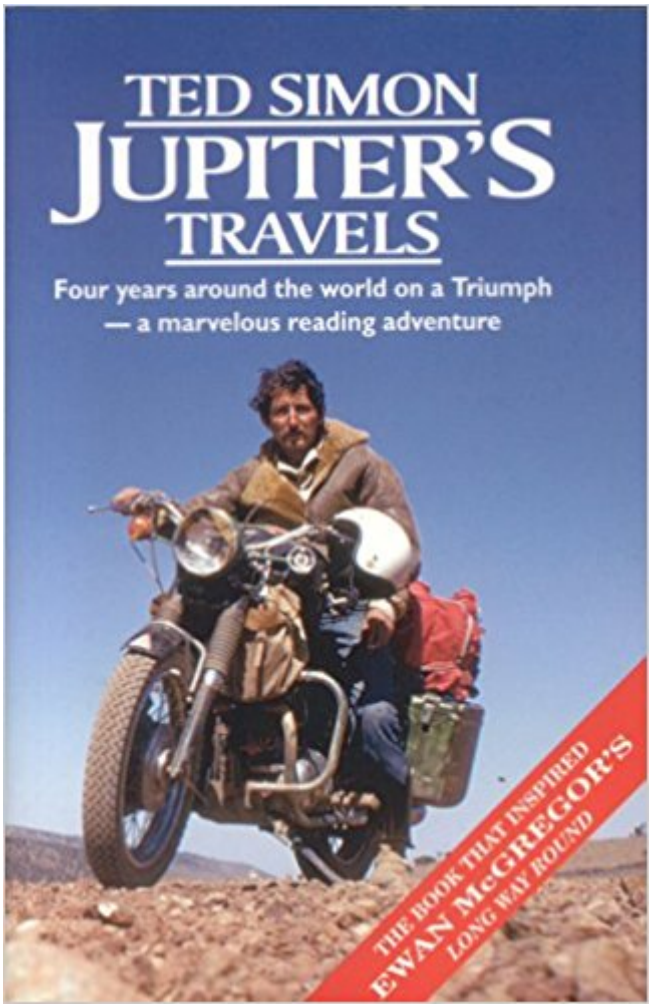
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# Jupiters Travels: Four Years Around The World On A Triumph




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## Synopsis

Simon rode a motorcycle around the world in the seventies, when such a thing was unheard of. In four years he covered 78,000 miles through 45 countries, living with peasants and presidents, in prisons and palaces, through wars and revolutions. What distinguishes this book is that Simon was already an accomplished writer. In 25 years this book has changed many lives, and inspired many to travel, including Ewan McGregor.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A compelling narrative that moves, sometimes at breakneck speed, over some of the world’s most beautiful and mysterious terrain ? packed with fascinating detail, splendid characterizations, and hair-raising adventures. (The Boston Globe)Vivid description of driving under conditions that were often ferocious. (NY Times)Extremely readable, full of keen observation, perceptive insight ? conveying action, drama, tension and danger. (Los Angeles Times)The best motorcycle travel book ever written. (Motorcycle Sport)By all means TAKE THE PLUNGE. (Rider Magazine)

Born 1931 and raised in London he emerged from World War II with a desperate urge to travel. Was a newspaper and magazine editor, and foreign correspondent, personally restored a 13th century French ruin, pioneered organic agriculture in California, and wrote an authoritative book on water politics. Has just repeated the "Jupiter" journey aged 72. He resides in Round Valley, CA.

I am not quite finished but I have been taking my time with this expansive real-life adventure. While this is, in many ways, a travel journal and ride report, the books is written beautifully. And the level of detail? How could he remember such detail of this travel tapestry. I guess when you really can't go very fast in many places, you spend a lot of time taking photos and notes. On the other hand, some people have amazing memories for details (and there may also be some creative licensing). I still have a lot to go but I am still completely living vicariously. Every time I get onto my touring bike I feel like there's a 10% chance I might start riding and never turn back (that's why I don't carry my passport or too much money with me). Superb.

