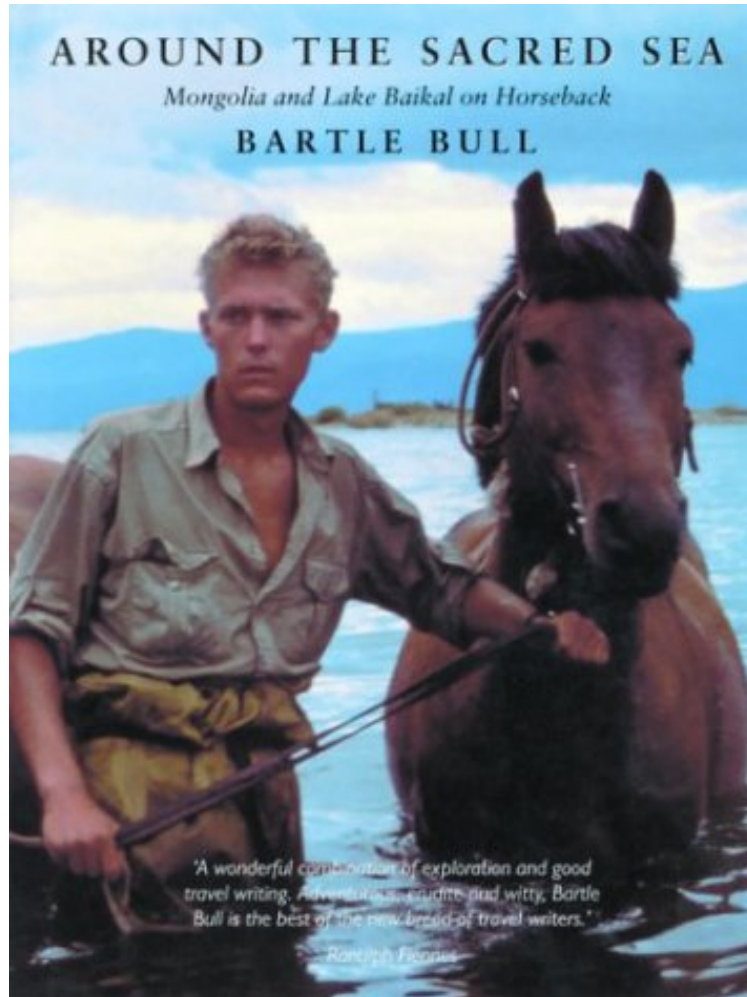


Around the Sacred Sea: Mongolia and Lake Baikal on Horseback

Bartle B. Bull

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Around the Sacred Sea is the fascinating account of a remarkable journey made around Russia's Lake Baikal -- on horseback. This lake is the largest and deepest freshwater lake in the world and is a natural phenomenon of dizzying

proportion. This beautifully written narrative is complemented by photographs of outstanding quality, making *Around the Sacred Sea* both a riveting read and a visual feast.

From *Library Journal* In 1993, three recent Harvard graduates, well armed with letters of introduction and privileged contacts, both political and scientific, rode horses north from Mongolia to Siberia and around Lake Baikal, the world's deepest lake with the greatest volume of fresh water on earth. It was a four-month journey of self-imposed physical challenges, in part an endeavor to report on the environmental damage being accelerated by the break-up of the Soviet Union and in part a youthful lark liberally oiled by alcohol consumption with the local characters encountered along the way. (It's astonishing how much vodka was consumed on this trip!) While the book is attractive and well produced, its sketchmap fails to trace the route taken, and the environmental information is now seven years out of date. But, overall, Bull (*Safari: A Chronicle of Adventure*) has written a spirited account of a most interesting and little-known part of the world that will fill a gap in public library collections. DHarold M. Otness, formerly with Southern Oregon Univ. Lib., Ashland Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.