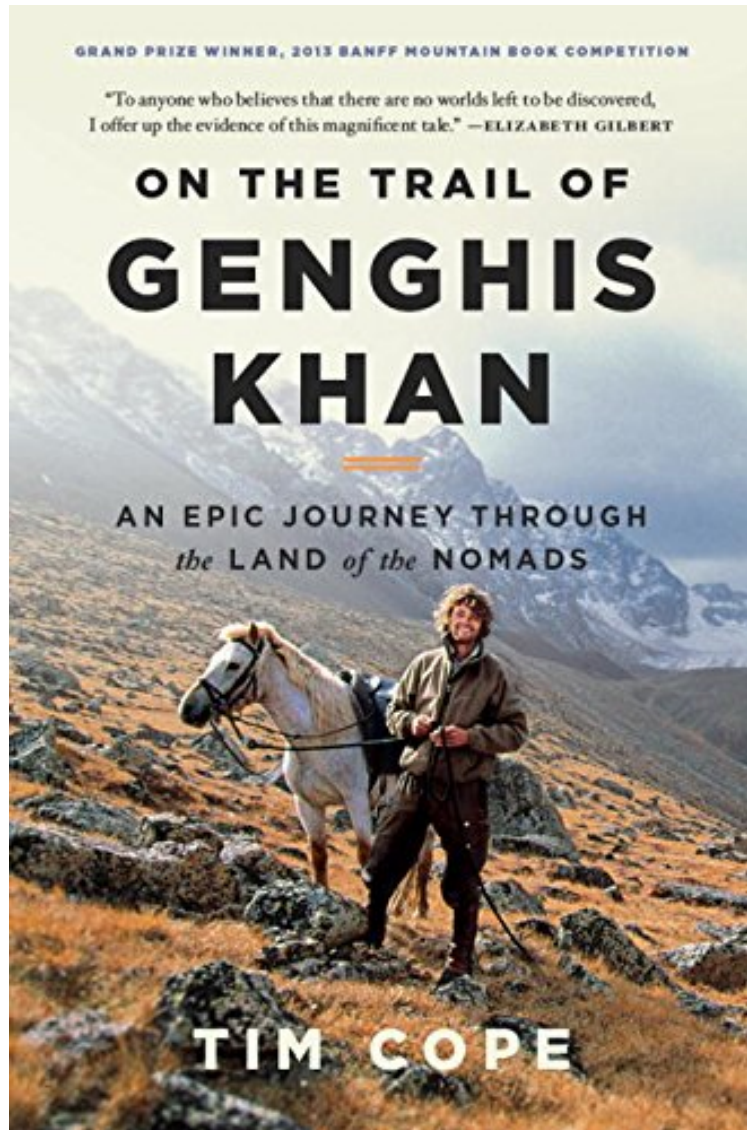


[E-BOOK] On the Trail of Genghis Khan: An Epic Journey Through the Land of the Nomads

On the Trail of Genghis Khan: An Epic Journey Through the Land of the Nomads

Tim Cope

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Tim Cope : On the Trail of Genghis Khan: An Epic Journey Through the Land of the Nomads before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On the Trail of Genghis Khan: An Epic Journey Through the Land of the Nomads:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating By Mitchell J. Clark I rarely enter reviews but this book is worthy of one. As a modern US American it's hardly imaginable to do, or accomplish, what Tim Cope did. I knew

very little about the Mongols or nomadic life. I didn't really have all that much interest but was in the mood to read a "travel" book. GLAD I DID! If you only read one "travel" book, read this one. You won't regret it. It's one I won't forget. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Epic journey, amazing cultures, and voracious appetite for adventure define this book. By Monty Hobbes I now want to travel through the Mongolian and Kazakh steppe. Tim's journey is absolutely epic and will draw in anyone interested in travelling through lands. It proves that there are still lands and cultures out there that aren't fully explored or even understood. Tim does an amazing job of not only detailing his journey and the landscape he travels through, but also gives insight into the cultures and history that he passes through. It's simply amazing how separate yet similar each culture is out on the steppe. Tim's writing has also gotten me more interested in the history of Genghis Khan. I'll be honest, my initial impressions of the conqueror were of a Western bent, that he led a blood-thirsty hoard to conquer most of Asia and was on the doorstep of Europe. However, while that did account for why his reach spread so quickly, his empire was known for its religious freedom, support of science, and multiple languages. I now feel the need to pick up a history of Khan's empire that paints it in a better light. Tim Cope is simply inspirational. His journey, his charisma, and his focus on the people that he meets along the way make this an indispensable adventure book. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Fascinating Journey on Horseback Across 6000 miles and within the Inner Self. By Michael J. Muller I first heard of this book and about the author on an NPR talk show in which the author was interviewed and this book was discussed. The journey sounded intriguing, but the author sounded naive. He admitted that before this 6000 mile journey across Asia and Eastern Europe he had never really been on a horse and yet he was committed to the adventure of following in the historical footsteps of the Mongol horsemen from the 13th Century. Listening to the NPR interview I was captivated by his honesty, candor and straightforward descriptions of his three year adventure. From beginning to end I could not put the book down. Even when I took a break from reading, thoughts of this book remained in my head. The author overcomes adversities presented by the weather, the seasons, wolves, horse thieves, bureaucrats and the terrain. The generosity and hospitality of strangers is a story in and of itself. Along the way so many who have so little generously supported the author in his quest to complete the journey. In reading this book it is as if you are along side the author experiencing each step of the way. This is a wonderful story of discovery. Not only about geography, ancient history and current events but about central Asian and Eastern European people and one person's achievement over a long and fascinating quest. Definitely recommended as a five star book to be read by every armchair adventurer.