Timeless classic. It inspired me to dig my old motorcycle out of the shed and start rebuilding it. There's no time like the present to have adventures and everything doesn't have to go right to make it a fantastic journey.

I have heard so many good things about this book, and obviously people have loved it for decades, but it was way too slow for me. I made myself finish it, but it was hard. I eventually ended up reading just the first and last sentence of each paragraph to get the gist of it. The book goes on and on in detail about EVERYTHING. I forget how many sentences Ted used just to describe what a taxi looked like coming down a road. I kept thinking all the details were building up to something major, but most of the time they were not. There were definitely some really interesting parts, but they were few and far between for me. Perhaps if you're more into wordsmithing than riding or exploring, you would enjoy this more.

It took Ted Simon years to complete his journey and it took me a while to finish reading it. Rightfully so. It was well justified given his voyage. I was amazed that he was able to complete such an adventure on a 500cc triumph. That and the complexity of going form one country to another without the luxuries of modern day logistics. His trip was truly one that one could only dream of doing. A true inspiration to me and countless others. Definitely worth reading.

This book pretty much fell off the radar for most until Ewan McGregor and Charlie Boorman did "Long Way Around". Where they were filmed travelling by motorbike around the world from London to New York. They met up with Ted in Istanbul, Turkey or some such place. The book is not just about a man's travels by motorbike around the world, it is much more. It is about people. It is about man's prejudices and misunderstandings about the world we live in. It is about a man finding

himself, loosing sight of his dream, and finding it all again in the end without realizing it. What was it all about, who knows. Classic travel and adventure book. Very much liked it. I have read it 3 times in a year.

Friends:Inspired by this book and several others in 2008 I bought a new BMW R1200 GSA motorcycle which now has over 30,000 miles on the odometer. My wife bought a BMW G650 GS in 2010. We live on an own a Ranch in the remote Sangre de Cristo mountain range of Colorado.Here are some more of the books that inspired me:- Seven Years in Tibet by Heinrich Harrer- Zen and the Art of Motorcycle maintainance by Robert Pirsig- The Motorcycle Diaries by Ernesto Che Guevara- Ghostrider by Neil Pearl- The Long Way Round by Ewan McGregor and Charlie Borman- The Long Way Down by Ewan McGregor and Charlie Borman- Blue Highways by William Least Heat Moon- Mount Analogue by Arthur von BoennighausenThe last two road trips were originally done in Ford and Volkwagen Vans but can be duplicated on a BMW motorcycle. As an Engineer the first book inspired me to study under Tensin Gyatso the XIV Dali Lama of Tibet. To paraphrase Tensin: " Images in the rear view mirror of a motorcycle are closer than they appear..... ".Google my name to Learn more.....Arthur von Boennighausen

One of the best books I’ve ever read.What a great writer Mr. Simon is!This book is much more about the people he meets, the government bureaucracies, scenery he sees, hotels he stays in,roads he survives and problems and challenges he has along the way as well as his rambling thoughts than it is about the motorcycle. But he does describe the challenges of motorcycling in remote places such as packing tools and spare parts along with clothing and camping gear, frequent falls from the bike, having to buy gasoline from other vehicles when he doesn’t have enough, and the various repairs and overhauls that are needed.

Long before there was Ewan and Charlie (McGregor, and Boorman of ’Long Way Round’ and ’Long Way Down’ fame), there was Ted Simon. While this is truly a motorcycle adventure, it now reads more like a history and civics lesson from the 70’s. The journey took place from ’73 to ’77 and this was initially published in ’79. Mr. Simon’s adventurous spirit and naivete carry him around the globe and lands him in some fantastic situations, not all of them good. His trip was patterned loosely on the ’Around The World In 80 Days’ story, but there was no rush to complete the trek. A truly fascinating read that should be followed up by his companion title, ’Dreaming Of Jupiter’; where he retraces his journey almost 25 years later. Others have made similar treks, but Ted has a way of

telling the tale that prevents you from putting his book(s) down!

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