderful book--excellent pictures and interesting text. I purchased it for a gift (but read it first) and it was very well liked. HOUSES OF THE PRESIDENTS was a perfect choice for this person.

I liked the book very much. Photographs are plentiful and large. The President's homes covered here, are given about 7 pages of photos and text describing the history of the home and a basic overview of the life (life before and/or after Presidency) of President who lived there. There is much to learn and to enjoy. My sole quibble is that not every one of the President's homes are covered -unimportant and/or "failure" Presidents (such as Franklin Pierce; Rutherford B. Hayes, Garfield, the two Harrisons, et al.,) are relegated to a list of addresses at the end. Readers should be aware that only the homes of big guns like Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Lincoln, Grant, TR, FDR, etc. are covered. Including ALL the Presidents' homes would have made the book too huge to handle, I guess - still it would have been nice if all were included.

If your are a history junkie like myself and fascinated with our presidents here in the USA then this book is for you!! Beautiful pictures and well informed. It a good coffee table and very informative on our presidents homes, childhood homes and private escapes...You can't just look at this book in one or two days...I couldn't almost put it down!!! Will definitely be my bedside reading for the next few weeks....love it!!   ■—   ■—   ■—   ■—

This is a lovely book at which to look but it is disappointing when telling the stories of the houses or showing photos (which are few). There is too much back story with history of politics instead of

stories about the houses. I am a historian with a love for architecture. This book disappointed me a bit in that regard and it was too expensive. I will keep the book as a reference but again, not enough photos of the houses inside out outside.

We know of the homes of Washington (Mt. Vernon) and Jefferson (Montecello) but having photos of more recent presidents reveals much that we didn't know about them. A very useful book and nice to look at as well.

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