

# TRAVELERS' ✓✓ by Ann Hattes

## TRAVEL BOOKS FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS

It's time to think about holiday gifts to avoid the shopping rush later. Travel related books make great gifts for both the globe hopper and the armchair traveler.

**1,000 Places to See in the U.S. and Canada Before You Die** (Workman Publisher, \$19.95) includes places like the Crater of Diamonds in Arkansas and Maine's Lighthouse Trail. So many places, so little time! It's a life list, an inspiration and a memory book.

With the 2008 Olympics in Beijing less than a year away, DK Eyewitness Travel takes on China's mighty metropolises with **DK Beijing & Shanghai** (\$23) and **Top 10 Beijing** (\$12). Packed with photographs, illustrations and maps, the books explore architecture, walks, restaurants, museums, temples, and hotels in these two vibrant cities. **Top 10 Beijing** leads you to the very best with dozens of top 10 lists like top 10 sights of the Forbidden City to the top 10 Chinese dishes and markets, even the top 10 things to avoid.

Rough Guides publisher gives 25 reasons to book a ticket and look for a passport with the pocket-size books **25 Ultimate Experiences Wonders of the World** (\$5.99) and **25 Ultimate Experiences World Food** (\$5.99), part of a series of 25 books celebrating Rough Guides 25<sup>th</sup> year. Rough Guide travel books cover the world. Like all the titles, **The Rough Guide to Ireland** (\$21.99) explores every corner of the country. In addition to books Rough Guides also offers country and regional maps including one of Dubai and the UAE (\$9.99), a hot new travel destination.

Globe Pequot's Insider's Guides like **Great Smoky Mountains** ((\$18.95) and **North Carolina's Central Coast** (\$14.95) give travelers, newcomers and even locals everything they need to know from the inside out!

Reader's Digest offers **Where The Birds Are: A Travel Guide to Over 400 Parks, Preserves and Sanctuaries** (\$28.95). This combination field guide/vacation planner presents 35 complete driving tours

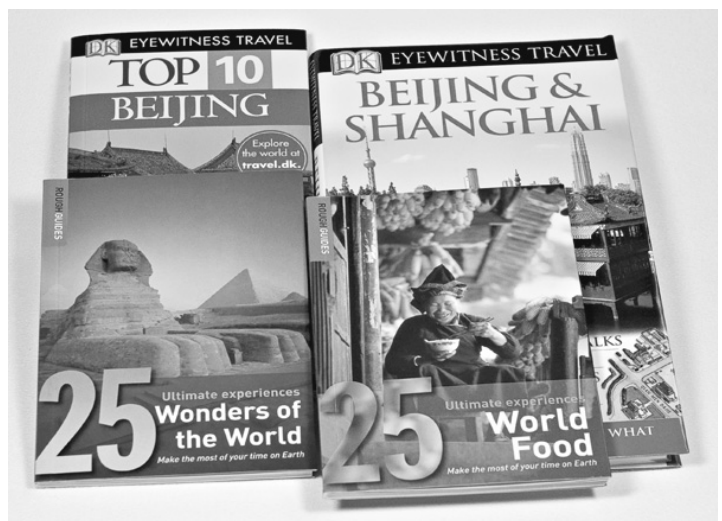
to wildlife havens spanning the continent from the Hawaiian Islands to the Rocky Mountains to the Everglades. Each wetland, desert, beach or bluff, is situated near a major metropolitan area giving many entertainment options when not bird-watching.

Both biography and history, **When the Astors Owned New York: Blue Bloods and Grand Hotels in a Gilded Age** (Plume paperbacks, \$15), is about great wealth, high society and the emergence of a new institution in American life, the luxury hotel.

**Taj Mahal Passion and Genius at The Heart of the Moghul Empire** (Walker & Co., \$25.95), chronicles this wondrous World Heritage Site which is also a love story, a devotional shrine, an emblem of a mighty empire, and a masterpiece of design.

In **50 Best Girlfriends Getaways in North America** (National Geographic Books, \$15.95) destinations are organized by themes like big city getaways with choices to suit every pocketbook.

**A Paddler's Guide to Quetico and Beyond** (Boston Mills Press, \$24.95) gives day trips to weeklong adventures in Quetico Provincial Park, on the Canada-US border. An average portage length is only 435 yards. Author Callan's humorous tales of adventure and misadventure add to the reading pleasure.



Ann Hattes has been published in English, Japanese, Arabic, German, and Chinese. Visit this award-winning writer at:  
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