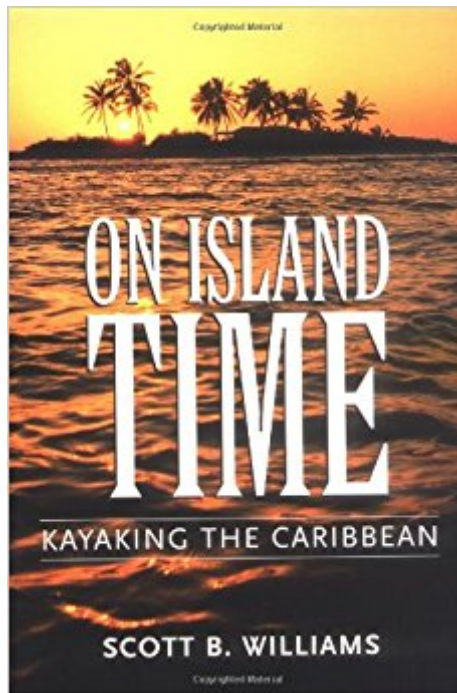




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On Island Time: Kayaking The Caribbean



Synopsis

Tourists visit popular islands of the Caribbean by the planeload. What they don't see from their resort hotels are the hundreds of out-of-the-way, uninhabited islands sprinkled along the West Indies from Florida to South America. This alluring archipelago, strung with beaches accessible only by boat but spaced temptingly close together, led Mississippi adventurer Scott B. Williams to embark upon an open-ended quest to see how far south he could go in a seventeen-foot sea kayak.

No one was willing to accompany him. He spent months working his way down the west coast of Florida, through the Bahamas, and on to Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. On *Island Time: Kayaking the Caribbean*, his narrative of this journey of a lifetime, describes the wonders of discovery as he makes landfall on pristine cays. Relentless headwinds, dangerous surf, countless beaches declared off-limits to trespassing, and aggressive sharks that ram his kayak and snap him out of his musing remind the adventurer that this paradise is far from perfect. Every day of the journey required constant vigilance. With no one to depend on and often no one even knowing where he was for weeks at a time, Williams learned what it means to be self-reliant and to adjust to "island time." With just a simple craft and the few belongings that would fit in it, Williams explores an almost boundless frontier and a powerful natural stretch of the Caribbean rarely, if ever, accessed by the island tourist.

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Customer Reviews

One kayaker's odyssey from the streams of south Mississippi to the unspoiled blue of the West Indies --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

One kayaker's odyssey from the streams of south Mississippi to the unspoiled blue of the West Indies

Adventures done by true adventurers are rare these days. Rarer still, is an excellent written account of just such a man and just such an adventure. If you have ever done anything like this you find a true kindred spirit in Scott B. Williams. If you haven't, you'll quickly become immersed in the journey in all its many and well written details. I found myself feeling like I was a guy in the number two hatch on a twin seated sea kayak, so real and so vivid is the story telling art of Scott. He really does make it all come alive in a wonderful and captivating manner. Do yourself a large favor and catch a little "Island Time" with Scott and ride thru this adventure with him. I have read many of Scott's books and I have thoroughly enjoyed all of them. Pick out and pick up anything by Scott and you'll be in for a real treat. Great stuff. Scott is a true adventurer in the classic tradition, and a great writer to boot!

This is a nice story about a twenty-five year old man, Scott Williams, who is not ready to settle for his nine-to-five corporate job. On a favorite kayak trip with his brother, Scott hatches a plan to paddle from his home area of Mississippi through the Bahamas and Virgin Islands and on through the Caribbean, eventually reaching South America. Like so many romantics before him, Scott quits his job and sells everything he owns to scrape together the money he will need to sustain him for an unspecified length of time. With no experience in paddling big water, he chooses the wrong kayak. He immediately blows out a waterproof bulkhead in his plastic sea kayak the first time he gets into big water on the Gulf. He manages to get to shore before his boat sinks. Scott realizes that his dream will require a new, more appropriate boat if he is to continue. The story of how he acquired a new boat with little money in just three weeks time is just one of the ways that the universe was looking out for Scott. There are many more examples of positive serendipity in this tale. Scott never makes it beyond the Virgin Islands, but the stories he tells of the characters he meets and the kindnesses extended by fellow seekers makes for a great story. There's no high adventure here. But the kind of adventure written about in this story is accessible to many of us, if only by degree. At the end of his Caribbean adventure, Scott tried unsuccessfully to re-integrate into his old life in Mississippi. He retreats to that old favorite paddling spot where he planned his Caribbean trip. He lived in the woods for a month while hatching a plan for another adventure. Eventually he settles down, but to an unconventional life as a boat builder and sailor. This is an entertaining book. It doesn't demand too much from the reader, which makes it easy to put down and just as easy to pick

up again. Kind of like a level 1 or 2 Sudoku puzzle.

This book was a breath of fresh air. I am a beach lover and a kayak fishing enthusiast, so needless to say, I really enjoyed this read. So many of us live monotonous lives; full of schedules, work, and bills. I often catch myself wondering what it would be like to just say "screw it" and take off on an adventure like this. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys the outdoors, especially tropical climates. I hope to find some more reads similar to this one.

This was a well-written book with a lot of useful information for anyone who is planning a kayak trip through the Caribbean. Many of this guy's struggles were against the prevailing winds, and it would be good to know that those kinds of struggles aren't necessary. Going with the winds would be a much better trip, and one could see and explore the same territory.

Enjoyable tale of kayaking in Florida and some Caribbean islands. However if you prefer man really pitting himself against the elements and dicing with death you might prefer Don Starkell's Paddle to the Arctic or Paddle to the Arctic.

This book is very informative and realistic. It will give anyone thinking of going to the Caribbean an honest unfiltered idea of what to expect. That said, the story is much more like a journal recounting memories, so there is not much of a plot or conclusion. I purchased the book to specifically read about how he crossed the gulf stream, so I was a little disappointed to find out that he hitched a ride on the boat. Nonetheless, I would recommend the book for its information alone. Great experience.

Awesome book. I read it cover to cover in about 2 days and couldn't put it down. I am now waiting for slightly warmer weather to purchase a canoe and start hitting up some of our local rivers with my son. Five stars because I can't give ten.

I really enjoyed Reading this book. The author made me feel like I was on the trip. It was exciting learning about different islands in the Caribbean.

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