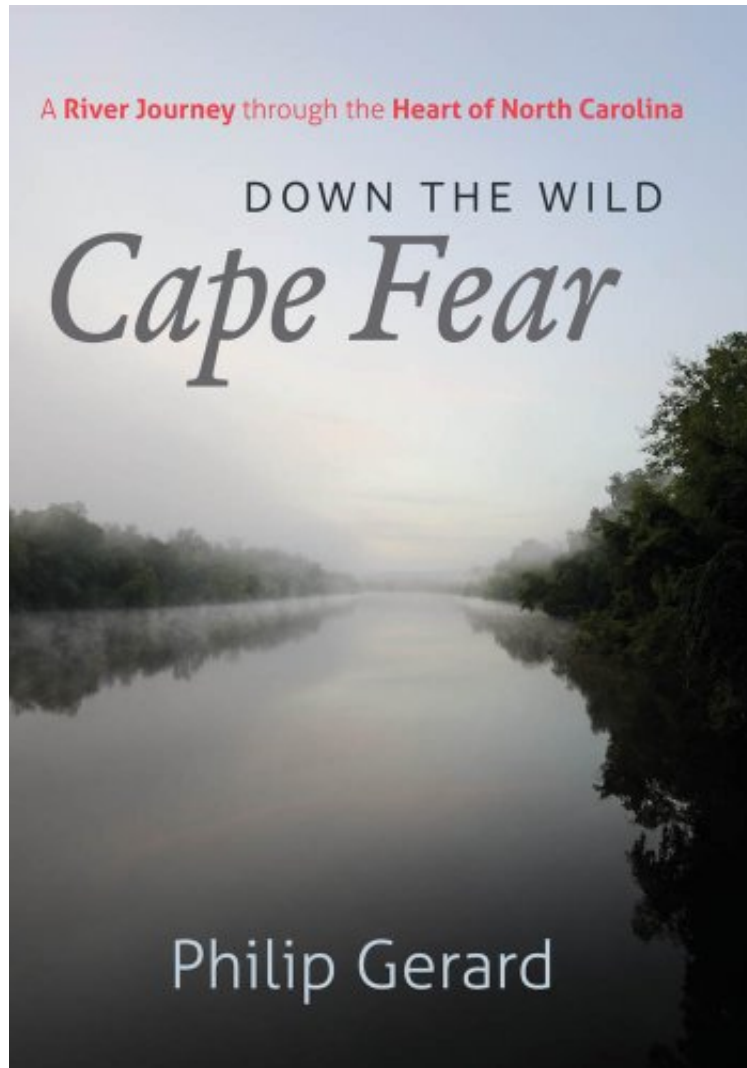


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Down the Wild Cape Fear: A River Journey through the Heart of North Carolina

Philip Gerard

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Philip Gerard : Down the Wild Cape Fear: A River Journey through the Heart of North Carolina before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Down the Wild Cape Fear: A River Journey through the Heart of North Carolina:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A canoe adventure on the Cape Fear RiverBy J. VoelkerI bought this book for research into the landscape:riverscape for some scenes in a novel. Not only does this story include the superb

details I'm seeking--it is also a very enjoyable read of an adventure, and it includes many historical details of the river and surrounding area. Philip Gerard's writing is superb and his companions on this journey also contributed many knowledgeable observations. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. His River, My River By Tommy Puckett I was very pleased when I saw this book and equally pleased when I read it. As I read it, I kept showing things in the book to my wife, saying "I've been there, I've done that, I have paddled there". It was very enjoyable to read about a river that I am so familiar with. I learned things that I didn't know. I relearned things that I had forgotten. I felt like the author was describing a old friend, who we both knew, even though the author and I had never met. If you spend any time on any part of the Cape Fear River and want to know more and remember more about it the author has written the book for you. I'm sure that I will be reading it many more times. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Learning facts about my state's rivers! By dr peg I received quite an education about the Cape Fear and the early history of North Carolina's coast from reading this book.. Luckily my son who sells water chemicals in NC and was an avid fisherman can benefit from my reading this. He has fished most of these places since he lives near the coast. I will send him a copy for Christmas and have him promote it to his fishing friends.

