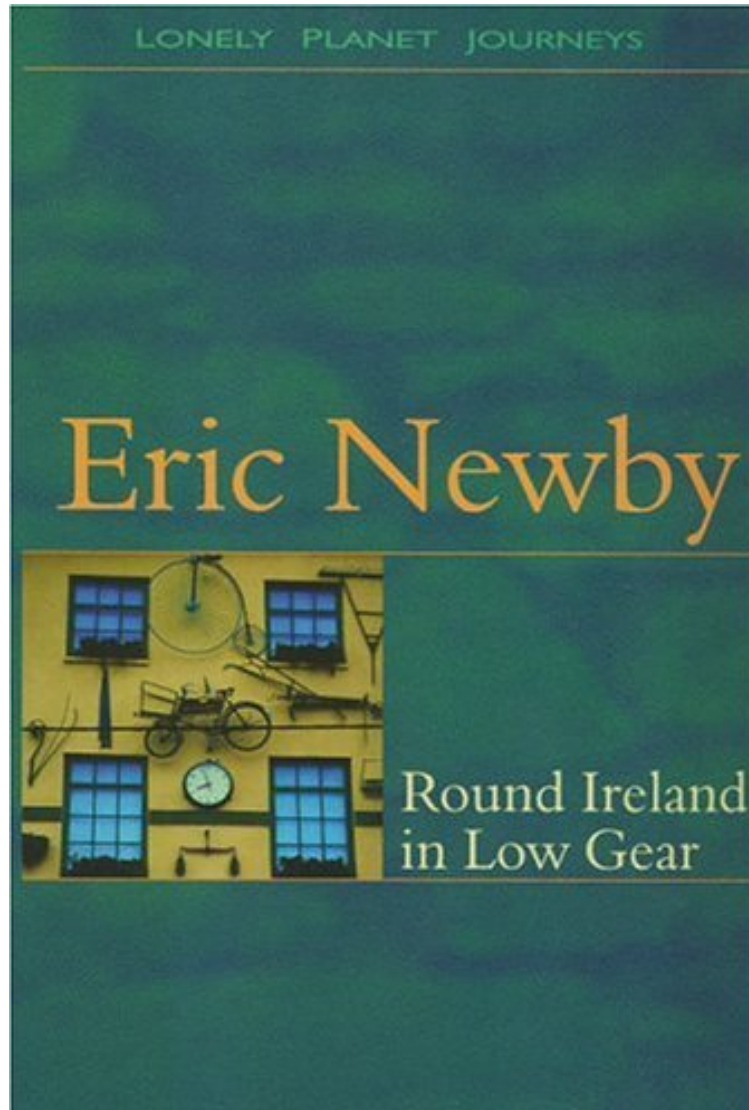


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Round Ireland in Low Gear

Eric Newby

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Eric Newby : Round Ireland in Low Gear before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Round Ireland in Low Gear:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A bike rider's best book find in years By Roo Harris Eric Newby is one of those writers that once you stumble upon him, you look for everything else he has written. This book was a hoot, plus it is one of best historical accounts of Ireland I have ever read. Just to accomplish riding a bike around this island at the age of 70+ is a feat unto itself. I'm a bike rider, mostly off road, but after reading this I intend to get to Ireland some day and follow his route. I will do it in a more welcoming season though. How anyone could have done

what he did is a testament to this man's moxie! Read his "Love and War in the Apennines". While in a prison of war camp, you will find out how he met Wanda, the woman who would later become his wife and travel companion. From 1942 until 1945 he was held prisoner of war near Parma, Italy. During a brief escape he was hidden by a Slovenian family. The description of the country is amazing. A great non-fictional story not to be missed. A different style of travel writer who leaves behind many books for us to daydream of places we have never seen. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Some Gold Nuggets at the end of a lot of Rain By Daniel L Pratt The author and his wife, sexagenarians both, took four tours of Ireland in one year in the 1980s, mainly by bicycle. The author has no inclination to conceal his rather acerbic personality, so you may find yourself rooting for the trucks early on. But keep reading, there's many a worthwhile nugget awaiting, and it's easy enough to discard the refuse. By page 291, when the author or his editors or the Lonely Planet reprinters get the spelling of "fuchsia" right on the fourth attempt, you will feel that anything is possible. So when the author cuts short his description of the final leg, decides not to undertake a planned trip to Northern Ireland, and leaves the book in its present rather untrim state, you're apt to feel a considerable sadness. The maps provided by Lonely Planet add value to this edition. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ireland with Eric Newby By helene cabell If you want to see Ireland without leaving the coffee in the kitchen, there's no better way than reading Mr. Newby's book on his travels to the more obscure parts of the old country, warts and all. And don't forget the comments of his loving wife, wanda.

Having decided to explore Ireland by bicycle, Eric and Wanda Newby set out one December - not the best time to ride a bike around the highways and by-ways of the Emerald Isle, even when protected by thermal underwear. From the Cliffs of Moher to St Brigid's Vat, Dublin, the Aran Islands, the Ring of Kerry and Croagh Patrick, their rain-soaked journey is beset by minor disasters ranging from ferocious storms to even more ferocious dogs. Along the way they come across a moving, miracle-working statue of the Virgin, spectacular ruins and the traces of twentieth-century violence, in between stops for Guinness, tea and soda bread. Woven into the narrative is a wealth of information around Irish history and custom - hermits, horse-fairs, peat-cutting and poetry are all touched on in this deft and dazzling blend of myth, fact and quirky details. And, as usual with Eric Newby, this beguiling account is enlivened by a cast of eccentric and utterly engaging characters.

.com In December 1985, veteran traveler and travel writer Eric Newby and his wife, Wanda, set off on a bicycling journey around Ireland. "We were going there, in short, to enjoy ourselves, an unfashionable aspiration in the 1980s," Newby writes with characteristic wit. It was the beginning of winter, "the dead season, as far as weather went," but the journey, with all of its encounters, is filled with a crackling and warm life. After looking for bicycles and getting informed about modern, computer-designed models, they hop the train for Limerick. Newby's clever, vivid narrative--punctuated by sips of Guinness and tea, torrential winter rains, snarling dogs, a feast of bed and breakfasts, stunning ruins, and unusual characters--traces the dynamics of a relationship on the road. The bicycle provides a cadence well suited to the winding roads running through Ireland's verdant country and its rugged coast--and to Newby's talents. He seems to absorb most everything into the narrative. Using pedal power, he takes in the landscape and its people, along with Ireland's past and present, weaving in headwinds, pub stops, myths, political realities, and conversations to produce a complex picture of Ireland. Originally published in 1987, Newby's *Round Ireland in Low Gear* has been reprinted with new maps by Lonely Planet Publications. This is not a manic tale of some bicycling marathon, but rather a journey--and a book--paced for enjoyment. --Byron Ricks Funny, revealing and thoroughly enjoyable' -- Irish Independent