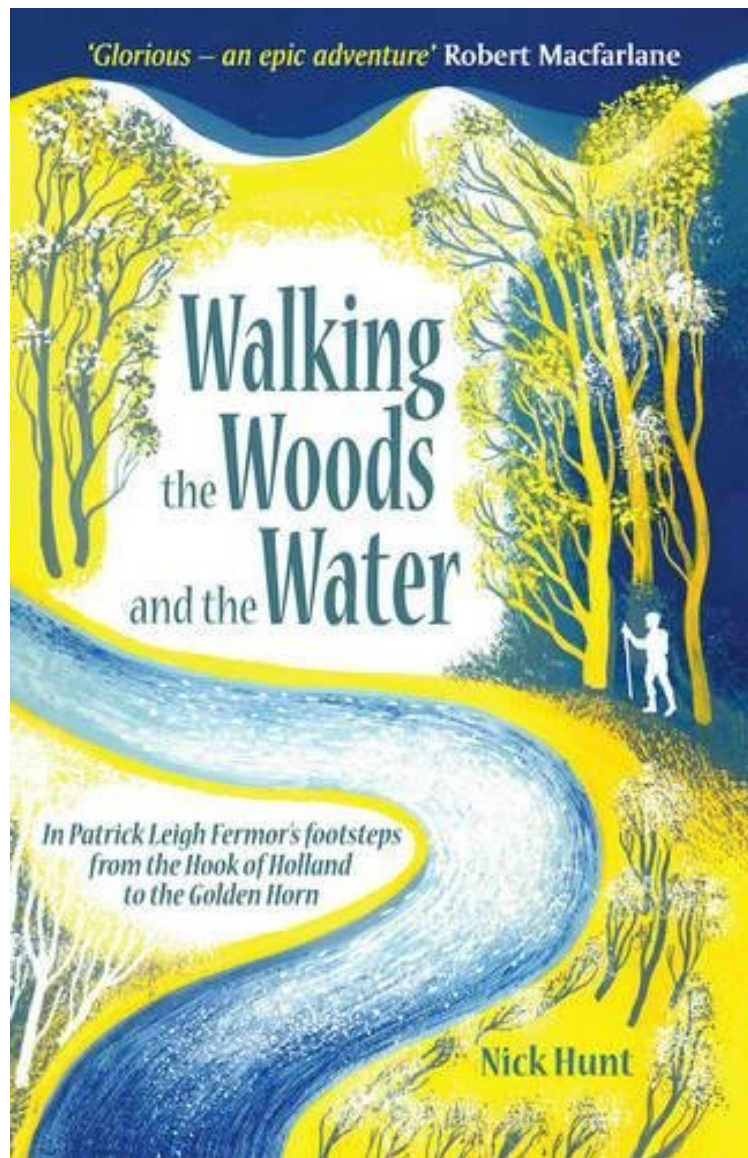


(Download pdf ebook) Walking the Woods and the Water: In Patrick Leigh Fermor's footsteps from the Hook of Holland to the Golden Horn

Walking the Woods and the Water: In Patrick Leigh Fermor's footsteps from the Hook of Holland to the Golden Horn

Nick Hunt

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Nick Hunt : Walking the Woods and the Water: In Patrick Leigh Fermor's footsteps from the Hook of Holland to the Golden Horn before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking the Woods and the Water: In Patrick Leigh Fermor's footsteps from the Hook of Holland to the Golden Horn:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Let's start by saying that 5 stars is perfect and this book is not that. By Lindsay Reyburn Let's start by saying that 5 stars is perfect and this book is not that. But compelling, interesting, fascinating, utterly enjoyable it is. If you know the Paddy Fermor trilogy the enjoyment level is raised even more, but that knowledge is not absolutely essential. Nick Hunt's book stands on its own. He is a man of our time and, while PLF's reflections on history, culture, ancient personalities and so on, are wonderful and erudite, Nick has a different agenda. He wants to compare the changes that have taken place in the 80 years between their journeys. He is out to discover if the little communities of Paddy's time still exist, whether any of what Paddy describes still stands. Suffice to say that Communism, the second world war and various uprisings have changed the 8 countries Nick walks through immeasurably. Three seasons, 2500 miles, many encounters and alcoholic beverages later - all on one pair of boots, I might add. Why he doesn't replace them I'm not sure - this journey will leave you sorry that it ended. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good job By Marshal Berthier This would be a very difficult topic to do well, given the quality and fame of the work of PLF. It could have been a lot of things, and they would have all been lesser than this result. The world of Fermor is gone, and that simply 'is' - neither good, nor bad, it is merely history. Hunt avoids nostalgia for something he never experienced, but he also has the sense to avoid turning the trip into trash, which it could easily have been. The author has substance, and it gives him an honest eye. I am a dedicated Fermor fan, but this new book in no way detracts from the Fermor legacy, nor does it rest on it. A valuable examination of change. I am also loving Hunt's ground level view of life today in Central Europe. Western news coverage on that area is pathetic, but with over a million refugees doing almost a reverse Fermore, it's really interesting for a hearts and minds perspective. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. It's a great story because you can melt into it at a ... By Michael Keane It's a great story because you can melt into it at a moment's notice. He evokes a real feeling of 'being there'. We meet great characters on the way. Fascinating to compare Europe pre WW2 and now. Recommended.

