

READ ME FIRST

Purpose

Freemasonry Universal (2 vols, 1998, 2000), like its predecessor, *Masonic World Guide* (Lewis Masonic, 1984), is designed primarily to provide information for the travelling Freemason. It may also be of interest to the armchair traveller.

Warning

Freemasonry Universal, published nearly 20 years ago, is now out of date in many small details and a few larger ones. This electronic edition (2016) is identical in content with the paperback edition of 1998 & 2000. From 1998 onwards, changes in the world of Freemasonry have been recorded in *Harashim*, the Newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Masonic Research Council. *Harashim* is also available on this website, and should be consulted by the prospective traveller. During 2017 the relevant information will be extracted from the back issues of *Harashim* and posted with *Freemasonry Universal*, under the heading **Updates**.

From 2017 onwards, the authors—Kent Henderson and Tony Pope—will endeavour to consolidate these and further changes, under the **Updates** heading. Meanwhile, the reader is advised to check such details as contact information (phone and fax, website, email and snailmail, etc) for himself—a much easier task than it was 20 years ago.

Do not rely on the electronic version pirated by a Dutch firm, Stiching Argus, which is incomplete as well as out of date.

How to use this book

Frequent users will be familiar with the routine. New users are advised to gather information in the following sequence:

Read **General Information**, which provides advice applicable to many jurisdictions worldwide; this information is not repeated elsewhere in the book.

Then go to the continent or region of particular interest, and read the information applicable to Freemasonry in that continent or region.

Then narrow your search, one step at a time, until you reach the country, state, city and jurisdiction you wish to visit.

For example, if you intend visiting the west coast of USA, read **General Information** first, then **North America**, then **USA**, and only then the entries under **Washington, Oregon** and **California**. Finally, check **Updates**, the **www**—and your own Grand Lodge, to ensure that your visit would be lawful.

If you want more background information on a particular country, check also Bob Nairn's book on this site, *World of Freemasonry*.

Travel well, my Brother.

Tony Pope