

One Special Summer

by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

In 1951 sisters Lee and Jacqueline Bouvier travelled in Europe and recorded their experiences in notes, letters, and drawings, which were assembled and published in 1974.

The 8:55 to Baghdad by Andrew Eames

A dual literary biography and travelogue inspired by Agatha Christie's 1928 ride on the Orient Express follows the author's recreation of Christie's train ride to the Middle East.

Innocents Abroad: Or, The New Pilgrims' Progress by Mark Twain

Twain describes his experiences traveling in Europe and the Middle East, and pokes fun at tourists and tour guides. Read also: *A Tramp Abroad*.

Ladies of the Grand Tour: British Women in Pursuit of Enlightenment and Adventure in Eighteenth Century Europe by Brian Dolan

Drawing on journals, letters, and diaries, the author presents a portrait of the life and times of eighteenth-century women who broke the constraints of a male-dominated society and embarked on an odyssey of self-discovery.

The Wild Places by Robert MacFarlane

Explores the changing ideas of the wild in Great Britain and Ireland, from the cliffs of Cape Wrath and the storm-beaches of Norfolk to the saltmarshes and estuaries of Essex and the moors of Rannoch and the Pennines.

Traveling with Pomegranates: A Mother Daughter Story by Sue Monk Kidd & Ann Kidd Taylor

The authors describe their introspective journeys to Greece and France, during which they reconnected while Sue grappled with midlife challenges and writer's block and Ann struggled with heartbreak and post-college career questions.

No Man's Lands: One Man's Odyssey Through "The Odyssey" by Scott Huler

Details the author's efforts to retrace the footsteps of Odysseus from Troy to Ithaca as recorded in "The Odyssey," following the Greek hero on his journey around the Mediterranean to discover why this tale has continued to resonate with Western readers.

The Way of Herodotus: Travels with the Man Who Invented History by Justin Marozzi

Journeying back 2,500 years, the story of the first history text written by Herodotus is reviewed through an examination of his in-depth chronicles, tales of the people he met, and detailed descriptions of the lands he visited in the Mediterranean and Middle East.

Dinner with Persephone by Patricia Storace

An account of a journey through Greece captures its noisy cities, quiet villages, historical atmosphere, social mores, religious customs, and complex people.

Three Ways to Capsize a Boat: An Optimist Afloat by Chris Stewart

Describes the author's unlikely job as a Cornish Crabber, work that required him to learn how to sail during a voyage around the Greek Islands.

Crete by Barry Unsworth

The Booker Prize-winning novelist recounts his journeys through Crete, capturing the rich history of the island, the complex influences that have shaped Cretan culture, the island's rugged landscape, and the people of Crete.



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Armchair Travelers



Neither Here nor There: Travels in Europe by Bill Bryson

An account of a European trip blends anecdotes with worldly insights, describing the bleak lands of Norway, the exotic scenes of Istanbul, and the cities of Paris, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Rome, Geneva, and Vienna.

Without Reservations: Travels of an Independent Woman by Alice Steinbach

The Pulitzer Prize-winning writer explores the nature of independence, chronicling her own adventures as a woman in search of freedom from the things that define her as she journeys to Paris, Oxford, Milan, and beyond.

In Europe: Travels in the Twentieth Century by Geert Mak

A Dutch journalist crisscrosses Europe in search of the evidence of and eyewitnesses to the turbulent events of the twentieth century, drawing on interviews, diaries, newspaper reports, and other sources to explore the people and places that transformed Europe.

Annotations courtesy of **NoveList Plus**.

The Kingdom by the Sea: A Journey Around Great Britain by Paul Theroux

Provides a profile of Britain and her people in a collection of interviews with citizens during the time of the papal visit, the Falklands crisis, a great railway strike, spiraling unemployment, and the birth of Prince William.

Notes from a Small Island by Bill Bryson

Before returning to America after spending twenty years in Britain, the author decided to tour his second home and presents a look at England's quirks and its endearing qualities.