In 1933, the eighteen year old Patrick Leigh Fermor set out in a pair of hobnailed boots to chance and charm his way across Europe, like a tramp, a pilgrim or a wandering scholar. The books he later wrote about this walk, *A Time of Gifts*, *Between the Woods and the Water*, and the posthumous *The Broken Road* are a half-remembered, half-reimagined journey through cultures now extinct, landscapes irrevocably altered by the traumas of the twentieth century. Aged eighteen, Nick Hunt read *A Time of Gifts* and dreamed of following in Fermor's footsteps. In 2011 he began his own great trudge - on foot all the way to Istanbul. He walked across Europe through eight countries, following two major rivers and crossing three mountain ranges. Using Fermor's books as his only travel guide, he trekked some 2,500 miles through Holland, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey. His aim? To have an old-fashioned adventure. To slow down and linger in a world where we pass by so much, so fast. To discover for himself what remained of hospitality, kindness to strangers, freedom, wildness, adventure, the mysterious, the unknown, the deeper currents of myth and story that still flow beneath Europe's surface.

With *Walking the Woods and the Water*, Mr. Hunt has created an illuminating addition to what the travel writer Robert Macfarlane calls 'the literature of the leg'. The shepherds and the fishermen are long gone, but Mr. Hunt controls his nostalgia and avoids mimicking Leigh Fermor's flamboyant style. Still, his inspiration rubs off, like the skin on Mr. Hunt's feet. *Wall Street Journal* A brave achievement. Hunt's admiration for his celebrated predecessor is clear, and his curiosity is compelling. *The Anglo-Hellenic* A most enjoyable read and a worthy tribute to the originals. *The Bookseller* Although I've read both Nick's book and Leigh Fermor's I have to say, I enjoyed Nick's much more. Nick writes more like a contemporary travel-writer where personal experience and anecdotes take priority. Nick's book is much more accessible, while also inspiring a sense of wonder in his readers at his fantastic feat of walking such a great distance with so little in the way of resources. While the style of writing may be different, the adventurous and resourceful spirit is the same, and for modern readers, Nick's book will I think be more enjoyable than Leigh Fermor's. *A Common Reader* An effective, no, beautiful accompaniment to Fermor's own books. *Booklist*, *Starred review* Deliciously lyrical. A very enjoyable read. *newbooks Magazine* Delightful, balanced and extremely well-written...an impressive and timely effort. A worthy literary tribute to the classic of British travel writing. *Vitali Vitaliev*, author of *Passport to Enclavia* Walking in the footsteps of Patrick Leigh Fermor from Rotterdam to Constantinople, Nick Hunt found that, 78 years later, everything and nothing has changed. *Daily Telegraph* interview with author In his 2,500-mile journey, which took him through eight countries, he nearly froze to death and he had had innumerable encounters with the kindness of strangers. Hunt's narrative mixes description elegantly with reportage. *New Statesman* Nick Hunt has written a glorious book, rich with insight and wit, about walking his way both across and into contemporary Europe. He set out as an homage to Patrick Leigh Fermor's legendary tramp across Europe in the early 1930s, but his journey became - of course - an epic adventure in its own right. A book about gifts, modernity, endurance and landscape, it represents a fine addition to the literature of the leg. Robert Macfarlane, author of *The Wild Places* and *The Old Ways: A Journey on Foot* This moving and profoundly honest book sometimes brings a sense of unlimited freedom, sometimes joy, sometimes an extraordinary, dream-like dislocation: always accompanied by a dazzling sharpness of hearing and vision. I see now how that youthful walk informed so much of

Paddy's style. Before setting out Hunt was going to write to Paddy. The letter was never written, and by the time he set off, Paddy was dead. How touched and fascinated he would have been to read this book. Artemis Cooper, author of *Patrick Leigh Fermor: An Adventure and co-editor The Broken Road* Vivid and hard-won. Conde Nast Traveller With *Walking the Woods and the Water*, Hunt succeeds in honoring his predecessor. With elegant language, he describes the landscape, the people and culture, and his own perspective, offering an exquisite picture of his walk. Travelers and hikers will feel the itch to move when reading his gorgeous prose. Foreword sHunt went in search of a good old-fashioned adventure and his vivid off-the-beaten-track encounters are coupled with personal anecdotes and an indomitable spirit. Geographical About the Author Nick Hunt has walked and written across much of Europe. His articles have appeared in the *Economist*, the *Guardian* and other publications, and he also works as a storyteller and co-editor for the Dark Mountain Project. His first book *Walking the Woods and the Water* (Nicholas Brealey, 2014) was a finalist for the Stanford Dolman Travel book of the Year. He currently lives in Bristol.