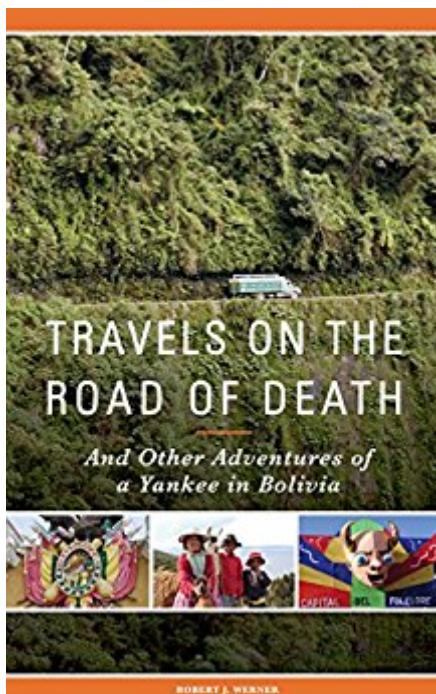


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# Travels On The Road Of Death And Other Adventures Of A Yankee In Bolivia



## Synopsis

This book is an adventure. It will lead you through Bolivia to encounter colorful stories of a warm, wonderful people and a land of stunning beauty. Explore what countless oddities reveal about this lovable country—•Klaus Barbie’s soup spoon, lizards to be dynamited, an ugly wax corpse in a mineshaft, a priest’s arm bone and many more. This readable book uses the genre of travel narrative to explore important themes about Bolivia. It is not a guidebook, but instead uses history, geography, and the voices of Bolivians to seek insights. The book reflects the author’s travels through the country during the first decade of the 21st century as he researched a different book about Bolivia. (That book, an A-to-Z account in 100 pages of the geography, history, economics, and culture, is published as *Bolivia in Focus: A Guide to the People, Politics, and Culture*, by Interlink Press, Northampton, MA, 2009).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In advance of an upcoming trip to Bolivia I read Werner’s book (amongst many others on the country) and found it to be far and away the most entertaining and informative. Werner himself is an

academic, so the research is extensive and detail oriented, but what makes this book so great is that it reads nothing like a dry academic text. Rather, "Travels on the Road of Death" is more of a gonzo-journalistic adventure book that happens to be filled with fascinating cultural and historical references relayed through the author's first hand experience. From the thought relayed by Werner's uncle with regards to a fancy La Paz restaurant and notorious bad man Klaus Barbie to the first hand descriptions of "Tio" in the mines, and all of the other characters described in between, makes you really think about what a unique, tragic and beautiful travel destination Bolivia really must be!

Werner has written a vivid travelogue of his travels in Bolivia. If you want facts, read his earlier book, *Bolivia in Focus*. But if you want to know what it would like to be there, read this one. He travels the whole country, with side trips to Chile and Paraguay, seeing unbelievable landscapes while riding in packed buses on unbelievable roads. Through his encounters with taxi drivers, guides, inn owners, priests and miners, we hear about everyday life in this Andean land. While not a history book, he visits numerous battlefields where Bolivia fought with its neighbors. If you are planning a trip to Bolivia, you don't have to read this book but you should! And if you don't have plans to go there, this book could change your mind.

Robert Werner's latest book on Bolivia guides the reader through the country's remarkable physical and cultural geography. In his uniquely approachable manner, Werner's "Yankee in Bolivia" takes the reader along on a voyage across the country. Vivid (and terrifying) landscapes unfold as the narrative reveals the political and colonial roller coaster that Bolivia has been through. Most remarkable are the personal stories and friends shared with the reader that bring the historical background into the modern day and help you appreciate how Bolivia's sorted, and often tragic, history shaped the country, its people, and the role of the country in the today's world.

This book is a great travel companion while exploring Bolivia. Great historical and cultural snippets throughout the book to enlighten you as you travel. Would recommend to anyone traveling to Bolivia or those who want to know a little more about one of South America's most interesting and unique countries.

If Thesiger and Matthiessen and even Plotkin are your cup of tea then Werner's book is a must-read. Mixing history and politics with humorous and sometimes intimate reflection, this book captures Werner's loving connection with Bolivia and its people.

Not worth reading

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