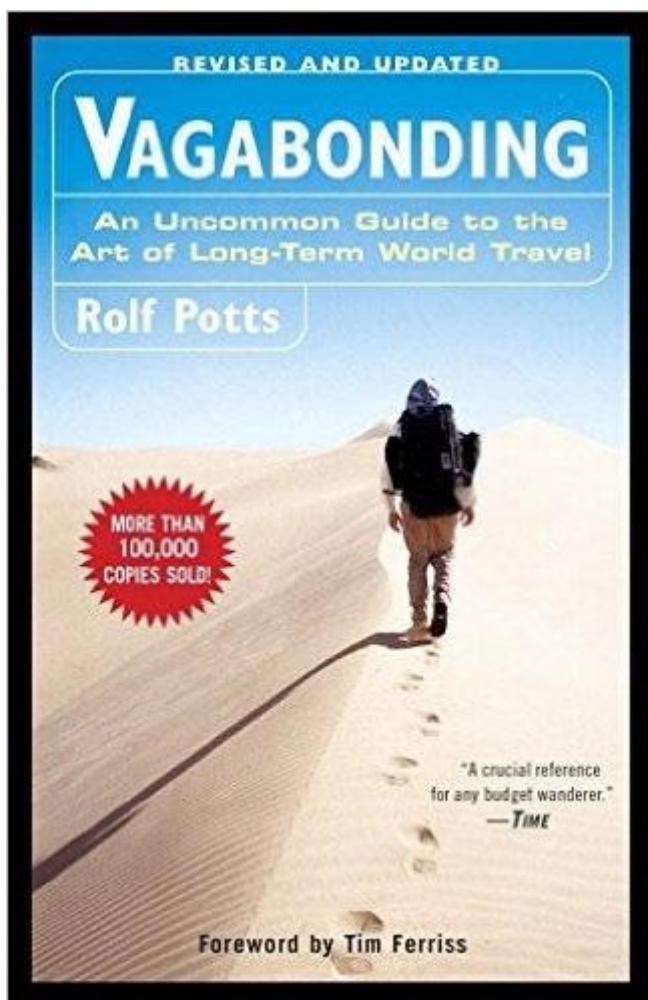


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Vagabonding: An Uncommon Guide To The Art Of Long-Term World Travel



Synopsis

With a new foreword by Tim Ferriss — “There’s nothing like vagabonding: taking time off from your normal life — from six weeks to four months to two years — to discover and experience the world on your own terms. In this one-of-a-kind handbook, veteran travel writer Rolf Potts explains how anyone armed with an independent spirit can achieve the dream of extended overseas travel. Now completely revised and updated, *Vagabonding* is an accessible and inspiring guide to — financing your travel time — determining your destination — adjusting to life on the road — working and volunteering overseas — handling travel adversity — re-assimilating back into ordinary life — Praise for *Vagabonding* — “A crucial reference for any budget wanderer.” — Time — “Vagabonding easily remains in my top-10 list of life-changing books. Why? Because one incredible trip, especially a long-term trip, can change your life forever. And *Vagabonding* teaches you how to travel (and think), not just for one trip, but for the rest of your life.” — Tim Ferriss, from the foreword — “The book is a meditation on the joys of hitting the road. . . . It’s also a primer for those with a case of pent-up wanderlust seeking to live the dream.” — USA Today — “I couldn’t put this book down. It’s a whole different ethic of travel. . . . [Potts] practical advice might just convince you to enjoy that open-ended trip of a lifetime.” — Rick Steves — “Potts wants us to wander, to explore, to embrace the unknown, and, finally, to take our own damn time about it. I think this is the most sensible book of travel-related advice ever written.” — Tim Cahill, founding editor of *Outside*

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Customer Reviews

Veteran vagabond Potts regales readers with his mantra: anyone with an adventurous spirit can achieve the feat of taking extended time off from work to experience the world. In 11 short chapters that follow the same structure, Potts tells how to negotiate time off from work, prepare for travel, and get the most out of your time on the road. Each chapter contains a profile of a famous proponent of vagabonding (e.g., Thoreau, Annie Dillard), quotes from everyday people with extensive travel experience, and a tip sheet of print and online sources for practical travel advice on topics such as airline tickets and accommodations as well as safety concerns. Alternately warning readers about using drugs in foreign countries and entertaining them with anecdotes from exotic ports of call, Potts gives a thorough recounting of his outlook on traveling. This book seems squarely aimed at twenty- and thirtysomethings; anyone with decidedly nonvagabond accoutrements (e.g., children or career ambition) might be more skeptical of Potts' philosophy. For those with a bad case of wanderlust.

