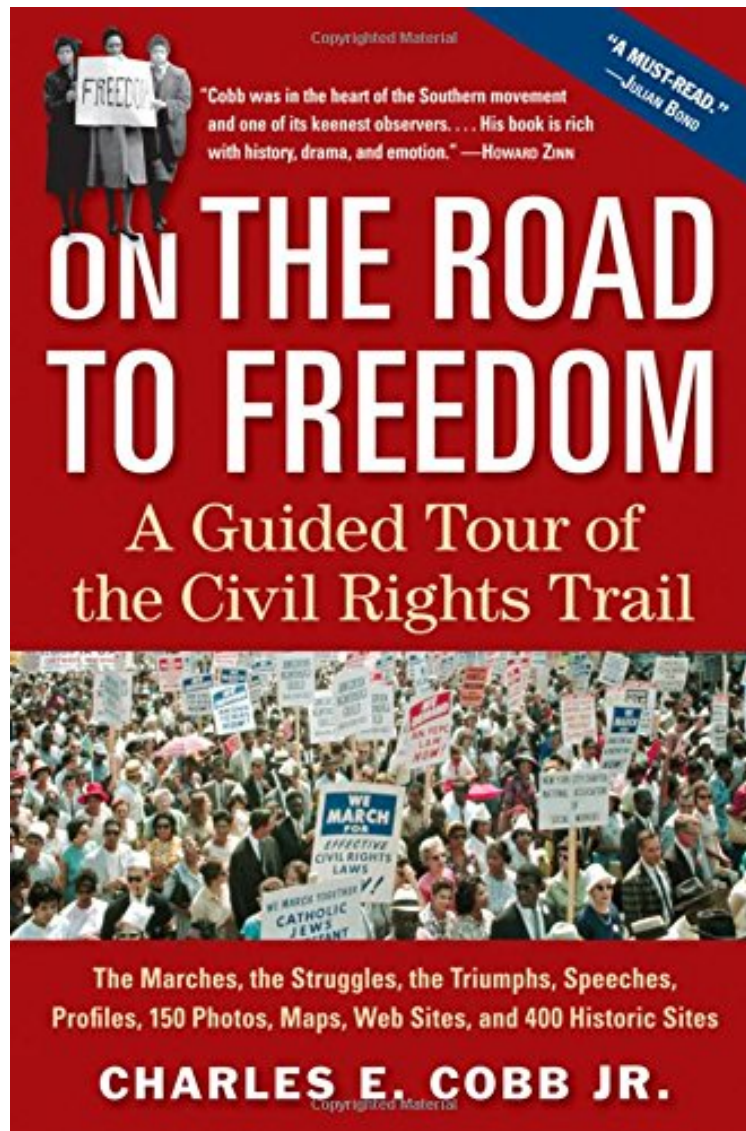


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On the Road to Freedom: A Guided Tour of the Civil Rights Trail

Charles E. Cobb

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Charles E. Cobb : On the Road to Freedom: A Guided Tour of the Civil Rights Trail before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On the Road to Freedom: A Guided Tour of the Civil Rights Trail:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Civil Rights History + Sights = Moving and Educational BookBy
DJSquaredI bought this book in preparation for a road trip I will be taking with my daughter this summer (2012)
through the Deep South and on to the West Coast. What I find most useful about this book are 3 things: 1. In a way,

it's a short history course on the civil rights struggle from Maryland/DC through Mississippi. Though I considered myself relatively well-read on the subject, Prof. Cobb included multiple photos, stories, and quotations from events and people I had not heard of. Also, he does not shy away from speaking frankly about divisions within the Movement and the sometime failure of the national "conservative" Civil Rights Movement to back up local initiatives (such as in Cambridge, Maryland). This book could definitely be purchased just for the history, even if you don't plan to visit. The format is eye-catching, with large font and the use of text boxes to focus on certain people and places so it works as both a history and travel guide. 2. As a travel guide, it gives you more than enough places to visit; it includes addresses and names and of course the story behind the place. It is not always made clear if the place is worth a visit (beyond the historical significance) and contact information is not provided so I'm using it as the starting point and then use Google StreetView, etc. to see if the place is open to the public, etc. Prof. Cobb acknowledges that the book isn't comprehensive; he picked those he felt were the most significant. In other words, it doesn't purport to cover every state where the Struggle occurred and some states are not represented (like Louisiana, Florida, Arkansas, etc.). 3. The last point I'd bring up is that while I wouldn't begrudge Prof. Cobb if he wrote with some invective or lingering resentment, the book is very measured in tone. I would expect that many in his intended (or expected) audience would be African-American and thus he might feel comfortable in speaking "freely" about these issues. Still, he writes with equanimity (or is it magnanimity?) and I found it compels respect and emotion in the reader. This is a book that I'm very glad to have on my bookshelf. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent resource. By Doctor Dale Excellent resource, fun to read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Still on the Road to Freedom By Charles Dennis This is the most important book for all to read for following the civil rights movement. I was impressed with all the information plus direction to cites. The road is long and much has been written, but more needs to tell the story of the struggles yet to come. Charles Dennis

This in-depth look at the civil rights movement goes to the places where pioneers of the movement marched, sat-in at lunch counters, gathered in churches; where they spoke, taught, and organized; where they were arrested, where they lost their lives, and where they triumphed. Award-winning journalist Charles E. Cobb Jr., a former organizer and field secretary for SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee), knows the journey intimately. He guides us through Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, back to the real grassroots of the movement. He pays tribute not only to the men and women etched into our national memory but to local people whose seemingly small contributions made an impact. We go inside the organizations that framed the movement, travel on the "Freedom Rides" of 1961, and hear first-person accounts about the events that inspired Brown vs. Board of Education. An essential piece of American history, this is also a useful travel guide with maps, photographs, and sidebars of background history, newspaper coverage, and firsthand interviews.