



Adult Reading List: Travel

As the summer is winding down, you can slip in an adventure without even having to leave your house! Check out these titles at the Ellsworth Public Library! The call numbers are in **bold**.

Blue Highways by William Least Heat-Moon **917.3 Hea**: Hailed as a masterpiece of American travel writing, *Blue Highways* is an unforgettable journey along our nation's backroads. William Least Heat-Moon set out with little more than the need to put home behind him and a sense of curiosity about "those little towns that get on the map-if they get on at all-only because some cartographer has a blank space to fill: Remote, Oregon; Simplicity, Virginia; New Freedom, Pennsylvania; New Hope, Tennessee; Why, Arizona; Whynot, Mississippi."

Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes **F Wil**: Edith Grossman's definitive English translation of the Spanish masterpiece. Widely regarded as the world's first modern novel, and one of the funniest and most tragic books ever written, *Don Quixote* chronicles the famous picaresque adventures of the noble knight-errant Don Quixote of La Mancha and his faithful squire, Sancho Panza, as they travel through sixteenth-century Spain.

Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert **910.4 Gil**: Traces the author's decision to quit her job and travel the world for a year after suffering a midlife crisis and divorce, a journey that took her to three places in her quest to explore her own nature and learn the art of spiritual balance.

Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift **F Swi**: Presents the eighteenth-century English writer's scathing satire on the political and moral condition of man.

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien **SF Tol**: Chronicles the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, who embarks on a quest to reclaim stolen treasure from the dragon Smaug, along with his dwarve companions and the wizard Gandalf, and unwittingly returns to the Shire with a Ring of Power.

I'm a Stranger Here Myself by Bill Bryson **973.92 Bry**: After living in Britain for two decades, Bill Bryson recently moved back to the United States with his English wife and four children (he had read somewhere that nearly 3 million Americans believed they had been abducted by aliens--as he later put it, "it was clear my people needed me"). They were greeted by a new and improved America that boasts microwave pancakes, twenty-four-hour dental-floss hotlines, and the staunch conviction that ice is not a luxury item.

The Innocents Abroad by Mark Twain **817 Twa**: A Travel book by American author Mark Twain published in 1869 which humorously chronicles what Twain called his "Great Pleasure Excursion" on board the chartered vessel *Quaker City* through Europe and the Holy Land with a group of American travelers in 1867.

In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick **910 Phi**: In describing her experiences managing a coffee plantation in Kenya, the author provides insight into the nature of African life.

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer **917.98 Kra**: Immediately after graduating from college in 1991, Christopher Johnson McCandless had roamed through the West and Southwest on a vision quest like those made by his heroes Jack London and John Muir. In the Mojave Desert he abandoned his car, stripped it of its license plates, and burned all of his cash. He would give himself a new name, Alexander Supertramp, and, unencumbered by money and belongings, he would be free to wallow in the raw, unfiltered experiences that nature presented. Craving a blank spot on the map, McCandless simply threw the maps away. Leaving behind his desperate parents and sister, he vanished into the wild.

Kon-Tiki by Thor Heyerdahl **910.4 Hey**: In this vivid memoir that has sold millions of copies worldwide, Heinrich Harrer recounts his adventures as one of the first Europeans ever to enter Tibet.
Life of Pi by Yann Martel **F Mar**: Possessing encyclopedia-like intelligence, unusual zookeeper's son Pi Patel sets sail for America, but when the ship sinks, he escapes on a life boat and is lost at sea with a dwindling number of animals until only he and a hungry Bengal tiger remain.

A Moveable Feast by Ernest Hemingway **818 Hem**: Published posthumously in 1964, *A Moveable Feast* remains one of Ernest Hemingway's most beloved works. It is his classic memoir of Paris in the 1920s, filled with irreverent portraits of other expatriate luminaries such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Gertrude Stein; tender memories of his first wife, Hadley; and insightful recollections of his own early experiments with his craft.

Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie **M Chr**: A detective novel featuring Belgian detective Hercule Poirot and a puzzling murder set aboard the Orient Express.

The Odyssey by Homer **883.1 Hom**: Homer's epic tale of Odysseus, the ancient Greek hero who encounters witches and other obstacles on his journey home after fighting in the Trojan War.

On the Road by Jack Kerouac **813 Ker**: *On the Road* chronicles Jack Kerouac's years traveling the North American continent with his friend Neal Cassady, "a sideburned hero of the snowy West." As "Sal Paradise" and "Dean Moriarty," the two roam the country in a quest for self-knowledge and experience. Kerouac's love of America, his compassion for humanity, and his sense of language as jazz combine to make *On the Road* an inspirational work of lasting importance.

Out of Africa by Isak Dinesen **967.62 Din**: In describing her experiences managing a coffee plantation in Kenya, the author provides insight into the nature of African life.

Seven Years in Tibet by Heinrich Harrer **915.15 Har**: In this vivid memoir that has sold millions of copies worldwide, Heinrich Harrer recounts his adventures as one of the first Europeans ever to enter Tibet.

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson **371.8 Mor**: One man's mission to fight terrorism and build nations...one school at a time.

Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes **945.5 May**: Applies a poet's sensibility, a traveler's eye, and a cook's palate to the pleasures of the Tuscan countryside, where the author began restoring an abandoned villa.

The Vacationers by Emma Straub **F Str** (New Shelf): Celebrating their thirty-fifth anniversary and their daughter's high-school graduation during a two-week vacation in Mallorca, Franny and Jim Post confront old secrets, hurts, and rivalries that reveal sides of themselves they try to conceal.

A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail by Bill Bryson **917.4 Bry**: The Appalachian Trail stretches from Georgia to Maine and covers some of the most breathtaking terrain in America: majestic mountains, silent forests, sparkling lakes. If you're going to take a hike, it's probably the place to go. And Bill Bryson is surely the most entertaining guide you'll find. He introduces us to the history and ecology of the trail and to some of the other hardy (or just foolhardy) folks he meets along the way; and a couple of bears.