

# The Travels of Marco Polo - The Original Classic Edition

Marco Polo

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Shocking truths of Asian culture. . .that inspired 700 years of debate!

Few texts have aroused more controversy than the book of Marco Polo, with good reason: the Asian tales that Marco Polo brought back to Renaissance Europe were absolutely unbelievable. . .except for the fact that most of them turn out to be provably true, especially in the context of this carefully crafted new edition.

Like many Great Works this is a famous title that most people (myself included) have heard of throughout their lives. . .but have never read. One lazy Sunday I drifted into watching a Marco Polo mini-series, which I thought was a rather silly, romanticized, sensationalized Hollywood treatment. It annoyed me, but I watched it to the end. . .and then ran to Amazon to find a book to get the facts.

Amazing news. . .the sensationalized mini-series barely scratched the surface of the astounding things Marco Polo reports in his actual book!

Polo was a merchant with the heart of an anthropologist. Accounts of terrain, natural resources, buildings and trade goods abound (and can be quite dry) but these are punctuated by his unusual observations of ethnicities, religions, social customs and royal intrigues.

Indeed, Marco Polos home was less civilized than the society he witnessed in China, to the point that he often had no point of comparison. Yet, he conscientiously describes city planning, landscaping, shopping malls, hospitals, public welfare systems with job retraining, organized law enforcement, paper money, military technology and systems of management, homes with central coal heat, multi-lingual government agencies, fire departments, long distance messenger networks, paved roads, public and private parks, and much more.

And, perhaps explaining the books centuries of commercial success,



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