



KIDDING AROUND

Tales of Travel with Children

Foreword by Dervla Murphy

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**“An inspiring anthology of stories for wandering parents”
Ben Ross, *The Daily Telegraph***

“Over the next fourteen years, my daughter Rachel and I were to trek thousands of miles, usually with a pack-animal, across three continents. How dare I take a small child into isolated regions, beyond reach of modern communication and transport, for months on end?” **DERVLA MURPHY**

Becoming a parent need to not put an end to wanderlust. That’s the message in *Kidding Around*, the latest in Bradt’s acclaimed series of travel writing anthologies which lifts the lid on the perils and joys of travelling with babies, toddlers and teenagers in locations spanning five continents. Contributors include renowned travel writer Dervla Murphy, *National Geographic Traveller* Editorial Director Maria Pieri, multi award-winning authors Adrian Phillips and Mike Unwin, and nature writers Amy-Jane Beer and Nicola Chester, to name just a few.

The thirty-four stories, and one poem, cover potentially life-threatening situations, confessions of inept parenting and celebrations of derring-do. There’s plenty of adventurous travel, from trekking with toddlers in the Himalayas to sailing en famille across the Atlantic Ocean and the first circumnavigation of Mauritius by bicycle. Read how one mother threatens to dump her baby on jobsworth airport officials, how a father inadvertently takes his daughters to a brothel, and how one family turned up six hours early for a flight... and still managed to miss it. Join families paddling with crocodiles and getting their jeep stuck on a beach as the tide is coming in, or eleven-month-old Rory as he eats alongside marine iguanas and three-year-old Quin who befriends a family of cockroaches.

At times comical, hair-raising or just plain fun, there are also magical moments with wild creatures or in wild places. *Kidding Around* is a captivating read for anyone who has ever travelled with children, or wondered what it must be like to head out into the unknown with little ones in tow.

To request a review copy or for further information,
please contact Sam Evans on sam@readmedia.co.uk or 07952 761617.

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SNIPPETS FROM *KIDDING AROUND*:

Adjusting to Life at Sea by Caspar and Nichola Craven

'Are we nearly there yet, Dad?'

'No.'

'How far is it to go?'

'Several thousand miles.'

'Oh.'

Returning by Elizabeth Pimm

'OK,' I said to the Pakistani border officials. 'You look after my baby son. I'll be back in a week.'

Early Birds by Adrian Phillips

Unless you've had to rush to meet an airline's final call with four-year-olds in tow, you can't fully appreciate how short their legs are.

The Night I Took My Daughters to a Filipino Brothel by Hugh Brune

It's true. My two daughters, aged 16 and 14, did spend the night in a brothel with their parents. But before you call the authorities I offer four mitigating pleas in my defence...

Fun and Games Drives by Mike Unwin

'Daddy, do leopards roll in every animal's wee?'

James's First Night Camping by David Lowen

The wind was now howling and we could hear the trees creaking. 'Could the tent blow away?' James asked. Does this boy ever stop asking questions?

Travels with my Teen: Edinburgh by Theresa Sainsbury

Visiting the Edinburgh Fringe was a long-held dream. A holiday that a cranky teen and his middle-aged mum could both enjoy. Or so I'd thought.

Next Stop, Camping by Lydia Unsworth

Travelling with a little one is like diving in a rubber ring and setting off down the rapids, while trying to process a VAT return along the way. Wild, intense, continuous.

THE CONTRIBUTORS:

The contributors come from a range of backgrounds and tell of many different types of trip. But they also share certain convictions: that parenthood doesn't mean abandoning those itinerant instincts; that, with the right attitude, even the most intrepid travel is possible with your family; and that the experiences of travel in childhood can shape personalities and inspire lives. Ultimately, whatever pitfalls they have encountered on the road, the contributors to this book know that travel is a portal to some of the most precious times that families can spend together.