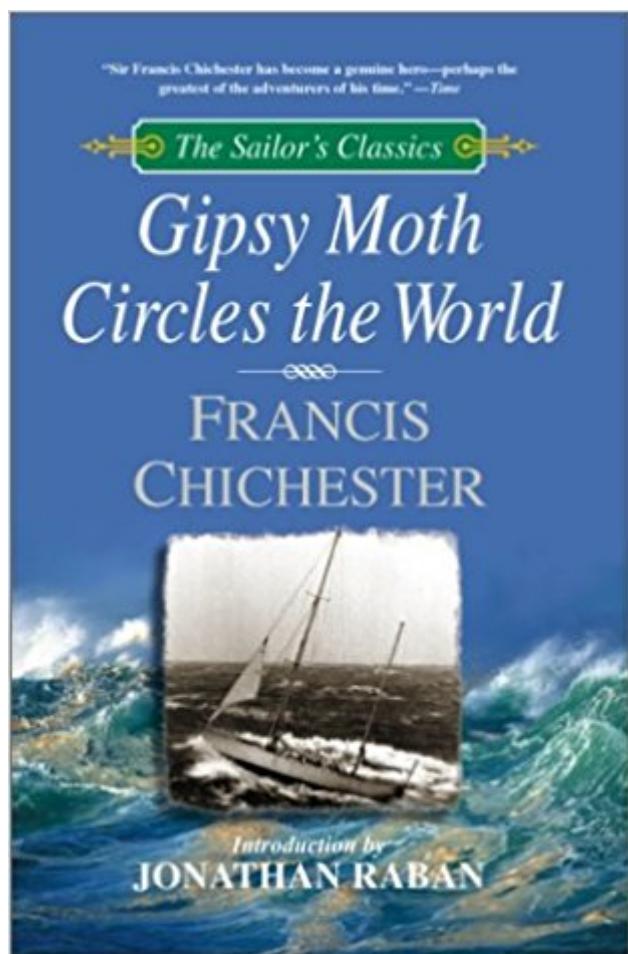


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Gipsy Moth Circles The World (The Sailor's Classics #1)



Synopsis

This work tells the story of Frances Chichester, who aged 65, set out alone from Plymouth in his 53-foot ketch "Gypsy Moth VI" in August 1966 and sailed eastward around the world through the wild Southern Ocean, stopping only once - the first to accomplish this - in Sydney. Only nine yachts had previously circumnavigated by way of Cape Horn, and of them six had been capsized or somersaulted at least once. This 28,000-mile voyage, completed in May 1967, established new records for speed and endurance, captured the imagination of the world, and earned a knighthood for Chichester upon his return.

Book Information

Series: Sailor's Classics

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: International Marine Publishing (September 21, 2000)

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Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 33 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,524,522 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #71 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Sailing > Narratives #3973 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Geography #4089 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Travel

Customer Reviews

"...a report by a great adventurer, who also happens to be a writer, of one of man's greatest of lonely enterprises." -- Harper's "...reminds us how men can transcend their apparent physical limitations when they are doing something that they very much want to do." -- Economist "A moving story of conquest by the unquenchable human spirit, a determined old man's gesture of defiance at the modern world..." -- Alan Villiers, Saturday Review "Chichester.. reawaken[s] the world to man's capacity to seek and to endure. He has served men by living their dreams..." -- Time

7 1.5-hour cassettes --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

An exciting read for a sailor, and just as I'd hoped - no endless excursions ashore or partying in quiet anchorages while neighboring boats ride their hooks. Here we have the endless sail changes, (before roller furling) plunging barometer, everything wet & cold, ongoing sea-sickness - just as a big ocean passage usually is. The discomfort is palpable, although Sir Francis almost always understates the misery and fear, and keeps a stiff upper lip. The nomenclature might be a little confusing for non-sailors, as this book is about SAILING, and sailboats. My wife likes to read about the socializing that sailors do, and loves visiting foreign shores. She would dislike this book.

One of the finest accounts I've ever read of personal triumph and determination. At an age in his life when many people are picking out their "rocking chairs", Sir Chichester faced his fears and overcame them, to fulfill his dream of circumnavigating the globe single handed in a small sail boat, that many thought would never make it. He definitely exuded "true grit". The support of his wife, family, and friends, and their understanding, help make this dream become a reality, and a shining example for all of us. A truly awe-inspiring book for anyone who loves the oceans, sailing, or examples of true personal courage and fortitude.

The story is amazing. It is written quite objectively which I've seen described by other reviewers as being "understated". Having some background and appreciation of sailing, Sir Francis accomplished a goal far more difficult it seems that those who climb Mt. Everest. He writes in a very calm tone but in several instances does admit he was frightened due to conditions. At those points in time the average person would likely have been completely overwhelmed by fear and worry. Despite this Sir Francis continued on and fulfilled his goal. What a story and a journey to be proud to present!

After watching "Deep Water", I became very interested in Chichester, Crowhurst, and Moitessier. As one who typically reads fiction (i.e. Clive Cussler, etc.), Chichester's account of his circumnavigation was evocative and revealing. It's hard to imagine nine months of solitude, danger, difficulties, and the perpetual needs of the boat. Apparently, he kept a very detailed journal because you feel as if you were sailing with him day by day. Who knew endless miles of open ocean could offer such variety and excitement? Chichester is very candid, descriptive, personable, and endearing. However, my next book to read is "The Long Way". No breaks in Sydney for that guy!

Very detailed account of this challenging voyage around the world via the Southern Oceans and the Great Capes! Well written by the man who met every challenge nature and the elements could

throw at him and his less than ideal vessel for the voyage. A must have for any serious sailors library!

My father had this book, laying around, when I grew up, which is surprising, since the year was 1970. I've been a fan of free transportation (or sailing) since then. A boat (or ship) moving along, without consuming energy has always intrigued me. Yes, I've since learned how to sail, and am still in love with the process. Now, that I'm getting close to Sir Francis' age, it's time to re-visit this tome.

recommended by a great friend

If you ever had a bad boat trip, Chichester will convince you it was not really so bad. His solo circumnavigation of the globe was an astounding feat of fortitude in the face of human and natural obstacles.

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