



The Lonely Planet Guide To Experimental Travel

Rachael Antony , Joel Henry , Andrew Dean Nystrom , Lonely Planet

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Forget package holidays and classic travel routes. Wave adieu to predictable journeys and escape the clutches of tourist traps. The time has come for different travel rules and *The Lonely Planet Guide to Experimental Travel* is your passport to a new world.

Do you yearn for the glories of yesteryear? Pack an octogenarian guidebook and replace the subway with a penny farthing for an *Anachronistic Adventure*. Do you like to gamble? Taste the real thrill of adventure with *Trip Poker* or *Monopoly Travel*. Are you desperate for a holiday but strapped for cash? To undertake *Budget Tourism* low funds are not an obstacle but a prerequisite.

With over 40 experiments to try, an enthralling history of Experimental Travel, interviews with our expert authors - including the founder of Latourex, an organization dedicated to Experimental Travel - and reports by intrepid experimenters, you'll be perfectly equipped for the open road. It's just up to you to fly the flag, pick up the mantle and fire up your experimental engine. Good luck!

The Lonely Planet Guide To Experimental Travel Details

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From Reader Review The Lonely Planet Guide To Experimental Travel for online ebook

Tim Corke says

This is travel but not as you know it.

It's a wonderful guide to changing the way you see the world full of inspirational theories that are presented in a clear and understandable way for you to implement.

So pleased to have had this given to me for Christmas a few years back..

Brooks says

Interesting concept, but poorly executed. Premise is ideas for making travel more random and therefore more interesting. Based on some French experimentalist (Latoure??). They have a series of ideas - going from the first street "A" in a guide to the last street "Z", rolling dice to see where to go, etc - to add chance to travel. And each idea is accompanied by one or two short stories from people who have tried it. Some of the ideas, just didn't work - like switching houses and lives for the weekend (everyone backed out) or going to the youth hostel in your own city.

Some ideas are interesting - like going to tourist "trap" attraction and take pictures of the other tourists - like going to the Eiffel tower, turning 180 degrees and taking a picture. Or contacting a stranger to provide 10 random locations in their city and you explore them - great way to see a new city.

Angie says

A fun little book of unique ways to find your next vacation destination, even if you only make it as far as your couch. For example, the Literary Journey. (how appropro!) All that is needed is a bookshelf, preferably w/ numerous books adorning it. Choose a book, read until a foriegn country is mentioned and then find a book about said country and continue...until voila!, you've traveled around the world!

Emma says

Though published by Lonely Planet, this book is not a travel guide. It is more of an art book recording different people's travel experiences and an invitation to try it for yourself. As such, I found the introduction to and history of experimental travel to be quite interesting. I also appreciated that many of the "experiments" are easy to complete without traveling to far-off locations.

Sonja Isaacson says

I feel that doing these things would sort of make a waste of a vacation. I wouldn't want to spend the time and

money to go somewhere, then miss what I came to see. However, some of these would be more practical (and less expensive) to do in your local area or state and would allow you to get to know areas you wouldn't have an excuse to visit otherwise.

Saima says

This has become my new favorite travel book! The entire book is basically different ways to totally forget about the packaged deals and typical travel experiences. Rent yourself out as a tourist and experience life as a local. Let a roll of dice decide your next destination. Travel while wearing unusual or absurd item (like a horse's head) and make note of people's reactions. I don't think I am brave enough to try any of the suggested travel plans but I enjoyed reading about them tremendously.

Caroline Bennett says

This is a fun, fun book. Some ideas you can start from your front door and others you'd have to plan a trip to do. Minus one star because the illustrations weren't what I would have chosen (sorry you're not psychic, bookmakers).

We've had fun playing at them. We went on a wander of our town taking the first left then the first right and repeating it. We found a public footpath I'd never noticed before.

We also had a go at chance travel. We took the county street map one Saturday night and rolled dice to find a place five places after our town in the index. Wyman's Brook in the suburbs of Cheltenham. Didn't sound very exciting but we headed off that evening to find it. When we got there we realised that this isn't just the suburb of Cheltenham. It's the very edge of the suburb. A surreal experience walking along a road with neat bungalows on one side and black open countryside on the other. Like the town where Edward Scissorhands landed. We naughtily climb over a gate to walk to the brook in the dark. It feels like we are nowhere. We can't see it and without a torch will probably fall in if we continue.

After that we carry on walking along the road. We admire or critique the bungalow gardens. The winner has a hedge made of lavender. I want to come back and see it in bloom. I'd spotted trains going by in the distance and when we get further on, there is a level crossing with a barrier. I realise I've never done that thing from the Railway Children where you wave madly at a train as it goes by. I calculate the trains were coming along every ten mins so if we wait, one should arrive soon. We wait and sure enough, after a few minutes, the lights flash and the barrier comes down. We wait another minute or so. A blackbird shrieks and flies out of the hedge. Thirty seconds later we can hear it. The ground is shaking. I don't want to wave at the driver 'cause I'm worried he or she will think there's a landslide. I wait till the engine goes by and wave hard at all the carriages. I can't see anyone because it's so fast. The railway children didn't have that problem. The barrier raises up, and we walk back towards the car. On the way back I spot a big ball of mistletoe in a false acacia tree on the side of the road and insist on a kiss. A random, enjoyable mini adventure.

