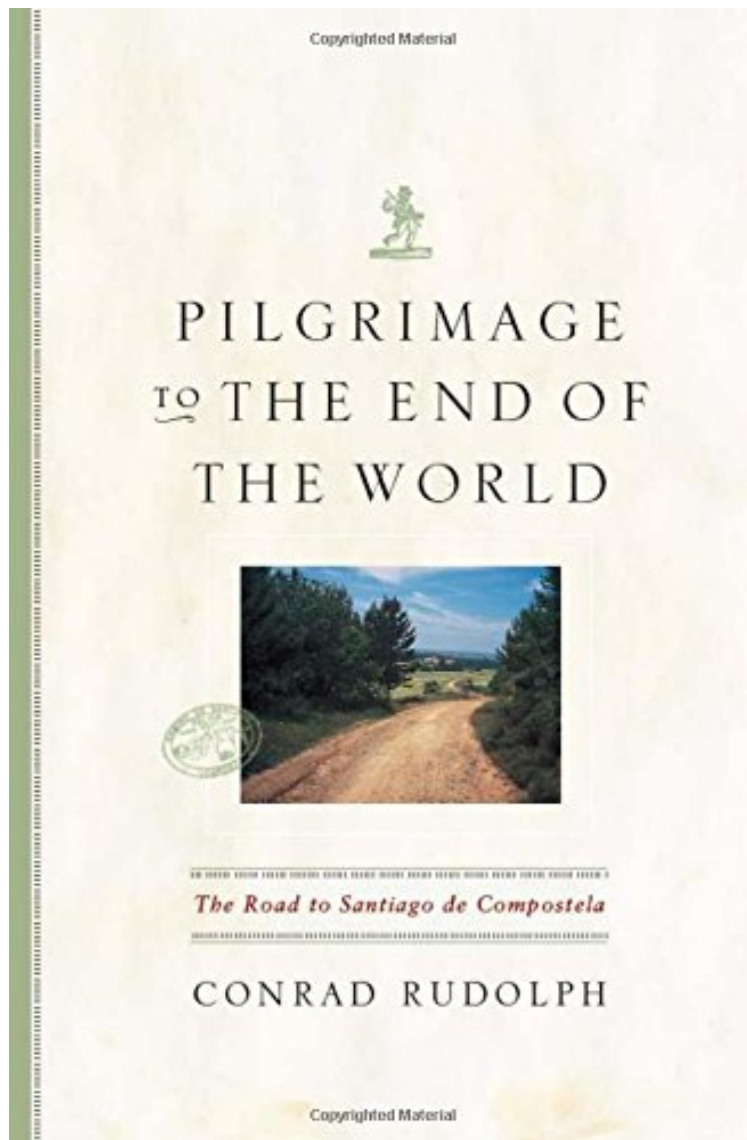


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## Pilgrimage to the End of the World: The Road to Santiago de Compostela (Culture Trails: Adventures in Travel)

*Conrad Rudolph*

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**Conrad Rudolph : Pilgrimage to the End of the World: The Road to Santiago de Compostela (Culture Trails: Adventures in Travel)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pilgrimage to the End of the World: The Road to Santiago de Compostela (Culture Trails: Adventures in Travel):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Timeless Guide to a Timeless Journey By L. Hendrickson This was the book that inspired me to tackle the walk through France from Le Puy-en-Velay to the Pyrenees and beyond into Spain in 2010, and I have not stopped walking since. It is not a current, and much has changed on all the caminos since this book was published in 2004, but for readers looking for inspiration, and a reason to go, this book is excellent, and Rudolph is a spare, wise, and eloquent writer. His background as a professor of medieval art, while never obtrusive, inevitably grounds his perspective. The language is often beautiful, "Along the road, they [pilgrims] meet and then part, sometimes to meet up again, sometimes not, like raindrops slowly running down a windowpane, now joining, now parting, now just missing each other, now going their own way, to paraphrase a Danish pilgrim I met along the road." (p. 27) Among many other passages I marked, "Yours is the experience of a fully reconciled alienation: the pilgrim at once the complete insider, the total outsider." (p. 34) These passages come from the second section of the book, "a series of reflections on what is, ultimately, the internal experience for many." This is where Rudolph excels, although all of the parts of the book are interesting and fascinating. The section on pilgrimage in the middle ages, provides an enriching perspective that most guidebooks lack, while the section of views of the journey is almost quaint from the perspective on the wealth of images available on the internet, yet the text accompanying these black and white photographs contains wonderful insights. The final section on practical aspects of the pilgrimage is still good reading, but should obviously be supplemented with more up-to-date information and recommendations. Just skimming through the book to write this review (I don't know why I didn't review it 5 years ago -- too busy walking -- I guess) makes me want to read it once more, cover to cover. It is that good. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Nice read By Ellen I've enjoyed this book very much. The author did not dwell on the strength it takes to walk the Camino, but you got a feel for it when you see pictures of him in his knee braces. The book was about the journey through cultures. Mr. Rudolph did not undertake this as a religious journey but as an interesting walk through history. I enjoyed the fact that he made no judgements on any of the other pilgrims, or their reasons for walking the Camino. He held fast to the ancient route starting in France and ending in Finisterre (world's end) which is a 3 day journey beyond Santiago. I recommend this book highly. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Walking Along By Thomas Harris This is a very personal account of the Pilgrimage. Totally enjoyed "walking along" with the author.

Traveling two and a half months and one thousand miles along the ancient route through southern France and northern Spain, Conrad Rudolph made the passage to the holy site of Santiago de Compostela, one of the most important modern-day pilgrimage destinations for Westerners. In this chronicle of his travels to this captivating place, Rudolph melds the ancient and the contemporary, the spiritual and the physical, in a book that is at once travel guide, literary work, historical study, and memoir.

From the Inside Flap Traveling two and a half months and one thousand miles along the ancient route through southern France and northern Spain, Conrad Rudolph made the passage to the holy site of Santiago de Compostela, one of the most important modern-day pilgrimage destinations for Westerners. In this chronicle of his travels to this captivating place, Rudolph melds the ancient and the contemporary, the spiritual and the physical, in a book that is at once travel guide, literary work, historical study, and memoir.