

Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Part I: Beginnings</i>	7
Chapter 1: Why Remember Napoleon?	9
Chapter 2: Raising a Genius	17
Chapter 3: The French Revolution: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity	35
Chapter 4: Moving into the Limelight	47
Chapter 5: Josephine!	65
<i>Part II: Building an Empire</i>	75
Chapter 6: Improvising an Army in Italy	77
Chapter 7: Mixing Art, Science, and Guns in Egypt	97
Chapter 8: Gaining Control of France	115
Chapter 9: Winning His Greatest Victories	125
Chapter 10: Conquering a Continent	141
<i>Part III: Losing an Empire</i>	157
Chapter 11: Sailing into Disaster with the British	159
Chapter 12: Bleeding in Spain	169
Chapter 13: Reeling from Russia	183
Chapter 14: Defeat and Resurrection	199
Chapter 15: Waterloo	225
Chapter 16: St. Helena: Napoleon's Final Island	235
<i>Part IV: A True Revolutionary</i>	249
Chapter 17: Marshalling a Great Army	251
Chapter 18: Sustaining Support at Home	261
Chapter 19: Building a Greater (Middle Class) France	271
Chapter 20: Attempting a Dynasty	281
<i>Part V: Influencing Nations: Diplomacy and Legacy</i> ...	293
Chapter 21: Boney Times with the Brits	295
Chapter 22: Creating a New United Europe	307
Chapter 23: Religious Freedom and Jewish Liberation	315

<i>Part VI: The Part of Tens</i>	323
Chapter 24: Ten Interesting Battlefields to Visit	325
Chapter 25: Ten Pieces of Advice for Napoleon	333
Chapter 26: Ten (Plus) Best Sources for Further Information	341
<i>Appendix A: Napoleonic Timeline</i>	345
<i>Appendix B: Maps of Napoleonic Europe</i>	351
<i>Index</i>	353

Table of Contents

Introduction 1

About This Book	1
Conventions Used in This Book	2
What You're Not to Read	3
Foolish Assumptions	3
How This Book Is Organized	3
Part I: Beginnings	4
Part II: Building an Empire	4
Part III: Losing an Empire	4
Part IV: A True Revolutionary	4
Part V: Influencing Nations: Diplomacy and Legacy	4
Part VI: The Part of Tens	5
Appendixes	5
Icons Used in This Book	5
Where to Go from Here	6

Part 1: Beginnings 7

Chapter 1: Why Remember Napoleon? 9

A Legend in His Own Time	11
Changing France's institutions	12
Influencing Europe and beyond	12
Respecting Napoleon's Legacy	13
A Napoleonic Primer	14

Chapter 2: Raising a Genius 17

Fighting for Corsican Independence	17
Battling a new enemy	18
Coming under French rule	19
Getting to Know Napoleon's Family	20
Napoleon's father, Carlo	20
Napoleon's mother, Leticia	21
Napoleon's siblings	22
Educating a Genius	26
Getting a helping hand from Marbeuf	26
Learning to speak French	27
Attending French military school	28
Dealing with poverty	29

Moving to the next level	30
Wowing them in Paris	31
Losing his father	32
Graduating ahead of his class	32
Continuing education	32
Heading Home	33
Chapter 3: The French Revolution: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity	35
Tension at Versailles	36
Reflecting disparity	36
Symbolizing massive debt	37
Convening the Estates General	37
Sparking Revolution	38
Lacking the king's support	39
Battling the old order	40
Resorting to terror	42
Supporting Revolution, Winning Support	42
Keeping one foot in Corsica	43
Fleeing home	44
Chapter 4: Moving into the Limelight	47
Losing Some Revolutionary Fervor	48
Getting radical	48
Recognizing opposition	49
Catching a Break	50
Visiting friends in high places	51
Seizing an opportunity	52
Retaking Toulon	53
Basking in victory	54
Taking a Step Backward	55
Going to jail	55
Floundering in his career	56
Getting a new assignment	57
Securing a Government	57
Fearing the left and the right	57
Practicing self-perpetuating politics	58
Preparing for a fight	59
Taking charge	60
Sweeping the streets (with grapeshot)	61
Ending an era	61
Jump-Starting His Career	62
Chapter 5: Josephine!	65
Learning about Love	65
Wooing Caroline du Colombier	66
Learning about feminine charms in Paris	66
Courting Désirée Clary	67