In *Down the Wild Cape Fear*, novelist and nonfiction writer Philip Gerard invites readers onto the fabled waters of the Cape Fear River and guides them on the 200-mile voyage from the confluence of the Deep and Haw Rivers at Mermaid Point all the way to the Cape of Fear on Bald Head Island. Accompanying the author by canoe and powerboat are a cadre of people passionate about the river, among them a river guide, a photographer, a biologist, a river keeper, and a boat captain. Historical voices also lend their wisdom to our understanding of this river, which has been a main artery of commerce, culture, settlement, and war for the entire region since it was first discovered by Verrazzano in 1524. Gerard explores the myriad environmental and political issues being played out along the waters of the Cape Fear. These include commerce and environmental stewardship, wilderness and development, suburban sprawl and the decline and renaissance of inner cities, and private rights versus the public good.

This is simply the best piece of writing about [the Cape Fear] river that I've read.--Fayetteville Observer Equal parts historical survey, river adventure and nature walk, it's a fascinating trip down North Carolina's most storied river.--Raleigh News and Observer By the book's end we get a sense of the innumerable interconnections that make the region a special, singular place.--North Carolina Literary Like a river itself, winding its way through history and biology, politics, and preservation, this book will appeal to both nature lovers and those living in and near the Cape Fear watershed.--Library Journal A reading journey that no one who loves North Carolina should pass by.--D.G. Martin One on One Gerard takes readers with him on a 200-mile trip down the Cape Fear River. . . [and] it's obvious that his book was labor of love.--Southern Pines Pilot An adventure story paired with a view of the ecology, history, development, and industry along a vital river that runs from the core of North Carolina to the coast. Gerard uses glittering, evocative prose to recount his travels by canoe and powerboat down the Wild Cape Fear River with a guide, biologist, photographer, and others. . . . This is a compelling story that offers a striking and thoughtful look at the many environmental, political, and commercial issues affecting this region and the waterway that feeds it.--ForeWord Gerard's descriptions of river life are wonderfully written and his narration of historical events--from the early Spanish explorers to English settlers and from Revolutionary War and Civil War events to twentieth-century racial strife and environmental problems--are grippingly told.--Lawrence Earley, author of *Looking for Longleaf: The Fall and Rise of an American Forest* If you've ever fallen in love with a lake, river, or stretch of shore, you'll enjoy this trip down the Cape Fear with Philip Gerard. Between the characters he meets, the historical tales, the beautifully described natural encounters, and the river-running adventures, it's as varied and engaging as a long day spent drifting downstream.--Jan DeBlieu, author of *Year of the Comets: A Journey from Sadness to the Stars* Philip Gerard is an explorer, a philosopher, a historian--and a dazzling angel of a writer. In *Down the Wild Cape Fear*, he takes us on a beguiling journey teeming with alligators and eagles, with mystery and murder and disaster, and with the ghosts of pirates, slaves, and doomed soldiers. By the time he reaches the ocean, Gerard has ridden the current across four centuries of our bloody, confounding past. This is a true adventure story, haunting and unforgettable, perfect for reading by firelight on a stormy night when lightning dances in the distance.--Thomas French, author of *Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives* From the Inside Flap In *Down the Wild Cape Fear*, novelist and nonfiction writer Philip Gerard invites readers onto the fabled waters of the Cape Fear River and guides them on the 200-mile voyage from the confluence of the Deep and Haw Rivers at Mermaid Point all the way to the Cape of Fear on Bald Head Island. Accompanying the author by canoe and powerboat are a cadre of people passionate about the river, among them a river guide, a photographer, a biologist, a river keeper, and a boat captain. Historical voices also lend their wisdom to our understanding of this river, which has been a main artery of commerce, culture, settlement, and war for the entire region since it was first discovered by Verrazzano in 1524.