On Celtic Tides: One Man's Journey Around Ireland by Sea Kayak by Chris Duff

A chronicle of the solo circumnavigation of the island of Ireland by kayak combines an exploration of the history, natural splendor, and tradition of Ireland with an account of the difficulties and dangers of the voyage.

Whisky, Kilts, and the Loch Ness Monster: Traveling Through Scotland with Boswell and Johnson by William W. Starr

More than two centuries after Boswell and Johnson, Starr sets out to retrace that earlier trip, following the itinerary in reverse and tracking their route as closely as possible.

This Cold Heaven: Seven Seasons in Greenland by Gretel Ehrlich

The author describes her seven-year odyssey back and forth to Greenland to explore the culture, society, and lifestyle of the polar Eskimos and to learn about the lives of others who had chosen to live in a land dominated by ice.

Frost on My Mustache: The Arctic Exploits of a Lord and a Loafer by Tim Moore

When Moore found a copy of Lord Dufferin's detailed, best-selling, 19th-century travel memoir of a trip to and from Iceland, he was so intrigued that he decided to retrace the journey.

The Palace of the Snow Queen: Winter Travels in Lapland by Barbara Sjöholm

An American travel writer details how the Arctic winter in Lapland warmed her heart.

Spanish Recognitions: The Roads to the Present by Mary Lee Settle

The author recalls her journey into the heart of Spain at the age of eighty-two, revealing the illusions and romanticism she carried into her voyage and the truths she gained along the way.

It's Not About the Tapas: A Spanish Adventure on Two Wheels by Polly Evans

A young Englishwoman recounts her adventures during a bicycle trip around Spain, detailing her encounters with the grueling heights of the Pyrenees, overzealous suitors, local wildlife, and Spanish history.

Journey to Portugal: In Pursuit of Portugal's History and Culture by Jose Saramago

Offers information about the history and culture of Portugal written by combining aspects of a novel, guide book, and travel log.

Iberia: Spanish Travels and Reflections by James A. Michener

The author's personal thoughts and recollections highlight this informal portrait of Spanish life and culture.

Four Seasons in Rome: On Twins, Insomnia, and the Biggest Funeral in the History of the World by Anthony Doerr

The author describes the year he spent in Rome, including his adventures around the city, life in a foreign but welcoming country, and parenthood as it applies to his newborn twins.

The Last Supper: A Summer in Italy by Rachel Cusk

The author travels to Italy for a summer with her husband and two young children with no idea of the trials and wonders that lay in store.

Sweet Honey Bitter Lemons: Travels in Sicily on a Vespa by Matthew Fort

Travelling around the island of Sicily on his scooter, Monica, the author samples almond ice cream on the spectacular coast and intoxicating mouthfuls of sausage stew in olive groves, and goes fishing for anchovies beneath a star-scattered sky.

Autonauts of the Cosmoroute: A Timeless Voyage from Paris to Marseille

by Julio Cortazar and Carol Dunlap

A couple's leisurely drive through France, following two simple rules - complete the journey without once leaving the autoroute, and visit each of the 70 rest areas at the rate of two per day.

Narrow Dog to Carcassonne by Terry Darlington

The author describes how he and his wife sailed their canal narrowboat across the English Channel to the South of France, accompanied by their whippet Jim.

I'll Never Be French (No Matter What I Do): Life in a Small Village in Brittany by Mark Greenside

The author recounts how he was dragged by his girlfriend to a tiny region in western France, where in spite of the failure of their relationship and his complete inexperience with French culture, he fell in love with the area and made it a second home.

Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History by Robert D. Kaplan

A history of the Balkan Peninsula explores the region's political, social, religious, and economic past in order to understand the nature of the recently rekindled centuries-old blood feuds.

Pillars of Hercules: A Grand Tour of the Mediterranean by Paul Theroux

The author traces a modern version of the Grand Tour of Europe--a lively, sometimes violent journey around the shores of the Mediterranean.