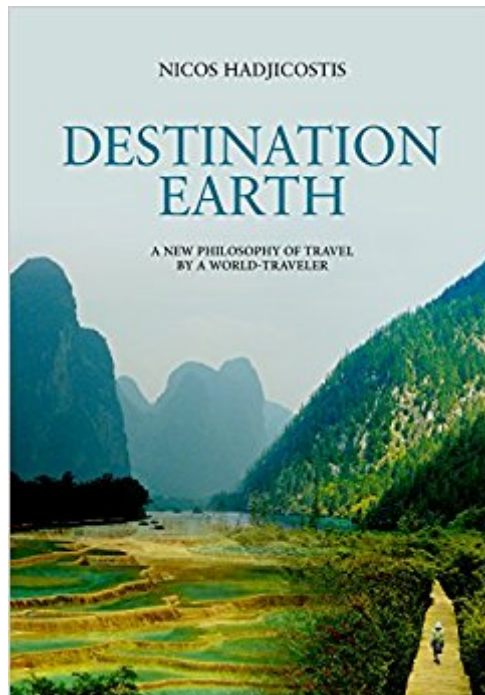




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Destination Earth: A New Philosophy Of Travel By A World-Traveler



Synopsis

Winner: The 2017 International Book Award in the Travel Category
Winner: The 2017 Independent Press Award in the Travel Category
"In his book, *Destination Earth*, Nicos Hadjicostis shares the ultimate 'budget travel tip': how to make your travels transformational."
- Rick Steves, Travel Writer and TV Presenter
"An epic journey with a master philosopher."
- Daniel Klein, New York Times best-selling author
"I know a potential best seller when I see one. This will be soon! As a world traveler, I found Nicos's book to be spot on with his philosophies, introspection, and cultural experiences. It was a delightful book to read."
- Tina Dreffin, Award-winning author of 'Bluewater Walkabout: Into Africa'
"Destination Earth conveys the fascinating journey of an exceptional world-traveler. Nicos not only writes in an engaging style that allows readers to share his experiences, but his philosophical reflections provide unique insights into the process and value of education through travel."
- Ron Leonard, Professor of Philosophy, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
"Nicos's letters were among the most incisive I received in 33 years of guidebook writing."
- David Stanley, South Pacific travel expert and author of the 'Moon Handbook South Pacific'
More a guide to travel than a travel guide, *Destination Earth* transforms how you view travel and its relation to Life. It also provides a philosophical framework for embarking on more meaningful and purposeful travels, whether it is an around the world journey, or an exploration of a region, or even a city.
Destination Earth is the product of the author's unique 6.5-year continuous around the world journey, during which he visited 70 countries on 6 continents and treated the world as if it were a single destination. From Chile and Argentina to Thailand and Japan, *Destination Earth* explores the delicate and invisible interconnections of nations and countries, people and cultures, and delves deep into all aspects of travel and its transformational power:
• Why long-term and world travel is the ultimate university
• How to create a wise-line of travel through any region
• How to go about capturing the Soul of a country
• How to deal with the unpleasant realities of the world while on the road
• Balance the relationship between travel planning and spontaneity
• How a Travel-Journey is related to our Life's-Journey
• Practical advice on how to plan the exploration of regions and countries
• 23 inspiring travel stories from the author's journey that augment the main text
• 60 color photos from various places around the world
Ideas, experiences, stories and photographs are interwoven into a newly created Philosophy of Travel that is practical and easy to read.
This is not your typical paperback. It is a large book measuring 7x10 inches, printed on high quality paper with color photos, and a stitch-binding that allows you to open the book flat without the pages falling out while reading on a desk.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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See below.

