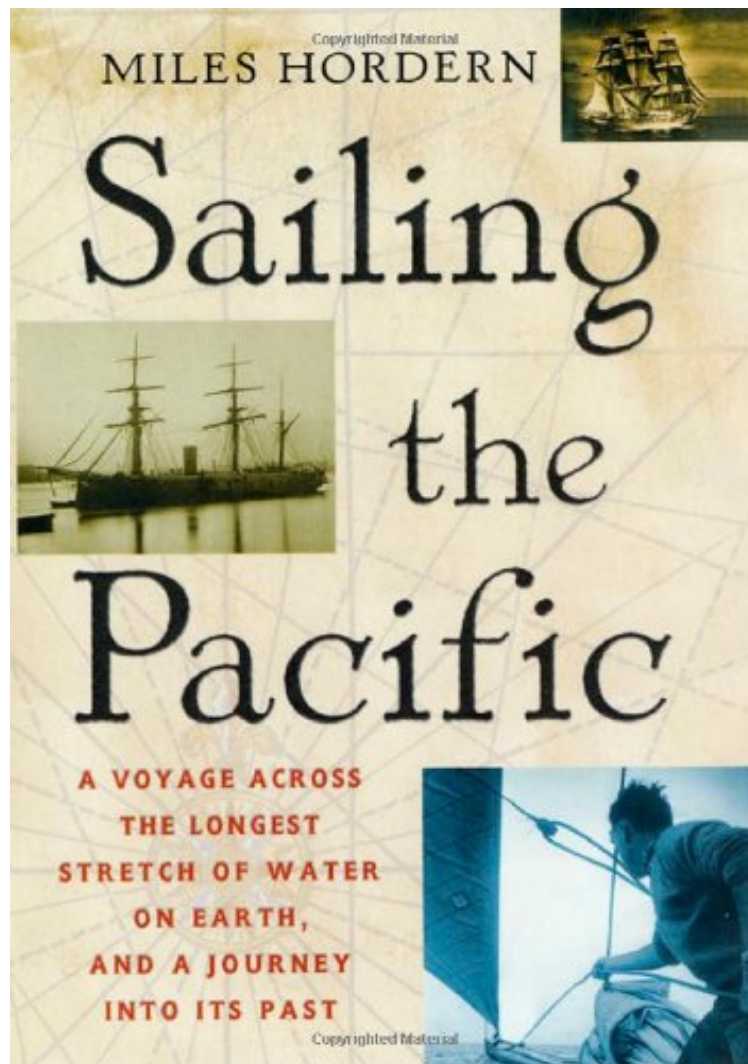


[Mobile pdf] Sailing the Pacific: A Voyage Across the Longest Stretch of Water on Earth, and a Journey into Its Past

Sailing the Pacific: A Voyage Across the Longest Stretch of Water on Earth, and a Journey into Its Past

Miles Hordern

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Miles Hordern : Sailing the Pacific: A Voyage Across the Longest Stretch of Water on Earth, and a Journey into Its Past before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sailing the Pacific: A Voyage Across the Longest Stretch of Water on Earth, and a Journey into Its Past:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. To much a "Journey into It's Pasts".By Kenn J. HanlonOverall a good read. However the extent and method to which young Hordern introduces the reader to the history of the Pacific

becomes interruptive and eventually annoying. Had he separated story from history it would have been a more enjoyable and readable book. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A good matter-of-fact read! By AndyKI will start off with saying I would recommend this book... If you want to know the exacting accounts of traversing the Pacific. I do however suggest keeping a dictionary of nautical terms nearby if you are not versed in sailor jargon. It is pretty much a play-by-play account of what happened to the author while on the journey. It does contain some great literary qualities in explaining the author's contentment and strife of the experience. I enjoyed it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. morose, single handed journey By ---- Neil H. Rather than tell the story of his singlehanded sailing from England to New Zealand, sailing the Pacific is his story of a six month singlehanded sail from Auckland to Chile, then to Tahiti, then an aborted attempt to return to New Zealand. In it we get to find out just how dull it is to sail by yourself in the roaring forties, find no particular reason or purpose in Chile, find out how demoralizing it is to be becalmed, and then when finally reaching Tahiti, how miserable a place it is, albeit better than being out on the water alone. I read through the whole book and couldn't figure out why he took the journey, and certainly couldn't figure out why he felt the need to share it. It does contain a lot of history of the early explorers/map makers/etc to the region.

