



No Wrong Turns: Cycling the World, Part One: Paris to Sydney

Chris Pountney

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“...the most amazing trip around the world you will ever read about...”

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 become perhaps the first person ever to circumnavigate the planet using only a bicycle and boats. With a list of seven challenges to guide him (but no real 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 - sleeping in a tent, talking to his bike, consuming a really unbelievable number of biscuits, and all the time stubbornly refusing to have anything whatsoever to do with motor vehicles (or escalators).

But can he overcome all of the visa deadlines, the breakdowns, the bad roads, the headwinds, the kamikaze kangaroos, and the surprisingly frequent danger of being distracted by members of the opposite sex, to successfully pedal all of the way to Sydney?

“...a must have for cyclists, or wanna-be cycle tourists but also a great read for an armchair adventure...”

“...so well written and inspiring...”

"...laugh out loud moments throughout..."

“...a hilarious, honest, heartfelt account of an amazing journey...”

No Wrong Turns: Cycling the World, Part One: Paris to Sydney Details

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From Reader Review No Wrong Turns: Cycling the World, Part One: Paris to Sydney for online ebook

Ben Twoonezero says

A good well written book by a amusing traveller, I will look forward to his future works.

Tim Passey says

This is one of those amateur travelogues that you wish would just get done and dusted, but just goes on and on and on.... There's no denying he made an impressive journey but this book needs much tighter editing. I still don't really understand the author. Some of the time his journey reads like a bit of a puerile schoolboy shagathon but at other times he's quite serious. One time he criticises his temporary cycling companion because he admits he wouldn't object to taking a banana from a banana plant. He's so highly strung that he rode off and left him for holding the opinion, let alone eating a banana. Half the time he's racing along desperately to make the border in time for his visa. There is no point to this kind of pointless travel. He rarely stops to appreciate the world he's cycling through. And he's a vegetarian! Nowhere he goes can he enjoy the cuisine... and it's a country's food that significantly defines a place - he needs to get over this and start eating the local dog. The weirdest thing though is that at 20,000km in to his journey the Russians insist he can't cycle across the border. So he cries like a girl and insists he has to start his circumnavigation again because he's broken his 'no motor' rule for 100m. It's just frankly too often silly, like this. He pisses his temporary companions off quite a lot, for example by engaging them in childish games like 'pine cone wars', but then complains when local kids lob stones at him. All in all I won't read the sequel but good luck and get an editor.

mark watkin says

Amazing

Teena A. Bell says

Fun reading!

The travel and adventure sound great. The way places and people are described sound humorous and engaging. Looking forward to the rest of the journey.

Alex Tracey says

Having read a great deal of overly-hyped cycle touring books telling tales of long round the world trips, this lesser known one is by far the best. With laugh out loud moments throughout and a brilliant lighthearted

writing style it kept me hooked until the last page.

Very excited for part 2!

Ros says

I don't ride a bike, but I do love books about travel and Chris's journey so far has kept me engrossed. He's set himself challenges and determined to complete them all with a beautiful girl by his side. I'm off to read the second book now.

Özgür Nevres says

One of the best books on the subject of traveling by bike. It's really exciting and also carries a good sense of humor. I strongly suggest the book!

lynn says

Tears

Thank you Chris. You brought tears to my eyes as you described the reasons to travel and seek adventure. It is so true, nothing can be predicted it is one day at a time and so very important to stop and smell the roses along the way. You brought back memories of my adventures travelling with my soul Mate I wish us all many more. Thankyou

Simon Barnes says

Good Cycling Travelogue

A very enjoyable read. Can't wait for the second installment to see if Chris makes the complete circumnavigation of the world on his trusty bike.

Joyce A. Wendeln says

Part Two Will Be Read But

It is the Christmas Season and there is much to do. I have a great deal to mull over in what I have read so far. It has been our trip as I feel as I have peddled every mile with him.

Steve In Ludlow says

In a pretty crowded category (self published accounts of long distance cycle journeys) this was a pleasing journey, well told. One of the twists with No Wrong Turns is the author's self imposed rule to avoid any motorised transport (apart from boats for water crossings) which threw in a few curve balls along the way when crises including severe tooth ache and visa imposed deadlines would have been alleviated by the odd lift in a car. The journey is immense and even though most of the routes he takes are familiar from other books his generally affable manner means that there are lots of meetings with local along the way. The other twist is his quest to fall in love. You'll have to read the book to find out how he does on both of these interesting challenges.

Overall an undemanding (to read) and well told account which kept me going to the end.

Maria says

Wow!! What a journey..

This is one book not to miss if you love travel and or cycling. But the places they end up in are just crazy. When Chris met Dea everything was even more amazing as Dea started to blog on their website and the fantastic journey continued. I recommend this documentation of an awesome journey around the most exciting and at times dangerous parts of our incredible planet. You won't be disappointed. Can't wait for Part 2.

J M Banicki says

Different kind of travel.

I really enjoyed traveling with Chris on this journey. I like travel books and I enjoy the ones that show me the out of the ordinary. Thanks Chris for a great ride.

gebennett says

Good read

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.

Marty Nicholas says

Quite a good, satisfying story. Very well written by a quirky, likeable guy...a real favorite.

