

HOW TO TRAVEL WEST

HOW TO TRAVEL WEST IS A QUESTION FACED BY MANY ADVENTURERS, EXPLORERS, AND TRAVELERS SEEKING NEW EXPERIENCES OR DESTINATIONS. WHETHER JOURNEYING ACROSS A CONTINENT, MOVING FROM THE EASTERN TO WESTERN COAST, OR NAVIGATING THROUGH UNFAMILIAR TERRITORIES, UNDERSTANDING THE BEST METHODS, ROUTES, AND PREPARATIONS IS ESSENTIAL. TRAVELING WEST CAN INVOLVE VARIOUS TRANSPORTATION MODES, PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS, AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS THAT ENSURE A SMOOTH AND ENJOYABLE TRIP. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES PRACTICAL TIPS, EFFECTIVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS, AND IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN EMBARKING ON A WESTWARD JOURNEY. FROM ROAD TRIPS AND FLIGHTS TO RAIL AND MARITIME TRAVEL, DISCOVER COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE ON HOW TO TRAVEL WEST EFFICIENTLY AND SAFELY. BELOW IS A DETAILED OVERVIEW OF THE KEY ASPECTS COVERED IN THIS GUIDE.

- PLANNING YOUR WESTWARD JOURNEY
- TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR TRAVELING WEST
- NAVIGATION AND ROUTE SELECTION
- ESSENTIAL PREPARATIONS AND PACKING TIPS
- SAFETY AND TRAVEL TIPS

PLANNING YOUR WESTWARD JOURNEY

PROPER PLANNING IS THE FOUNDATION OF ANY SUCCESSFUL TRIP, ESPECIALLY WHEN TRAVELING WEST ACROSS LONG DISTANCES OR UNFAMILIAR REGIONS. THIS SECTION DISCUSSES THE IMPORTANT STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE SETTING OUT, INCLUDING DETERMINING YOUR DESTINATION, TIMEFRAME, BUDGET, AND TRAVEL GOALS.

DEFINING YOUR DESTINATION AND OBJECTIVES

IDENTIFYING WHERE EXACTLY YOU INTEND TO TRAVEL WEST IS CRUCIAL. ARE YOU MOVING TO A SPECIFIC CITY OR EXPLORING MULTIPLE LOCATIONS ALONG THE WAY? CLARIFYING YOUR OBJECTIVES WILL HELP TAILOR YOUR TRAVEL PLANS AND TRANSPORTATION CHOICES TO YOUR NEEDS.

ESTABLISHING A TRAVEL TIMELINE

KNOWING HOW MUCH TIME IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR JOURNEY INFLUENCES ROUTE OPTIONS AND MODE OF TRANSPORT. WHETHER YOU HAVE A FEW DAYS OR SEVERAL WEEKS, PLANNING A REALISTIC SCHEDULE ENSURES YOU CAN ENJOY THE TRIP WITHOUT UNDUE STRESS.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

BUDGETING EFFECTIVELY FOR TRAVEL COSTS SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION, ACCOMMODATION, MEALS, AND ACTIVITIES IS ESSENTIAL WHEN LEARNING HOW TO TRAVEL WEST. ALLOCATING FUNDS APPROPRIATELY ALLOWS FOR A SMOOTHER EXPERIENCE AND PREVENTS UNEXPECTED FINANCIAL STRAIN.

RESEARCHING DESTINATIONS AND ATTRACTIONS

GATHERING INFORMATION ABOUT POINTS OF INTEREST, CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS, AND NATURAL LANDMARKS ALONG YOUR

WESTWARD ROUTE ENRICHES THE JOURNEY. THIS RESEARCH HELPS IN CRAFTING AN ITINERARY THAT BALANCES TRAVEL TIME WITH SIGHTSEEING OPPORTUNITIES.

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR TRAVELING WEST

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRANSPORTATION METHOD IS VITAL FOR A SUCCESSFUL WESTWARD TRIP. DEPENDING ON DISTANCE, BUDGET, AND PREFERENCES, VARIOUS OPTIONS EXIST TO SUIT DIFFERENT TRAVEL STYLES AND REQUIREMENTS.

