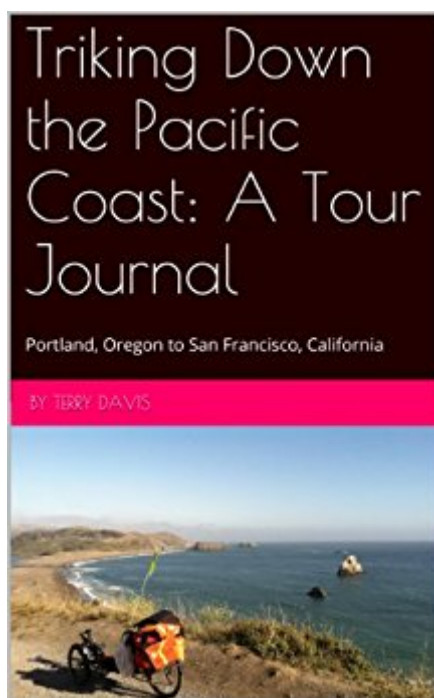


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Triking Down The Pacific Coast: A Tour Journal: Portland, Oregon To San Francisco, California i&1/2



Synopsis

In this personal journal about an 808-mile tour from Portland, Oregon to San Francisco, California, author Terry Davis describes his day-to-day travel experiences on a recumbent tadpole trike. Included are reflections on a minimalist approach to touring, personal insights and observations, and a four-day stay at a Zen monastery along the way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Being at the stage of my life where the painful results old surgeries to repair broken bones and damaged and twisted joints, heel spurs and gout flares have forced me to seek some low impact form of exercise that won't irritate the prostate, a recumbent trike seemed a very attractive choice. However, after reading several books about triking down the West Coast (where I live) I thought it was mandatory that I assume an attitude of disdain for normal people that use dreaded petroleum, eat meat and actually contribute to society. Then along comes Terry Davis!!! An individual that, while my polar opposite politically, doesn't denigrate those that live life with a different opinion and viewpoint than his. Nor does he punish the reader with a myopic blathering of disdain. Here's a

man that, while introspective and thoughtful is very comfortable in his own skin. A very refreshing individual. Frankly, Mr. Davis seems like a man I would love to get to know well enough to call a friend. While I'm more than a decade his senior his openness and honesty has inspired me to move ahead with the purchase of a trike. I figure it will take a year to condition myself to go from Huntington Beach to Seattle. It'll be my 70th birthday adventure.

The book is a day-to-day diary of a three wheeled cycle trip. It does not pretend to be prize winning literature. As someone who aspires to take recumbent trike trips like the one in this book, I found lots of useful info. Terry Davis does a decent job of keeping things interesting and moving along. The only part I skimmed over were the days he spent at a Zen retreat. I am here for bikes, not Buddha. The author may come across as somewhat elitist when he crosses paths with strata of society outside of his standard orbit, but traveling beyond one's comfort zone is what adventure is all about. The greatest favor Mr. Davis does for us is to include a post-trip review of all equipment used on the journey.

Terry tells an interesting story of the journey down the Pacific coast from the perspective of a normal traveler. He gives a good perspective from someone who is not a mechanically inclined individual. His choice of nourishment along the way makes the journey's logistics manageable. A good read.

Kudos to Mr. Davis for daring to do the trip and to write it up in this breezy travelog. Neither was a small undertaking. The book did leave me hungry for more detailed descriptions of people and places. And there was little attempt at introducing and releasing tension in the story. But once I accepted the book for what it is -- a journal of the trip, day by day -- it held my attention and left me interested in some long rides on my own trike.

I've cycled the complete Oregon coast, and want to do the same for Northern CA to San Francisco. I was hoping for a lot more information about the route and what he saw. Oregon's coast is spectacular, yet I read very little about it here. I appreciate hear if about the redwoods, but there is so much more to see. It kept my interest but I wanted more. I was also disappointed with his fixation on the down and out he met. I spoke when many people from many places on the trip, but to read this, it seems almost everyone is homeless or ride or drunk all the time...

An adventure you share as you read this exciting memoir. I keenly enjoyed it!

Some nice history inserts and good humor. Some double standards by characters were disappointing.

Really interesting,,, drags a bit in a couple of spots. I'm sure I will re-read parts of it again, probably next winter.

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