

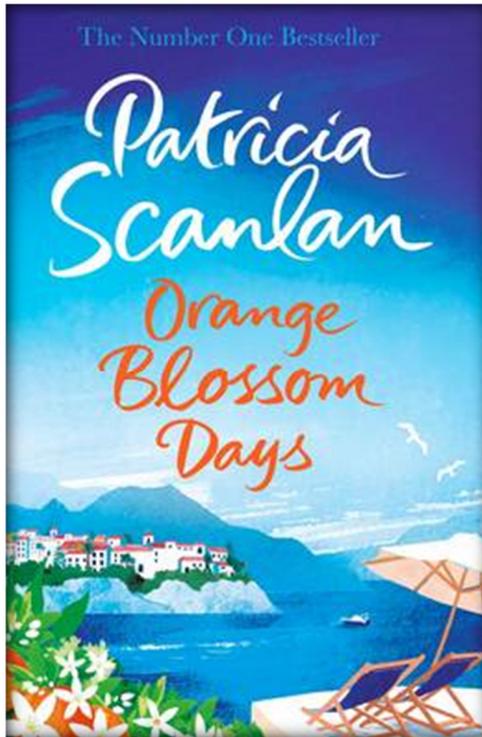


Helping you choose  
your next book

SIMON & SCHUSTER

## LoveReading Reader reviews of **Orange Blossom Days** by Patricia Scanlan

**Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.**



### **Glenda Worth**

***'Orange Blossom Days' is a story of romance, attitude and life at a holiday complex in Spain. Life is never dull here at La Joya! A great holiday read!***

*La Joya a new holiday complex in Spain is the setting for this amusing and emotional tale of life in the new apartments. The many different characters with their own agendas, the staff at the complex with their own take on the owners and how their lives all intertwine to make such an entertaining novel.*

*Couples split up, have affairs, children are born, partners die, but all through the book there is the common theme of La Joya*

*bringing all the characters together for a few weeks per year.*

*The author delves into the lives of the many characters telling the reader of their lives away from La Joya and how they interact away from their holiday homes whilst the staff are doing their best to bring order to the site having to deal with some stropky customers along the way.*

*A few twists and turns makes this a great read and would make a great holiday read.*

### **Sandra Rabiasz**

*Escape to the sun.*

*La Joya de Andalucia is a luxury apartment complex in beautiful southern Spain and 'Orange Blossom Days' revolves around the trials and tribulations of*

*the people to whom the complex means so much. Austen and Anna are a recently retired Irish couple who have sunk a large chunk of their retirement pot in to a luxury penthouse, whilst Sally-Ann Connolly Cooper hails from Texas and is unhappily married to the unfaithful Cal. There is the haughty and autocratic Eduardo de Fuentes who is determined to leave his mark on La Joya and, finally, Jutta Sauer Perez a determined German business woman, full of ambition and plans for her future success.*

***This is a story told with lots of warmth and affection, not just for the large cast of well-drawn characters who all offer something different and of interest to the story, but also for Spain itself. Although a bit formulaic, and a big chunky 500 plus pages, this is an enjoyable and easy read - especially on a cold, rainy day!***

### **Alexandra Harper-Williams**

***The perfect novel for the beach or for gloomy winter days to conjure up some sunshine. Extremely enjoyable read!***

*A new apartment complex is opening up in a lovely town in the South of Spain. A large number of couples and families have purchased properties in the sun and the reader gets to follow their lives as they get settled into their new lifestyle.*

*Couples range from the newly retired Austen and Anna from Ireland, to the hot-tempered Texan Sally-Ann and her husband Cal, efficient German designer Jutta and her husband Fernando, as well as unpopular Eduardo and wife Consuela from Madrid.*

*Life's twists and turns shake up their world and make them re-evaluate what's really important.*

*A fast moving novel that keeps the reader enthralled. Almost like little family sagas for each couple, the book is warm, interesting and really fun to read.*

### **Alison Bain**

***A good summer read with a twist.***

*I really enjoyed this book. An easy summer read set in southern Spain. The owners of the newly completed apartment block, La Joya are just getting settled in when the Spanish economy begins to collapse and with it their dreams. A retired couple with needy adult children, a property developer whose marriage*

is a sham, an ambitious property manager and a Spaniard who was abandoned as a child and must prove himself. I felt at times I was reading a collection of short stories but I still enjoyed the book. More could have been made of the characters Jutta and Eduardo.

### **Pauline Braisher**

**I have read quite a few books by Patricia Scanlan so was looking forward to reviewing her latest book. I was not disappointed.** The story held my attention throughout. It's another story of friendship and finding inner strengths but this time the main characters are older, and with the different worries which come with ageing. However, there are twists and turns in the plot, right up to the end of the story. The action takes place between Andalucia, Texas and Ireland although it's Andalucia which takes the starring role and it is very vividly described, so you wish that you were there, sharing their idyllic lifestyle. The book is **beautifully written**, as was to be expected. The only slight criticism is that one or two of the characters lacked depth so it wasn't possible to either love or hate them. However, this would not prevent me from recommending the book to friends or reading further books by Patricia Scanlan.

### **Angie Rhodes**

The scent from the Orange Blossom is in the air, in a beautiful Spanish Town, La Joya de Andalucia a new apartment complex has just opened its gates. One by one, the apartments begin to fill, there are the MacDonald's, Austen and Anna. Newly retired Eduardo de la Fuente, a man who thinks he is above everyone else and has his sights on becoming El Presidente of the complex's management committee. Jutta Sauer Perez, a sophisticated German who wants to buy and live in one of the apartments and Sally-Ann Connolly Coopers, a fiery Texan mother of two, whose husband has affairs and thinks of nobody but himself.

**Friendships will be made and hearts will be broken, as secrets and lies come out in the open. For those missing the wonderful story telling of Maeve Binchy, then Patricia Scanlan is who you are looking for.**