



A Stingray Bit My Nipple!: True Stories from Real Travelers

Erik Torkells, Budget Travel Magazine, Readers of

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One of the things I love most about our 'True Stories' section (and by extension, this book) is that readers are so willing to laugh at themselves-they send in what are sometimes very embarrassing stories, because we all know that that's life, especially when you travel." --Erik Torkells, editor, *Budget Travel*

From the French-kissing giraffe to the Coke-drinking camel, *Budget Travel's* "True Stories" feature proves that life when traveling is indeed stranger and funnier than fiction.

Collected by Erik Torkells, editor of *Budget Travel* magazine, these tales of adventuresome calamity and hilarity are an irresistible read. Over 200 true stories are included.

Stories have been submitted by *Budget Travel* readers and many feature real and hilarious vacation photographs from their travels. From the couple in Belize who had a chicken lay an egg in their bed while at an eco resort, to the traveler who accidentally set her hair on fire while lighting a prayer candle, this book proves that the best memories come from moments when your trip is less than postcard-perfect.

A Stingray Bit My Nipple!: True Stories from Real Travelers Details

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Carole says

Some of the anecdotes in this book were really funny. Others were more of the head-scratching variety. As another reviewer commented, this is a book better left for those moments when you have only a few minutes to read - such as the bathroom, except that then you can't easily inflict the truly humourous stories on all your loved ones.

Teri Tyner says

Amusing collection

This book is an interesting collection of travel stories from all over the world. A quick read, maybe better as a coffee table book for an occasional anecdote. The pics should be bigger to see what the story refers to.

Kristin says

Quick read of anecdotes submitted to Budget travel magazine, most of which have probably been published in the magazine beforehand, but since I don't read the magazine, they were all new to me. Most included accompanying photos to supplement the stories, which were a nice touch. Many of the anecdotes didn't necessarily show the best side of Americans' common sense while travelling abroad, but the book is meant to be lighthearted, and is enjoyable if you don't expect it to be a terribly deep book.

Gallandro_83 says

Early review,[return][return]This is one of those great little coffee table or bathroom books the stories contained are short little blurbs that are amusing and give a little glimpse into what one might meet or see when traveling. I in particular loved the man ducked tapped into a phone booth in London. I was disappointed however that the stories in general are little beyond descriptions there is no substance to any of the stories and this book will not offer any more value then a archive of comics without any themes.
[return][return]gallandro

Jennifer says

This is a collection of holidays-gone-wrong stories. I downloaded it thinking it would be a good laugh. I think 5 stories out of the whole book were actually funny. Too many were dumb and pointless. Very disappointing.

Cheryl says

Enjoyed this collection of humorous incidents submitted from all over the world. From a young man's introduction to "mouse jerky" (Americans really do need to get out more) to a vacuum with a lei to monkeys who decorate vacationers, there was plenty of variety. Felt like we were laughing together at the little (and larger) bumps that are part and parcel of traveling.

Becky says

I have never read the magazine in which these excerpts are originally from, but thought it might be fun to read anyway. I was glad I did! While not a long book, it does tell of people's travels and what might go possibly wrong. There were quiet a few I laughed out loud on and some I had to share with others.

Dan says

I got this as a Kindle freebie a couple days before going on vacation. I'd only gotten three hours of sleep the night before the flight back so I felt like I couldn't read anything seriously, and the in-flight movie looked terrible. I went through this in about 30 minutes. It was better than the airline magazine, but I wouldn't actually pay for it.

Jenn says

There were some hilarious moments here. But not enough to rate more than one star. I wanted to like this more than I did. It was mostly single paragraphs written by different people, strung together and put into one book. There was the occasional photograph to accompany the text, which was nice. But overall, not as funny as I was expecting. If there had been one narrator, and if that narrator was really good, this would have been an amazing book. As it was, it was more like you were reading bits and pieces of people's blogs. Not good, not bad, but just kind of... eh. Good thing it was free on Amazon for the Kindle. No buyer's regret here!

Theresa says

Thought book would be more funny than it was! The stories are indeed cute and fun to read about travelers' misadventures throughout the world.

Andrea says

This book has me laughing out loud! I love the short little descriptions of people's memorable vacation

moments. The short descriptions fit my current lack of attention-paying skills due to my active 15 month old.

Emily says

The anecdotes in this collection are best read over a longer period of time, rather than straight through. Many were amusing, many evoked a feeling of "gosh, I'm glad that wasn't me," and many made me wish to have a similar experience. All in all the book does well with his intended purpose, a collection of stories accumulated from the magazine. I would keep it, instead of shelved, on a coffee table or even in the bathroom!

Rachelle says

What a delightful little collection of adventures around the globe! This e-book, put out by Travel magazine, is a collection of short paragraphs that readers have sent in about their memorable vacationing adventures.

Marvin says

From *Stingray Bit My Nipple...*

You are what you...tweet!

We did our own cooking when renting a house on Mexico's Soliman Bay. At the produce stand, there was several varieties of grains and nuts. One of the grains looked familiar, close to brown rice, and the vegetarian among us approved the choice. We cooked it over an hour, but it still tasted oaky, so we cooked it longer and added seasoning. The property manager and the caretaker stopped in as we were about to eat. They were in awe of our ignorance. We just cooked a bag of birdseed.

OK. That's kind of cute. But 200 of these in one book?

I have been a subscriber to the magazine *Frommer's Budget Travel* for years and highly recommend it to both real and armchair travelers. One of the most popular features is the "true stories" section where travelers tell about their funniest experiences. A half dozen in a month is enjoyable but when they are comprised into a 200 page book, it gets a little tedious. This is a book mainly for browsing. A lot of the stories are funny, some not so much and a very few were simply insensitive.

I probably should offer two caveats:

- 1) I received this book free as a Kindle download. At the time of this review it is still free. It's worth free.
- 2) I've sent a few of my own anecdotes to *Budget Travel* and they've yet to publish one. I guess they don't know true talent when they see it. (just kidding, I think)

I think one of the problems with this type of book is that many of the stories, and probably my own, are "You had to be there" kind of funny. Like the time the Moscow custom officers picked up on the x-ray a large Russian cowbell in my wife's carryall and she blurted out, "That's not a bomb." Like I said. You had to be there.

Update: It's no longer free.

Stacy says

This is a collection of travel mishaps and misadventures people have experienced. I found I could relate to a few of them and even have a few I should consider submitting myself. It's a fun light read. Makes me want to start planing another trip.
