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## Palm Springs Paradise

*Peter Moruzzi*

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**Peter Moruzzi : Palm Springs Paradise** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Palm Springs Paradise:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Great vintage pics but has been done many times already By B. Billings Have always been fascinated by the Palm Springs mystique, especially in the earlier decades. This book provides some great nostalgia with vintage pictures and history. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable coffee table escape. By Mr Dangerous Really takes me into the palm springs of the past. Lots of pics. Some insightful writings. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By CALEB KANE Great book. Great photos!

This book collects more than two hundred fascinating and rarely seen historical photographs of Palm Springs, newly digitized from the Palm Springs Historical Society's expansive archive. Featured are many Hollywood celebrities, including Sinatra and the Rat Pack, who vacationed there, the early days of the desert paradise, various architectural masterworks, such as the fabulous El Mirador Hotel and the extraordinary, outrageous, and irreverent people of Palm Springs. Historian PETER MORUZZI is the founder of the Palm Springs Modern Committee, an architectural preservation group, and the author of Havana a Before Castro: When Cuba Was a Tropical Playground, Palm Springs Holiday: A Vintage Tour from Palm Springs to the Salton Sea, and Classic Dining: Discovering America's Finest Mid-Century Restaurants. He's been infatuated with Palm Springs since his first visit in 1990. He now splits his time between his homes in Los Angeles and Palm Springs.

From the Back Cover Palm Springs is linke no other place on earth. From its earliest days as a dessert oasis to its mid-century heyday as a getaway for the rich and famous, its relaxed ambiance and unique residents and visitors have provided countless fascinating photographic subjects. Palm Springs Paradise features more than two hundred vintage

photographs, only a fraction of which have ever been seen by the public. Subjects include early Palm Springs, the fabulous El Mirador, architecture both refined and zany, Sinatra and his Rat Pack, and the irreverent people who make the desert so much fun. About the Author Peter Moruzzi graduated from the University of California at Berkeley and later attended the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. In 1999, he founded the Palm Springs Modern Committee (PS ModCom), an architectural preservation group. He is the author of Palm Springs Holiday, Palm Springs Paradise, and Havana Before Castro. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Early Palm Springs Palm Springs is the ancestral home of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, who lived in the Coachella Valley for centuries before white people began colonizing the area to grow crops in the late nineteenth century. Floods and drought quashed that experiment. The area was next promoted as a tubercular sanatorium, but that was not to be Palm Springs destiny. Through toil and grit, the early pioneers—mostly sturdy women—forged a Shangri-la out of a failed agricultural colony and middling hospice. The transformation of Palm Springs into a winter playground was astonishingly rapid. By 1925, automobiles from Los Angeles and the transcontinental railroad from the Midwest and East filled the village with tourists. Palm Springs also attracted its share of artists, photographers, and sun-baked eccentrics, who chose the desert for inspiration.