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I've read several books on long-term travel - and did a 30 month travel sabbatical myself - of them all, Vagabonding easily comes out on top. It's not just the pure value of excellent information and tips - and there are many in the book. It's the way Potts captures the traveler spirit and all the little nuances you'd probably take needlessly long to appreciate on your own if all your experiences are

framed from the point of view of a tourist who's done a couple of two-week vacations in the Caribbean in the past. If you are going to only read one book on the topic (and it's probably all you need), I'd vote for this one. Read it, take a 3 months trip through a couple of safe, familiar countries and take it from there.

Truly inspiring book! Rolf gets to the point by decoding one of the most fascinating aspects of life: exploring new cultures and places. He does in such a humbling and sincere fashion that has impacted my life since I first read it, a handful years ago. Although I have always enjoyed immersive and simple travel experiences, after reading this book I saw myself traveling in a more reflective manner. I was actually motivated to go on 4-month bicycle tour across the country, as well as on a handful mountain climbing expeditions in different continents. That all said, traveling doesn't have to be expensive— it's all about how we feel the world around us. After all, I genuinely believe we all can leave our comfort zones to explore the unknown.

This book did an amazing job distinguishing the difference between people who take vacations and people who travel instead. A few of the websites are dated, but I still believe this book is a great place to start exploring the differences between vacationers and travelers, especially if you're bored with the traditional vacation options and want a more meaningful vacation. For me, vacations are not so much time to get away and relax, but more of a time to explore and have memorable and meaningful experiences in life. This book does a fine job pointing out many dos and don'ts when it comes to traveling, and it also introduces us to different attitudes to enhance our holiday experience. It's one of those, "you don't know what you don't know." This book is one of those books, that you'll say, wow I wish I would have read this years ago, but beware it might spoil your traditional vacation spots forever.

I bought this book and I'm about halfway through and loving it! This definitely isn't an in-depth approach to traveling long-term so don't buy it thinking it is. It does, however, get you thinking in the right frame of mind in regards to long-term travel. It's basically a philosophical approach to the concept/idea of traveling abroad. The quotes littered throughout are perfect anecdotes to go along with the passages in each chapter. And all the resources are great to get you started with planning on your own. The only reason I gave this 4 stars was because by the time I started reading this, I realized I knew a lot of the info already from years of research into my own trip. But it's definitely

worthy of your time and money if you find you need a little push to get you started.

I heard about this book first by following Tim Ferriss's Podcasts and I know he talks about this is one of his favorite books. If you are a traveler, a wannabe traveler, just dreaming to travel, thinking about traveling around to remote places on the planet, and want to see the world as a "local", meet locals, and love to be off the beaten path, this is a book for you. While it does have advice, links to sites online, it is still a very worthy read. This will inspire you to travel, maybe you can't for 6 month, but you could use some of the advice for 2 week get-away. Life is short, see the world!

Read this now. If you're debating, just stop and get this. Before reading this book, I kept telling myself that I would work as a traveling writer and photographer. Well, I read this book a year ago and have been doing that exact occupation for a year now. Did this book has all the answers? No. No single resource ever will, but this book gives you a unique framework and perspective upon which you can solve the problems you are facing. Read it. Love it. Put it away for awhile. Read it again.

Aside from extensive lists of other travel resources, this is not a how-to guide. It's more of a why-should-you guide. So it's more inspiration than nuts-and-bolts. And it serves that purpose well.

You will want to be on the road before you finish the book. With charming stories and useful resource guides and tip sheets, Rolf Potts covers the history of globe trekking and the everyday wisdom you need to courageously embark on your own journey.

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