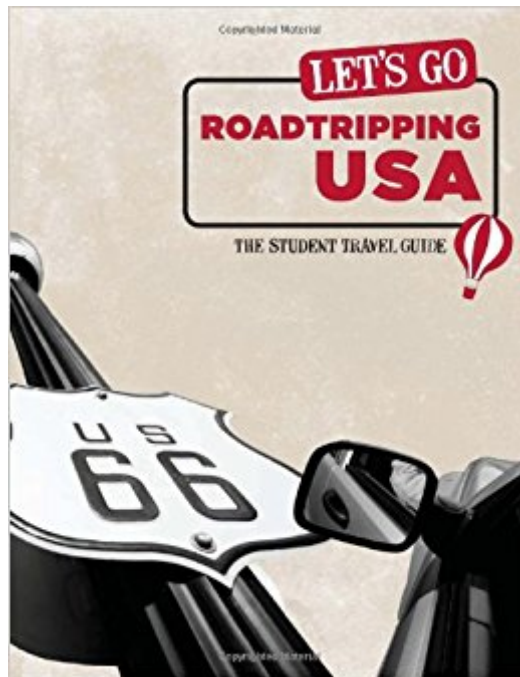




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Let's Go Roadtripping USA: The Student Travel Guide



Synopsis

Who says you have to go overseas to study abroad? A cruise on the backroads of the United States can be as foreign an experience as any; Americana is just down the road. Let's Go Roadtripping USA is the perfect guide to experiencing the world's melting pot on a shoestring and a fan belt. This book's eight chapters give eight different itineraries to choose from: Route 66 or the Oregon Trail for the classicists, the Great North or the National Road for the outdoorsmen, the East Coast or Pacific Coast for cosmopolitans, and the Deep South or the Southern Border for those with a drawl. You can even mix and match to create your own once-in-a-lifetime trip.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm in the planning stages right now of a road trip across the U.S. This book has been very informative so far. It is logically set up and easy to follow and find things. Each section is a particular road trip route, and within that section it covers each interesting city on that route. It provides suggestions for lodging, food, sights, and entertainment. I've used other Let's Go books and they have never lead me astray once. I'm hoping this will be the same. So far, so good! I'm learning a lot about the cities I may want to visit on my road trip. I did notice though that all the routes start on the East coast and go towards the West coast (with the exception of the West coast route and the East coast route). I mean you can just reverse the directions in order to go the other way, but I found it odd that they all go one direction. This book has a much better layout though than the book I had brought previously and then returned (Road Trip USA). I recommend this Let's Go book (and any

other Let's Go book!)

Handy travel guide during my road trip this summer. As a recent college grad, I could definitely relate to the authors' tips and recommendations. Sometimes I felt like I was being treated like a tourist in my own country, but it gave a good background on places I was unfamiliar with. The book didn't perfectly map out the route I was planning to take, but I was able to fit together bits and pieces of several suggested itineraries to cover most of my journey.

This book really did not help us take our road trip, and it really did not live up to our expectations. Sorry, but I would look elsewhere for ideas and info about roadtripping. I feel like it was a waste of my money.

First of all: This book is still an excellent guide (on what it covers). It's easy to read, information is extensive and it caters in some way to the budget traveler. That's why it still earned two stars. BUT: It's not called roadtripping USA for nothing (instead of the old Let's Go USA editions). While the old editions had info on ALL states, by state, this book describes eight (you guessed it) roadtrips and gives an itinerary on those. If you are willing to follow those itineraries you are good. But as soon as you want to go exploring on your own you're lost as NOTHING that's not on those routes is adequately described, if at all. Those routes are: East Coast: Starting in Key West, going through Palm Beach, Jacksonville, Savannah, Charleston, up the coast to Atlantic City, New York, Boston and ending in Acadia National Park Great North: starting in Burlington, going through Montreal, Ottawa, passing the Niagara Falls, going through Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis/St. Paul, the Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, Banff National Park and ending in Vancouver National Road: starting in Atlantic City, going through Philadelphia, Baltimore, Columbus, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Boulder, Arches National Park, Salt Lake City, Reno and ending in San Francisco Route 66: starting in Chicago, going through Springfield, St. Louis, Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Santa Fe, Flagstaff, Las Vegas and ending in Los Angeles Oregon Trail: starting in Kansas City, going through Nebraska to Casper in Wyoming and on to Boise, Idaho, Oregon and ending in Portland Deep South: starting in Washington D.C., going through Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte, Atlanta, Birmingham, Nashville, Memphis, Little Rock and ending in Oklahoma City Southern Border: starting in Everglades National Park, going through Sarasota, Tallahassee, Mobile, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Houston, Austin, San Antonio, Big Bend National Park, Roswell, El Paso, Silver City, Tucson, Phoenix and ending in San Diego Pacific

Coast: starting in San Diego, going through Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Redwoods National Park and ending in Seattle. Basically, in the old roadtripping tradition, the routes go all east to west, apart from the two coastal tours, which go south to north. Of course you can combine routes as they meet sometimes. Now to the drawbacks of this edition: There's no info whatsoever on North Dakota, nor on Hawai or Alaska. Canada is barely mentioned. Great parts of states aren't covered at all. The five big National Parks in Utah for example are mentioned on a two page detour description with no info on accommodations and/or eating out. With the old editions you were able to enter a state, see all that it had to offer, and create your own itinerary, missing nothing. I prefer that way of traveling, so this edition isn't really of any use to me. I do own the 1997 and 2004 editions of Let's Go USA and I would highly recommend getting the 2004 edition. The info on the sights is all there and 85% of the info on accommodations and food is still correct. Nothing has changed so much in the last 10 years that the book isn't still worth its cost, except for prizes, which, of course, have changed a lot during the last ten years. ;-)

Which makes it even harder to understand why THAT isn't reflected in this edition: the table of price ranges is still (almost) the same as it was in 2004 with the same categories on accommodations and restaurants. Plus: This edition clearly caters to the traveler with a medium budget much more than in previous editions. There's always upscale accommodation and restaurant recommendations, to the point that low-budget alternatives often aren't mentioned with address and telephone number. The exceptions are hostels, those are always listed. In older editions there were usually hostels and hotels/motels in a similar price range, but not so many pricey B&Bs. So, to bring this review to a conclusion: If you like well researched itineraries, don't really want to stray of the beaten paths too much and are not on a really tight budget, this book is for you. If you prefer more thorough info, want to make your own itinerary or see a complete state, and like to stay within a reasonable budget, get the old edition Let's Go USA 2004.

We've taken this book on a few road trips across the USA & it has been a fantastic resource for fun side trips to places we never heard of anywhere else. If you're traveling long distances on interstates, this book will help you get off the main highways along the way, creating a diversion to allow you to explore local culture, foods, night life and small towns with a lot to offer. If you're tired of pouring through guides that seem to just recommend typical tourist attractions - hotels & restaurants & a few sights in main cities - this is the one you've got to pick up. Even if you don't go for their recommended hostels or cheap hotels, you will still find enticing & sometimes pleasantly quirky sights & activities to broaden your fascination with traveling from one far flung place to another in the USA.

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