



PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Global Travel Bookshelf checklist

A shelf of books to read before you go, or on the way. Tick each one off as you finish it, and add your own finds on the blank lines.

BOOK AND AUTHOR	WHERE, AND WHY
America	
☐ A Walk in the Woods Bill Bryson	Appalachian Trail. The author walks the trail and attempts to rediscover America.
☐ Cannery Row John Steinbeck	Monterey. A colourful cast of characters working in a sardine cannery during the Great Depression.
☐ Crossing to Safety Wallace Stegner	Vermont and Wisconsin. Two couples meet and become friends despite their differences.
☐ Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas Hunter S. Thompson	Las Vegas. An exhausting rollercoaster of a drug-fuelled road trip and misadventure.
☐ Moondust Andrew Smith	Houston. Space race stories, touchingly told through the astronauts' memories.
☐ On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous Ocean Vuong	Connecticut. Identity, family and the immigrant experience of a Vietnamese-American man.
☐ Postcards from the Edge Carrie Fisher	Los Angeles. Dry-witted commentary on Hollywood, from first-hand experience.
☐ Snow Falling on Cedars David Guterson	An island in Puget Sound, north of Seattle. A man accused of murder faces a courtroom whodunnit.
☐ Tales of the City Armistead Maupin	San Francisco. A series set in a shared house, following the cultural changes from the 1970s onwards.
☐ Travels with Charley John Steinbeck	A road trip. With his French poodle, to find the real America (1962). Wonderful writing.
☐ The Secret History Donna Tartt	Vermont. An inverted crime novel involving a group of Classics students at college.
☐	



Australia to England

BOOK AND AUTHOR	WHERE, AND WHY
Australia	
☐ Cloudstreet Tim Winton	Perth. A chaotic, character-driven family drama set in one house over twenty years.
☐ The Light Between Oceans M. L. Stedman	Western Australia. 1926: a lighthouse keeper and his wife face a decision that will change their lives.
☐	
Canada	
☐ A Tale for the Time Being Ruth Ozeki	British Columbia. Ruth finds the moving diary of a Japanese girl in a lunchbox washed up on a beach.
☐ Tears in the Grass Lynda A. Archer	Saskatchewan. A cross-generational novel of relationships and secrets.
☐	
Costa Rica	
☐ In Search of Captain Zero Allan Weisbecker	Costa Rica. Surfer Max has been missing for five years, and his friend goes looking for him.
☐ The Longest Way Home Andrew McCarthy	Costa Rica. The Brat Pack actor writes about his travels to avoid settling down.
☐	
England	
☐ Murder on the Orient Express Agatha Christie	A classic from Agatha, who was famously found in Harrogate after her disappearance in 1926.
☐ Behind the Scenes at the Museum Kate Atkinson	York. A generational family saga, narrated by young Ruby trying to make sense of life.
☐	



Germany to Mexico

BOOK AND AUTHOR	WHERE, AND WHY
Germany	
☐ Alone in Berlin Hans Fallada	Berlin. A wartime thriller following one man's attempts to defy Nazi rule.
☐ Stasiland Anna Funder	Berlin. Fascinating true stories from behind the Berlin Wall in East Germany.
☐	
Greece	
☐ The Figurine Victoria Hislop	Greece. Historical fiction to transport you to Greece and times gone by.
☐ The Magus John Fowles	A Greek island. A psychological thriller following an unlikely friendship that develops on an island.
☐	
Italy	
☐ Four Seasons in Rome Anthony Doerr	Rome. A memoir of the American author's year living in Rome and raising twins.
☐ The Lost Daughter Elena Ferrante	An Italian beach resort. A dark story of a divorcee forced to confront her demons.
☐ To Venice with Love Philip Gwynne Jones	Venice. A midlife couple move to Venice, find their feet and slowly become locals.
☐	
Mexico	
☐ The Lacuna Barbara Kingsolver	Mexico and the USA. The fictional memoirs of Harrison Shepherd, across the decades and two countries.
☐ The Secret Book of Frida Kahlo F. G. Haghenbeck	Mexico. A fictional account of the artist's life, based on the discovery of her notebooks.
☐	



Netherlands to Oman

BOOK AND AUTHOR	WHERE, AND WHY
Netherlands	
☐ The Miniaturist Jessie Burton	Amsterdam. A mystery unfolds for new wife Nella in a 1680s canal house.
☐ Tulip Fever Deborah Moggach	Amsterdam. Love and intrigue during the tulip mania of the 1630s.
☐	
Northern Ireland	
☐ Milkman Anna Burns	Belfast. Set during the Troubles, when it pays to remain anonymous.
☐ Trespases Louise Kennedy	Belfast. A young woman's naive affair with an older man during the Troubles.
☐	
Oman	
☐ Arabian Sands Wilfred Thesiger	The Empty Quarter. A record of Thesiger's journeys through the desert in the late 1940s.
☐ Celestial Bodies Jokha Alharthi	An Omani village. The lives and loves of three sisters against changing social norms.
☐	



Spain, the UAE and your own

BOOK AND AUTHOR		WHERE, AND WHY
Spain		
☐	The Life Impossible Matt Haig	Ibiza. A retired teacher is left a house in Ibiza by a friend and sets out to work out why.
☐	The Orange Grove Rosanna Ley	Seville. A mother's secrets are unearthed during a quest to make marmalade.
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UAE		
☐	The Dog Joseph O'Neill	Dubai. A New York attorney takes a job in Dubai and struggles to thrive as an expat.
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Your own finds		
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