Grand Prize Winner, Banff Mountain Festival Book Competition The relationship between man and horse on the Eurasian steppe gave rise to a succession of rich nomadic cultures. Among them were the Mongols of the thirteenth century--a small tribe, which, under the charismatic leadership of Genghis Khan, created the largest contiguous land empire in history. Inspired by the extraordinary life nomads lead, Tim Cope embarked on a journey that hadn't been successfully completed since those times: to travel on horseback across the entire length of the Eurasian steppe, from Karakorum, the ancient capital of Mongolia, through Kazakhstan, Russia, Crimea and the Ukraine to the Danube River in Hungary. From horse-riding novice to spending months in the saddle, he learnt to fend off wolves and would-be horse-thieves, and grapple with the haunting extremes of the steppe as he crossed sub-zero plateaux, the scorching deserts of Kazakhstan and the high-mountain passes of the Carpathians. As he travelled he formed a close bond with his horses and especially his dog Tigon, and encountered essential hospitality--the linchpin of human survival on the steppe--from those he met along the way. Cope bears witness to how the traditional ways hang in the balance in the post-Soviet world--an era that has brought new-found freedom, but also the perils of corruption and alcoholism, and left a world bereft of both the Communist system upon which it once relied, and the traditional knowledge of the nomadic forefathers. A journey of adventure, endurance and eventual triumph, *On the Trail of Genghis Khan* is at once a celebration of and an elegy for an ancient way of life.

From Booklist An adventurer who has sailed down Siberia's Yenesei River, among other quests, Cope mounted a horse in Mongolia in 2004 and set out for the opposite end of the Eurasian steppe, Hungary. This was the vast sphere conquered by the Mongol Empire in the 1200s, the historical memory of which accompanied Cope as surely as did his contemporary education in nomadic living. Embarking without much prior experience in things equestrian but gifted with foreign-language skills, Cope proceeded across exceedingly challenging if not downright dangerous landscapes of deserts, mountains, and plains. At many points, Cope's journey seemed sure to be thwarted by wolves, thieves, or bureaucrats, but three years later, Cope, his steeds, and his dog, Tigon, arrived triumphantly in Hungary. Within this theme of difficulties met and mastered, the people Cope met on the way become vividly characterized as jocular or menacing, helpful or hindering in the narrative's large stock of intercultural encounters. (Cope is Australian.) Weaving acute observation, honest introspection, and a sense of history, Cope crafts a marvelously perceptive travelogue of an audacious odyssey. --Gilbert Taylor Tim Cope is a beautiful explorer--by which I mean that he explores beautiful places, but also that he does it beautifully. This is a young man possessed of extraordinary courage, but also great sensitivity and respect. His writing, like his journeys, speaks to a heightened soul, operating at its highest potential. He

is an inspiration to me and I believe he will be an inspiration for many. To anyone who believes that there are no worlds left to be discovered, I offer up the evidence of this magnificent tale. Elizabeth Gilbert This great journey gives the lie to any notion that the world is too much known. It's an astonishing feat of courage and imagination, travelling in its own rich dimension--of nomad history and the horse. Colin Thubron Vivid, insightful, thoughtful, with great narrative drive. A modern classic. John Man, author of Genghis Khan: Life, Death, and Resurrection and Marco Polo: The Journey that Changed the World [A] sensitive account both personal and historical. . . [Cope] refuses his ambitious account with the stories of the people and tales of the animals who inspired the journey, rendering the book heartfelt and memorable. An exciting, detailed account of man versus adversity. Kirkus s Weaving acute observation, honest introspection, and a sense of history, Cope crafts a marvelously perceptive travelogue of an audacious odyssey. Booklist Tim Cope's exploration across the continents on horseback grew into a quest through history and then an odyssey deep into the human heart. In exploring some of the most remote places on earth, he brings us back to ourselves and to a better understanding of our place in the world today. Jack Weatherford, author of Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World In some ways the most reassuring thing about On the Trail of Genghis Khan is that, in a world full of people and connections and easy means of gratification, someone with enough courage and curiosity can still find a place to get lost. And, in doing so, can still come to understand life on totally foreign terms. That Cope writes beautifully about the experience makes this book one to treasure and remember. Nick Reding, author of The Last Cowboys at the End of the World and Methland An epic tale of an epic journey, told with beauty and sensitivity. For anyone who loves adventure and traveling off the beaten track, this is a must read. Tim Macartney-Snape, mountaineer, first Australian to summit Mount Everest Tim Cope's epic journey is a reminder to us all that life should be lived to the fullest. Cope is a man who appreciates the simple things in life but still manages to conquer the seemingly impossible through sheer will power and an unbreakable spirit, on a quest to recreate history. His path is one we'd all love to follow. Steve Waugh, Australian cricket legend This is a staggering travel adventure, beautifully recounted, by an amazing man. Peter FitzSimons, sports journalist, commentator, and biographer There are plenty of fine books written by people who go off on adventures and return to set their story to paper, but Tim Cope's adventure, recalled in On the Trail of Genghis Khan, puts almost all of them to shame. The anecdotes he relates are amazing, but it's Cope himself that provides the most inspiration. It's a shame that the word 'epic' has been so degraded by over-use, because it must be employed here. The Daily Beast About the Author Tim Cope is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and an award-winning adventurer, author, filmmaker and motivational speaker with a special interest in Central Asia and states of the former Soviet Union. He has studied as a wilderness guide in the Finnish and Russian Arctic, ridden a bicycle across Russia to China, and rowed a boat 4500km through Siberia to the Arctic Ocean. He lives in Victoria, Australia and travels annually to Mongolia as a trekking guide. www.timcopejourneys.com