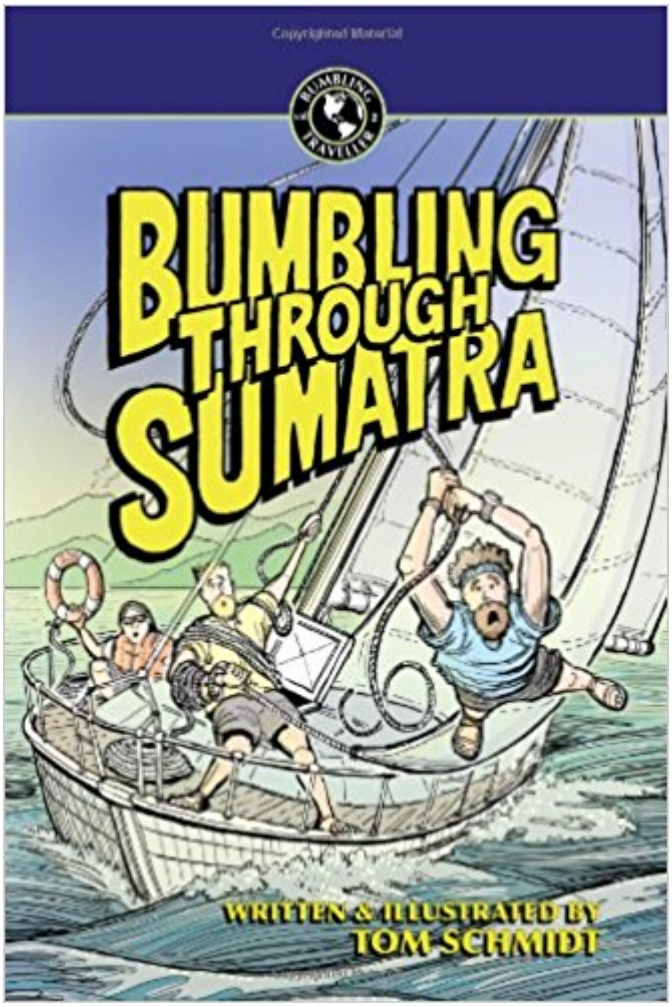
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Bumbling Through Sumatra (Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series)



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Synopsis

Volume 2 of the Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series: Follow the humorous illustrated day-to-day antics of Bumbling Bob, a wayward American architect, on his continuing quest across the Indonesian island of Sumatra with a ragtag troupe of bumbling backpackers. Share a harrowing nautical sojourn through the pirate-infested waters of the Strait of Malacca, misadventures in ports along Malaysia s west coast, and an arduous overland journey across Sumatra ending with a mystical encounter with the shamans of the indigenous tribes of the Mentawai Islands. Discover Sumatra -- a land rich in ancient treasures whose fate teeters in the environmental balance! The adventure continues in Volume 3 Bumbling Through Hong Kong!

Book Information

Series: Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series (Book 2)

Perfect Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Kakibubu Media Limited; First edition (May 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9881806666

ISBN-13: 978-9881806666

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.3 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,151,880 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Asia > Indonesia > Sumatra #217 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Asia > Indonesia > General #1344 inÃ Â Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Ecotourism

Customer Reviews

From the informative, well-researched sidebars of important ecologic facts, environmental or cultural issues, as well as practical traditions of everyday life, readers will become aware of the country’s biodiversity and its endangered condition. Travelers will be excited enough to get bags ready for a trip of their own. For readers of any age and culture, Bumbling Through Sumatra is a uniquely conceived, very entertaining book - and sheer fun! --Frank M. Costantino, Co-Founder, President Emeritus, American Society of Architectural IllustratorsMuch like what Redmond O’Hanlon’s book, Into the Heart of Borneo, and others like it did for a score of adventure seekers, Thomas Schmidt’s book will tantalize those whom long for adventures in far-away places in Asia. There is much in this book to captivate the reader - the beautifully drawn illustrations, interesting characters, rich histories,

