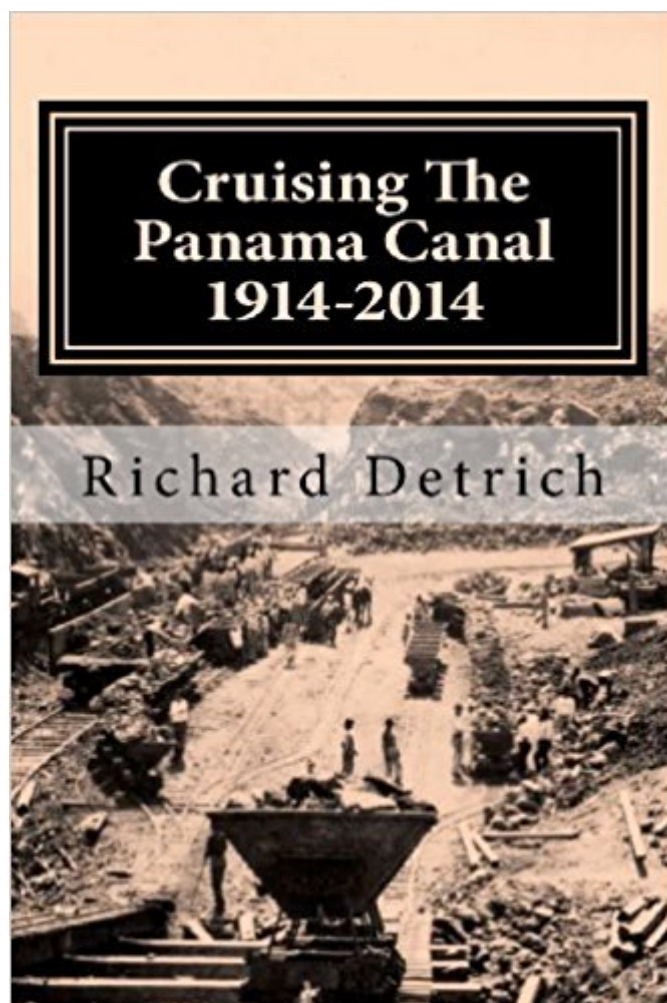


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# Cruising The Panama Canal: Centennial Edition



## Synopsis

“This is the best Panama Canal book for cruise ship passengers. • CRUISING THE PANAMA CANAL is guaranteed to help you get the most out of your Canal Cruise! Which itinerary to pick The best time of the year Which side of the ship What to look for What to expect How to pick shore excursions What you need to know A guide for your passage through the Canal

“What astounds me every time I go through the Canal is that here is something that was built 100 years ago, and it still works exactly the same way it was designed to work. We live in a throw-away society. How long does a toaster last? One or two years if you’re lucky. Every few years you dump your old computer. Your printer is broken: it’s cheaper to throw it away and buy a new one than try to fix it. But here is this engineering marvel, still working after 100 years . . . working 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. • The CENTENNIAL EDITION has additional historic material to celebrate 100 years of the Panama Canal joining the world together. \*

\* \* \* "CRUISING THE PANAMA CANAL is the essential companion for your cruise: what to expect,, the past, present and future of the Canal and insider information on shore excursions." "The ultimate authority on cruising the Canal . . . Easy-going writing style makes this a cinch for anyone to read."

"This is the book you will want to buy for planning your cruise and to use as a guide during the Canal transit."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

RICHARD DETRICH is a popular port and destination lecturer on luxury cruise ships sailing around the world. He frequently provides bridge commentary as ships transit the Panama Canal. Detrich enjoyed a varied career as a pastor, small businessman, ecommerce director and real estate agent

before retiring to a coffee farm high in the Chiriqui Mountains of Panama, just outside of Boquete. He blogs about his adventures in Panama and on the high seas at [RichardDetrich.com](http://RichardDetrich.com) and is the author of *ESCAPE TO PARADISE: LIVING & RETIRING IN PANAMA*.

Just completed a cruise through the canal, and I was glad to have purchased this book. Information about what to look for, what the big day would be like, and where to position yourself on the ship was valuable. Some of the information about how the canal was built and functions was helpful, particularly if you don't know much about that, or if you are on a cruise where there is no naturalist to give you that background. The book is particularly good if you are going from the Atlantic to the Pacific and takes a little patience to master if you are going in the opposite direction. Information about day excursions did not necessarily match up with my experience, so don't rely too much on that section. Also be warned: plenty of typos, so if that bothers you, maybe just have another mojito.

This book is not a history of cruising the Panama Canal. There is nothing about what it would be like cruising in the past. The author did not bother to proofread it-there are misspelled words all through the book. He also does not use commas when necessary. The book is very difficult to read with the grammatical mistakes in it. There is some useful information about what your cruise through the Panama Canal would be like. However, one whole section of the book is a repeat-he recites what it is like North to South and also South to North. He repeats information repeatedly. He states he will advise you as to which itinerary to pick, the best time of the year, which side of the ship, and how to pick shore excursions. There is a tiny bit about shore excursions where he tells you over and over to do the ship excursions. As to the other things, he says it does not matter. I got the feeling he wrote the book simply to make money. The material presented would make a nice 45 minute to 60 minute lecture, but I regretted buying the book. Buy *Path Between the Sea* instead.

This is a super book. I downloaded it to my tablet and will take it on our cruise for instant information. This little book has to be the best Guide for anyone cruising the Panama Canal. It even tells you where to stand for the best views and when to be in that position! There should be more guides like this. Thanks, Mr. Detrich!

I bought several books on the building of the canal. Detrich's book gives a comparatively brief history of the building, ownership and expansion of the canal. So if you want an in depth book on the Panama Canal I'd suggest trying to slog through *The Path Between the Seas*, which is almost

tedious in its detail. But if you want essentially a "guide book" through the canal, this is excellent. The book isn't very long because it goes through the canal from north to south AND south to north (and here I always mistakenly thought it was an east/west voyage). So there is a lot of repetition of material, just in opposite order. The author does alert the reader that this is the case, but it's kind of like paying full price for half or 2/3 of a book. But the detail is great. For example, it will instruct you to look at the port side or starboard at various points through the journey and explains what you're looking at and what to look for. I'm cruising the canal next month and I'll have this open for the entire transit and I anticipate that it will be very informative. Oh... also if you're on a cruise ship, the author, who often lectures on the Panama canal on various cruise lines, even gives his opinion of the best excursions to try and why. (I've done some of these and I agree wholeheartedly with his recommendations). All in all, an "essentials to cruising the canal" book. If you're interested in the canal but are not cruising, I'd suggest another book. The title of the book is, after all CRUISING THE PANAMA CANAL.

Wonderful as very detailed and no matter which way you are traveling through has detailed instructions on where to look and what to see going either which way. Explained history and everything you would want to know about the Panama Canal. Well worth getting and helpful even on best spots on boats to see whatever you wanted.

I enjoyed the information in the book. The majority of the book is on the history of the building of the canal and of Panama. If you're looking for a book strictly on cruising and ports of call, this one is not for you. If you want a basic history lesson on the canal and Panama, with some limited, but very good, info on the cruise - buy it.

The author wrote an interesting and valuable book I'd recommend for any first time Panama Canal cruisers such as ourselves. His reviews of excursions, what you will see and what to expect were terrific and certainly helping us for our cruise next January. He also covers a quick overview of the history of the canal.

I'm happy that I read Cruising the Panama Canal before our trip. I especially enjoyed having information about the Canal from south to north since we started our cruise in California and ended in Florida. I kept it with me the entire day during our journey through this awesome area.

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