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the earlier part of 2004 saw the market virtually flooded with general books on athens ancient and modern in time to coincide with the lucrative tourist trade that was anticipated to descend on athens for the olympic and paralympic games in the later summer 1 robin waterfield s athens released in april and competitively priced at 27 50 for the hardbound edition was very much aimed at the general reader tourist in keeping with the intended readership there are no footnotes not

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focusing on athens 39 social and cultural history as well as on the powerful and fascinating individuals who left their mark on the city waterfield explains athens 39 rise and fall and shows us how through centuries of war occupation and destruction athens emerged as a burgeoning modern european city

athens from ancient ideal to modern city review

1970 mr robin waterfield 39 s athens from ancient ideal to modern city is an excellent work whether one is a scholar of the ancient world or simply has an interest in greek history this book rewards one 39 s time and effort the history reads like a novel and the prose moves quickly without sacrificing the integrity of the subject matter

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for two and a half millennia people have looked to the city 39 s past as a beacon of genuine democracy artistic expression and the classical ideal in this engaging narrative noted classicist robin waterfield traces the life and history of athens a city whose idealized past continues to inspire the present this is the only book to cover the entire history of athens from its brief period of classical greatness through its decline under a series of occupying empires macedonian roman

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