encounters with local peoples and their customs, and tidbits about everything from pirates to indigenous cultures to the orangutan. In today's world of tailored tourism, it is refreshing to see Schmidt travel the way travel ought to be done - with arms, eyes, and mind wide open. --Robert Lee, Ecologist, UNESCOI enjoyed Bumbling Through Sumatra and am very supportive of the environmental awareness and culturally sensitive messages that are promoted in this book. It is a very educational and informative book while providing an entertaining way of telling various conservation messages through adventurous stories. The illustration and narration blend together very well, and brings the reader to explore the uniqueness of Sumatra's land, water, culture and rich biodiversity. --Desmarita Murni, Communications Coordinator, WWF - IndonesiaMuch like what Redmond O'Hanlon's book, Into the Heart of Borneo, and others like it did for a score of adventure seekers, Thomas Schmidt's book will tantalize those whom long for adventures in far-away places in Asia. There is much in this book to captivate the reader - the beautifully drawn illustrations, interesting characters, rich histories, encounters with local peoples and their customs, and tidbits about everything from pirates to indigenous cultures to the orangutan. In today's world of tailored tourism, it is refreshing to see Schmidt travel the way travel ought to be done - with arms, eyes, and mind wide open. --Robert Lee, Ecologist, UNESCOI enjoyed Bumbling Through Sumatra and am very supportive of the environmental awareness and culturally sensitive messages that are promoted in this book. It is a very educational and informative book while providing an entertaining way of telling various conservation messages through adventurous stories. The illustration and narration blend together very well, and brings the reader to explore the uniqueness of Sumatra's land, water, culture and rich biodiversity. --Desmarita Murni, Communications Coordinator, WWF - Indonesia

Tom Schmidt is an architect, award-winning writer, illustrator, musician, and part-time stand-up comedian. Born in the United States, following his studies of Architecture and Environmental Design at the University of Colorado, his wanderlust has carried him through various bumbling adventures in over 70 countries around the world. Schmidt is a licensed US architect, a LEED Accredited Professional, a founding member of the Hong Kong Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and a member of the American Society of Architectural Illustrators (ASAI). He has resided in Hong Kong since 1997, and is founder of Sepia Design Consultants Limited, an architectural consultancy specializing in sustainable hospitality design. Schmidt received a 2010 AIA Hong Kong Citation for the Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series in recognition of significant achievement in promoting the values of cultural heritage, eco-tourism and vernacular architecture in the Chapters

region.

"Bumbling Through Sumatra" is an educational, comic adventure tracing a mythic architect's bumbling stumbles through the Strait of Malacca, ports in Malaysia, and across Sumatra, "one of the most important and fascinating places on the planet right now," with regard to the threatened rate of destruction of rainforests, habitats, ecosystems, and cultural erosion. "Bumbling Through Sumatra" presents these challenges in the guise of the clumsy travels of a fictitious cast of a "rag-tag troupe of international backpackers" who are determined to "See the world before (they) leave it." Driven by a mysterious quest for ancient cultural knowledge in the area, the group embarks on a series of adventures and explorations that take them from Borneo to Malaysia and to Sumatra and the Mentawi Islands through pirate-infested ports and waters. Amidst the 200 plus comic illustrations and maps and charts, a great deal of hard data about the area around Sumatra is presented. A telling list of Bumbling Traveler Tips at the end of the book help communicate the underlying philosophy of the author. They include sections titled Learn About the Country, Behavior, Transportation, Support the Locals, and Minimize Your Environmental Impact. An additional list of internet resources points to more information about Sumatra and surrounding areas. "Bumbling Through Sumatra" is first rate education disguised as entertainment, appealing to both young adults and more mature audiences.

Following Bumbling Through Borneo, the second sequel of Bumbling Bob's adventures takes its readers onto yet another meaningful journey through Sumatra (an island parallel to peninsular Malaysia to the north and adjacent to the Indonesian island of Java to the east).As Bob, Jon, and Akira set foot on Sumatra, an international mix of people would join in to give the story a number of interesting twists and turns. Apart from encountering sea pirates in the Strait of Malacca, playing guitar with the indigenous tribes of the Mentawai islands, and joining in the buffalo fights, the "ad hoc" backpacking journey from the sea to the land offers about some of the most interesting looks at the lives of the natives from their beliefs, customs, practices, foods, to modes of communication.As an architect himself, Schmidt illustrated his readers the unique Malay architecture in the midst of the adventure, as well as the biodiversity of the region and yet the threat to nature as a result of a series of illegal deforestation activities there. Filled with beautiful illustrations and humorous in tone, Bumbling Through Sumatra has proven to be another delightful and valuable read.

Makes the medicine go down... You'll buy this book for your kids to learn from but read it yourself.

Great illustrations!

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