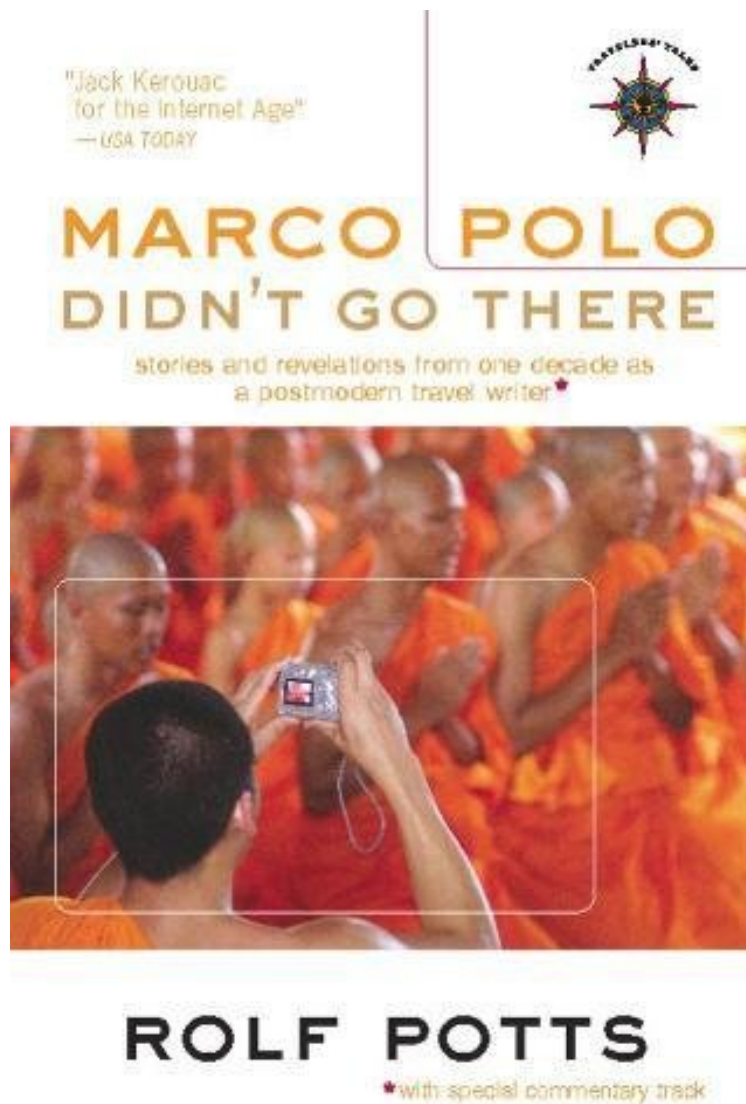


(Free and download) Marco Polo Didn't Go There: Stories and Revelations from One Decade as a Postmodern Travel Writer

Marco Polo Didn't Go There: Stories and Revelations from One Decade as a Postmodern Travel Writer

Rolf Potts

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Rolf Potts : Marco Polo Didn't Go There: Stories and Revelations from One Decade as a Postmodern Travel Writer before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Marco Polo Didn't Go There: Stories and Revelations from One Decade as a Postmodern Travel Writer:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Anyone interested in travel should read this. By Luke Campbell Rolf writes in such a way that is believable, that is to say he doesn't take on airs of being a professional - bragging about the number of countries visited and looking at them in the same awestruck manner, rather he makes mistakes and suffers the consequences and allows that to be seen. It's a real book written by a man who has expectations about what travel should be like (as we all do) but allows the experience of the adventure to happen despite his ideals. If Rolf is Luke Skywalker then travel is his Yoda. He attempts at certain times to change his path and force something that he thinks should happen (like studying Buddhist monks in India or hitchhiking across Poland), but the country and its people have different ideas. It's a great book and companion to his other book "Vagabonding" and illustrates the points made in his other book in vivid detail. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. his stories are amazing, he makes you want to get out and ... By Michael Sandler Inspire Nation Host This book makes me want to travel. TODAY! I just interviewed Rolf Potts for our Inspire Nation Show, his stories are amazing, he makes you want to get out and see the world. He's right, it's often the challenging moments we look back on (and laugh about) the most. If you have a travel itch, I think you'll love this book. And I'd recommend getting his Vagabonding: An Uncommon Guide to the Art of Long-Term World Travel book as well. I found it incredibly helpful for figuring out how to travel on a dime, and how to build the life you desire. I love it! Thank you Rolf for your amazing books and sharing your uber-fun adventures! Keep up the great work, and thanks for inspiring us!!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Collection From An Excellent Writer By Scott Shorey Rolf writes a travel story well and has a gift for telling the parts that matter. I liked the notes at the end of each story that showed what he left out and sometimes how he "massaged" the facts a little to make a better story but never really strayed from telling the truth. He also has a gift for taking sometimes mundane details and making them interesting simply because it is a mundane detail in a far-off place most people will never visit. A cup of coffee might be a cup of coffee, but if you are drinking it in a place most English speaking people have never been to, or maybe even heard of it can seem very exotic. Potts also has a gift for self deprecation and showing his failures in a positive way that never sounds like pandering. He also seems to be a nice guy. I exchanged a couple of emails with him about travel writing several years ago and he gave good advice and actually responded to my mail. My only complaint about the book is that he left out some of his best stories that are on his web site.

