

## **ROAD TRIP BIBLIOGRAPHY**

It's summertime--the time of year when many a family hits the road for vacation. Here is a list of books about great American road trips. Some feature walkers instead of drivers, and some feature rivers instead of roads, but even if you normally read only fiction, you may enjoy learning about our country while you follow along these journeys. Whether you are an intrepid explorer or just an armchair traveler, you will find something here to satisfy your wanderlust.

DB/RC 69543; BARD

HARRY TRUMAN'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE: THE TRUE STORY OF A GREAT AMERICAN ROAD TRIP

ALGEO, MATTHEW

What does a former president do when he suddenly finds himself unemployed? Harry and Bess hit the road for a 2,500 mile trip (with no driver or secret service detail) staying in motels and eating in diners. This is an interesting mix of biography, travelogue, and taste of 1953 America. 2009.

RC 55999

A HELL OF A PLACE TO LOSE A COW: AN AMERICAN HITCHHIKING ODYSSEY

BROOKES, TIM

British-born journalist, professor, and NPR commentator sets out to relive his cross-country hitchhiking experience of 1973. Disregarding fears of crime and violence, Brookes hopes to discover how the country has changed after 25 years. 2000.

DB/RC 66259; BARD

LOST CONTINENT: TRAVELS IN SMALL-TOWN AMERICA

BRYSON, BILL

Humorous writer reminisces about the car-trip vacations from his childhood as he attempts to re-create them during one trip through 38 states. He offers observations as he re-visits the "magic places" of his youth, starting in his hometown of Des Moines, Iowa. Strong language. 1989.

RC 46519; BARD

A WALK IN THE WOODS: REDISCOVERING AMERICA ON THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

BRYSON, BILL

The comic misadventures of Bryson and childhood friend Stephen Katz as they attempt to hike the 1,200 mile Appalachian Trail. Both men are physically and mentally unfit for the trek, but persevere nonetheless. Strong language. 1998. Read other books by this author.

BR 15229; RC 57572; BARD

HORATIO'S DRIVE: AMERICA'S FIRST ROAD TRIP

DUNCAN, DAYTON

In 1903 automobiles were still a novelty, and good roads were even rarer. But that didn't stop Dr. Horatio Jackson from betting \$50 that he could become the first person to drive cross country from San Francisco to New York. Companion to Ken Burns' PBS documentary. 2003. Read other books by this author.

RC 66185; BARD

WAY OFF THE ROAD: DISCOVERING THE PECULIAR CHARMS OF SMALL-TOWN AMERICA

GEIST, BILL

Television news correspondent profiles unique places and people he calls "resourceful, eccentric...and at times just plain batty--yet oddly inspiring." Examples include the Grand Canyon mail carrier and the mayor and sole resident of Monowi, Nebraska. 2007.

RC 56639; BARD

ADVENTURING ALONG THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL

GROSSMAN, ELIZABETH

Travel guide traces the Corps of Discovery's 1804-1806 route across ten states to the Pacific Ocean. Excerpts from Lewis and Clark's journals provide perspective on changes that have taken place since the expedition. Includes tips on hiking, biking, canoeing, and kayaking. 2003.

RC 53596

GRANNY D: WALKING ACROSS AMERICA IN MY NINETIETH YEAR

HADDOCK, DORIS

Despite age, arthritis, and emphysema, the author sets out to walk across America to publicize the need for campaign finance reform. On her way from California to Washington DC she spreads her message and recounts her challenges and triumphs. 2001.

RC 18700

BLUE HIGHWAYS: A JOURNEY INTO AMERICA

HEAT-MOON, WILLIAM LEAST

After losing his job and his wife on the same day the author begins driving cross country along the back roads of America (marked in blue on the map). With humor and compassion, he recounts his travels as he seeks out quirky and obscure places. Some strong language. 1983.

DB/RC 68364; BARD

ROADS TO QUOZ: AN AMERICAN MOSEY

HEAT-MOON, WILLIAM LEAST

The author's love of back roads, small towns, and storytelling results in another account of his adventures as he and his wife, Q, journey along the back roads of America in search of QuoZ—an old-fashioned term for anything out of the ordinary. 2008. Read other books by this author.

KY 2267

SHANTYBOAT JOURNAL

HUBBARD, HARLAN

Kentucky artist, writer, and modern-day Thoreau Harlan Hubbard left Brent, KY aboard a shantyboat in 1944. Along with his wife, Anna, he spent seven years traveling down the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers to the bayous of Louisiana. 1994. Read other books by this author.

RC 14204

A WALK ACROSS AMERICA

JENKINS, PETER

Confused by the turbulence of his life, Jenkins sets out on foot with his dog Cooper to search for the real America. Records his unique experiences from New York to the Gulf of Mexico, where he meets and falls in love with a beautiful seminary student. Some strong language. 1979.