Solo sailors are widely known to be a breed apart, and here's an unforgettable book that shows just how wide a berth they give themselves from the crowds. Several years ago, Miles Hordern, a schoolteacher by training---though he had run away to sea a few times before---set sail on a twenty-eight-foot boat from New Zealand to South America, the largest uninterrupted stretch of water on earth, and into the dominion of icebergs, cyclones, and swells of monumental proportions. The trip would take him through the fjords of Patagonia, one of the last uncharted areas in the world, then north on the Peru Current before he began his homeward voyage. *Sailing the Pacific* recounts that trip in prose so vivid you can almost feel the spray sting your face and the deck heave beneath your feet. Here is prose so hawser-taut that it takes you back to Conrad, Melville, and Poe, indeed all those writers whose works about the bounding main have launched countless imaginations. Hordern pauses to consider those who have gone before him, recounting the stories that have given life to this lonely and magisterial part of the world. Writers, adventurers, fictional characters, cartographers, doomed voyages from history's pages from the *Whaleship S.S. Essex* to the *HMS Bounty*: the South Pacific drew them all, and in their way they left mark on its vast surface. Part sailing yarn, part adventure story, part homage to an unending but beckoning horizon, *Sailing the Pacific* will appeal to the sailor in each one of us, whatever the way we choose to answer the oceans call.

From Publishers Weekly It isn't easy to be an adventurer these days, when most of the globe has been explored to death. But British-born sailor Hordern makes a fascinating go of it in this jaunty reminiscence. He traveled solo from New Zealand to Chile and back again in a 28-foot boat, over 18 months in the late 1990s. He narrates a gripping tale of coping with huge storms, coming face-to-face with monster U.S. warships and dealing with the loneliness of being out on the water for weeks at a time, with nothing but the BBC World Service to keep him company. Hordern's passion for sailing is obvious, and he intersperses his own stories with those of Columbus, Magellan and other professional adventurers of the past. In fact, the author keeps bumping into history along the way, such as the islands that inspired Robinson Crusoe and the South Pacific haunts where Paul Gauguin escaped to. Although it lacks the life-or-death ferocity of some recent adventure tales, Hordern's book charts a determined course of its own, describing in detail the strange daily business of a life at sea. Maps, photos. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist To eighteenth-century explorers, the Pacific Ocean was an uncharted expanse that represented new discoveries, untold riches, and unknown dangers. Now, of course, the dream of new continents and wealth has been shattered, and new technology makes ocean going safer than ever before; but to the present-day sportsman, the vast expanse still represents adventure and the opportunity for discoveries of a different nature. Hordern sailed solo from New Zealand to the western coast of Chile and then back. In this account of his journey, he tells of violent storms (during one of which he was washed overboard), maddening calm periods that left the sails empty, stopovers at port towns, and friendly encounters with vivacious locals. Scattered throughout are tidbits of history about Pacific exploration, shipwrecks and castaways, and various island populations. Hordern also recounts many of the thoughts that occupied him during his time away from civilization. For readers who enjoy tales of seagoing adventure, or those who'd like the vicarious thrill of an undertaking no reasonable person would attempt, Hordern's book will be a favorite. Gavin Quinn Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Hordern writes vividly about the rhythms and sighs of life afloat, and about a landscape composed not of immovable objects but of ever-shifting wind and water. - Daily Telegraph As well as an enthralling adventure, the book chronicles an inner journey of self-discovery. Hordern captures the thrill, romance, and anxieties of ocean sailing...a highly readable book by a gifted new writer. Don't miss it. - Yachting magazine Not unlike Conrad, Hordern demonstrates that a sense of superfluousness often felt by the adventurous modern traveler can be---at great personal risk---transmuted into a kind of physical essentialism by excluding the rest of humanity and testing oneself, against oneself, in extremis. - Times Literary Supplement Full of humor and historical insight, this book has the toughness of the classic survivor. It's the next best

thing to actually going yourself.- Global Adventure