



A Journey to the Northern Ocean: The Adventures of Samuel Hearne

Samuel Hearne , Ken McGoogan (Foreword)

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Widely recognized as a classic of northern-exploration literature, *A Journey to the Northern Ocean* is Samuel Hearne's story of his three-year trek to seek a trade route across the Barrens in the Northwest Territories. Hearne was a superb reporter, from his anguished description of the massacre of helpless Eskimos by his Indian companions to his meticulous records of wildlife, flora and Indian manners and customs. As esteemed author Ken McGoogan points out in his foreword: Hearne demonstrated that to thrive in the north, Europeans had to apprentice themselves to the Native peoples who had lived there for centuries—a lesson lost on many who followed.

First published in 1795, more than two decades after Hearne had completed his trek, the memoir was originally called *A Journey from Prince of Wales's Fort in Hudson's Bay to the Northern Ocean in the years 1769, 1770, 1771, and 1772*. This Classics West edition brings a crucial piece of Canadian history back into print.

A Journey to the Northern Ocean: The Adventures of Samuel Hearne Details

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Tracy Dunning says

Read this as my 18 yr old son canoed the Coppermine River for almost 7 weeks. It gave a remarkable description of the life of the tribes in the area and of the relations with the Hudson Bay Company. Surprised me with how interesting and perceptive it was as it opened my eyes to life in the late 1700s in northern Canada.

Rodney97 says

A remarkably literate and thoughtful book, clearly written by a man who had received a classical education; yet often with very modern-sounding turns of phrase.

Cameron says

This book was really good and it should be required reading for everyone interested in Canada before any lines were drawn, little was mapped or recorded, and Native Americans governed the land as they'd been doing for who knows how long, but at least since the last migration over the Bering Strait estimated at 12,000 years. There is extensive detail into Samuel Hearne's expeditions and the book is as savage as it is beautiful, in the man's own words.