ROAD TRAVEL: DRIVING OR ROAD TRIPS

TRAVELING WEST BY CAR IS A POPULAR CHOICE FOR FLEXIBILITY AND SCENIC EXPERIENCES. ROAD TRIPS ALLOW TRAVELERS TO STOP AT MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, EXPLORE OFF-THE-BEATEN-PATH SITES, AND CONTROL THEIR PACE.

- PLANNING ROUTES WITH GPS OR MAPS
- ENSURING VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND FUEL AVAILABILITY
- SCHEDULING REST BREAKS AND OVERNIGHT STAYS

FLYING WESTWARD

AIR TRAVEL OFFERS SPEED AND CONVENIENCE FOR LONG-DISTANCE WESTWARD TRAVEL, ESPECIALLY WHEN CROSSING COASTS OR INTERNATIONAL BORDERS. SELECTING DIRECT FLIGHTS OR THOSE WITH MINIMAL LAYOVERS CAN REDUCE TRAVEL TIME.

TRAIN AND RAIL OPTIONS

RAIL TRAVEL PROVIDES A COMFORTABLE AND SCENIC ALTERNATIVE FOR TRAVELING WEST IN REGIONS WITH EXTENSIVE RAILWAY SYSTEMS. TRAINS OFTEN CONNECT MAJOR CITIES AND RURAL AREAS, OFFERING A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE ON THE LANDSCAPE.

BUS AND COACH SERVICES

FOR BUDGET-CONSCIOUS TRAVELERS, BUSES ARE AN ECONOMICAL CHOICE FOR WESTWARD JOURNEYS. INTERCITY AND REGIONAL COACHES CAN COVER EXTENSIVE ROUTES AND PROVIDE ACCESS TO AREAS WITHOUT RAIL OR AIR SERVICE.

NAVIGATION AND ROUTE SELECTION

EFFECTIVE NAVIGATION PLANNING ENSURES THAT TRAVELING WEST IS EFFICIENT, SAFE, AND ENJOYABLE. SELECTING ROUTES THAT OPTIMIZE TRAVEL TIME AND SIGHTSEEING OPPORTUNITIES IS KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL TRIP.

USING MAPS AND GPS TECHNOLOGY

MODERN GPS DEVICES AND SMARTPHONE APPLICATIONS PROVIDE REAL-TIME NAVIGATION ASSISTANCE, TRAFFIC UPDATES, AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTE SUGGESTIONS. UTILIZING THESE TOOLS ENHANCES ACCURACY AND CONVENIENCE WHILE TRAVELING WEST.

CHOOSING SCENIC VS. DIRECT ROUTES

DECIDING BETWEEN THE FASTEST ROUTE AND A MORE SCENIC PATH DEPENDS ON TRAVEL GOALS. SCENIC ROUTES MAY OFFER MEMORABLE LANDSCAPES AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES, WHILE DIRECT ROUTES PRIORITIZE EFFICIENCY.

CONSIDERING WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS

WEATHER PATTERNS AND ROAD QUALITY CAN IMPACT TRAVEL SAFETY AND TIMING. CHECKING FORECASTS AND ROAD STATUS REPORTS IS ESSENTIAL BEFORE AND DURING THE JOURNEY TO AVOID HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS.

IDENTIFYING REST STOPS AND ACCOMMODATION

PLANNING STOPS FOR REST, MEALS, AND OVERNIGHT STAYS CONTRIBUTES TO TRAVELER COMFORT AND SAFETY. RESEARCHING AVAILABLE FACILITIES ALONG THE WESTWARD ROUTE HELPS MANAGE FATIGUE AND MAINTAINS ENERGY LEVELS.

ESSENTIAL PREPARATIONS AND PACKING TIPS

PREPARING ADEQUATELY FOR A WESTWARD TRIP INVOLVES PACKING APPROPRIATE CLOTHING, SUPPLIES, AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. BEING WELL-EQUIPPED ENSURES READINESS FOR VARIOUS SITUATIONS ENCOUNTERED ON THE ROAD OR IN TRANSIT.

CLOTHING AND GEAR SELECTION

CHOOSING VERSATILE CLOTHING SUITED TO THE CLIMATE AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED IS FUNDAMENTAL. PACKING LAYERS, COMFORTABLE FOOTWEAR, AND WEATHER-APPROPRIATE ATTIRE ENHANCES COMFORT THROUGHOUT THE JOURNEY.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND IDENTIFICATION

CARRYING VALID IDENTIFICATION, TRAVEL PERMITS, AND ANY REQUIRED VISAS IS CRITICAL WHEN TRAVELING WEST ACROSS STATE OR NATIONAL BORDERS. ORGANIZING THESE DOCUMENTS IN AN ACCESSIBLE MANNER PREVENTS DELAYS AND COMPLICATIONS.

HEALTH AND SAFETY SUPPLIES

INCLUDING A FIRST AID KIT, MEDICATIONS, AND PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS IS IMPORTANT FOR MAINTAINING WELL-BEING. ADDITIONALLY, PACKING SNACKS AND WATER SUPPORTS ENERGY AND HYDRATION DURING TRAVEL.

ELECTRONICS AND CHARGING EQUIPMENT

PHONES, CAMERAS, NAVIGATION DEVICES, AND CHARGING CABLES ARE ESSENTIAL FOR COMMUNICATION AND DOCUMENTATION. ENSURING ALL DEVICES ARE FULLY CHARGED AND CARRYING PORTABLE POWER BANKS CAN PREVENT OUTAGES.

SAFETY AND TRAVEL TIPS

MAINTAINING SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT WHEN LEARNING HOW TO TRAVEL WEST, ESPECIALLY OVER LONG DISTANCES OR THROUGH UNFAMILIAR AREAS. ADHERING TO BEST PRACTICES REDUCES RISKS AND ENHANCES THE OVERALL EXPERIENCE.

STAYING AWARE OF SURROUNDINGS

REMAINING ALERT AND AWARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT HELPS IDENTIFY POTENTIAL HAZARDS OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY. TRUSTING INSTINCTS AND AVOIDING RISKY SITUATIONS CONTRIBUTE TO PERSONAL SECURITY.

FOLLOWING TRAFFIC AND TRAVEL LAWS

COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AND TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS PREVENTS LEGAL ISSUES AND ACCIDENTS. BEING INFORMED ABOUT RULES SPECIFIC TO AREAS ALONG THE WESTWARD ROUTE IS ADVISABLE.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

HAVING A PLAN FOR EMERGENCIES, INCLUDING CONTACT NUMBERS, ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE, AND MEDICAL RESOURCES, ENSURES READINESS FOR UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS. SHARING TRAVEL PLANS WITH TRUSTED CONTACTS ADDS AN ADDITIONAL SAFETY LAYER.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS DURING TRAVEL

MAINTAINING GOOD HYGIENE, STAYING HYDRATED, AND TAKING BREAKS TO AVOID FATIGUE SUPPORT PHYSICAL HEALTH. BEING MINDFUL OF LOCAL HEALTH ADVISORIES AND VACCINATIONS MAY ALSO BE NECESSARY.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE THE BEST MODES OF TRANSPORTATION TO TRAVEL WEST IN THE UNITED STATES?

THE BEST MODES OF TRANSPORTATION TO TRAVEL WEST IN THE UNITED STATES INCLUDE FLYING FOR SPEED, DRIVING FOR FLEXIBILITY AND SCENIC ROUTES, AND TAKING A TRAIN FOR A COMFORTABLE AND PICTURESQUE EXPERIENCE.

HOW CAN I PLAN A SAFE ROAD TRIP TRAVELING WEST?

TO PLAN A SAFE ROAD TRIP TRAVELING WEST, ENSURE YOUR VEHICLE IS IN GOOD CONDITION, PLAN YOUR ROUTE AHEAD, CHECK WEATHER CONDITIONS, PACK EMERGENCY SUPPLIES, AND TAKE REGULAR BREAKS TO STAY ALERT.

WHAT ARE SOME MUST-VISIT DESTINATIONS WHEN TRAVELING WEST IN EUROPE?

MUST-VISIT DESTINATIONS WHEN TRAVELING WEST IN EUROPE INCLUDE PARIS IN FRANCE, LISBON IN PORTUGAL, MADRID IN SPAIN, AND THE COASTAL REGIONS OF WESTERN IRELAND AND THE UK.

HOW DO I FIND AFFORDABLE FLIGHTS WHEN TRAVELING WEST INTERNATIONALLY?

TO FIND AFFORDABLE FLIGHTS TRAVELING WEST INTERNATIONALLY, USE FLIGHT COMPARISON WEBSITES, BOOK TICKETS IN ADVANCE, BE FLEXIBLE WITH TRAVEL DATES, CONSIDER NEARBY AIRPORTS, AND SIGN UP FOR AIRLINE NEWSLETTERS FOR DEALS.

WHAT ESSENTIAL ITEMS SHOULD I PACK WHEN TRAVELING WEST FOR AN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE?

ESSENTIAL ITEMS FOR AN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TRAVELING WEST INCLUDE WEATHER-APPROPRIATE CLOTHING, STURDY HIKING BOOTS, A MAP OR GPS DEVICE, A FIRST AID KIT, WATER AND SNACKS, SUN PROTECTION, AND CAMPING GEAR IF NEEDED.

How can I navigate time zone changes when traveling west?

To navigate time zone changes when traveling west, gradually adjust your sleep schedule before departure, stay hydrated, get sunlight exposure upon arrival, and avoid heavy meals or caffeine close to bedtime.

Additional Resources

1. *Heading West: A Traveler's Guide to Exploring the American Frontier*

This book offers a comprehensive guide for those interested in traveling westward across the United States. It covers historic trails, national parks, and hidden gems from the Great Plains to the Pacific Coast. Readers will find practical tips on transportation, lodging, and local culture to make their journey memorable and authentic.

2. *Westward Bound: Navigating the Routes of the Old West*

Delve into the history and geography of the Old West with this detailed travel guide. The book highlights famous routes like the Oregon Trail and the California Trail, blending historical narratives with modern-day travel advice. It's perfect for history buffs and adventurous travelers seeking to experience the spirit of westward expansion.

3. *The Modern Pioneer: How to Travel West and Live Off the Land*

A blend of travelogue and survival guide, this book teaches readers how to journey west and embrace a self-sufficient lifestyle. Covering topics like camping, foraging, and sustainable living, it inspires travelers to connect deeply with nature. The author shares personal stories and practical skills useful for anyone wanting to explore the western wilderness.

4. *Westward Journeys: A Photographic Travel Diary*

This visually stunning book captures the beauty and diversity of traveling west through vivid photography and engaging narratives. It covers landscapes from deserts to mountains, cityscapes to small towns, emphasizing the cultural and natural wonders encountered along the way. A great companion for travelers who appreciate art and storytelling.

5. *Trailblazing West: Essential Tips for Safe and Successful Western Travel*

Focused on safety and preparedness, this book provides essential advice for those planning to travel west across rugged and remote areas. Topics include vehicle preparation, weather considerations, wildlife encounters, and emergency planning. It is an invaluable resource for adventurers who want to ensure a smooth and secure westward trip.

6. *Westward Explorer: Discovering Historic Landmarks and Natural Wonders*

This book guides readers through notable historic sites and natural attractions in the western United States. From ancient Native American ruins to towering national parks, it offers insights into the significance of each destination. The author includes recommended itineraries and tips to help travelers maximize their exploration of the west.

7. *Chasing the Sunset: A Road Trip Guide to Traveling West*

Perfect for road trip enthusiasts, this guide outlines scenic routes, roadside attractions, and local eateries across western states. It encourages a leisurely pace to truly enjoy the changing landscapes and vibrant communities. With maps and suggested stops, it's ideal for those who want to experience the freedom of the open road heading west.

8. *Westward Winds: Sailing and Boating Adventures on the Western Coast*

For travelers interested in exploring the west by water, this book focuses on sailing, boating, and coastal adventures. Covering the Pacific coastline from California to Alaska, it provides practical information on marinas, weather patterns, and marine wildlife. The author shares tips for both novice and experienced sailors looking to navigate western waters.

9. *From East to West: Cultural Insights for Travelers Heading West*

This cultural guide helps travelers understand the diverse peoples, traditions, and histories they will encounter when heading west. It emphasizes respectful travel and meaningful engagement with local communities.

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how to travel west: *Qing Travelers to the Far West* Jenny Huangfu Day, 2018-12-06 This fundamentally new interpretation of the Qing reveals how Sino-Western engagements transformed traditions, institutions, and networks of communications.

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how to travel west: Literary License and the West's Romance with Afghanistan Zubeda Jalalzai, 2023-11-13 Literary License and the West's Romance with Afghanistan analyzes the role literature and poetic sensibility played in colonial British and American writings on Afghanistan from the nineteenth through the twenty-first centuries. It also considers the role that literature and literariness, itself, have played in western discourses framing Afghanistan. The British Romantic Orientalists of the 19th century studied the region in-depth and were drawn to what they perceived as an alien space where they could remake themselves in print and in life. These writers and those who followed including scholars, civil servants, and wives or professional women were inspired by the region and sometimes crossed ethnic, national, and imaginative boundaries. This book explores the connections that were forged in print through fantastic and familiar assumptions regarding the region and its people.

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how to travel west: See America Mordecai Lee, 2020-05-01 The first history of the US Travel Bureau, which set the precedent for federal involvement in promoting tourism and travel, an activity which continues today.

how to travel west: Geographic Literacy Through Children's Literature Linda K. Rogers, 1997-09-15 Combining practical, student-centered activities with an annotated bibliography of more than 160 children's books, this guide models ways for classroom teachers to teach geography through children's literature. Chapters based on the five themes of the Geographic Standards present a variety of activities that teach students important geographic concepts. The extensive bibliography provides summaries of books, suggested teaching activities, and cross-references to other books; a list of teacher resources is also included. Attractive line drawings accompany the conversational text. Anyone looking for an effective way to teach geography at the elementary level will want this book and middle and high school educators will find useful extensions for older students. The work offers a great way to integrate geography into the curriculum.

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sphere? How did science help us understand the shape of our planet? Readers will delight in exploring the history and science behind Earth's spherical shape. They'll learn how satellite images and modern technology give us an image of the Earth. Readers will also learn all about early scientists and how they gradually came to enlighten others that the Earth wasn't flat. Clear diagrams and fascinating sidebars help explain this important science topic, as supplemental science experiments give readers the hands-on experience they need to grasp the topic.

how to travel west: Tackling Tough Texts Sarah M. Lupo, Dan Reynolds, Christine Hardigree, 2024-11-20 Filling a crucial need, this book provides concrete ways to support all students in grades 6-12 as they engage with rigorous grade-level texts in English language arts, science, and social studies. The authors offer fresh insights into adolescent reading and what makes a given text tough—including knowledge demands, text structure and complexity, vocabulary, and more. Research-based, step-by-step strategies are presented for explicitly scaffolding these challenges in the context of purposeful learning activities that leverage students' individual strengths and interests. The book includes planning tips, text selection guidelines, sample text sets, and vivid case studies from culturally and linguistically diverse classrooms. Fourteen reproducible forms and handouts can be photocopied or downloaded for use with students.

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how to travel west: *The False Promises of Constructivist Theories of Learning* C. A. Bowers, 2005 In *The False Promises of Constructivist Theories of Learning: A Global and Ecological Critique*, C. A. Bowers examines why constructivist-based educational reforms fail to take into account these current critical issues: the deepening ecological crisis, globalization, and undermining of the world's diverse cultural commons. Special attention is given to the ethnocentrism and Social Darwinism that created the foundations for the ideas of Dewey, Piaget, and Freire. Also considered is how the neo-liberal promoters of economic globalization share their taken-for-granted assumptions. Additionally, Bowers explains how teachers in different cultures can contribute to the revitalization of their cultural and environmental commons without engaging in the cultural imperialism that characterizes constructivist approaches to educational reform.

