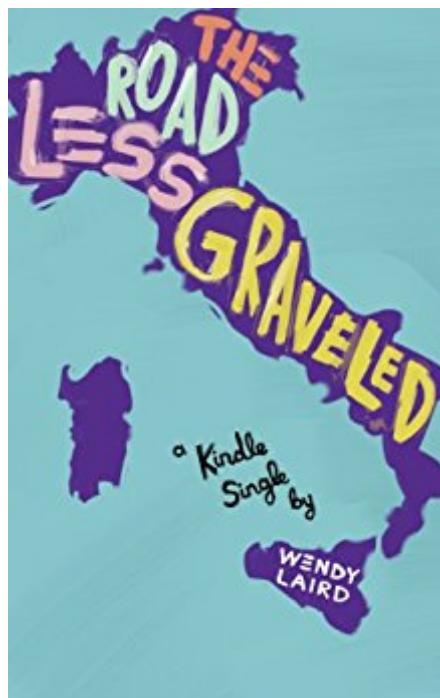


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The Road Less Graveled (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

The Road Less Traveled is the account of a family that escapes a collapsing economy and the overscheduled American lifestyle, at least temporarily, by following their dreams to Italy. Part Tuscan idyll and part cautionary tale, Wendy Laird's latest Kindle Single tells the flip-side story of expat existence, what it takes to make it happen, and how a life on a well-mapped trajectory can veer off course in the process. Laird's beautiful prose and acerbic wit keep the book, if not her own agenda, on the right track.

Book Information

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in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Travel > Europe > Italy > Tuscany #9
in Kindle Store > Kindle Singles > At Play #12 in Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Solo Travel

Customer Reviews

If you liked *A Year in Provence* or *Lunch in Paris*, you'll thoroughly enjoy Laird's tale of a Seattle family that trades the American rat-race for a year in Italy. This often witty tale weaves Italian history, politics and food into an inspiring narrative of what happens when a family decides to take a risk. Be prepared to re-think your priorities after reading this book. My only criticism is that I wish the book was longer and dug a little deeper into what the experience was like for Laird's children.

I read this in just one sitting. It's a brief, but humorous account of a family's sojourn living abroad.

Having lived in Italy, albeit not quite a year, I laughed out loud at some of the author's anecdotes. They were so accurate and it made me miss Italy. Now I am sad, but the sadness just inspires me to travel again. It's true that you drink coffee standing up and the lunch times are very long. I am myself Italian and feel an affinity for the country and its culture, although I can say for sure that I discovered just how really American I am while I stayed in and around Napoli. I would have to live among the Italians a long time to shed some of my American penchants! This is a wonderful book for anyone who plans on living abroad, whether temporarily or as a retiree. I learned a lot! This was a really fun book!

What a great introduction to the Kindle Single! This story transports you to Florence and gives you an inside peek into an American's year abroad. Was it everything they hoped it would be? It depends on who (and when) you ask. Would they do it all again? Absolutely. Does it make you want to pack up your family and try it yourself? For sure. In her debut novella, Wendy Laird uses humor to share both the triumphs and the challenges of the experience. The only downside is that it isn't longer.... you will put it down wanting more.

This book was selected for our book club read in July. It is a nice, easy read with a good "shifting priorities" message. However, it was not well written and she came off somewhat condescending (although I am sure it was not her intent) to those of us who have not traveled abroad. I would have enjoyed more details to be able to feel what she was seeing and experiencing. Overall the book leaves with you wanting to slow down and enjoy long lunches with friends.

Seattle mom Wendy, work-focused Lance and their two young kids decide to take a sabbatical in Italy for a year. What occurs is by turns hilarious, bittersweet and endearing and always a pleasure to savor. The author's captivating writing transports the reader to the quirks of a country that hasn't quite mastered all the improvements since the Renaissance. The crisp style and dry wit of the author make it easy to imagine that you are living her experiences. Indeed, I felt upon finishing that I had a longing for La Dolce Vita. Buy it and during a pausa pranzo (a long lunch) and a cappuccino, indulge yourself until the end. If only the book were longer...

I picked up a copy of The Road Less Traveled because I had just returned from a trip to Sicily and was not quite ready to let go of the experience. I totally related to the laundry issues the multiple plates served at two hour lunches. The book would have been a good reference before my trip but

since I feel in love with that lifestyle, I will return and be that much more prepared. Also, the Italian phrases used at the end of each chapter will be very useful:).Ciao, Linda

It's so nice to open up a book and be taken on a quality journey, learn some things along the way, and have a great time in the process. I couldn't put The Road Less Graveled down, up late in bed, waking my husband every few minutes with my laughter. Thoughtful, immensely entertaining, intelligent...just as the writer didn't want to depart, I didn't want the journey to end. Looking forward to more from Laird.

I wasn't expect a book about some extremely privileged white woman complaining about how she becomes homeless (ie staying at friend's million dollar homes while they are at their summer houses) because they can't afford their own million dollar home anymore. She came across as pompous and arrogant. I wish we all had the same kind of problems she has had!

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