



Travel Unscripted

Mark Murphy

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WARNING: Are you easily offended by the “F” word? Do you find it hard to read a collection of stories written by someone who might have some off color humor, tells it like it is, and genuinely wants you to feel like you are there with him rather than experiences that are sugarcoated? Then Travel Unscripted is not for you. If you’re looking for a guide book, a book of travel tips, or a reference guide to take with you when you travel, this isn’t it. What is guaranteed is a real look at what happens with local cultures in various countries when the cameras stop rolling. It’s travel. It’s unscripted. And you have been warned.

This highly entertaining multimedia travelogue, complete with exclusive, unpublished video outtakes, focuses Mark Murphy's witty and perceptive lens on the culture of traveling, chronicling the dicey, humorous, sometimes bizarre and always entertaining experiences he encounters in far-flung locales around the world.

"If Anthony Bourdain wrote a travel book, this would be it. Mark Murphy brings a conversational voice, an impertinent 'tude', and a wry eye to life on the road. Read it twice!" - Rudy Maxa, travel journalist and host of the public television series Rudy Maxa's World

Travel Unscripted Details

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Author : Mark Murphy

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From Reader Review Travel Unscripted for online ebook

Steve says

Disclosure: I received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads. Thanks to the publishers for the opportunity to read this book for an unbiased review.

Reads a bit like Dave Barry. Recommended for anyone who likes to read about travel.

Double recommended for anyone that likes to read about television production under unpredictable circumstances.

Santa says

I received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads. I enjoyed reading about Mark's travel experiences from places around the globe. I felt like I was living vicariously through him. I've traveled some (US, Canada, Italy, many cruises) so could appreciate the cultural differences and food stories. Some of the things that he wrote about were so funny - you can't make up some of that stuff! I think it would be interesting if he wrote a book focusing on places right here in the USA. If he did write one on all places USA, I apologize for not doing my homework :-). I think we take a lot for granted living in this beautiful country and, personally, would like to see more of it. Overall great book.

Linda says

Mark Murphy travels for his video blog, and he does it all without a script. This book includes many of his behind-the-story stories, and it is very funny. The digital book includes links to his short videos that he talks about in this book. When I get a hankering to travel and I don't have time, I like to read about other people's adventures, and this was fun.

Carol Smith says

Disclosure: Won on GoodReads.

I don't have cable TV and have never heard of Mark Murphy before. I signed up to win his book solely because a) I love travel, and b) the title is a surefire hook. The best travel is unscripted travel. The best moments in travel are generally those that are either unplanned or those that throw up obstacles to one's plans. I thought, "This book is totally gonna be up my alley!"

Given the stated premise of both the author's business and the book itself, I was expecting unscripted travel on steroids. After all, the book purports to be those crazy unscripted things that occur *while already* filming unscripted travel adventures.

Don't know about you, but my idea of unscripted travel doesn't include Sandals Resorts, cruise ships, and tour guides. This is definitely not my idea of unscripted travel:

On one recent trip to Spain, one that was scheduled months in advance, we received our final itinerary only the day before we left. Such last-minuteness boggles the mind, but again, this is pretty typical of what happens as we try to plan our adventures. I've been known to show up at the airport where I'm met by a representative waving a stained, printed document outlining a two-week trip. Believe it or not, up to that point we often are still unsure of many of the stops, special opportunities or even the hotels where we will be staying (p. 58).

Nothing deep here, folks. Just random man-child chatter about high-tech toilets, cussing bosses, bouts of diarrhea, and unhygienic airline seatmates.

Oh - most of the videos that accompany this "interactive e-book" aren't unscripted outtakes. The majority are polished output from his production company, complete with elevator music.

I really hate to wax so negative about a book I won for free. I even had to hassle the publisher for it because they never sent the book to me and several other winners. I just don't think the author and I share the same travel philosophy. Or the same notion of what makes a book worth reading.

Rob says

Kindle material for a camp fire.

This book had so little about actual travel experiences that a hotel lobby brochure would be a better choice for reading material. There was a very long self-congratulating story about how the company got started mined with "hilarious anecdotes about the employees" which really were more like juvenile put-downs; I pity the people who work for this guy!

The stories about Vegas and the trip cruise with the "GILF" (he really did use that term) felt to me like they were written by an embittered frat boy rather than a successful business man.

The good thing is that I got this book as a free Kindle book.

Next destination: Delete from Library!

Jen says

As an armchair traveler, I really enjoyed this book. I found Mr. Murphy and his crew's adventures entertaining. There is bonus material on line to go with the book. I found that it enhanced the stories.

I recommend this book!

Susan Visser says

This book wasn't anything like I expected. I love to travel and everywhere I go I meet awesome people and add to my collection of stories. I fully expected this book to be somewhat the same as my experiences, but what I found was very disappointing:

Repetitive, judgmental, and whiny author: 3 or more stories about eating disgusting foods, one really disgusting story about the authors germ-phobia, easily 4 stories about bathrooms and what he left behind, 3 stories about people telling him what to do and why he refuses to allow that to happen, but 10 times the author says he loves what he's doing and feels lucky to get to travel so often.

