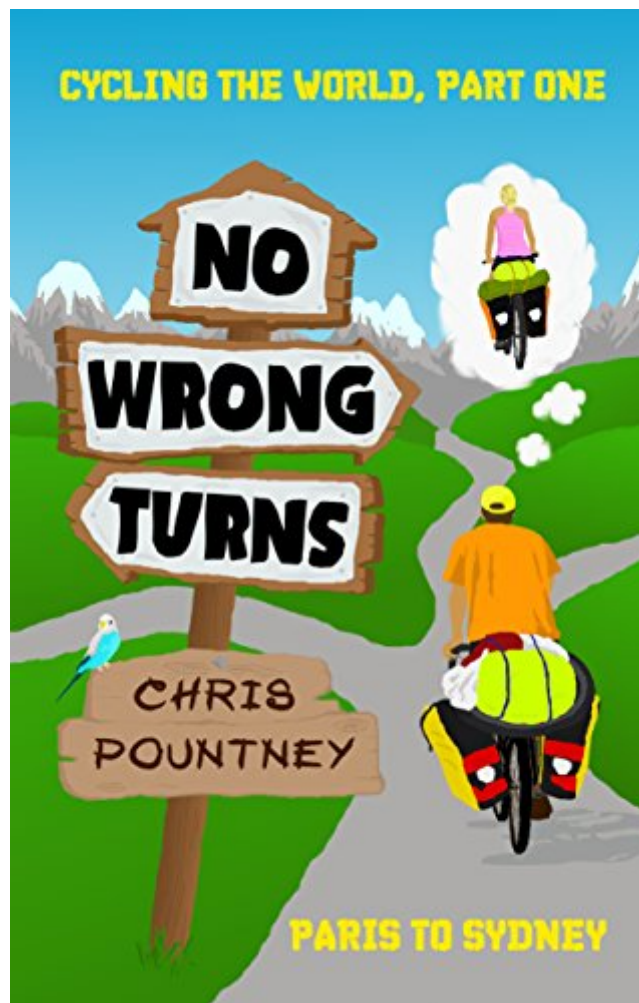




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No Wrong Turns: Cycling The World, Part One: Paris To Sydney



Synopsis

...the most amazing trip around the world you will ever read about...
...a must have for cyclists, or wanna-be cycle tourists but also a great read for an armchair adventure...
...well written and very entertaining...
...think Bill Bryson on a bike, traveling with a set of rules that could have been thought up by Dave Gorman or Danny Wallace...
•When Chris Pountney pedals away from the Eiffel Tower he is doing more than just going for a bike ride. It is the start of an ambitious attempt to circumnavigate the planet using only his bicycle and boats. With a list of seven challenges to guide him (but no map), he heads east towards Asia and Australia. The Sydney Opera House is his goal. The story follows Chris as he tackles snowy mountain passes in Turkey, wades across rivers in Tajikistan, eats strange cheeses in Mongolia, and meets with incredible kindness just about everywhere he goes. He lives a simple life on a small budget, sleeps in a tent, talks to his bike, consumes a really unbelievable number of biscuits, and all the time stubbornly refuses to have anything whatsoever to do with motor vehicles (or escalators). But can he overcome all of the visa deadlines, the breakdowns, the awful roads, the headwinds, the kangaroos, and the frequent danger of being distracted by members of the opposite sex, to successfully pedal all of the way to Sydney?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Our hero in this story is not a man of action and great planning, he is a young man with a mad plan to cycle around the world in an uncompromising fashion..no planes, trains and automobiles for him. He is an endearing character, which is probability why he made it alive, not all his adventures were entirely safe. His search for a "real" life not the one mapped out for him speaks of a determination not necessarily obvious from his humorous style and quirky ways. I thoroughly enjoyed reading his book, it made me laugh, cry and yearn for a game of pine cone wars. As a part-time cyclist he makes me want an adventure of my own, so it is also inspirational.

The journey which this book describes, was originally written up in journal which I followed for a very long time. I enjoyed Chris' writing style, the humour, his take on the world as he explored it and the detailed accounts he gave to allow us to be part of his journey. I was worried how well he would be able to turn a long sprawling epic of a journal into an actual book. In short, he has done a brilliant job. There is a great mix of the detail that makes situations come alive with clever linking sections to condense time, a good structure that plays with when we are told information - rather than being as chronological as the journal was forced to be by being 'written on the road' - and most importantly, the book has captured the humour and quirks of Chris' approach to travel, life and a search for love. So very much recommended for people who enjoy books about travel and/or bike touring. It will make you want to get out there (mostly... there are a few quite stressful bits that I don't want happening on any of my trips!).

Just bought the book, will start reading it soon. I read all his blogs on CGOAB site and loved them so the book form should be way better! Don't much care for that site but had to deal with it to read Chris's blog. Will update my review when I am done reading it....congrats Chris and Dea and best of luck on your China trip!

Thank you Chris Pountney! Your journal blog was wonderful entertainment and your book is testament to your superb writing talent. Your ride is a very interesting tale so please give us Part Two and more. With your wry perspective, open attitude and humor, I would love to read a lifetime of your tales. PeaceLove

Quirky, candid, interesting and well written. I am a bit wary of long distance cycling books. Some are great but often they get bogged down in the day to day tedium. This book however held my interest and was a joy to read.

Well written and very entertaining Chris does an great job of taking you along for the ride.

Don't miss out on the most amazing trip around the world you will ever read about. The author is a cheeky Brit that wobbles his way around the world using only his bicycle and boats; no automobiles are allowed. At times you want to scream into the pages for him to grow-up and get into the damn car. But he refuses to be trapped by the our conventions. He takes us on an emotional roller coaster. One day he might be basking in the sublime beauty of human kindness and endless vistas. And the next day we experience with him the deprivations of third-world alcoholism and pushing through countless kilometers of beeping Chinese lorries. I'm not sure anyone can accomplish what he has done without being a bit mad but you will enjoy his trip. You will begin to understand what it takes to travel exposed to the elements and to the cultures of the world. Without the metal shield of automobiles, he has to be stubborn, polite, and resourceful in order to keep intact his chosen lifestyle. And part of that lifestyle is finding beautiful women with which to share it. He even finds "The Most Beautiful Woman in the World." Definitely worth a read.

I really enjoyed reading Chris's blog of his trip around the world on a bike, so when his book came out I had to get it! I am about half way through it and it is as good as his blog was, just condensed.

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