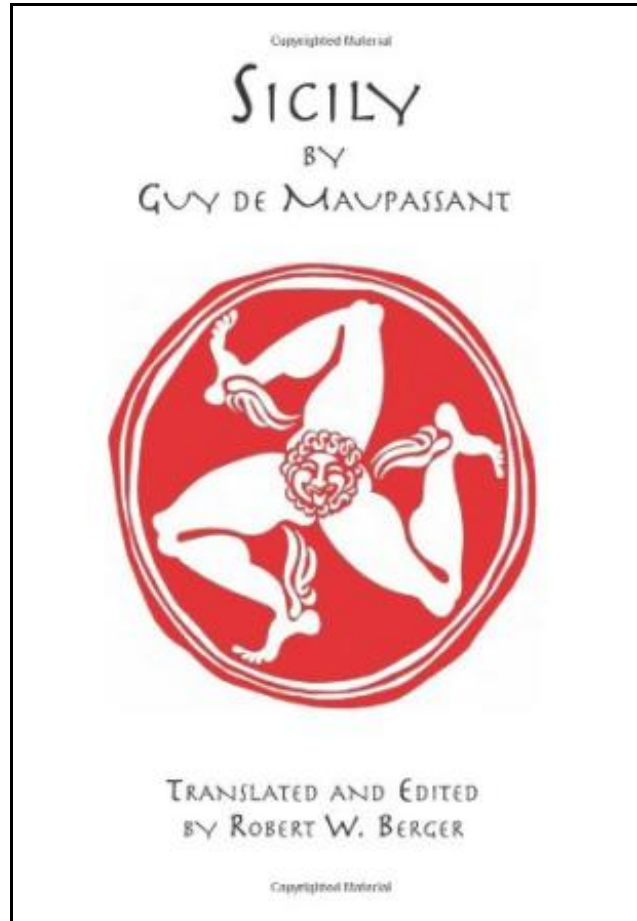


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Italica Press, United States, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 208 x 138 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.GUY DE MAUPASSANT, the master of the nineteenth-century French short story, visited Sicily in the spring of 1885 and wrote his travel memoir as a tribute to the art, architecture, people and landscape of this Mediterranean island. He provides a vivid account of this strange and divine museum of architecture, where Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, and Norman influences combine to produce monuments of beauty and a unique Sicilian style. In a land then little touched by modern transportation, with and without guides, he traveled by train, boat, horse and foot to reach the places he had set out to see: Palermo and the great cathedral of Monreale; the ancient Greek sites of Segesta, Selinunte and Agrigento; Messina and the Aeolian Islands; Catania, Taormina, Syracuse. Maupassant climbs to the top of Vulcano, Mount Etna, and the fortified monastery on Monte Cuccio, and down into the Capuchin catacombs in Palermo and the sulphur mines of Casteltermeni. He visits many places that had special aesthetic and poetic importance for him, like the Archaeological Museum of Syracuse and its famous statue of Venus and in Palermo both the Palatine Chapel and Wagner's room in the Hotel des Palmes where the composer wrote the final notes of his last opera, Parsifal. Sicily is edited and translated by Robert W. Berger, an art historian who has published extensively on French art and architecture and on the history of Paris. Introduction, notes, bibliography, map. 25 engravings and photographs. Historical Travel, Paperback.



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