The writer is completely enthusiastic about triggering the reader's curiosity about the endless wonders of the Earth. He strongly advocates expanding one's horizons under the guiding light of cultural understanding and trust. Destination Earth offers helpful tips for planning an

around-the-world journey, although its main focus is the lessons and discoveries about life along the way. During his 78-month world travels, author Nicos Hadjicostis journeyed as far inside himself as he did around the planet. His book, *Destination Earth* takes us through many lands, not the least of which are his inner philosophical and emotional travels. During his long voyages in solitude and with companion Jane Kayantas, Nicos Hadjicostis built his new philosophy of travel. The book features photographs from all over the world, which illustrate the writer's philosophical thoughts. His direct experiences are written as bold parentheses, acting as triggers for more ideas connecting his search for wisdom and knowledge. While each country has its cultural differences, and Nicos Hadjicostis was a stranger to all he met, humanity showed its beauty and protection to him, offering him hospitality and help on his road to the greater realisation that he is, as we all are, citizens of the world. Even the Earth seemed to bless his voyage by revealing its spirit mile by mile, person by person. A traveler can choose from four dimensions; one-dimensional (point-to-point travel); two dimensional (surface, or tour operator travel); three-dimensional (solid or independent travel); and four-dimensional (total or travel par excellence). World travel is a way of journeying in four dimensions; through studious planning, understanding the culture; constant mindfulness; and longer travel duration. Of four-dimensional travel, Nicos Hadjicostis writes: "The whole of life becomes the field of the world-traveler. His journey embraces the whole spectrum of experiences "from the simplest and most ordinary to the most complex and extraordinary. Nothing is either too small or petty so as to be rejected, or too sophisticated or "upper-class" to be avoided. N.H. discovered that during an in-depth journey around the world, there is a process of "becoming". Becoming free, becoming present, becoming alive and becoming open.

Nicos Hadjicostis makes no bones about it. Yes he's a traveller, but he doesn't like to travel alone. In his book *Destination Earth*, he wants to sweep his reader up in the warmth of his enthusiasm and take them along with him. As Nicos engages in his own personal Odyssey, he chats to his reader about the act, the art, the philosophy of travel, because this book is nothing less than a philosophy. And in a time when overseas travel is so easy, a book like this is timely. Nicos Hadjicostis does not belong to that tribe of people who talk about having "done" a country, trophy travellers who just want the sticker in the passport, the selfie on the Great Wall of China, this year India, next March, Bali, but who never quite leave their comfort zone. Never quite take that step which allows them to learn not only more about another place, but also more about themselves. Those who fly from country to country but never leave home. No the

kind of travel Hadjicostis champions expects a complete abandonment of the comfort zone, and a willingness to encompass another way of being. It comes from a profound curiosity about people and cultures, and the various ways we make sense of life on this beautiful and so very diverse planet. It comes from a desire to be free. It comes from an understanding that the world is big, and our time on it is short and not to be wasted. Writing from the heart, he describes nothing he has not actually experienced, and he encourages the traveller to think about what they want out of their own adventure. How much time they are willing to devote to it, what they should be able to expect in return, while at the same time reminding them that expectations are useless – the adventure will define them, not the other way around. Written in language often so poetic it has been set to music, and full of photos every bit as vibrant as the writing, this book is a journey in itself. It is another way to travel, with Nicos Hadjicostis acting as our guide.

I am a well-seasoned traveler, who has visited more than 30 countries in the last decade. Destination Earth deeply resonated with me. This book felt like a handbook for travel journeys into different cultures and how to make the most of the experience. Independent travel is rewarding (and as Nicos writes the “ultimate university”) but also challenging. Given Nicos’™s extensive journey around the world, he deeply understands this dichotomy and eloquently writes about how to balance the rewards with the challenges. He also has great ideas on how to approach the challenges both mentally and practically. I sometimes felt by reading some of the stories in the book, that it was through the challenges that he got most of his ideas and inspirations. This is a book that I will come back to again, as it inspires me not only to explore more, but to also better understand myself in the context of the world.

A must-read for anyone thinking about long-term travel or who has an interest in this kind of life-transforming experience. Thought-provoking and very interesting take on how one should explore cultures and travel through new places, with some wonderful little stories along the way. Highly recommended.

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