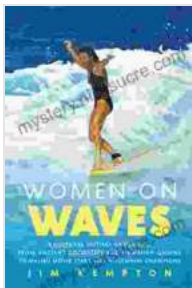


# Culture History of Surfing: From Ancient Goddesses and Hawaiian Queens to Malibu

Surfing is a sport that has captivated the imaginations of people around the world for centuries. It is a unique and exhilarating activity that combines physical skill, mental focus, and a deep connection with the ocean. But surfing is more than just a sport; it is also a cultural phenomenon that has its roots in ancient traditions and beliefs.



## Women on Waves: A Culture History of Surfing—From Ancient Goddesses and Hawaiian Queens to Malibu Movie Stars and Millennial Champions by Jim Kempton

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 31650 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 304 pages



## Surfing's Origins in Ancient Polynesia

The earliest evidence of surfing dates back to ancient Polynesia, where the sport is believed to have originated over 3,000 years ago. The Polynesians were skilled navigators and fishermen, and they used surfing as a way to travel between islands and to catch fish. Surfing was also an important part of Polynesian culture, and it was often used in religious ceremonies and rituals.

In ancient Polynesian culture, surfing was associated with the goddess Hina, who was believed to be the protector of surfers. Hina was said to have taught the Polynesians how to surf, and she was often depicted riding the waves on a surfboard.

## **Surfing in Hawaii**

Surfing was introduced to Hawaii by the Polynesians around the 4th century AD. The Hawaiians quickly adopted surfing as their own, and they developed their unique style of surfing that is still practiced today. Hawaiian surfers are known for their graceful and powerful style, and they are often considered to be the best surfers in the world.

In Hawaiian culture, surfing was a sport that was reserved for royalty and the elite. The Hawaiian chiefs were often skilled surfers, and they would often compete in surfing contests to prove their prowess. Surfing was also an important part of Hawaiian religious ceremonies and rituals.

## **The Spread of Surfing to the West**

Surfing was first introduced to the West in the early 1900s by Hawaiian surfers who traveled to California and Australia. These surfers quickly popularized the sport, and it soon became a popular pastime for beachgoers around the world.

In the 1950s, surfing experienced a major surge in popularity thanks to the release of the film "Gidget." This film helped to popularize surfing among teenagers, and it soon became a global phenomenon.

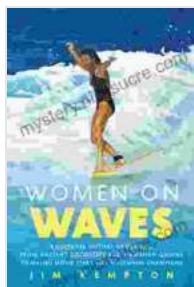
## **Surfing Today**

Today, surfing is a popular sport that is enjoyed by people of all ages and backgrounds. It is a sport that can be enjoyed by both men and women, and it is a great way to get exercise and have fun.

Surfing is also a competitive sport, and there are many professional surfing competitions held around the world. The most prestigious surfing competition is the World Surf League Championship Tour, which is held annually.

Surfing has a rich and vibrant cultural history that spans centuries and continents. From its origins in ancient Polynesia to its modern-day popularity, surfing has undergone a remarkable transformation. It is a sport that has been embraced by people of all ages and backgrounds, and it is a sport that continues to grow in popularity.

So next time you're out surfing, take a moment to think about the long and fascinating history of this amazing sport.

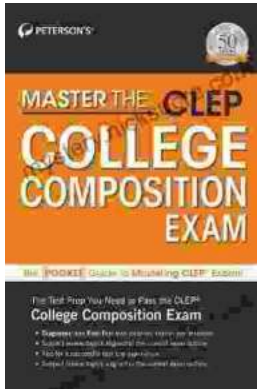


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