A Rose by Any Other Name68
 Growing up and getting wise68
 Facing the guillotine70
 Starting over70
 Meeting and Marrying71
 Falling in love71
 Questioning her future72
 Marrying their future73

Part II: Building an Empire75

Chapter 6: Improvising an Army in Italy77

Assessing the Austrian Threat78
 Fulfilling a Geographical Destiny78
 Getting Napoleon on Board79
 Building a Winning Army80
 Assembling a leadership team80
 Hats off: Winning over the skeptics81
 Lacking hats (and supplies and motivation)82
 Inspiring the troops83
 Leading the Campaign83
 Winning at Montenotte84
 Avoiding disaster at Dego85
 Claiming victory in the Piedmont85
 Being gracious in victory86
 Dealing with the Austrians87
 Creating a legend at Lodi87
 Gaining self-confidence and acclaim88
 Dividing a command89
 Consolidating a victory90
 Longing for Josephine91
 Continuing the Fight Against Austria92
 Battling across the bridge at Arcola92
 Dealing with the Pope (again)93
 Securing peace94
 Hosting a Troubled Family Reunion94
 Settling Scores, Creating Countries95
 The Venetian Republic95
 The Cisalpine Republic95
 The Ligurian Republic96

Chapter 7: Mixing Art, Science, and Guns in Egypt97

Basking in the Glow of Glory98
 Achieving high honors98
 Looking for a new campaign99



- Setting Sights on Egypt100
 - Planning to conquer a world of mystery101
 - Sabotaging the effort102
- Emulating Alexander102
 - Bringing scholars along102
 - Finding the Rosetta stone103
 - Documenting the journey104
- Sailing (and Marching) into History104
 - Gaining Malta105
 - Reassuring the Egyptian people105
 - Marching to Cairo106
 - Learning of disaster108
- Struggling with Josephine108
 - Facing reality108
 - Finding a new Cleopatra109
- Campaigning in the Holy Land110
 - Confronting a terrible dilemma111
 - Reaching the end of the line112
- Defending against the Turks113
- Suffering European Setbacks113
 - Preparing to leave114
 - Heading back to France114

Chapter 8: Gaining Control of France115

- Returning Home a Hero116
- Dealing with Josephine116
- Being a Hero in a Troubled Nation118
 - Analyzing the political situation118
 - Unveiling conspiracies119
 - Providing a sword120
 - The plot thickens121
 - Consolidating power122
 - Securing domestic peace124

Chapter 9: Winning His Greatest Victories125

- Seeking Peace in Europe125
- Fighting the Austrians in Italy — Again!126
 - Trekking through the Alps127
 - Facing the Austrian response128
 - Securing the peace130
- Fighting the Austrians and Russians — Yet Again!131
 - Setting the stage131
 - Dividing and conquering133
 - Capturing Vienna134
 - Preparing for combat134
 - Conveying weakness135
 - Fighting at Austerlitz135
 - Gaining a glorious victory137
 - Rewarding his soldiers138

Chapter 10: Conquering a Continent	141
Reorganizing Europe	141
Tussling with Prussia and Russia	143
Routing Prussian forces	143
Fighting a winter battle against Russia	145
Finding a Polish love	146
Continuing the campaign	148
Crushin' the Russian army	148
Signing a peace, gaining a friend	150
Facing Another Austrian Threat	151
Declaring war on France	152
Winning Wagram	153
Completing the victory	154
Looking toward the future	154