I found it very insulting when the author said that everyone should know who Anderson Cooper is. I've never heard of him despite the apparent 99.9% international recognition score. Maybe he means American score? I don't watch much TV and never American news shows, yet I don't live in a cave somewhere.

I also found it insulting the number of times he viciously slammed another person. His guide in Russia likely got the most amount of slams, but it seemed to me that he was pretty disgusted with most people he met.

The one good thing about the book? He made me want to write my stories... which will be much more positive and a lot less lame!

Cheryl says

Absolutely. Hands down. HILARIOUS. Mark Murphy is ridiculously crazy, but it's fantastic. He's not afraid to try something new or different! That's awesome. When it comes to traveling, you need an open mind to truly grasp new cultures and concepts, and Murphy does just that, which is probably why he is so successful at what he does. It's like he has no comfort zone. He's up for anything.

Travel stories. Who doesn't love them? Now mix in crazy foods, exotic places, and a camera man who can't seem to catch a break. It's great. All true experiences. All unscripted. Perfect.

Laura says

Mark Murphy's tone and humor definitely reminded me of Anthony Bourdain, as many other reviewers have mentioned. It was pretty funny early on, but towards the end he started losing me. Some chapters seemed like rants about his own personal annoyances on the job, and those really made me lose interest and lost some ratings points from me. The interactive e-book was fun, since videos of the exact situations Mark talked about were able to be watched on my Kindle Fire without interrupting my reading experience. Fun read, but definitely glad I got it as a free rental through Amazon Prime; I would have been pretty disappointed if I'd paid for it.

Dianna says

Not ever seeing any of Mark Murphy's Travel Unscripted shows, I had no idea what to expect. But these are the stories of his travels all over the world to unusual places with no script or plan in mind ("Don't ask for permission, ask for forgiveness"). Everywhere Mark and his crew go, they try to do it off the cuff to get the unpredictable. It is written with some gory details about food he has tried, back roads and dark alleys he ventured on, with lots of humor thrown in. ("I expected our second stop to be a temple [in Taiwan], maybe an obligatory tour of Taipei or a historical monument. ... I assumed our tour guide would want to show us some ancient relics. She did. We went to a nursing home.")

This book is written in short chapters and is an easy read. I won this in the giveaway from Goodreads (Thank you!) and give it 3.5 stars.

Lori says

i WON THIS AS A GOOD READS FIRST READS BOOK. this book is from Mark Murphy and his travels around the world for the last 20years. I get that since this is unscripted, we get to see him film places around the world as he comes across people he finds interesting. instead of rehearsed. he tries to use humor in this book that can be funny at times but more often NOT funny. some of Mark Murphy's writing I found annoying and even mean spirited { for example he goes in to detail about how ugly and unattractive he found some women}do we really need to know how ugly he finds some people? I also did not care how many times he got drunk. I got the book version and he has it arranged to see videos online. some of the videos could be good and informative.

there were some good parts learning about other countries. I wish he had some more nicer things to say. this is a 2.5 for me.

Barry says

Boring, poorly written. Shouldn't be a book... it was barely a blog.

Jessica says

I won this as part of a Goodreads FirstReads giveaway.

This book is chapters and chapters of the travel of Mark Murphy. I thought most of the anecdotes were pretty funny. Several of the foodstuffs described turned my stomach. And I would be lying if I said I didn't feel a little joy that some of his antics caused gastronomic discomfort (it's the green eyes jealousy monster that causes it). My biggest complaint is that the chapters almost seem more blog entry than book. They isn't a lot of connection or continuity to them. That aside, a quick enjoyable read.

Donna says

I love the thought of traveling around the world and visiting so many of the countries reviewed by the author in this book. However, I learned a lot about what foods to avoid (the eel), which cities and areas of the cities to avoid (Bangkok). I love the idea behind Travel Unscripted - interviews and experiences with the locals, mostly off the beaten path. This Goodreads giveaway is a book I'll definitely hold on to and refer to when making future travel plans.

Jill says

I won this book for free in a Goodreads giveaway, and that fact has no effect on my review.

I just honestly really did not enjoy this book. I won it in a giveaway and feel so badly to write a review that's this bad, but I want to be completely honest. The book was not the least bit interesting or funny to me, and I normally like travel topics and funny tales from authors' personal experiences. I'm really disappointed. It was just really boring and it started off that way and I kept hanging in there waiting for it to get better, but none of the stories engaged me. I don't know what else to say or how to elaborate, it just wasn't funny or interesting and that's it. I felt it was poorly written and seemed unprofessionally arranged. The jokes fell flat and the people the author talks about are not entertaining....the Zsa Zsa the Bore Granny aka GILF? What was the point? Or going on for so long about a man passed out in the hallway in Vegas, with the author checking his ID in his wallet and looking him up on Facebook. So many pointless stories that are not that crazy hilarious or insane, exotic or interesting or wayyyyy off script.

I'm quite apologetic that I disliked this book so much, I was truly grateful to have a chance at winning a giveaway. I wanted to like it, I really did. I can't even make myself give it two stars because it's one of the most boring books I've ever read about someone's travels.
