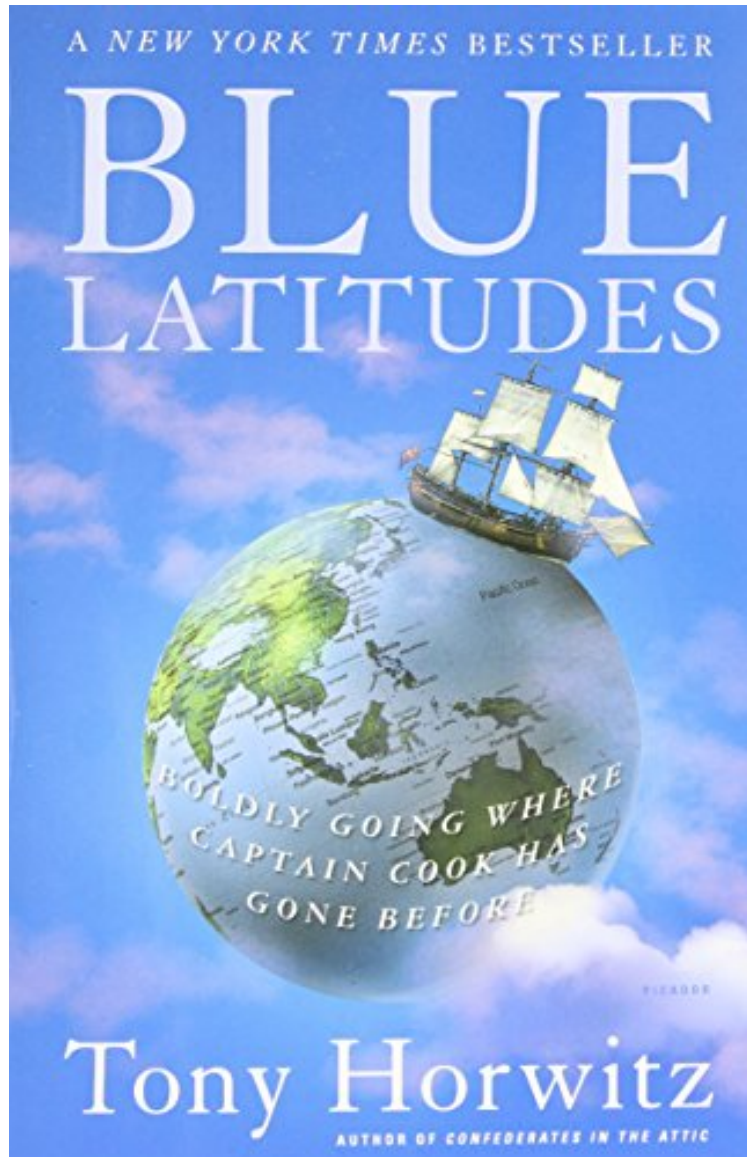


[FREE] Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before

Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before

Tony Horwitz

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Tony Horwitz : Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Tony Horwitz writes in such a easy going and humorous manner that

he makes both Captain ...By David T Davies This was a book I didn't want to end. Tony Horwitz writes in such a easy going and humorous manner that he makes both Captain Cook the man, the times he lived and his discoveries accessible to even the most armchair bound explorer. Tony and Roger his rum guzzling skirt chasing mate criss cross the world from Seattle to Sydney, Tahiti to Yorkshire, Tonga to Alaska, and finally to Kealakekua bay Hawaii in search of the enigmatic Cook while describing in detail his amazing travels under the most extreme level of hardships. Moving both in and out of James Cook's amazing discoveries and their own escapades in Cook's footsteps makes for rollicking good fun. Highly recommended! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Book! Don't miss it! By Customer One of the best books I've ever read. Well researched. Well written. I now feel like I knew Captain Cook, personally. I read it while spending nine weeks in Australia and it had special meaning because I could visit many of the places discussed. I would read anything by Tony Horowitz. He's an impressive writer and a credit to the field and went above and beyond so we could better understand Captain Cook and the time in which he lived. My hat is off to you and you've now joined the group of people I'd most like to have to dinner! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Horowitz' does a great job of presenting a Captain Cook we can see ...By Steve Gates Horowitz' does a great job of presenting a Captain Cook we can see and imagine. By weaving in the many primary sources of Cook from his shipmates and officers, we get a good view of the man and the officer. Adding bits and pieces of evidence found about him and his adventures at the locations of his many travels and his life in England, helps further illuminate Cook's life. The series of interpretations Horowitz presents from contemporary citizens and community leaders living in the communities, on the islands, and from the many different countries that have since emerged; offers some good evidence of how historical interpretations vary according to how each subject believes Cook impacted their ancestors' lives and culture. My only criticism is the sometimes inconsistent descriptions of the state of various islands' modern culture and their communities. It was very inconsistent and certainly not balanced and seemed wholly subject to whom he happened to meet. Still, a great read.

Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before Two centuries after James Cook's epic voyages of discovery, Tony Horwitz takes readers on a wild ride across hemispheres and centuries to recapture the Captain's adventures and explore his embattled legacy in today's Pacific. Horwitz, a Pulitzer Prize-winner and author of *Confederates in the Attic*, works as a sailor aboard a replica of Cook's ship, meets island kings and beauty queens, and carouses the South Seas with a hilarious and disgraceful travel companion, an Aussie named Roger. He also creates a brilliant portrait of Cook: an impoverished farmboy who became the greatest navigator in British history and forever changed the lands he touched. Poignant, probing, antic, and exhilarating, *Blue Latitudes* brings to life a man who helped create the global village we inhabit today.

.com Captain James Cook's three epic 18th-century explorations of the Pacific Ocean were the last of their kind, literally completing the map of the world. Yet despite his monumental discoveries, principally in the South Pacific, Cook the man has remained an enigma. In retracing key legs of the circumnavigator's journey, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Tony Horwitz chronicles the cultural and environmental havoc wrought by the captain's opening of the unspoiled Pacific to the West, as well as the alternately indifferent and passionate reactions Cook's name evokes during the writer's journeys through Polynesia, Australia, the Aleutians, and the explorer's native England. Horwitz skillfully weaves a biography and travel narrative with warm humor that is natural and human-scale, and his restless inquisitiveness quickly infects the reader. While striking dichotomies abound throughout that journey--Maori toughs who adopt Nazi imagery to symbolize their own fight against white domination, millennia-old Polynesian sexual mores that would shame the Reeperbahn, a sense that Christianity decimated native cultures at least as effectively as Western venereal diseases did--few are more poignant than the ones that abound in Cook's own life. This fine work is an adventurous reminder that answers to historical riddles are elusive at best--and seldom as compelling as the myriad new questions they pose. --Jerry McCulley From Publishers Weekly In an entertaining, informative look at the life and travels of Capt. James Cook, Horwitz (*Confederates in the Attic*; *Baghdad Without a Map*) combines a sharp eye for reporting with subtle wit and a wonderful knack for drawing out the many characters he discovers. The book is both a biography of Cook, the renowned 18th-century British explorer who's widely considered one of the greatest navigators in maritime history, and a travel narrative. On one level, Horwitz recounts Cook's rise from poverty in a large family in rural England to an improbable and dazzling naval career that brought him worldwide fame. On another, he tells his own story of following in Cook's wake, visiting his far-flung destinations (with the exception of Antarctica) and investigating his legacy. It is satisfying in both regards, Horwitz skillfully pacing the book by intertwining his own often quite funny adventures with tales of Cook and his men. Despite the historical focus, Horwitz doesn't stray too far from the encounters with everyday people that gave his previous books such zest. His travels bring him face-to-face with a violent, boozing gang of Maori New Zealanders called the Mongrel Mob, who are violently critical of Cook, arguing that "Cook and his mob, they put us in this position," Moari activists "wondering at those who would honour the scurvy, the pox, the filth and the racism" that they feel he brought to their island, and the King of Tonga, who couldn't seem to care less about what the explorer meant to his domain. With healthy doses of both humor and

provocative information, the book will please fans of history, exploration, travelogues and, of course, top-notch storytelling. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Captain James Cook was the first true agent of globalization; his three inconceivably long and arduous voyages of exploration filled in vast blank spaces on the map and opened unseen lands to Western trade, missionizing, conquest, and genocide. According to Horwitz, "Cook, in sum, pioneered the voyage we are still on, for good and ill." Journeying to key Cook sites, Horwitz retells the sailor's story and tries to re-create first contact from the point of view of the locals--Tahitians, Maoris, Aleuts, Hawaiians, and others--and judge the legacy of his landing. While admitting that Cook's arrival often proved disastrous to indigenous peoples, he also finds that in some places the navigator's amazing achievements have been downplayed for the sake of political correctness. Above all, though, Horwitz is fascinated by the character of Cook and the conditions of the times (he notes that a 40 percent casualty rate wasn't extraordinary for sailing vessels of the day), and as he searches for clues to these, his obsession becomes contagious. Abetted by his friend Roger Williamson, who also provides salty comic relief, Horwitz crisscrosses the Pacific, taking us back and forth in time while ably balancing the many elements of his tale. This thought-provoking travelogue brims with insight and will appeal to anyone who yearns for the days when there was something left to discover--while making them wonder if, really, we should have just stayed home. Keir Graff Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved