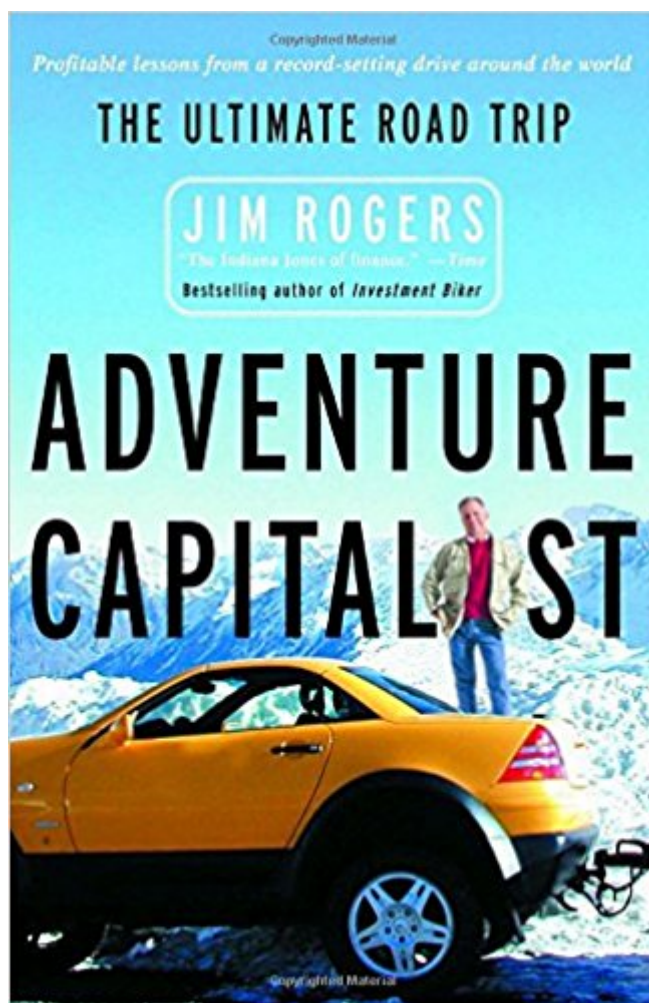


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Adventure Capitalist: The Ultimate Road Trip



Synopsis

Drive . . . and grow rich! The bestselling author of *Investment Biker* is back from the ultimate road trip: a three-year drive around the world that would ultimately set the Guinness record for the longest continuous car journey. In *Adventure Capitalist*, legendary investor Jim Rogers, dubbed “the Indiana Jones of finance” by *Time* magazine, proves that the best way to profit from the global situation is to see the world mile by mile. “While I have never patronized a prostitute,” he writes, “I know that one can learn more about a country from speaking to the madam of a brothel or a black marketeer than from meeting a foreign minister. Behind the wheel of a sunburst-yellow, custom-built convertible Mercedes, Rogers and his fiancée, Paige Parker, began their “Millennium Adventure” on January 1, 1999, from Iceland. They traveled through 116 countries, including many where most have rarely ventured, such as Saudi Arabia, Myanmar, Angola, Sudan, Congo, Colombia, and East Timor. They drove through war zones, deserts, jungles, epidemics, and blizzards. They had many narrow escapes. They camped with nomads and camels in the western Sahara. They ate silkworms, iguanas, snakes, termites, guinea pigs, porcupines, crocodiles, and grasshoppers. Best of all, they saw the real world from the ground up—the only vantage point from which it can be truly understood—economically, politically, and socially. Here are just a few of the author’s conclusions: The new commodity bull market has started. The twenty-first century will belong to China. There is a dramatic shortage of women developing in Asia. Pakistan is on the verge of disintegrating. India, like many other large nations, will break into several countries. The Euro is doomed to fail. There are fortunes to be made in Angola. Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are a scam. Bolivia is a comer after decades of instability, thanks to gigantic amounts of natural gas. *Adventure Capitalist* is the most opinionated, sprawling, adventurous journey you’re likely to take within the pages of a book—the perfect read for armchair adventurers, global investors, car enthusiasts, and anyone interested in seeing the world and understanding it as it really is.

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Customer Reviews

Financier Rogers retired at 37 and motorcycled around the world, turning the trip into the book *Investment Biker*, a hybrid of business advice and travelogue. That journey, however, failed to squelch his wanderlust. Instead of enjoying his sedate life teaching finance, Rogers decided to take his fiancée and a souped-up Mercedes on a frighteningly intense road trip: three years, 116 countries and 152,000 miles. Like the car that plowed through snow, mud, sand and highways on every continent, Rogers's memoir of the journey is its own breed. Although Rogers writes, far too briefly, of life-changing events like getting married and hearing of his father's death, the book has an uncommon level of detachment. Also, even though Rogers shares investment advice and observations about the planet's political economies, his thoughts are too general to serve as business lessons. The result is an adventure tale without heart and a finance book without teeth. Rogers tries to make up for this by describing experiences like eating fried silkworms and watching prostitutes caught in the world's sex trade. Mainly, though, he chronicles prosaic details, like taking car ferries and talking to border guards, and then riffs on politics, money, immigration and culture. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Rogers, a Wall Street success story who has been called "The Indiana Jones of Finance," once circled the planet on a motorcycle, which landed him in *The Guinness Book of World Records* and resulted in his first book, *Investment Biker* (1994). In 1999 he set out on another world-record drive around the world in a custom-built yellow Mercedes convertible with his fiancée, Paige Parker. Starting out in Iceland, the trip took three years and encompassed 116 countries, many of which are rarely visited, in a continuous swath across Europe, the former Soviet Republic, China, Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas. No one had ever driven overland following these routes, a total of 152,000 miles, another Guinness world record. Rogers' insightful commentary on the political and

historical topography of these diverse countries cuts through stereotypes to give us a glimpse of the world the way it really is, for better or worse. This is a gutsy travelogue adventure from a guy who shoots straight from the hip, and it really hits the mark. David Siegfried Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A little different from "Investment Biker", not really better but updated. I disagree strongly with Rodgers in his opinion that all the countries of the world should have unlimited migration around the world. Read "Clash of Civilizations". I read it mostly for the details about the Mercedes sports car built on a diesel SUV chassis. I want one.

Jim Roger's knows investing, and he makes it interesting. Don't read this book if you think you're going to get a hot investment tip. He moves too quickly to focus on any one country's investment potential. It's a combination of geography, history, and capitalism. You will learn more about the state of the world than investing. I now know many tidbits about countries that I never knew previously. Do you know how Africa's geography will most likely change within the next two decades? Wonder how Apartheid is progressing in South Africa? The best African country to vacation in, and why? The freedom in China that we never hear about? The "feed the children" programs, and how they are corrupted once they ARRIVE in Africa? I've focuses in on Africa here, but that's what I found most interesting. Again, you will not become an expert currency trader here, but you will attain valuable insight into world affairs.

The writing seems to get a bit sloppy and rushed toward the last fifth of the book. There were scary stories driving through dangerous war zones which I thought Jim Rogers was taking too much risks and almost reckless. Overall it's an interesting read and I am glad that Jim and his wife, Paige came home safe and triumphantly.

I was excited to read this book after reading the reviews listed here, but I can't help feeling that the good reviews come from people who have not done any travelling of their own and take Jim's one or two sentence opinions on a country and its people as gospel. First of all, the writing is very choppy - short sentences and the focus constantly jumps around. Often only a couple of sentences are given to support an opinion (he states that Calcutta is a great place and that the guidebooks are all wrong, then supports that statement with a very short paragraph about how some prostitutes there were

organizing a worker's union to improve their life, then it was off to the next place). Some of his statements are naive and obviously solely based on his brief and random interactions with a few people in the countries that he visited. I would have preferred greater separation between his observations as a traveller and his observations as a successful investor. As it is, I came off with the feeling that his success was based on pure luck..which is wrong I know but he should have represented himself better. On the positive side the author does give a few well placed insights into where things are going wrong today in terms of aid to poor nations, and foreign policy to our enemies.

The issues and facts from this book should be taught in college finance courses.

It's interesting to see how many of Jim Rogers predictions have true from the sub prime bubble to the boom in commodities and the slide of the dollar. It just goes to show that the thing we learn from history is we don't learn from history. A good read.

Awesome idea and story. Remember that the book is written from the perspective of an investor investigating potential investment markets. Sometimes Jim focuses more on the analysis than on the prototypical tourist experiences. That said, it's hard to immerse a reader in one's physical experiences had traveling. One's either living the experience(s) or not.

I read several articles of Jim Rogers on his web site and financialsense.com. All are well written. Following Jim's web leads I bought this book and his previous book of travelling on the bike. The books glued me on the chair for many fun reading hours. It brought me to the world that I never could go and imagine. Europe, Eurasia, Asia, Siberia, Africa, S. America... All fascinates me. His first hand investigative way to understand the economic status of each country makes those wall street analysts in the dust. For those who can not travel, do not have means to travel but wants to know what is happening in those countries, these two books provide an entry to explorations. If any one looks for a tip what to invest, this book probably will disappoint you. It does not provide much of that but fresh perspective to see the world.

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