



Minarets in the Mountains

A Journey into Muslim Europe THARIK HUSSAIN

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A magical, eye-opening account of a journey into a Europe that rarely makes the news and is in danger of being erased altogether. Another Europe. A Europe few people believe exists and many wish didn't. Muslim Europe.

Londoner Tharik Hussain sets off with his wife and young daughters around the Western Balkans, home to the largest indigenous Muslim population in Europe, and explores the regions of Eastern Europe where Islam has shaped places and people for more than half a millennium. Encountering blonde-haired, blue-eyed Muslims, visiting mystical Islamic lodges clinging to the side of mountains, and praying in mosques older than the Sistine Chapel, he paints a picture of a hidden Muslim Europe, a vibrant place with a breath-taking history, spellbinding culture and unique identity.

Tharik Hussain is affiliated as a fellow with the Centre for Religion and Heritage and is viewed widely as a specialist on Muslim heritage and culture, especially across the western hemisphere. Tharik's previous work has often served to decolonise authorised and popular religious and cultural histories and narratives. He has produced award-winning radio on America's earliest mosques and Muslim communities and written a chapter about encountering the indigenous Muslims of Romania in the book *The Ordinary Chaos of Being Human; Travels from Many Muslim Worlds.* He is the author of several travel guides for Lonely Planet, including Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Thailand, where again he is viewed as an expert on Muslim culture and Muslim travel.

9781784778286| Paperback | 264pp | £9.99 15 July 2021 | Travel Writing

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