

# Exploring the Unexplored: New Zealand's Forgotten World Highway

Have you ever wondered what lies beyond the well-known tourist spots of New Zealand? If so, then brace yourself for an extraordinary journey through the country's hidden gem - the Forgotten World Highway. This scenic route takes you off the beaten track, revealing breathtaking landscapes, quaint towns, and a sense of adventure that will leave you mesmerized.

## Unveiling the Forgotten World Highway

The Forgotten World Highway, also known as State Highway 43, is a road less traveled by tourists but more embraced by adventurers seeking to discover the untamed beauty of New Zealand. This 148-kilometer stretch of road that winds through the North Island is an experience like no other – an escape from modernity and a journey into the past.

Starting from Stratford, a town nestled at the base of Mount Taranaki, this highway takes you on a captivating voyage through remote countryside, rugged terrain, and narrow winding roads. As you traverse this historic route, be prepared to immerse yourself in New Zealand's rich heritage and see sights that will awe-inspire you every step of the way.



## New Zealand Photo Journal #10: Forgotten World Highway by Scott David Plumlee (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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## Discovering Forgotten Towns

Along the Forgotten World Highway, you'll come across numerous charming towns that appear frozen in time, allowing you to experience New Zealand as it once was. Among these hidden treasures is the village of Whangamomona, known for its independent spirit and quirky atmosphere.

Whangamomona is a place where time stands still and where the locals have even declared their independence, electing a goat as their president during celebrations. As you explore this town, you'll feel as if you've stepped into a different era and are part of a storybook come to life.

Another forgotten town waiting to be explored is Taumarunui, filled with Victorian-era buildings and a rich railway history. Here, you can take a break from driving and hop aboard a vintage steam train for an unforgettable trip through breathtaking landscapes. The town itself resonates with a distinct charm only found in off-the-beaten-path destinations.

## Journey Through Astonishing Landscapes

As you drive along the Forgotten World Highway, the landscapes will take your breath away. Towering mountains, sprawling forests, and majestic rivers will envelop you in a sense of wonder and awe. With every turn, you'll find an Instagram-worthy view waiting to be captured by your lens, making this route a photographer's paradise.

One of the highlights is the Tangarakau Gorge, a natural wonder that is bound to leave you spellbound. The gorge is adorned with ancient trees, moss-covered rocks, and a picturesque river flowing through it that adds to its ethereal beauty.

Additionally, the Whanganui River, New Zealand's longest navigable river, snakes through the landscape, adding a touch of serenity to the rugged terrain. Take a moment to appreciate the tranquility and make memories that will last a lifetime.

## **Hidden Gems: Waterfalls and Natural Wonders**

Amidst the awe-inspiring landscapes, the Forgotten World Highway also reveals hidden natural wonders that will leave you in awe. To make your journey even more memorable, take the time to explore the region's waterfalls.

The Moki Tunnel and the Whangamomona Falls are two remarkable sights on the highway that deserve a spot on your itinerary. Both are easily accessible and offer a sense of tranquility, making them the perfect spots for a picnic or a moment of reflection.

Additionally, the New Zealand Photo Journal 10 Forgotten World Highway would not be complete without mentioning the surreal experience of crossing the Bridge to Somewhere. This single-lane suspension bridge, hidden amidst the lush greenery, is a testament to the indomitable spirit of adventure that awaits travelers along this remote route.

## **Capturing Memories and Preserving History**

As you embark on this remarkable journey through the Forgotten World Highway, be sure to document every moment with your camera. The captivating landscapes, forgotten towns, and natural wonders along the way are deserving subjects for any photographer.

By capturing and sharing your experiences, you not only preserve your memories, but you also help showcase the hidden beauty of New Zealand and inspire others to explore beyond the well-trodden path.

Embarking on the New Zealand Photo Journal 10 Forgotten World Highway will transport you to a world apart from the hustle and bustle of modern life. This extraordinary journey through hidden towns, astonishing landscapes, and natural wonders offers a glimpse into a side of New Zealand that few get to explore.

So, pack your bags, grab your camera, and get ready for an adventure of a lifetime along the Forgotten World Highway. Let the untamed beauty of New Zealand captivate your senses and leave you with memories that will truly last forever.



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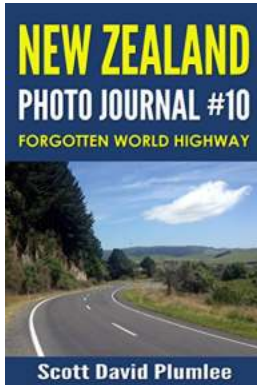
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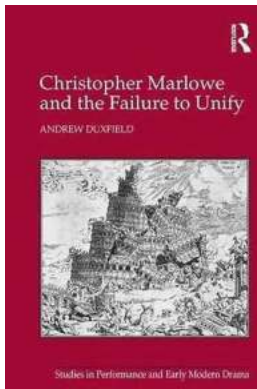
Come join me for this 50-image photo journal as I cycle and hike across New Zealand. In this tenth volume I'll be cycling across the North Island from Turangi to Stratford along the infamous Forgotten World Highway. Along the way I will be climbing up a half dozen mountains, passing through the stunning Tangarakau

Gorge, rolling my eyes at the ever-present rain, and pedaling past lots of sheep, cattle, and a few goats. I hope you enjoy these images and travel thoughts as much as I did photographing them and living the adventure.



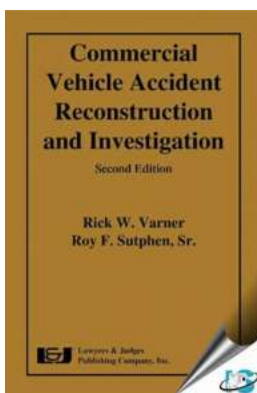
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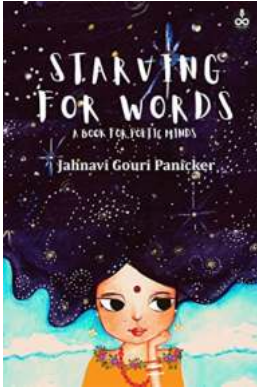
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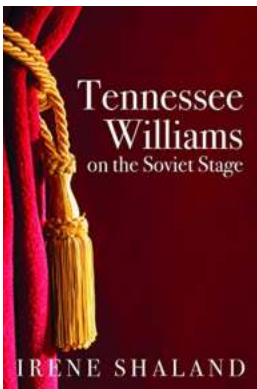
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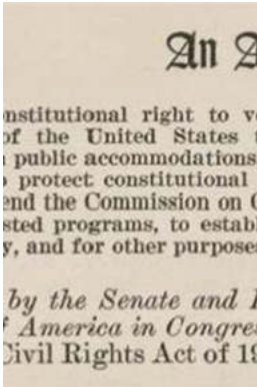
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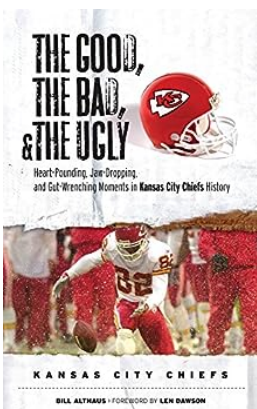
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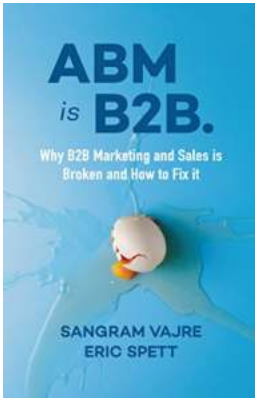
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