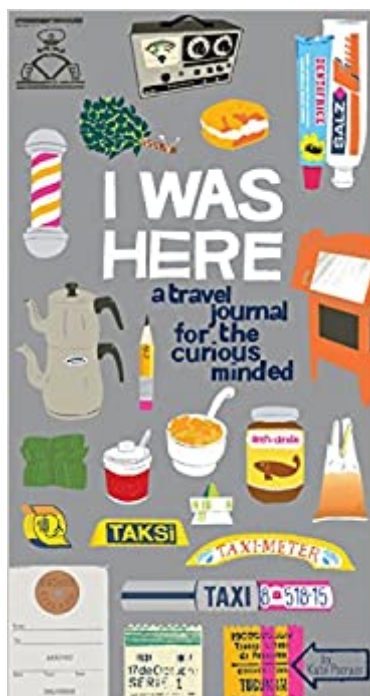


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# I Was Here: A Travel Journal For The Curious Minded



## Synopsis

This colorfully illustrated, guided travel journal encourages users to explore the easily overlooked and wonderful everyday details encountered while traveling, whether near or far away. Packed with unique and fulfilling journeys that can be undertaken in any city, as well as prompts to record every whimsical discovery, each page is a surprise. Other features include: plenty of space to capture addresses, itineraries, reviews, and tips from locals; a reference section with time zones, measurements, and other relevant information; graphic pages for note taking; and a back pocket for collecting ephemera. Filled with appealing illustrations and unexpected inspirations, this quirky journal is sure to bring out the adventurer in every traveler.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kate Pocrass is a San Francisco-based artist whose work has been exhibited in venues throughout the world.

Such a cute journal! It's long, but is not wide, so it fits perfectly in my bag. It's sturdy and is very colorful both on the cover and on the inside. There is a little pocket in the back for things like cards or tickets. It also has a stretchy strap to keep it closed. The tasks inside are very fun and creative. If you're not willing to ask a total stranger for something, do not buy this. This journal is for people who want to enjoy their vacation, but also want to have fun, unique memories. Buy it, IF you're not afraid to use it :)

I bought both the I Was Here and En Route journals from Kate Pocrass. I wasn't clear on the

distinctions until I had them both in hand, so I wanted to outline them. Both are well-made, colorful, and fun. But they serve different needs, and would be fits for different kinds of travelers. I WAS HERE is a guided journal. There are 21 blank pages for notes in the back, but the bulk of the journal is guided observation. There's a small "Before You Go" section to record lists, recommendations, and addresses for postcards. The "Journeys" section makes up most of the book, and it's full of suggestions for more fully observing and interacting with where you are. Activities include: photograph typographic specimens from store signs, license plates, and street names; for one day, shoot all photos from hip height; buy a mundane kitchen accessory that you'll use daily at home; order two things at a restaurant: what looks best, and what looks most different; look for "districts" in town that focus on utilitarian objects (the fabric district); sit on a corner for an hour and record what people are saying, doing, wearing; ask people to draw you a map; ask people for their favorite recipe; take rubbings of city textures (currency, subway tile, sewer grate); etc. There are seven itinerary pages and seven neighborhood pages: each with space to include things to do and see. There are spots to record 11 restaurants: what you ordered, yum/yuck, and other thoughts. The final "Notes" section has lined, gridded, and blank pages (21 total) and there's a small pocket in the back of the book. There are reference pages of illustrated measurements, common words in several languages, clothing sizes, etc. EN ROUTE is a more traditional journal. There are 13 pages of checklists at the beginning (to research; to do; morning of; etc.). There are half-pages for dated diary entries (12 sections with room for a date, and weather icons to circle, and a half-page for notes). The bulk of the book is mostly blank/lined/gridded pages. Nearly every page has some travel-themed illustration. There are a few full-page illustrations interspersed (international teas, snacks on a stick, a collection of flowers). Most of the illustrations appear in both books. The reference pages (common words, measurements, sizes) are mostly the same between the two books. There's a small pocket in the back as well.

This journal was fun to write in but there are a few issues. First, the journal covers 1 week. Next, this journal is better suited for people who have a lot of time that is not scheduled and who will be socializing with people who live where the writer is vacationing. I, however, spent most of my time with my family and most of my time was spent on the go. Because of this, I only completed maybe half of the prompts in the journal.

Purchased for a friend whose planning on traveling the country on her trailer. She loved it!! Great gift or even self. Lots of interactive ideal to help you get out and explore new places.

I love this journal! You must have an outgoing personality to complete some of the prompts. Some of my favorite prompts are to make a smudge of whatever drink you are enjoying, to ask people you meet for a family recipe, and to take a census of what people spread on toast. It is so fun! There are also more typical journal pages where you can share what neighborhoods you visited, restaurants you ate, etc. The back of the journal has a reference section that has temperature conversions, different outlet types, and even a section of international dumpling types!

Very fun journal, but a little too young for me. Or maybe I'm too introverted to ask people all these questions. Pockets for tours taken or carry out menus, with a journaling page would be a great addition. All in all, it was fun to complete the pages that I could. Most folks are nice, and will play along answering questions. As a nearly 40 year old woman, I felt a little silly asking strangers child like questions.

I purchased this book for an upcoming road trip across the States. The good: This is a nifty little travel journal that doesn't take itself too seriously. Sure, it seems geared towards a younger crowd, but at this point in my life I've earned the right to be a little whimsical. The Not-So-Good: I really wish it had a longer itinerary than seven days.

Purchased as a gift for a friend and she flipped through it and loved it. She cannot wait to try some of the prompts and see traveling in a new way! I liked how it asks you to look for things or reflect on things that you may not notice during your travels otherwise.

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