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Missouri River Canoe Trip Reading List

ROW always brings along an on river library and many of these titles will be included for your reading pleasure while on the river. The following is a list of books we find to be some of the best about this area that you may want to read before your trip. Several titles are available through ROW.

Books about the Lewis & Clark Expedition:

The original, handwritten journals of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark remain to this day in Philadelphia, but all of the 750,000 words in them have also been published.

- ❖ **The best, most modern edition of the published journals are The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.** Edited Gary E. Moulton. University of Nebraska Press, 1983-1998. These volumes can be tough reading because they contain the unique spelling, paragraphing, and punctuation of the journal writes. On the other hand, the journal entries are complete and fascinating and the editor's footnotes contain a wealth of explanatory information, along with copies of the original illustrations by Lewis & Clark.
 - Lewis and Clark's journal entries for the Upper Missouri National Wild & Scenic River are located in volume 4 (May 24 – June 1, 1805). ***ROW has copies of this volume for sale for \$65 postpaid.*** For Lewis alone on the return trip, see volume 8 (July 28-August 1, 1806); and the entries by the three enlisted men can be found in volumes 9, 10 and 11, though only volume 10 also covers the events of July 1806.
- ❖ **Another option for those interested in the Journals of Lewis and Clark is The Lewis and Clark Journals: An American Epic of Discovery.** By Gary E. Moulton and Patrick Cullen. University of Nebraska Press, 2003. This is a one-volume abridgement of the University of Nebraska's The Journals of Lewis and Clark Expedition, first published in 13 volumes under the editorship of historian Gary Moulton. Here, complete, are the detailed notes on natural history, geography, and ethnology recorded by Lewis & Clark and their colleagues in the Corps of Discovery.
- ❖ **The day-by-day format can also be sampled in scaled down versions of the journals where the original text has been "cleaned up".**
 - The Lewis and Clark Expedition: Selections from the Journals, Arranged by Topics. Edited by Gunther P. Barth. St. Martin's Press, 1998. 1 volume.
 - History of the Expedition under the Command of Lewis and Clark. Edited by Elliot Coues. Francis P. Harper, 1893. Reprint by Dover Publications, 1965. 3 volumes. When Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson's intended editor of the journals, died in 1809 William Clark enlisted the aid of Nicholas Biddle, a literary Philadelphian to help him. But instead of editing the journal entries, Biddle recast them into a 370,000-word narrative and published it in 1814. The 1893 edition includes detailed footnotes.
 - The Journals of Lewis and Clark. Edited by Bernard DeVoto. Houghton Mifflin, 1953. Reprinted by same publisher in 1997 with an introduction by Stephen E. Ambrose. 504 pages. DeVoto, a distinguished historian, selected only the most exciting entries for inclusion in his volume. The reprint did not correct mistakes DeVoto made in 1953. This is a fun way to read about the highlights of the expedition, but it is not entirely accurate.
- ❖ **General works on the expedition run into the hundreds, but among the best are these:**

- Allen, John Logan, Passage Through the Garden: Lewis and Clark and the Image of the American Northwest. University of Illinois Press, 1975. Reprinted by Dover Publications in 1991.
- Ambrose, Stephen E., Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West. Simon & Schuster, 1996. Reprinted by Touchstone Books, 1997.
- Ambrose, Stephen E. and Abell, Sam, Lewis & Clark: Voyage of Discovery. National Geographic Society, 1998.
- Bakeless, John, Lewis and Clark: Partners in Discovery. William Morrow, 1947. Reprinted by Dover Publications in 1996.
- Duncan, Dayton and Burns, Ken, Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery. Knopf, 1997. This book keys itself to the images and script presented in the 4-hour PBS-TV video by the same name by director Ken Burns.
- Lavender, David, the Way to the Western Sea: Lewis and Clark Across the Continent. Anchor Books, 1988. Reprinted 1990.
- Voyages of Discovery: Essays on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Edited by James Ronda. Montana Historical Society, 1998.
- MacGregor, Carol Lynn, The Journals of Patrick Gass. Mountain Press Publishing, 1997. Patrick Gass was one of the few members of the Lewis & Clark expedition to keep a continuous log of the journey.

❖ **Some books dealing with the expedition focus on special topics:**

- Chuinard, Eldon G., Only One Man Died: The Medical Aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Arthur H. Clark, 1979. Reprinted by the Galleon Press in 1988. (out of print, available online)
 - Cutright, Paul C., Lewis and Clark: Pioneering Naturalists. University of Illinois Press, 1969. Reprinted by University of Nebraska Press in 1989. (out of print, available online)
 - Kessler, Donna J., The Making of Sacagawea: A Euro-American Legend. University of Alabama Press, 1996. (out of print, available online)
- ❖ Ronda, James P., Lewis and Clark among the Indians. University of Nebraska Press, 1984. Republished by the same publisher in 1988 and 1995.

❖ **Books about Montana and the Missouri River:**

- Howard, Ella Mae and Bergantino, Robert, Lewis and Clark: Exploration of Central Montana: Marias River to the Gates of the Mountains. Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association, 1993 and 1995. (out of print, available online)
- Lourie, Peter, In the Path of Lewis and Clark: Travelling the Missouri. Silver Burdett, 1996. (out of print, available online)
- Duncan, Dayton, Out West: American Journey Along the Lewis and Clark Trail. Viking Press, 1987. (out of print, available online)
- Fanselow, Julie, Traveling the Lewis and Clark Trail. Falcon Press, 1994 and 1998. Julie has been one of ROW's guest interpreters.
- Fifer, Barbara, Soderberg, Vicky and Mussulman, Joseph, Along the Trail with Lewis and Clark. American World Geographic Publications, 1998. (out of print, available online)
- Schmidt, Thomas, National Geographic's Guide to the Lewis and Clark Trail. National Geographic Society, 1998.
- Bestal, Stanley, The Missouri. (The Rivers of America Series.) Farrar & Rinehart, 1945. Reprinted by University of Nebraska Press, 1996. (out of print, available online)
- Neilhardt, John G., The River and I. G.P. Putnam, 1910. Reprinted by the University of Nebraska Press, 1992 and 1997. A personal recollection of the author's float down the Missouri in 1908.
- Jacson, Donald Dean, Voyages of the Steamboat Yellow Stone. Ticknor & Fields, 1985. Reprinted by University of Oklahoma Press, 1987.
- Schultz, James Willard, Floating on the Missouri [River Breaks in 1901]. University of Oklahoma Press, 1979. A highly recommended, fantastic book. (out of print, available online)

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	Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition Vol. 4	\$65.00	

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