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Up On The Roof: New York's Hidden Skyline Spaces



Synopsis

Pilot and photographer Alex MacLean has flown his plane over large areas of the United States, documenting the landscape from beautiful agricultural patterns to geometric city grids. In his new book, he directs his lens at the rooftops of New York City, showing the great complexity and life of the roofs of New York's buildings. Depicting not only the city's famous water towers, but pools, tennis courts, gardens, sunbathers, art, and restaurants up in the air, MacLean's powerful images give readers a glimpse of a part of the city that usually remains hidden. His photographs leave little doubt about New York City's "green" potential and the belief that improved outdoor spaces above lead to more livable cities below. Maps and captions help the reader to easily locate the photographs, and an essay by Robert Campbell puts MacLean's work into context. Whether you are new to the city native born, this fascinating look at hidden New York will be a revelation.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (12 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Up on the Roof is chock-full of really cool rooftops in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens. There's even a farm! I'm blown away by the detail of each shot. This book is a must for anyone who likes hanging out on city rooftops.

I guess I was hoping for it to be a little more interesting... the only interesting shots (to me) were the ones with pools or rooftop gardens but there were a lot of boring generic roofs in this book... good photography, just not as fascinating a book as I had thought it would be.

besides novels where you are pretty much required to read every single page, similarly, up on the roof compels you to not only look at each and every page, but to examine each rooftop on each page, shot by alex maclean, with quasi-voyeuristic glee.

Fabulous photos taken from a perspective seldom available to the average New Yorker or tourist. Some of the creative things executed high above the city streets are just incredible. As a coffee table book this work always arouses interest, comment, and amazement.

For anyone considering designing a roof top garden, this is a great place to start. Seeing what others have done, or not done, provides a great perspective in the difficult consensus process for Building gardens. If you are not in the process of determining what to do with your roof top, then it's worth a scan.

Wonderful book and it arrived in A-1 shape. It's a new perspective of New York City. All of the familiar places are seen from the air, as well as many I've not heard of.

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