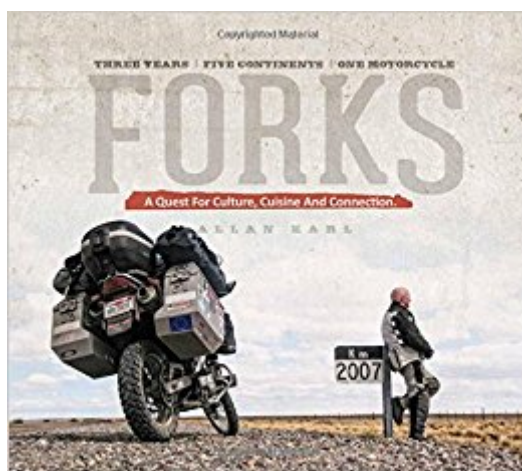


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# Forks: A Quest For Culture, Cuisine, And Connection. Three Years. Five Continents. One Motorcycle.



## Synopsis

**FORKS** brings the world to your table: An around-the-world adventure story. A colorful photo book with more than 700 color photographs. A global cookbook with 40 signature recipes. Why would someone sell nearly everything he owns, pull roots, and travel for three years--alone--on a motorcycle? One day Allan Karl woke up to discover that he was unemployed and his marriage had ended in divorce. Allan looked at these forks in the road of his life as an opportunity to both follow a life-long dream and pursue his passions. He hopped on his motorcycle and traveled around the world--alone. After three years and 62,000 miles of riding, through 35 countries on 5 continents, he returned home only to set out on another journey--to share the truths he'd uncovered and the lessons learned during his adventure around the world. Between these pages, Allan shares the discoveries, cultures, and connections he made on this global adventure. Through stories, color photos, and the flavors of real local food, **FORKS** brings his adventure to life and the world to your table: the kindness of strangers, the beauty of humanity, the colors of culture, and the powerful gift of human connection. "Even though I set out on his journey alone, I was never alone. If I was ever lost, lonely or hungry, I would turn around and always find someone there." The real truth is that it's easy to connect with people--humanity--even in the most challenging situations. Like when he was ordered into the Colombian jungle at gunpoint, or when he crushed his leg in the middle of nowhere in Bolivia, or how he had to beg the governments of Syria and Sudan to let him across their borders. Every photograph, story, and recipe in this book presents readers with an opportunity to witness new cultures, taste exotic flavors, or journey into dangerous and unknown territories. Every experience is an opportunity to connect with others.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Do you ever read about a place and have the sense that you were right there? That's what this book made me feel like. Everyone should have the opportunity to travel, but if you can't head out to all the countries that Allan writes about just yet, you should at least buy this book and start daydreaming." --Chris Guillebeau, New York Times bestselling author of "The \$100 Startup"

"Karl has a knack for selecting the best moments of his three-year journey, the encounters that reveal unique aspects of each country he visits; then he wraps each chapter with a mouth-watering recipe that captures the essence the country's cuisine. "FORKS" is a beautifully designed book that does what every travel book should do: It encourages you to get out, dig in and explore." -- Michael Shapiro, author of "A Sense of Place: Great Travel Writers Talk About Their Craft, Lives, and Inspiration"

"I love this book; it's a work of art. Part adventure story, part photo essay, part recipe book, and all gorgeous, Forks: A Quest for Culture, Cuisine, and Connection lives in a category by itself."

"Steve Farber, author, The Radical Leap" This is not your ordinary travel memoir . . .

Gotta love it "travel, adventure, photography and food."

"Vera Marie Badertscher, A Traveler's Library" All of us at Overland International love a good travel epic and Allan Karl may have provided us with one of our favorite stories of the year.

"Christophe Noel, editor, Expedition Portal "Allan Karl is a naturally vibrant explorer of roads, continents, people, and cuisine. His full-color book reflects this vibrance with photos of the people he meets and the food he is offered. You're going to want it!"

