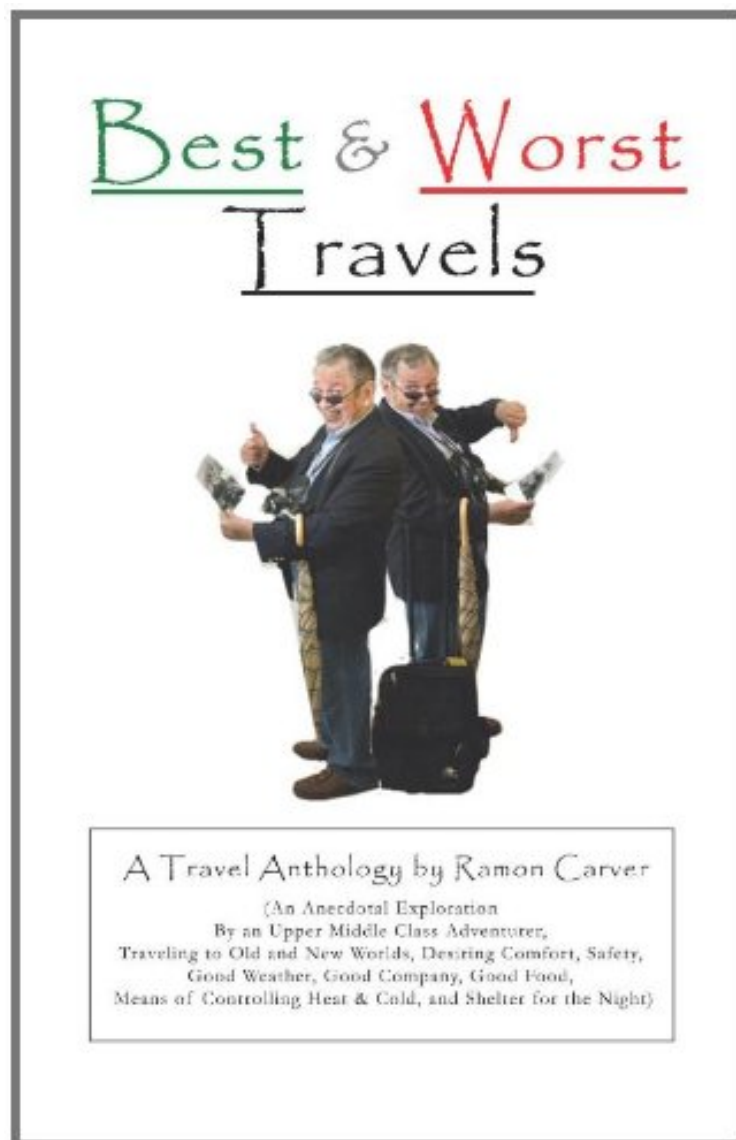


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## **Best and Worst Travels: (An Anecdotal Exploration by an Upper Middle Class Adventurer, Traveling to Old and New Worlds, Desiring Comfort, Safety, Good ... Heat Cold, and Shelter for the Night)**

*Ramon Carver*

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Best and Worst Travels: (An Anecdotal Exploration by an Upper Middle Class Adventurer, Traveling to Old and New Worlds, Desiring Comfort, Safety, Good ... Heat Cold, and Shelter for the Night)*:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Quirky, fun, informative  
By Mary E., WestNot "your father's Oldsmobile" guide book to travel. I found this refreshingly different -- an insightful, irreverent, personal look at the pleasures and pitfalls Carver found in extensive globe trotting. A good read, whether one has just returned from a trip, is planning one, or just wants to settle down and enjoy.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Read and Read aloud  
By Don R. HaleI haven't been to most of the places written about in this hilarious tome but if and when I go, after reading *Best and Worst Travels* I will be more than ready. I do travel around the world frequently and now make use of the ideas, advice and, on occasion, the opinions of Carver. I really enjoyed reading passages aloud to my wife from the bathroom where this travelogue has been kept. We found the book's presentation to be original and very clever. We also agree that it would make a great Broadway show or at least a rip-roaring good read in a boring cruiseline talent show.  
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. More than best  
By Mary Ann TaylorYes, this is a travel book. That is its stated purpose. But it is actually much more. Carver explores also the human side of the world. His comments can touch on the service he has received, but the more interesting bits have to do with the people he meets and the things he sees. Most of us will never go all the places he describes, of course, but this book does not contribute to vicarious angst. Rather, it allows the armchair traveler insights into the world's soul itself. That alone is worth the price.

Carver writes in a style not unlike Bill Bryson, candidly regaling readers with tales of his worst experiences ("Some of the worst were worse than others.") as well as the best: "I enjoyed a great Abercrombie Kent trip to China because it was a great adventure, a great itinerary, a great tour group with a great tour director, great hotels (except for a noisy Sheraton in Guilin), great weather, and great tour management. Seven greats out of seven ain't bad." He says, "Great expectations when traveling are usually the source of my greatest disappointments! I'm like the guy in a New York cartoon studying a brochure telling his travel agent: 'I am so looking forward to this. I can't wait to be disappointed.'" He writes "How to Survive Disasters like Theft, Accidents, etc.," and at the risk of seeming disingenuously obvious, he provides an exhaustive list covering every possible thing that can go wrong (Getting Sick, Getting Killed, Getting Lost, etc.), offering suggestions for solving dilemmas. He concludes with "Did I fail to mention Getting Bored to Death." He describes trips with Yale Exes and travels to Italy, China, and Romania where he taught English with Global Volunteers.

About the Author  
Dr. Ramon Carver is author of the "What I Wish I'd Known Before I Went" travel series published by Pemberton Press. As a graduate of Yale University's Drama School, he has authored plays produced Off-Broadway and in Hollywood. He resides in Austin, TX, with his wife Barbara.