



Banksy Locations & Tours: A Collection of Graffiti Locations and Photographs in London, England

Martin Bull

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When it comes to art, London is best known for its galleries, not its graffiti. However, not if photographer Martin Bull has anything to say about it. While newspapers and magazines the world over send their critics to review the latest Damien Hirst show at the Tate Modern, Bull, in turn, is out taking photos of the latest street installations by guerilla art icon Banksy. In three guided tours, Martin Bull documents sixty-five London sites where one can see some of the most important works by the legendary political artist. Boasting over 100 color photos, Banksy: Locations and Tours also includes graffiti by many of Banksy's peers, including Eine, Faile, El Chivo, Arofish, Cept, Space Invader, Blek Le Rat, D*face, and Shepherd Fairey. This edition has updated locations and 25 additional photos.

Banksy Locations & Tours: A Collection of Graffiti Locations and Photographs in London, England Details

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Author : Martin Bull

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From Reader Review Banksy Locations & Tours: A Collection of Graffiti Locations and Photographs in London, England for online ebook

Joel says

Photographs and descriptions of various Banksy pieces around London also provides suggestions for three walking tours to view the works. The documentation of Banksy's work is nice, but as a "tour book" it has limited value as many of the pieces included have been painted over or otherwise removed. I imagine it was more timely during its original 2007 release. Worth a look for sure, but if I went to London I don't think I'd do a full tour of these spots seeing as many are long gone.

Meg says

I read this as an ebook on Oyster and the pictures were small which was disappointing. I hope in the print version they are larger. Otherwise I did enjoy the book but unless I'm visiting London I could have done without the tour part.

Bettie? says

ebox ref

SNORTING COPPER 8. WHITE LINE

Marked this 5* because some of the stencils have already been removed.

Cara Ellison says

Another teensy, tiny book about a huge artist. I want MOAR Banksy but I don't think I'm going to find it in these small books.

Wsclai says

Street arts should belong to the streets but it's a pity that street arts are also vandalism and not accepted by the authority. It is sad to learn that most of the graffiti by Banksy no longer exist.

It's a very complete guide to the whereabouts of Banksy's work. However, I'm quite fed up with the repetitions from the author, saying that his book was quoted by auction houses as authentication of the work and he is upset with it. Saying it once is enough and twice is definitely too much for readers.

David Katzman says

These two collections are best for Banksy completists, a.k.a. obsessive fans. Of which I am one. As is demonstrated by the fact that I made these:

If you are new to Banksy, you are better off picking up *Wall and Piece*. I have seen most of the works featured here before but did spot a few that I had never seen before, so I'm glad I snagged these. Banksy is primarily a street stencil artist. He occasionally does paintings or various installation/sculptural pieces, but primarily he cuts elaborate stencils then hits walls at night and spray paints the images using the stencils. His work is often straight up political but avoids being too didactic by leavening it with clever/biting/sarcastic humor.

The author of these two collections is a graffiti tour guide in London who documents street art via photography and then hosts tours of interesting work, mainly Banksy. In these two books, the author's commentary did become somewhat repetitive, partly because I suspect these were originally blog posts, and he didn't do a good job editing them as a whole. But regardless, I did learn some interesting tidbits. I had no idea how many people would tear down walls and doors, peel off plaster, or remove storage boxes if Banksy had painted on them and then attempt to sell them at auction houses or on eBay. (The author repeatedly declares his opposition to tearing down work that was created for the street.) Sometimes the paintings sold for a lot of money, other times, they don't sell at all. The auction houses have a difficult time proving the authenticity of the work. After all, it's street art, and sometimes other people imitate Banksy's style.

It was also interesting to read about the ongoing government whitewashing of graffiti, town debates on the subject, and how frequently the works disappear. I was also unaware of the graffiti war with "Team Robbo" after Banksy painted over an old work by Robbo that had been around for many years. So now Robbo supporters (or those who are just jealous of Banksy's success) have gone around defacing Banksy's works.

Of the two books, the second one has some of the lesser seen works. I'm glad I could see some of Banksy's stencils in more of a street context, but overall, this won't be too exciting for those unfamiliar with Banksy. Below are a few of my favorite images from these books.

OLD SKOOL

NO FUTURE

PETROL VULTURE

KID'S CAR UP ON BLOCKS AND BARBED WIRE PLAYHOUSE

Desiree Wallen says

I would have to rate this highly based on the difficulty of obtaining the material. How indubitably frustrating it must be as an artist to send a message only for the police to erase it before they catch you and someone sees it and is changed by it. The photographs are an amazing account of what is ruled in our day-to-day lives and make a compelling case that graffiti itself is art. Art is supposed to make you think, and this collection certainly does.

F says

Used this book to do a banksy tour in London. Very useful.

Londonexplorer says

Many of his artworks on this book have already been removed. If you want to follow this book and make a tour, it would rather be disappointed.

Mohammad Ali says

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Camryn says

I've always LOVED street art. It's messy and fascinating and real. I've made it a habit over the years to keep a look out for great graffiti as I've traveled over the world, and no artist stands out like Banksy. I LIVE for his irreverent, epic portrayals of society and politics. This book is a great look into Banksy's art and a lovely

reference book for any fan of street art.

Steve says

Photography is not as good as the Banksy original books, but nonetheless is useful for the locations of subversive behaviour...

Tathagat Varma says

Banksy is this creative enigma - subtle humor, topical, creative visuals, and above all, street art at it ought to be! I haven't seen a Banksy yet (When are you coming to India Banksy?) but love the art. This book is a great effort to catalogue some of Banksies as a location and tour guide.

Claire says

Banksy is a very edgy street artist operating out of England. This book gives a nice overview of his work and what he tries to do with his street art. Small print and very fact heavy. I would recommend this to students already interested in art/graffiti etc.

Jessica Lowe says

Very cool books. Love looking at Banksy pics.