RC 17346

THE WALK WEST: A WALK ACROSS AMERICA 2

JENKINS, PETER & BARBARA

In 1976 the newly-married couple headed west from New Orleans to walk across America together. They reached the Pacific two and a half years later, having defied death many times over with the help of friendly souls who welcomed and assisted them along the way. 1981. Read other books by this author.

BR 18352; RC 31675; BARD

ON THE ROAD  
KEROUAC, JACK

The adventures of an eclectic, free-spirited group of friends as they traverse North America by bus, car, and thumb on a wild, anarchic quest for identity and purpose. Classic portrayal of the beat generation. Descriptions of sex and some strong language. 1957. Autobiographical fiction.

RC 41249; BARD

CHARLES KURALT'S AMERICA  
KURALT, CHARLES

Following his retirement from CBS in 1994, Kuralt set out to spend a month each at favorite places during their best seasons. In his easygoing style, Kuralt describes the places he went and the people he met from Alaska to Key West and from Louisiana to Maine. 1996. Read other books by this author.

RC 62806; BARD

AMERICAN VERTIGO: TRAVELING AMERICA IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF TOCQUEVILLE  
LEVY, BERNARD-HENRI

A French journalist, philosopher, and filmmaker relates the year he spent exploring, observing, and analyzing the United States in the spirit of Alexis de Tocqueville's historic 1835 journey. Recounts encounters with ordinary and illustrious citizens and visits to diverse places. 2006.

RC 51953

ROADS: DRIVING AMERICA'S GREAT HIGHWAYS  
MCMURTRY, LARRY

Motivated by the urge to be on the move, the author of Lonesome Dove (RC 22959) describes his solitary drives down the interstates. Along the way he reminisces about his life, acquaintances, books, likes and dislikes, and the many images of the roads he travels. 2000. Read other books by this author.

RC 61177; BARD

WEIRD U.S.: YOUR TRAVEL GUIDE TO AMERICA'S LOCAL LEGENDS AND BEST-KEPT SECRETS  
MORAN, MARK

A collection of seemingly fantastic tales corroborated with actual events and historical data whenever possible. Grouped by broad topics including ancient mysteries, unexplained phenomena, bizarre beasts, local heroes and villains, ghosts, and cemeteries. 2004.

BR 13332

DRIVING MR. ALBERT: A TRIP ACROSS AMERICA WITH EINSTEIN'S BRAIN  
PATERNITI, MICHAEL

The author chauffeurs an eccentric 80-something pathologist and a Tupperware containing what is left of Albert Einstein's brain across the US. What results is part comic travelogue, part biography, and part random musings. Some strong language. 2000.

RC 60160

DISCOVER AMERICA: A COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL GUIDE TO OUR COUNTRY'S  
GREATEST DESTINATIONS

READER'S DIGEST ASSOCIATION, INC

Travel guide describes cities, towns, national parks, and monuments in all fifty states. Outlines each state's history, culture, and economic features. Covers introductory information and useful web sites in a "See America" section. Discusses day trips and vacation planning. 2003.

BR 09952; RC 16094

TRAVELS WITH CHARLEY: IN SEARCH OF AMERICA

STEINBECK, JOHN

In 1960 John Steinbeck, Nobel and Pulitzer-prize winning author, traveled 10,000 miles on the back roads of America in a truck camper with his standard poodle, Charley. Many of his observations from 50 years ago are still relevant today. 1962. Read other books by this author.

RC 57410; BARD

BLUE PLATE SPECIALS AND BLUE RIBBON CHEFS: THE HEART AND SOUL OF AMERICA'S  
GREAT ROADSIDE RESTAURANTS

STERN, JANE & MICHAEL

Celebrated food writers travel across the country to find the tastiest down-home dishes America's blue-collar chefs have to offer. Going from the busiest truck stops to the friendliest greasy spoons, they introduce a cast of cafe characters and give their favorite recipes. 2001.

BR 13216; RC 51079

LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI

TWAIN, MARK

In his younger days, Mark Twain was a steamboat pilot on the Mississippi River during the golden age of river travel. He reminisces with his usual wit about those days, and offers observations made years later. Includes a brief history of the Mississippi River. 1883. Read other books by this author.

RC 61591; BARD

ASSASSINATION VACATION

VOWELL, SARAH

NPR journalist visits sites associated with the first three assassinated US presidents: Lincoln, Garfield, and McKinley. Irreverent history lessons relate historical trivia, such the fact that Robert Todd Lincoln (nicknamed Jinxy McDeath) was present at all three shootings. 2005. Read other books by this author.

RC 32610

ROUTE 66: THE MOTHER ROAD

WALLIS, MICHAEL

Route 66 stretches across 8 states, 3 time zones, and 2,400 miles. Wallis looks back on his travels and conjures up images of famous personalities, as well as thousands of waitresses, state cops, service station attendants, fry cooks, truckers, and station wagons full of kids. 1990.