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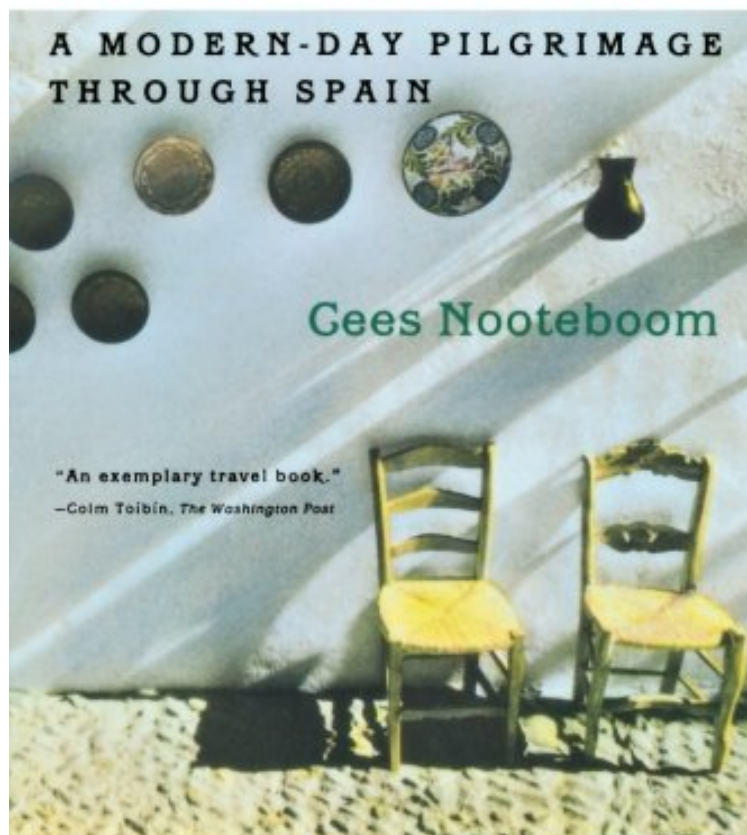
Roads to Santiago

Cees Nootboom

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ROADS TO SANTIAGO



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#796480 in Books Cees Nootboom 2000-02-21 2000-03-13Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .93 x 6.00l, 1.11 #File Name: 0156011581368 pagesRoads to Santiago | File size: 33.Mb

Cees Nootboom : Roads to Santiago before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roads to Santiago:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I like his style of writingBy tess driverstrange and absorbing about a history of which I knew very little. I like his style of writing, the clarity of expression, the whimsical turn of phrase and the depth of description.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Carolina ZagoExcellent1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A rare findBy Ingrid MollerA fantastic trAvel log ! Noteboom has deep knowledge about history and art historyI love it!

Roads to Santiago is an evocative travelogue through the sights, sounds, and smells of a little known Spain-its architecture, art, history, landscapes, villages, and people. And as much as it is the story of his travels, it is an elegant and detailed chronicle of Cees Nooteboom's thirty-five-year love affair with his adopted second country. He presents a world not visible to the casual tourist, by invoking the great spirits of Spain's past-El Cid, Cervantes, Alfonso the Chaste and Alfonso the Wise, the ill-fated Hapsburgs, and Velquez. Be it a discussion of his trip to the magnificent Prado Museum or his visit to the shrine of the Black Madonna of Guadalupe, Nooteboom writes with the depth and intelligence of an historian, the bravado of an adventurer, and the passion of a poet. Reminiscent of Robert Hughes's Barcelona, Roads to Santiago is the consummate portrait of Spain for all readers.

.com A worthy travel book does not encourage a reader to follow in the author's footsteps in search of the "good spots" so much as it creates a sense of adventure and the desire to understand a place. In Roads to Santiago: Detours and Riddles in the Lands and History of Spain, Dutch author Cees Nooteboom seeks out the soul and spirit of Spain in a way that suggests a journey of self-discovery as much as an actual expedition. Although the stated goal is to reach Santiago de Compostela--a church in northwest Spain that was once the object of pilgrimages during the Middle Ages--Nooteboom doesn't follow a single or direct route to the village. The more serendipitous the journey, the better. Nooteboom followed many "detours," taking nearly every back road he found and making sure to avoid anything resembling a major thoroughfare or urban center. The result of his circuitous travels is this collection of moving essays on Spain's history, geography, architecture, and people. From Library Journal In this series of essays, Nooteboom (The Following Story, LJ 8/94), one of Holland's most popular and translated authors, ventures through what he calls his "adopted country," from Barcelona to Santiago. Detours are what Nooteboom delights in, and true to form he takes the reader through detours of monasteries; art galleries; La Mancha in search of Don Quixote and Dulcinea; the Prado museum in Madrid, where he waxes eloquently about Velazquez and Nooteboom's favorite, Zurbaran; and churches and courtyards in cities and villages once protected by their geography and now isolated in the empty plains of the Meseta. The strength of Nooteboom's book is in his lyrical descriptions of Spain, a country he believes has never been quite a part of Europe. Some knowledge of European history is required to appreciate his work fully. Recommended for large public and academic libraries or where there is demand for literary travel books. ?David Schau, Kanawha Cty. P.L., Charleston, W. Va. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Invites the reader to share the excitement, experiences, even food, that the author has encountered while weaving his way through [Spain] slowly and deliciously . . . Mr. Nooteboom lingers in out-of-the-way places most tourists miss."-The New York Times Book "Nooteboom plunges fervently into the fabric of Spain itself."-San Francisco Chronicle