Part III: Losing an Empire

Chapter 11: Sailing into Disaster with the British	159
Facing Denial in Egypt	160
Dodging the British	160
Improperly anchoring the French fleet	160
Getting surrounded	161
Dealing with long-term effects	163
Destroying the Danish Fleet (Twice)	164
Engaging in trade wars	164
Forcing Denmark out of the League	164
Bombarding the Danes	165
Sinking the Spanish and French at Trafalgar	166
Lacking leadership	166
Battling Nelson again	167
Facing reality	168
Chapter 12: Bleeding in Spain	169
Gaining Control of Portugal	169
Taking Advantage of Spain's Political Turmoil	170
Sorting out Spanish court politics	171
Convincing the royals to abdicate	171
The Peasants Are Revolting (and So Are the Clergy)	172
Keeping Control All in the Family	173
Going from brother to brother	174
Meeting popular resistance	174
Battling the British	175
The British are coming	175
Napoleon is coming	176
The British are leaving	177
Napoleon is leaving	177

The Spanish Ulcer	177
Making one last effort	178
Stopping the French momentum	179
Pushing the French out of Spain	180
Defending France	180
Chapter 13: Reeling from Russia	183
Watching Storm Clouds Gather	183
Polish pain	184
Continental divide	184
Getting Russia Ready for War	185
Preparing France for War	187
Growing the army	187
Stocking supplies	188
Hoping for a quick battle	188
Invading Mother Russia	189
Seeking a battle	189
Waiting for Alexander	190
Taking a city by storm	191
Decisions, decisions	192
Giving a beating at Borodino	193
Entering Moscow	194
Making the Long Return Home	195
Fighting “General Frost”	195
Understanding the consequences	197
Chapter 14: Defeat and Resurrection	199
Trying to Keep the Wolves at Bay	199
Facing a Sixth Coalition	200
Being undermined by Austria	202
Holding talks that lead to nowhere	202
Trying a new Coalition tactic	203
Facing disaster at Leipzig	204
Defending the Homeland	206
Preparing Paris	207
Seeking an elusive peace	207
Reliving the good old days: The six-day war	208
Failing peace	210
Racing to Paris	210
Losing his marshals	212
Losing his position	212
Becoming the Emperor of Elba	213
Losing Josephine	214
Creating a new life	215
Being the center of attention	215
Tempting fate	215
Considering options	217
Returning to France	218

The One Hundred Days	219
Marching on the Route Napoléon	219
Receiving the gates of Grenoble	220
Entering Paris	222
Suffering a fatal, if unavoidable, flaw	223
With friends like this	224
Chapter 15: Waterloo	225
Feeling the Weight of Waterloo	225
Organizing an Army and Seeking Peace	226
Picking a New Team	227
Losing Berthier	227
Settling on a B team	228
Marching to War	229
Hoping to divide and conquer again	229
Surprising the Prussians	229
Marching to and fro	230
Missing key opportunities	231
Waiting on the weather	231
Moving from fight to flight	232
Bad News Travels Fastest	233
Chapter 16: St. Helena: Napoleon’s Final Island	235
Putting His Fate in British Hands	235
What’s in a name?	237
An interesting entourage	237
Arriving on a Tiny Rock 1,000 Miles from Nowhere	239
Enjoying a stay with the Balcombes	240
Moving to Longwood	240
Receiving a Lowe blow	241
Enduring medical follies	243
Losing His Last Battle	245
An unmarked grave	245
Death by . . . ?	247
Returning to France	248
 Part IV: A True Revolutionary	 249
Chapter 17: Marshalling a Great Army	251
Revolutionizing the Army Corps System	251
Recognizing flaws in the old system	252
Designing a better way	252
Creating Marshals	253
Fighting a Modern War	254
Using artillery effectively	254
Planning an offensive	255
Taking the fight to the enemy, quickly	256