"Carla King, author, American Borders

Culture. Cuisine. Connection. FORKS brings the world to your table: An around-the-world adventure story. A colorful photo book. A global cookbook. Why would someone sell nearly everything he owns, then pack up and travel for three years--alone--on a motorcycle? One day Allan Karl woke up to discover that he was unemployed and his marriage had ended in divorce. Instead of harboring resentment or wallowing in self-pity, Allan looked at the forks in the road of his life as an opportunity to both follow a life-long dream and pursue his passions. He hopped on his motorcycle and traveled around the world--alone. After three years and 62,000 miles of riding, through 35 countries on 5 continents, he returned home only to set out on another journey--in search of the best way to share the truths he'd uncovered and the lessons learned during his adventure around

the world. Discover the world through people and food with adventurer Allan Karl. Explore 35 countries on five continents: Witness their beauty through stunning photographs. Meet their peoples through individual stories of collision and connection. Taste their cultures through the flavors and foods in 40 signature recipes. The stories, photographs, and recipes in FORKS give readers an opportunity to cross into unfamiliar and often dangerous territories, explore unique world cultures, and chart an extraordinary expedition around the world, all while savoring the flavors of local food. A book to satisfy seasoned explorers, armchair travelers, and culinary adventurers alike.

There are many people who take incredible journeys what sets Allan Karl's book FORKS apart is his ability to take us with him on his amazing quest with beautiful photographs, delicious recipes from around the world and most importantly a soulful, very rich telling of his sojourn that makes one feel as if you were there on the back of his motorcycle seeing and experiencing it with him. FORKS is a Brilliant create! I have given FORKS to several people as gifts - all different ages, some experienced adventure travelers in their own right and some arm chair travelers - some riders - some chefs - they have all LOVED the book! I have spent much of my life living in the bush in remote areas of Africa and the thing that I appreciated the most about Allan's book was his exchanges with others and how there are more things we all connect on than differences. Appreciating our differences and celebrating them together. So much of our media is about fear it is refreshing and inspiring to have someone who took the road less traveled and brought it home to all of us in such a beautiful way. Thank you Allan for helping the world connect in a positive way!

This book should have been written by two of my sons, but their planned 2012 journey from San Diego to Patagonia on motorcycles was put on hold due to life changes and the drug wars occurring in Mexico. I purchased it for them so that at least they could live the adventures through the eyes of one who was able to make that journey. Both sons enjoyed it immensely. Both have traveled extensively and shared many of the same experiences as the author throughout the Middle East, and parts of Central and South America. This book is a great one to have on the coffee table for those who have either dreamed, or have lived the dream of bare knuckle travel through some of the least explored parts of this world.

I read a great deal but find that most books, especially written by "amateurs", are hardly worth the time. Allan must be a very gifted person. He has put together an excellent book that would be enjoyed by people who love to travel, love eating, and love people. I tell many of my friends about it

and give it as a gift to those who dream of becoming world travellers. Digging down in to the cultures of various countries can not be done from a tour bus but it can be done by people who are friendly and open minded. Allan must be one of those people. Congratulations, Allan, on a job well done.

A grand adventure! I met Allan at a show in Dallas and spent a few minutes talking about traveling by motorbike, something we both love. A lovely gentleman! I'm almost through the book, halfway through Africa, and it makes me really wish I'd of gotten out of North America on my rides. The book is not only a fascinating read, but it's a lovely table top book in it's own right. The pictures wonderfully illustrate the words and the recipes from around the world will get a workout in my kitchen!

This is an inspiring and creative book idea ! I love that Allan is open about the connecting part. That's refreshing in the world of "ADV Riders" who, in my experience, tend to keep a more macho perspective on their adventure riding. Allan's personal exposure about himself before the trip was nice to read about. My wife and I love the recipes and will someday get to making them all. Everyone who visits our house picks it up off the coffee table and doesn't want to put it down. Then when I mention that Allan lives in the same town as us, they want to know if we ride our GS's with him! Maybe someday.

I heard about Allan Karl from a recent adventure radio broadcast and wanted to hear more about his adventures via motorcycle. I really like how he used the different places, people, and food to describe all the wonderful places around the world. This is one of my favorite coffee-table books and makes me look forward to a future when I can accomplish the same adventures.

This is a very unique motorcycle book that combines brief summary of visited countries (territory, capital, population), vivid impressions of the rider when contacting local people and a special knack to say something interesting even from places from where we might have prejudged images. Great recipes for every country. Oh, and something else: the photos are great and taken with a very sharp eye.

Great stories, delicious recipes, and inspiring images. Really love the honest writing and way the book is laid out in short story sections by country he visited. Beautiful design and makes me want to

travel the world!

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