Elizabeth says

I quite enjoyed reading this. There are a lot of inspiring ideas for different ways to approach travelling or even just exploring your own city or region in here. Our current project of visiting all of Sydney's beaches in

alphabetical order would fit right in here (sundaysthebeach.wordpress.com).

melydia says

This was a gift from my sister, with the note "Long live your sense of adventure!" It's a marvelous collection of travel games, from the simple (take the first left turn, then the first right turn, etc.) to the complex (a couple showing up separately at a foreign place and seeing if you can find each other) to the plain old bizarre (traveling while wearing a horse head mask). Each game is accompanied by a description of "laboratory results" (that is, someone who actually did it), most of which are beautiful and funny. One day I'll try some of these. If nothing else, it's a very entertaining read, and makes me want to explore.

Jenne says

I flipped through this book as I was shelving it in the library and got hooked. I can't think of anything more fun than having random adventures in strange and/or familiar places. I just wish all my friends weren't always busy being grown-ups...

Audrie says

Unique, quirky approach to travel... focused on the adventure and fun experienced during transit rather than the final destination. In fact, you could end up at a sewage treatment plant and still walk away with a new perspective. You just need a wandering attitude and the desire to try something new.

Example:

'Alternating Travel'

Hypothesis: Discover your own or a foreign town by following alternating travel directions.

Apparatus: The ability to tell your left from your right.

Method: Leave your home on foot. Take the first road on the right, then the next on the left, then the next on the right, then the next on the left, and so on. Carry on until something - a no-man's land, a building or a stretch of water - blocks your path and you can go no further.

"I'm cruising the estate, walking confidently, with no idea where I'm going but knowing exactly how to get there." ~Experimental Tourist Etain O'Carroll

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/experimen...>

Krzysztof says

Oulipians, Surrealists, Dadaists, Travelers. All of these can be just so self-involved and annoying. But I still like them and try to join their ranks from time to time.

Some of the travel ideas in this book were good, while others made me aware of how obnoxious I must have been as a gob-smacked traveler - and how precious some of my travel gimmicks. Thank god I didn't walk around with a broken clock when I went to Japan, instead going the Esthetourisme route, writing poems in Brautigan's style while there - (do you see how precious this gets? I couldn't resist using Latourex's French name for Aesthetic Travel).

Some other experimental travel ideas:

Type your zip code into this Little Free Library Finder. It's taken me to parts of my own back yard I never knew existed.

Organize an urban scavenger hunt.

Listen to or record a one minute vacation.

Go to the top of a high rise. Spy a body of water. Descend. Walk until you reach water (it can be a lot farther than you think).

Eco-tourism. Organize or join a local cleanup. If you do this on Singapore's island Pulau Ubin, you can get a bit of ghost hunting in, too.

Ann Addley says

This was a very interesting book full with different travel ideas. Some where not particularly practical or hard to access, but overall the book introduced some fun new ideas on how to approach travel and see the world from different view-points. Easy to follow structure and fun quirky illustration make this a great gift for the adventurer in your life.

Jennifer says

What a fabulous crazy book! There's plenty here to enjoy for us types who do not have a full beaten-up collection of Lonely Planet Guides to Here, There and Everywhere and who haven't been nearly enough places to begin to feel jaded about travel. There's vicarious fun and things anyone could do for all but the genuinely house bound (Thalasso Experimental is particularly fine for anyone not much beyond that)

The background to experimental travel was fascinating (although I did appreciate references to 'underemployed artistic types'), each experiment was well explained - in summary and more expansively and then one or more 'Laboratory Reports' are provided for each. Illustrations are suitably eclectic.

LINDA says

This is a really bizarre book about many different approaches that you can take to make travel a little more interesting and a lot more memorable!

I love the cover, I love the format, I love the tidbits of strange information that are sprinkled through the book, I love the strange graphics, I love the interactive yellow sticky arrows on the inside of the back cover, I love that this book was so creative and really got me thinking about all of the other approaches to travel that I may have never dreamed of...

The most notable parts were:

The ones that I would most like to try are:

Ariadne's Thread p. 56

Confluence seeking on p. 96 www.confluence.org

Ero Tourism p. 120

Exquisite Corpse Gad About p 138. First person writes down the name of a destination, the second person writes down an activity, and so on for the remaining categories: dress code, budget, duration of travel, theme, item to bring, snack, etc.

Travel Pursuits p. 230

The Travel Pie: p.260