Dividing and conquering	257
Improving logistics	257
Inspiring soldiers	258
Chapter 18: Sustaining Support at Home	261
Promoting a Point of View	261
Issuing Bulletins and proclamations	262
Influencing newspaper coverage	264
Using the Power of Government	265
Producing information	265
Censoring opposing voices	266
Controlling political opposition	267
Comparing Napoleon to his peers	268
Controlling Images	268
Chapter 19: Building a Greater (Middle Class) France	271
Creating a Legal Legacy	272
Writing new civil law: The Code Napoléon	272
Overhauling the rest of the system	273
Educating the People	274
Becoming a Napoleonic priority	274
Educating the best and brightest	275
Centralizing educational authority	276
Having a lasting impact	277
Reforming the Economy	277
Dealing with massive debt	278
Rebuilding France (literally)	279
Chapter 20: Attempting a Dynasty	281
Surviving Assassination Attempts	281
Becoming the subject of royalist intrigues	282
The “infernal machine”	282
Recognizing the source of the problem	283
Eliminating a Bourbon prince	284
Establishing an Empire	285
The will of the people	285
Coronation	286
Seeking a Dynasty	287
Goodbye, Josephine	289
Hello, Marie Louise	290
<i>Part V: Influencing Nations: Diplomacy and Legacy ...</i>	293
Chapter 21: Boney Times with the Brits	295
Making One Great Effort at Peace	296
Seizing a brief window of opportunity	296
Celebrating “The Amazing Mr. Bonaparte”	298

Failing Peace301
 Refusing to abandon Malta301
 Making a last-ditch effort to negotiate301
 Attempting Economic Embargo: The Continental System302
 Demonizing Napoleon303
 Examples of early caricatures304
 Examples of later caricatures305

Chapter 22: Creating a New United Europe307

Promoting Italian Risorgimento308
 Making early moves toward unity309
 Creating a united kingdom309
 Establishing an Independent Poland311
 Creating the Grand Duchy of Warsaw311
 Watching the Duchy dissolve312
 Toward a Greater Germany313
 Gaining control of German states313
 Promoting (unintended) nationalism314
 Short on Time, Long on Influence314

Chapter 23: Religious Freedom and Jewish Liberation315

Accommodating the Catholic Church316
 Revoluting against the Church316
 Trying to ease civil strife317
 Negotiating with the Pope317
 Facing a backlash318
 Promoting Jewish Freedom319
 Envisioning the Jewish state319
 Granting French Jews full citizenship320
 Meeting opposition at home and abroad320

Part VI: The Part of Tens323

Chapter 24: Ten Interesting Battlefields to Visit325

Waterloo (Belgium)325
 Borodino (Russia)326
 Austerlitz (Czech Republic)327
 Lodi (Italy)328
 Aspern-Essling, Lobau Island, and Wagram (Austria)328
 Arcola (Italy)329
 Acre/Jaffa (Israel)329
 Eylau (Russia)330
 Friedland (Russia)330
 Marengo (Italy)330

Chapter 25: Ten Pieces of Advice for Napoleon	333
Get Rid of Talleyrand and Fouché	333
Have Better Reconnaissance	334
Acre	334
Marengo	335
Leaving Moscow	335
Don't Depend on Your Siblings	335
Forget the Continental System	336
Don't Marry Josephine	337
Don't Divorce Josephine	337
Declare Victory in Moscow and Get Out of Town Quickly	338
Declare Equal Rights for Women	339
Don't Become Emperor	339
See Dr. James Verling on St. Helena	340
Chapter 26: Ten (Plus) Best Sources for Further Information	341
Books and Periodicals	341
Reference books	341
Biographies and Bulletins	342
Periodicals	342
Organizations	342
The Napoleonic Alliance	343
The Napoleonic Society of America	343
International Napoleonic Society	343
Web Sites	344
Napoleon Series	344
Napoleon Foundation	344
<i>Appendix A: Napoleonic Timeline</i>	345
<i>Appendix B: Maps of Napoleonic Europe</i>	351
<i>Index</i>	353