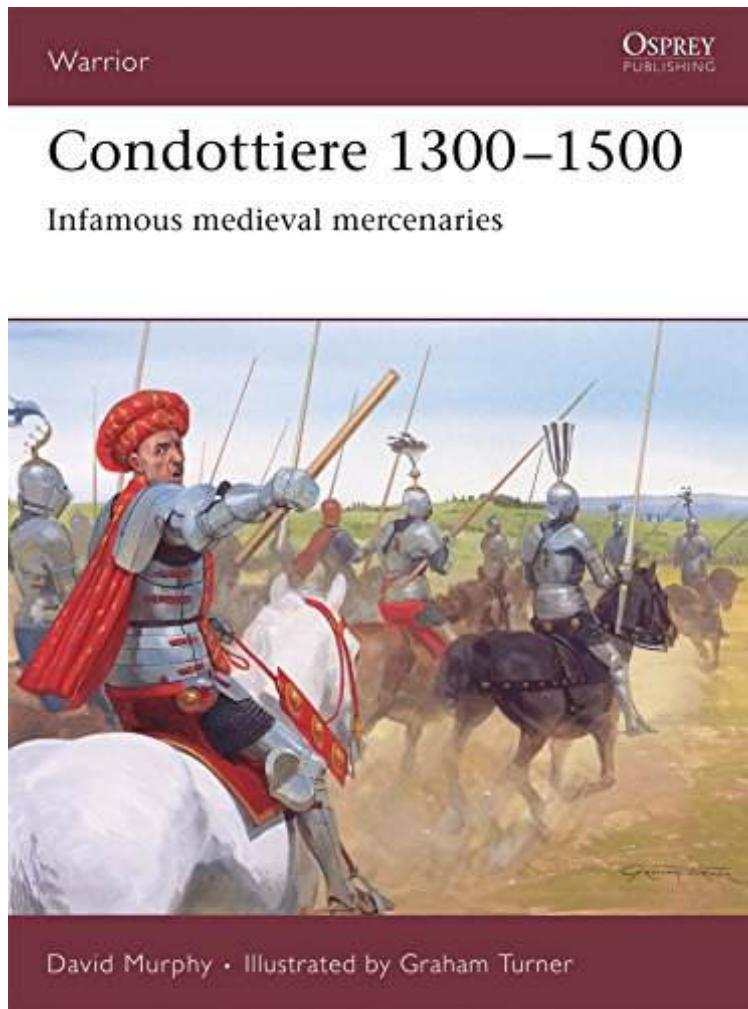


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18 of 19 review helpful Condottiere 1300 1500 By K Murphy Starting in the 14th Century the petty warring states of Italy began to recruit mercenaries from all over western and central Europe to fight their wars for them These men were the condottiere and after several generations of living off the wealth of Italy they came to be the most well armed and also some of the most dangerous of the many mercenary bands of 1 Originally hired by wealthy Italian city states

to protect their assets during a time of ceaseless warring the Condottiere of the Italian peninsula became famous for his wealth venality and amorality during the 14th century The Condottieri's pursuit of profit meant they were prepared to change sides for the right price even during battle and they prospered becoming both powerful and rich in the process Leaders such as John Hawkwood with his famous White ldquo The author does a superlative job of telling the story of these men and the somewhat unusual life they led for these mercenary armies were not common elsewhere in Europe at the time Overall a book that covers a lesser known but still important par

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