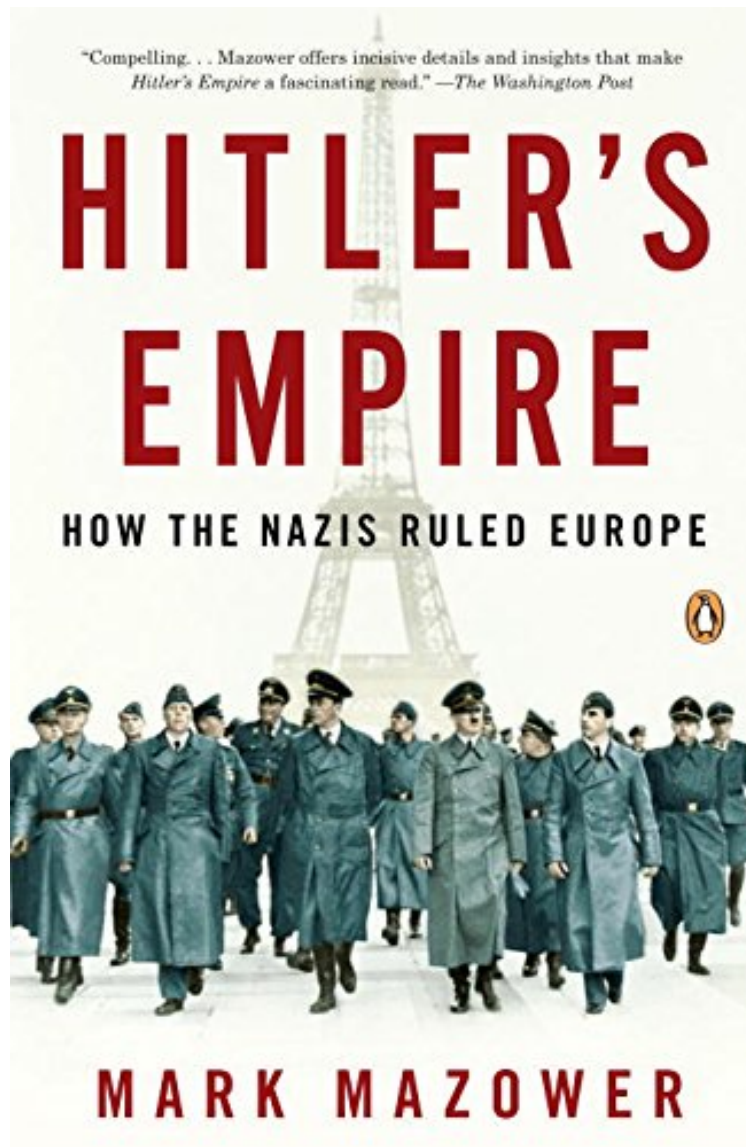


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Hitler's Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe

Mark Mazower

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Mark Mazower : Hitler's Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hitler's Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. First rate, fascinating and original By Danny Orbach As an researcher interested in WWII, I expected a lot from an expert of Mark Mazower's caliber. I am happy and delighted to say that "Hitler's Empire" exceeded even my own expectations. Many historians write books which are either too narrow, or just sensationalist rendering of well known WWII stories. Mark Mazower, by contrast, brings an original perspective

to the general picture. He analyzes the Third Reich as an empire, that is, a political center that governs a patchwork of dominions according to different rules. Doing so, he sheds new light on Nazi rule in Europe, explains apparent contradictions and connects the study of Nazi Germany with the wider field of history of empires. This book is also great for general readers. Notwithstanding its scholarly rigour, it is written in a fascinating, absorbing way. It has enough detail for depth, but not too much. It's a great read for anyone interested in WWII, and I recommend it enthusiastically. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant By K. Long This book is simply outstanding. Mazower covers the economic, political, and cultural goals of the occupation and explains how they were often in conflict with one another. Also covered are the governments and policies in the Axis satellite states and those conquered states where the occupation left some degree of self-government intact. It's a complex topic and a long book that will give you much to think about. Read it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. high-quality book By E. K. Book arrived bread-new... I don't believe it had ever been opened. A great deal for the price!

Drawing on an unprecedented range and variety of original research, Hitler's Empire sheds new light on how the Nazis designed, maintained, and lost their European dominion and offers a chilling vision of what the world would have become had they won the war. Mark Mazower forces us to set aside timeworn opinions of the Third Reich, and instead shows how the party drew inspiration for its imperial expansion from America and Great Britain. Yet the Nazis' lack of political sophistication left them unequal to the task of ruling what their armies had conquered, despite a shocking level of cooperation from the overwhelmed countries. A work as authoritative as it is unique, Hitler's Empire is a surprising and controversial new appraisal of the Third Reich's rise and ultimate fall.

From Publishers Weekly Columbia University historian Mazower (*Inside Hitler's Greece*) is a knowledgeable guide to the dynamics of Nazi domination of Europe. His focus is on the ambitions and foibles of the Nazi leaders, who believed that all of Europe could be made to serve German interests. As Mazower shows so well, almost nothing about the occupation had been planned beforehand. The Nazis improvised as their armies raced through Poland, the Soviet Union and the Low Countries, and Nazi generals and old-line bureaucrats fought among themselves for power and spoils. Mazower's most interesting commentary comes at the beginning, when he compares the Nazi imperium to other European empires, and at the end, when he demonstrates its long-lasting consequences. The breadth of Mazower's study is remarkable, but while not diminishing the toll of the Nazi anti-Semitism, he claims, contrary to many scholars, that core of the Nazi worldview was not anti-Semitism, but rather... the quest to unify Germans within a single German state. Pulitzer Prize-winner Saul Friedländer's coinage of redemptive anti-Semitism is far more effective at evoking the realities of Nazi rule than any of Mazower's formulations. Maps. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From School Library Journal Starred. To the 5000-plus titles in English that examine Hitler and the Nazi era must be added yet another tome, and one that is good. Mazower (program director, Ctr. for International History, Columbia Univ.) has produced an exceptional study of the Nazis and their quest for the control of Europe and its surrounding territory. Expanding on his *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century*, Mazower masterfully surveys how the Nazis successfully applied current military technology to accomplish the age-old Prussian goal of dominating the other European nations. The Nazis were effective at conquering (at least at the beginning) but were awful at managing their new subjects: despite their initial spate of victories in 1939–40, the Germans were ruthless masters and quickly lost any support their newly conquered peoples may have felt for them as rulers. Mazower sets his narrative within the context of how European thinkers envisioned empire building in the new 20th century, which puts a slightly different spin on the Nazis and World War II. An essential work; recommended for all collections.—Ed Goedeken, Iowa State Univ. Lib., Ames Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Analyses of Nazi policies and administration have, of course, been written before. Most of them tend to concentrate on the criminal outrages perpetrated, including the efforts to implement the Final Solution. Mazower has written extensively on modern European history, and he currently serves as program director for the Center for International History at Columbia University. Although he doesn't ignore the brutalities, Mazower's focus is upon the day-to-day administrations of the conquered "empire," particularly in Eastern Europe. For a supposedly totalitarian regime, Nazi administration there was surprisingly slipshod and inconsistent. Due to the rapidity of the military conquest, the occupiers never developed a broad and cogent plan of control, so much of the policy formulation was left to local military and party officials. They were expected to "work their way towards the Führer," which usually meant extreme political and racial suppression and severe exploitation of resources with little concern for the welfare of civilians. The inevitable result was resistance that slowly increased in effectiveness. This is a well-argued reexamination and will be a fine addition to European history collections. --Jay Freeman