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how to travel west: *The Ring of Dancers* Jonathan Wylie, David Margolin, 2016-11-11 Scattered in the North Atlantic, 300 miles off Iceland and 400 miles off Norway, lies the Faroe Islands archipelago. Despite centuries of foreign control, the Faroese have preserved their own distinctive identity. At present an internally self-governing dependency of Denmark, the Faroese have kept their culture alive in part by elaborating certain elements of that culture as badges of self-consciousness. *The Ring of Dancers* is composed a series of studies of aspects of Faroese life, language, and folk ways. A recurrent theme is the continuing reformulation of Faroese culture since the islands' Viking settlement in the ninth century. The Faroes are introduced as the Faroese themselves conceive them—as islands both joined and separated by the waterways around about them. The archipelago visualized in terms of such waterways as fjords, the points of the compass, home villages, and natural and political districts. The authors also discuss Faroese society as the Faroese conceived it around 1890, by an analysis of a folktale popular at the time about the Ashlad. Placed in its social context, the tale appears as a kind of folk editorial on changing values and changing times. Perhaps the most important symbol of Faroese identity is the Faroese language. Although it was not made a written language until the 1840s, and was not widely written or read until the 1890s, Faroese has replaced Danish as the islands' official language. In gaining its formal register, it has come to express a modern sense of what it means to be Faroese. The most spectacular Faroese custom, the grindadráp—the slaughter of schools of pilot whales and the

celebration that follows the catch—typifies the continuity of the Faroes' anciently rooted identity. The image of the dansiringur, the ring of dancers singing ballads of wars and loves of heroic times—lingers throughout the book. The dansiringur, the authors contend, represents the Faroese adaptation of large forms to a land of closely known neighbors and landscapes, the complex inward turnings of Faroese culture, its tortuous sense of wholeness. The book ends by recounting interviews in Tórshavn, the Faroese capital, with an artist, a journalist, a politician, and others. The Ring of Dancers vividly portrays the Faroese and makes clear why they are actively involved in preserving their culture as well as shaping it for the future.

how to travel west: Hitching Rides with Buddha Will Ferguson, 2010-06-04 Originally published as Hokkaido Highway Blues, with limited distribution in Canada, Will Ferguson's classic book about Japan, for all fans of the bestselling Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw. With the same fervour they have for outlandish game shows and tiny gadgets, the Japanese go nuts each spring when the cherry blossoms sweep from island to island towards the country's northerly tip. Will Ferguson was celebrating the event in the standard fashion. And after way too much sake he announced he would be the first person in recorded history to follow the blossom's progress end to end. To make it a challenge worth doing, he'd hitchhike all the way: relying on the kindness of some very weird and wonderful strangers. Mixing his penchant for biting observation with wicked humour, Ferguson starts at the southernmost tip of Cape Sata and heads north for distant Hokkaido. Whether he is doing the forbidden and not knowing it, or holding conversations by non sequitur, it is a journey full of misadventures and revelations. The resulting travelogue is one of the funniest and most illuminating books ever written about Japan. To make matters worse, I decided to hitchhike. Striking a heroic stance, I declared my intention to my Japanese friends to become the first person ever to hitchhike the length of Japan, end-to-end, cape-to-cape, sea-to-sea. This did not impress them as much as I had hoped. "Why would you want to do that?" they asked, genuinely puzzled. "There is no reason to hitchhike. That's why we built the Bullet Train." Others worried about my safety. "But," I would argue, "Japan is a very safe country, is it not?" "Oh, yes. Very safe. Safest in the world." "So why shouldn't I hitchhike?" "Because Japan is dangerous." And so on. Now, I will admit that mooching rides across Japan is not a major achievement—I mean, it's not like I paddled up the Amazon or discovered insulin or anything—but I am the first person ever to do this, so allow me my hubris. When I left my home in Minamata City aboard a southbound train, I felt suitably bold with my backpack and muscular thumb. "I'm going to hitchhike the length of Japan," I told the man beside me. He smiled and nodded. "I'm going to follow the cherry blossoms." He nodded. "All the way to Russia," I said. He smiled again, and soon after changed seats. —from Hitching Rides with Buddha

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