Marco Polo Didn't Go There is a collection of rollicking travel tales from a young writer USA Today has called Jack Kerouac for the Internet Age. For the past ten years, Rolf Potts has taken his keen postmodern travel sensibility into the far fringes of five continents for such prestigious publications as National Geographic Traveler, Salon.com, and The New York Times Magazine. This book documents his boldest, funniest, and most revealing journeys from getting stranded without water in the Libyan desert, to crashing the set of a Leonardo DiCaprio movie in Thailand, to learning the secrets of Tantric sex in a dubious Indian ashram. Marco Polo Didn't Go There is more than just an entertaining journey into fascinating corners of the world. The book is a unique window into travel writing, with each chapter containing a commentary track and notes that reveal the ragged edges behind the experience and creation of each tale. Offbeat and insightful, this book is an engrossing read for students of travel writing as well as armchair wanderers.

From Booklist This could be the first travel book ever to open with a discussion of the word postmodern, which Potts uses to mean placelessness, or dislocation as a result of travel. Many of these stories first appeared online, too, while Potts was in the midst of a two-year vagabonding journey across Asia and Europe. In fact, this could be the essence of postmodern travel writing: stories written in the field, filed electronically, and instantly available to readers anywhere. But even if you're coming to these stories for the first time in the comfort of your own living room, you get a very vivid sense of what Potts experienced in such locales as Thailand (where he tried to infiltrate a Leonardo DiCaprio movie set), Vietnam, Turkey, and Cambodia. Potts is an enthusiastic traveler, eager to try new things and meet new people, and he's an energetic writer, making sure he describes not only the sights of the places he visits but also the sounds, the smells, and the tastes. Armchair travelers will get an enormous kick out of this thoroughly entertaining book. --David Pitt "Potts is one of the best travel writers to emerge in the last decade. Intrepid and thoughtful, he's a Paul Theroux for the backpacker generation, and Marco Polo reflects this." San Francisco Chronicle "This hilarious collection of stories provokes because Potts asks the serious question of how to travel in a discovered world. ... If you aspire to be a travel writer, read this book." The Guardian (U.K.) "Potts isn't so much a travel reporter as a story teller. ... He's more about getting under the skin of a place detailing a cast of characters that would either enthrall or scare the hell out of most travelers, depending on where they come down on the trust-paranoia continuum." Orange County Register "An equal mix of humor and enlightenment... Potts shows travelers and would-be travelers the joy of immersing oneself in a foreign culture." St. Louis Post-Dispatch "Best Books of 2008" "Potts, Internet raconteur and travel-advice sage, is the kind of guy you wish the pubs had more of: well traveled, generous with funny stories, eager to listen to yours. You feel envious that you weren't with him in Cairo to share the convivial squalor of a backpacker hotel, or at an Indian ashram to study Tantric sex, or even in the Libyan Desert, in the dark, out of water and lost. And he's able to draw insights from all that without draining the fun out of the conversation difficult to carry off in a pub or a

book."The Washington Post" Armchair travelers will get an enormous kick out of this thoroughly entertaining book."Booklist