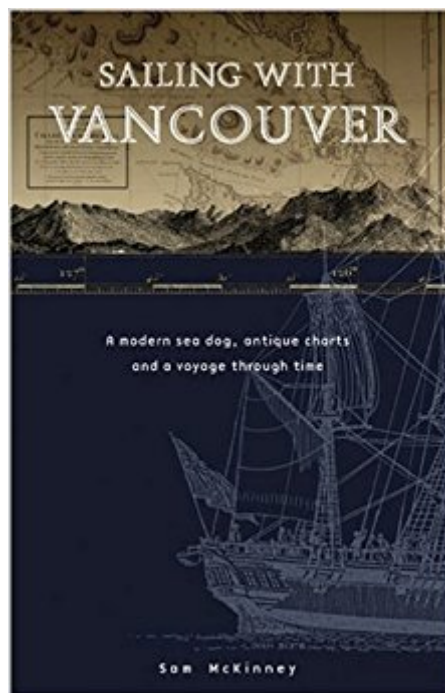




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Sailing With Vancouver: A Modern Sea Dog, Antique Charts And A Voyage Through Time



Synopsis

Could I have been one of them?" That was what Sam McKinney wondered as he retraced, alone, the explorations of Captain George Vancouver and his men from Puget Sound to Queen Charlotte Sound. In the 1790s, they rowed for long hours day after day, camping on rocky beaches in all weathers and charting the intricate coastline for the first time. Two hundred years later, McKinney followed them in his 25-foot sailboat, anchoring where they did, meeting the same winds and waves, and sharing "the link of vulnerability that is the ever-present condition of all people who go to sea." Describing the two voyages, McKinney offers insightful comparisons of what sailors saw and experienced, in the 18th century and today, around the Inland Sea. At the end of his trip he, like Vancouver, claimed the area he had explored, "not by deed of ownership but out of love for the place, its staggering beauty . [and] the memories of the people and cultures who have found homes along its shores.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: TouchWood Editions; First Edition edition (January 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1894898125

ISBN-13: 978-1894898126

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 5.6 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #337,233 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 inÂ Books > Travel > Canada > Cities > Vancouver #25 inÂ Books > History > Americas > Canada > Pre-Confederation #300 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Sailing

Customer Reviews

Sam McKinney, journalist, teacher of outward-bound programs and builder of small boats, is the author of *Bligh! The Whole Story of the Mutiny Aboard H.M.S. Bounty*, and *Reach of Tide, Ring of History*.

I enjoyed Mr. McKinney's story. He is a talented writer, with some occasional thoughts that made me sit back and ponder for a few minutes. My only frustration was the maps: having detailed maps to show the places he was talking about would be so helpful. The generic maps in the book are

almost useless. It would be so simple to have a map for each chapter illustrating "this is what we are referring to". And a few typos should have been caught, but those happen. Overall, I truly enjoyed it, and would probably have enjoyed meeting the author; he seems like a grand adventurer and story teller.

The author takes us into the world of Captain Vancouver and his expedition to the North West region of the continent., while he, in a 25 foot sailboat, the Kea, attempts to follow Vancouver's explorations in 1792. The author describes present day towns and regions, and their 19th and 20th Century history, while recalling and quoting descriptions of the various islands and native populations seen by Vancouver and his crew during their voyage of discovery to Puget Sound, Vancouver island, and the variegated coastline of the region. If you like the history of early explorers and this beautiful part of the world, then this book is for you.

Having lived in the Pacific Northwest for many years, and being an avid sailor - the appeal of Sam McKinney's voyage to retrace the historical voyage of George Vancouver was intriguing enough. Sam's narrative is well written, and provides some great information about the naming of so many places. Well done Sam :)

An excellent history of the north coast and a nice easy read. A must have in any west coast library.

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