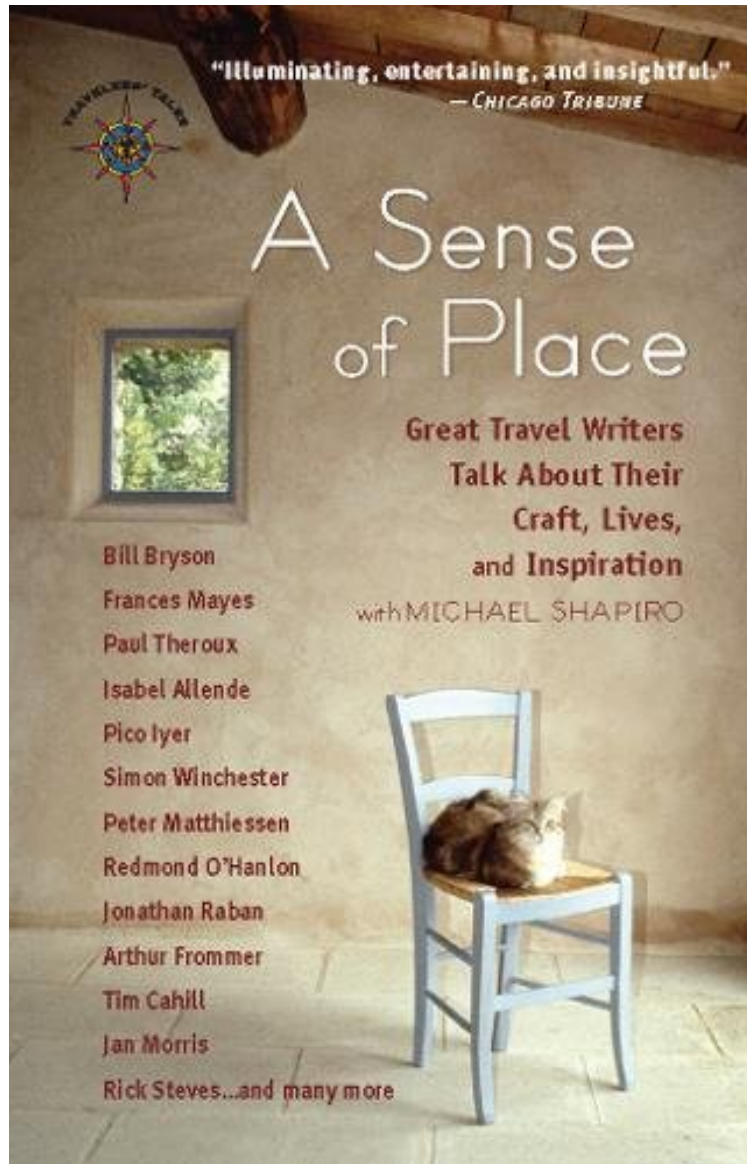


[Pdf free] A Sense of Place: Great Travel Writers Talk About Their Craft, Lives, and Inspiration (Travelers' Tales Guides)

A Sense of Place: Great Travel Writers Talk About Their Craft, Lives, and Inspiration (Travelers' Tales Guides)

Michael Shapiro

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Michael Shapiro : A Sense of Place: Great Travel Writers Talk About Their Craft, Lives, and Inspiration (Travelers' Tales Guides) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Sense of Place: Great Travel Writers Talk About Their Craft, Lives, and Inspiration (Travelers' Tales Guides):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. MY FAVORITE TRAVEL WRITER BOOK By Janet Straightarrow
A great book. I feel like I am in the interviews with these travel writers. Travel writers of all ages, individual focus and experience around the world. Candid and real. I feel like I traveled to many places with them, and their unique voices and experiences. Michael Shapiro did a great job! I will look for more of his books, and theirs.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Travel writers are generally interesting By Richard Y.
I just finished reading "A Sense of Place". The author was on Rick Steves' podcast (public radio show) and was interesting enough that I ordered the book and read it. The book opened me up to some other writers that I hadn't read and will in the future. While I've read some of Simon Winchester, Jan Morris and Isabel Allende and subscribe to Arthur Frommer's magazine, I picked up on Pico Iyer and am reading him as I write this. Bill Bryson and others strike me as potential interesting reads as well. I sent an email to the author who immediately responded with a thank you for the communication. Reading a good book, especially one that leads you to other good books, is always a pleasure.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Traveller's Insight: better than I imagined! Read it! By Steve Sherry
This is a great book for anyone interested in all forms of writing, but travel writing in particular. It's a fascinating insight into the lives, motivations and styles of a wide variety of writers. It exceeded my expectations and highly recommend it to all readers!

In *A Sense of Place*, journalist/travel writer Michael Shapiro goes on a pilgrimage to visit the world's great travel writers on their home turf to get their views on their careers, the writer's craft, and most importantly, why they chose to live where they do and what that place means to them. The book chronicles a young writer's conversations with his heroes, writers he's read for years who inspired him both to pack his bags to travel and to pick up a pen and write. Michael skillfully coaxes a collective portrait through his interviews, allowing the authors to speak intimately about the writer's life, and how place influences their work and perceptions. In each chapter Michael sets the scene by describing the writer's surroundings, placing the reader squarely in the locale, whether it be Simon Winchester's Massachusetts, Redmond O'Hanlon's London, or Frances Mayes's Tuscany. He then lets the writer speak about life and the world, and through quiet probing draws out fascinating commentary from these remarkable people. For Michael it's a dream come true, to meet his mentors; for readers, it's an engaging window onto the twin landscapes of great travel writers and the world in which they live.

From Publishers Weekly
Journalist Shapiro (Internet Travel Planner) says that he embarked on this collection of illuminating interviews with the desire to learn more about his favorite authors, about "their lives, their hopes, their aspirations, and their thoughts about the world." He set out to meet publishing veterans such as Bill Bryson (*A Walk in the Woods*), Jan Morris (*Trieste and the Meaning of Nowhere*), Paul Theroux (*The Great Railway Bazaar*) and Peter Matthiessen (*The Snow Leopard*), writers whose insights do indeed make for fascinating reading. But Shapiro's discussions with novelist Isabel Allende (*The House of the Spirits*) and guidebook gurus Rick Steves and Arthur Frommer prove equally enlightening. In the chapter "At Home with the Spirits," for example, Allende talks about the ways in which travel informs and influences her work. She likens the memories someone keeps from a trip to the significant details that get included in a particular story: "The person doesn't bring back the month; the person brings back the big strokes, the brilliant colors, the intense experiences, and in a week you have forgotten how uncomfortable you were and the mosquitoes. You only remember those things that eventually you might write about." Conversations such as these help Shapiro's book live up to its ambitious title. By combining brief profiles with lengthy QAs for each author, he provides a comprehensive look at the process these and other writers often go through, making the volume a good choice for both armchair travelers and aspiring writers. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Big-minded, big-hearted, progressive and compassionate. -- San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 19, 2004
Hearing some of the great travel writers talk about their craft is certainly instructive for readers and writers alike. -- New York Times Book Review, Dec. 5, 2004
I enjoyed "A Sense of Place" down to the last drop. This is a wonderful book... a fascinating read. -- Keith Bellows, National Geographic Traveler
Illuminating, entertaining, and insightful. -- Chicago Tribune, Oct. 3, 2004
Shapiro functions as a less long-winded Charlie Rose, seeming to know the books as well as their authors do. -- The Washington Post, Nov. 28, 2004