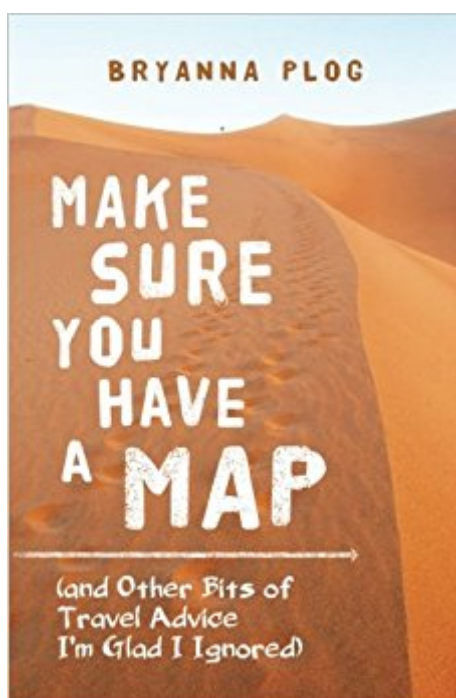


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# Make Sure You Have A Map: (and Other Bits Of Travel Advice I'm Glad I Ignored)



## Synopsis

What's the worst travel advice you've ever been given? Well-meaning counsel from friends, family, and fellow travelers such as "be careful what you eat," "don't accept gifts from people you don't know," and "never hitchhike" can be helpful—but what happens when you choose to go your own way? Through her journeys across six continents, traveler and author Bryanna Plog has seen first-hand that there are exceptions to every rule, and that some travel advice is, to put it simply, just plain wrong. Covering adventures in Norway, Peru, Tanzania, Costa Rica, Australia, and beyond, *Make Sure You Have a Map (and Other Bits of Travel Advice I'm Glad I Ignored)* is a collection of witty travel tales from ten years of Plog's travels, as she learned sometimes the hard way what advice to heed and what to disregard. Is it worthwhile to go somewhere for just a weekend? If you eat steak at a tango show in Buenos Aires, have you fallen into a tourist trap? Is "sticking to the trail" actually the best way to explore the grizzly-filled wilderness of Katmai National Park, Alaska? As you travel with the author to more than a dozen countries, *Make Sure You Have a Map* shares some practical travel tips as well, including how to act on buses in Tanzania, which type of coffee to drink in Colombia (and which to avoid), what to see if you're ever in Naples, Italy, and what to expect if you ever take a four-day train trip across the United States. From remote villages in East Africa to the bustling airports of Europe, from Australian train journeys to boat trips on the , the twenty stories in *Make Sure You Have a Map* are a delightful exploration of both good and bad travel advice, the joy of breaking the rules, and the world we all share. Destinations in the book include Australia (train journey between Melbourne and Sydney), Antarctica, Scotland, Italy (Naples), Norway (the Arctic), Germany (Berlin and Freiburg), Costa Rica (the Caribbean), Colombia, Peru (the Andes and the ), Brazil (the ), Argentina (Buenos Aires and Patagonia), Canada (Vancouver), the United States (train journey between Seattle and New York; Katmai NP, Alaska; and San Juan Islands, Washington), and Tanzania (Arusha, Dar es Salaam, and more).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bryanna Plog is an inspiring writer and thinker. She writes sensitively about her experiences in other cultures and adventures as (mostly) a young woman on her own exploring the world. She is not a tourist, but a traveler and world citizen. She does a remarkable job of sharing her insights gained from being on the ground, immersed in the local cultures she visits, trying new activities, foods, and cultural practices. She ponders the effects of her presence on those around her, and tries to minimize negative impacts of her visits. And she will sometimes go to remarkable lengths to experience the local culture through getting to know individuals as people wherever she goes. An easy read that sets one's mind spinning with ideas and reflection on one's role in the world. Also filled with humorous insights and great character vignettes.

A very fun and enjoyable read. The author is gifted at showing you the places she has been as seen through her eyes. Thankfully, she leaves the oh so serious business of travel writing to others and just lets her own personality shine through her writing. The book pokes gentle fun at some formal lists of do's and don'ts given as travel advice while showcasing her experiences as a traveler. Her viewpoint is somewhat different than that of the typical American traveler, and she is to be commended for going her own way. Highly recommended.

Recommended summer reading. You don't have to be a world traveler to appreciate the entertaining and descriptive stories the author gifts us with. We should be so fortunate to have half as many experiences as shared here! Stories gained and lessons earned (and learned) through travel are worthy as applied life lessons and shouldn't be earmarked as quaint anecdotes to tell to pass the time. This book leads us through a fun collection of short tales that ask: How has the road you have traveled affect the path you are yet to find?

I enjoyed reading about the author's various travel experiences. Having traveled to some of the same countries, I could definitely identify with her stories. Her humor, descriptive scenes and travel

advice allowed me to also "experience" those places that I have not yet visited. Great read!

What a delightful read!! I think everyone who travels, or has traveled, abroad has had their share of sound or unwarranted/unrealistic advice. I plan on recommending this to my students before their study abroad year

The author articulately describes the adventures of traveling- in one's own country and abroad. Great read for seasoned travelers and those who want to start!

This is a nice little collection of traveling anecdotes written by a woman who has been fortunate enough to see a very large percentage of the world. Anyone who has traveled anywhere can appreciate the situations she finds herself in, whether it be concern over drinking the local water, fears over travel delays or super-cheap flights, or receiving gifts from strangers. With every tale Plog manages to impart some lesson in a way that's delightful and empowering. The writing is very engaging and conversational, and the chapters flow quickly. This book would make great beach reading, or perhaps be a good choice for a long flight on a journey of your own. A quick, fun read.

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