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Child Octopus: Edible Adventures In Hong Kong (Zip And Eat Pocket Reader Book 1)



Synopsis

"Like all of Matthew Amster-Burton's books, Child Octopus puts you right into the middle of his travels, chopstick to chopstick. With Iris and Matthew as my guides, I would virtually and literally go anywhere." —Becky Selengut, author of *Shroom: Mind-bendingly Good Recipes for Cultivated and Wild Mushrooms*

Seattle food writer Matthew Amster-Burton grew up on Chinese-American food. One day, he decided to take his ten-year-old daughter out for Chinese in Hong Kong. Join two adventurous eaters as they explore night markets, hawker centers, gargantuan malls, and a fancy dim sum palace, all while living out their food fantasy: spending a week without having to eat anything other than Chinese food. Along with Matthew and Iris, you'll: Ride the world's most exhilarating form of public transportation Eat crispy rice, egg tarts, Hong Kong French toast, and a spicy chicken dish with more chiles than chicken Hang out with locals (human and feline) Discover Iris's supervillain lair, high above the city

Featuring two dozen color photos, *Child Octopus* is the first installment in a new series of short ebooks about Asian food and travel. We're not experts. We just got here. And we're hungry.

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Customer Reviews

This is definitely a fun and interesting read with many travel tidbits to file away for a future trip to Hong Kong, although this book didn't feel as complete or as organized as *Pretty Good Number One*. More food photos and descriptions accompanied names of restaurants this time around, but stories conveying the cultural pulse of Hong Kong seemed lacking. The anecdotes were spare, especially when I was looking forward to more accounts of day-to-day life from an American perspective. The trip was shorter, so definitely was less time for Mr. Amster-Burton to explore Hong Kong than his longer odyssey in Japan. I would love to read another travel book from Amster-Burton if he spends at least another month with his family in another Asian city. There's a certain storytelling synergy that seems to only come from Amster-Burton after a longer stay in another country.

Though I've never been to Hong Kong, this is exactly the sort of very personalized and well-written travel book that is enjoyable to read regardless of your travel intentions (assuming you like food, families and a bit of adventure!). I really felt like I was with Matthew and his kid while reading this and had a lot of fun with their sense of curiosity and love of diving head first into a foreign culture. And now, if I do make it to Hong Kong, I am ready to feast!

A quick and delightful romp through the food of Hong Kong, through the childlike eyes of the author and the sometimes more mature eyes of his daughter. But it turns out he "doesn't get" Gulab Jamun, so that means all of his food preferences may be suspect, depending on your feelings about those spongy-chewy balls of sweet decadence. (Hint: they aren't, no matter your feelings; I just really like gulab jamun.) Well worth sinking your teeth into for the brief moment it will take.

If you have had the pleasure of reading any of Amster-Burton's other works, *Child Octopus* will not disappoint. His food descriptions immediately inspire cravings and his adventures with his daughter around Hong Kong will convince you to buy a plane ticket. It's a little shorter than I would have liked, but perfect for the amount of time they spent in Hong Kong. I can't wait to read about Amster-Burton's next trip!

While reading this book, I felt like I was a member of a family exploring Hong Kong - not READING about a family exploring Hong Kong, but actually being there and EXPERIENCING everything along with Matthew and Iris (and their friends). You can be sure I will look for other books from the same author! Thank you, Matthew (and Iris) for widening my life experiences. BTW, I got this book via Kindle Unlimited (hence no 'Verified Purchase' notation on my review), but I just purchased a copy so I can keep it.

I just loved reading about Matthew and Iris's food adventures in Hong Kong and wished I could go with them. Quite easy to hitch a virtual ride here, though, for less than a dollar, for crying out loud. You can't go wrong.

What a delight this visitor's culinary tour of Hong Kong is. I longed to run to the airport and join Matthew and Iris in their dining adventures. Interesting, energetic and informative. Love this appetizer format.

Seems like the author hurried through writing this book and he did not provide in-sight full information. Maybe the author did not gain much of Hong Kong's culture during his stay and the reading was quite boring.

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