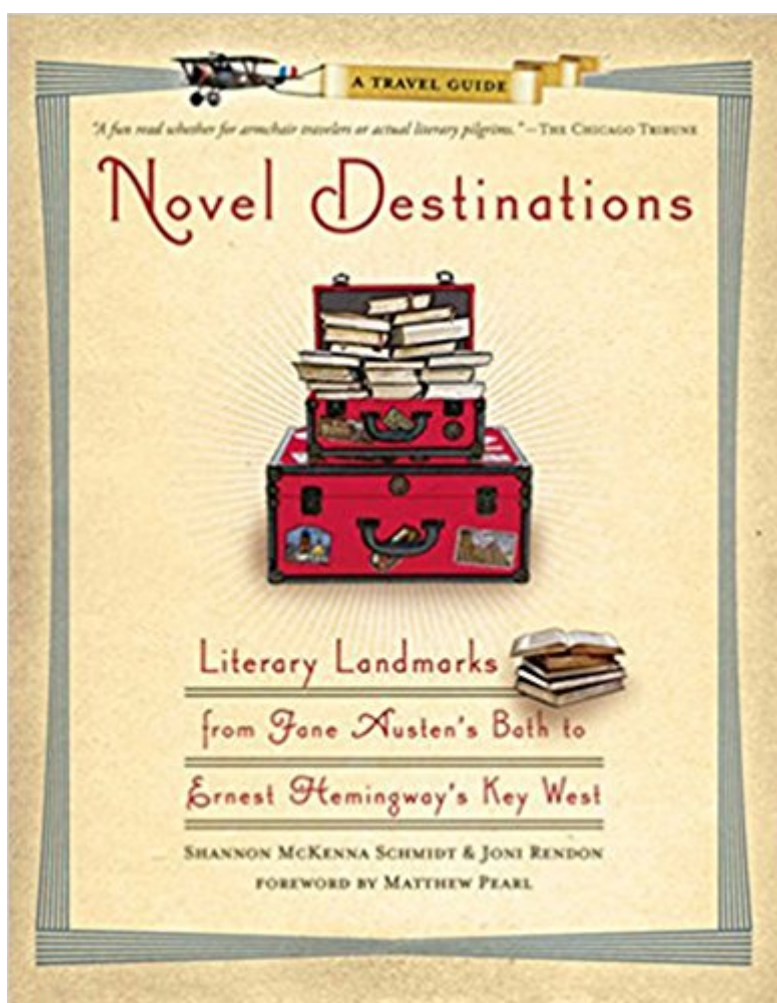


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Novel Destinations: Literary Landmarks From Jane Austen's Bath To Ernest Hemingway's Key West



Synopsis

For the new breed of vacationer who craves meaningful trips and unusual locales, the combination of reading and travel can be a heady mix; especially if you happen to be checking into Hemingway's favorite hotel in Sun Valley, or strolling about Bath's Royal Crescent while entertaining fantasies of Lizzie Bennett and her Mr. Darcy! Cue National Geographic's Novel Destinations; a guide for bibliophiles to more than 500 literary sites across the United States and Europe. The book begins with thematic chapters covering author houses and museums, literary festivals and walking tours. Then, in-depth explorations of author and places take readers roaming Franz Kafka's Prague, James Joyce's Dublin, Louisa May Alcott's New England, and other locales. Peppered with great reading suggestions and little-known tales of literary gossip, Novel Destinations is a unique travel guide, an attractive gift book, and the ultimate browser's delight.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Want to explore more than 500 literary landmarks without leaving your living room? Then pull up an armchair and pick up a copy of Novel Destinations." Tampa Tribune

Shannon McKenna Schmidt is a regular contributor to Shelf Awareness, as well as to Bookreporter.com. She held positions in marketing and promotion at several major publishing houses. Joni Rendon is a contributing writer at Bookreporter.com and FocusNews for Expatriates. She spent ten years in marketing and editorial in the book publishing industry.

This is a book in which literary travelers (armchair and otherwise) will lose themselves -- literally and figuratively. Literary history, criticism, geography, biography, anecdote, sidebars, and small but relevant photos are woven into this exploration of writers and their haunts. From Shakespeare to Dashiell Hammett, Robert Burns to Emily Dickinson, the authors visits graves, festivals, birthplaces, bars, libraries, cafes, gardens, hotels, cottages, meadows, and lanes. The book seems to wander in time and place and in its focus and organization. This is both appealing and maddening. You will, for example, find Hemingway on more than 40 pages; first in a brief mention of a bar in Paris (the Dingo American Bar where he met F. Scott Fitzgerald), later in a 7-page biography, "Rugged Adventurer." Farther along is a 6-page feature on six Heminway watering holes (in France, Spain, and Cuba). Later still, there is a 14-page section on Hemingway in Key West -- more bars there as well. He is also found on other pages having to do with other locales (New Orleans, Venice) and various festivals -- Ketchum, Idaho; and Key West. Nevertheless, this is a wonderful book (for reasons listed by other reviewers), a book to get lost in and with . . . in Harper Lee's Monroeville, Alabama; Steinbeck's Salinas Valley; Jane Austen's Bath, England; in Joyce's Dublin . . . jump in anywhere, and away you go. Marsh Muirhead - author of "Key West Explained - a guide for the traveler."

Goodbut would like more travel connections included, maybe maps?

I seriously wanted to crawl inside this book and go! I discovered this book on a while ago and had to have it. I was curious in my travels throughout the years might I have been unknowingly close to an incredible literary landmark? Might I have passed by where Walt Whitman once dined, or Ralph Waldo Emerson walked his dog (if he had a dog...). How about Checking into the actual hotel room at the Sun Valley Lodge in Idaho where Hemingway penned For Whom the Bell Tolls, or knocking back a "Papa Dobles" cocktail (invented by the writer himself) at Sloppy Joe's in Key West, FL? The thought of any of these gives my goose bumps!! found the closest to me in this book would be Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald who was born on Summit Ave in St Paul, Minnesota. There is a walking tour of landmarks associated with the writer and his works. Sinclair Lewes was born in Sauk Centre MN where he wrote about his 1920 best seller, Main Street. A Hemngway Hangout, Key West, Florida This book covers final resting places, to the bars that the likes of Mark Twain hung out in. From childhood homes, to the big screen where a travel to England and see the Chateau House (where the exterior shots of the 2005 film Pride and Prejudice were shot) open daily mid March through December. I adored everything about this book. I enjoyed reading it as informative as well

as a road map to places to see! This one is a keeper, a must take along for road trips and beyond!

Provided useful information for our trip to Salinas

Sweet service Great book....I'll be back.

what I expected

This was a Christmas gift to my daughter. She couldn't wait to start reading it!

Thanks very much. I will enjoy the book to use on my trip..

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