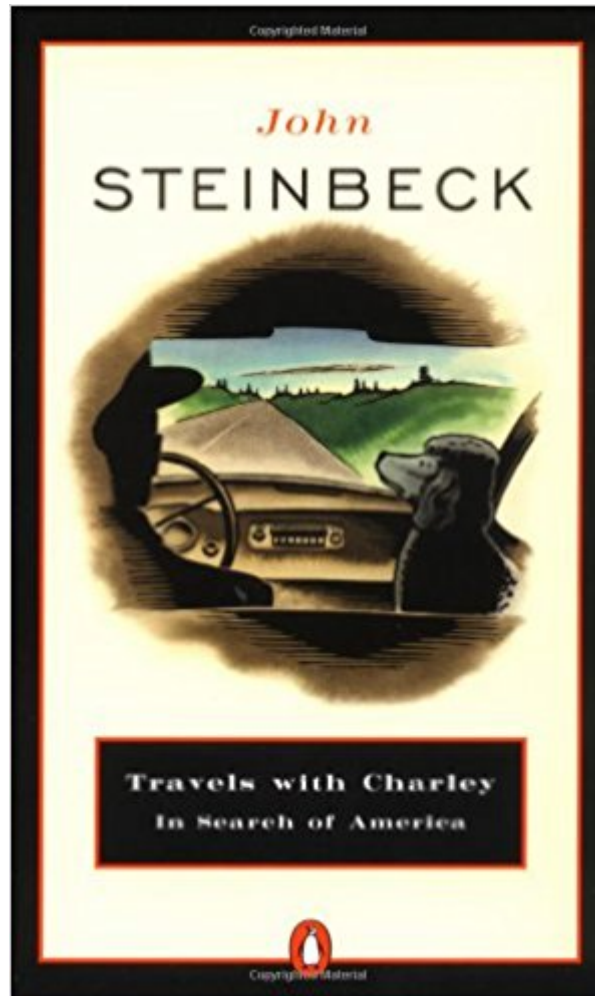




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# Travels With Charley In Search Of America



## Synopsis

An intimate journey across America, as told by one of its most beloved writers— To hear the speech of the real America, to smell the grass and the trees, to see the colors and the light—these were John Steinbeck's goals as he set out, at the age of fifty-eight, to rediscover the country he had been writing about for so many years. With Charley, his French poodle, Steinbeck drives the interstates and the country roads, dines with truckers, encounters bears at Yellowstone and old friends in San Francisco. Along the way he reflects on the American character, racial hostility, the particular form of American loneliness he finds almost everywhere, and — the unexpected kindness of strangers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

—“Pure delight, a pungent potpourri of places and people interspersed with bittersweet essays on everything from the emotional difficulties of growing old to the reasons why giant sequoias arouse such awe.”—The New York Times Book Review—“Profound, sympathetic, often angry . . . an honest moving book by one of our great writers.”—The San Francisco Examiner—“This is superior Steinbeck—a muscular, evocative report of a journey of rediscovery.”—John Barkham, Saturday Review Syndicate—“The eager, sensuous pages in which he writes about what he found and whom he encountered frame a picture of our human nature in the twentieth century which will not soon be surpassed.”—Edward Weeks, The Atlantic Monthly

In September 1960, John Steinbeck and his poodle, Charley, embarked on a journey across America. A picaresque tale, this chronicle of their trip meanders along scenic backroads and speeds along anonymous superhighways, moving from small towns to growing cities to glorious wilderness oases. Travels with Charley is animated by Steinbeck's attention to the specific details of the natural world and his sense of how the lives of people are intimately connected to the rhythms of nature - to weather, geography, the cycles of the seasons. His keen ear for the transactions among people is evident, too, as he records the interests and obsessions that preoccupy the Americans he encounters along the way. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I just finished this book on Kindle - 8/20/2017. I love reading.....have read a lot of books and keep an inventory of how I personally rated them. "Travels with Charley" just placed in the category of "most favorites". I absolutely loved it for many, many reasons. John Steinbeck takes me to a place of deeper meaning and awareness in regards to any of the subject matter. His writing in this book completely captivates me with it's simplicity.....then, I'd sit back, stare at the wall for a minute and realize how "profound" it is.

I'd give 'em if I could. "Travels with Charley" is one of those books that gets better every time I read it. 50 years after it appeared, it is becoming a window on America at the beginning of a pivotal time, which gives it a poignant feel, especially near the end. I've been to the Steinbeck Center and checked out the restored Rocinante as well as the great old GMC 3/4 ton truck it's mounted on...I'd have like to have looked through it at the end of the journey. The Kindle edition I purchased is just fine: easily navigated, as usual.

This is an excellent book. I am particularly struck by how some of the same kinds of stereotypical behaviors associated with American regions still hold true 50+ years later. The conclusion of the book is heart-breaking, as the narrator/author encounters the sick, repulsive racism of the south.

A snapshot of the 60's. So, John Steinbeck needs to reignite his creative juices and decides to travel across the country with an old reliable friend, his poodle, Charlie. It's a long trip and gets a bit boring here and there. The part that gave me good laugh was the time spent at Yellowstone and Charlie's reaction to the bears. But I thought the entire book was really a lead in to the scene in the South, which was his witnessing of the beginning of the desegregation of the schools. It was disturbing and disheartening. His description of the tiny child trying to go to school and the

screaming women hurling insults and racial slurs at the little girl is something I will long carry with me. The book did make me want to take my own dog, Charlie with for me some travel of our own, nothing quite so ambitious, however.

Great story from a great author about his journey around America in a truck hauling a camper and with his beloved dog. Interesting views of 1960 America. Enjoyed this book immensely.

Awesome audiobook. Gary S. does a great job reading it. Steinbeck's descriptions are so detailed-you feel as if you're right there. Loved it.

I loved reading John Steinbeck's Travels with Charlie ! My husband had read this book a long time ago, so he was sure that I would like it. It is full of humor, beautiful descriptions, and empathy for his fellow man, which I admired. I used to live in Wisconsin, so when he described Wisconsin, I longed to move back, until I thought of the slippery streets, and cold snowy weather. He was turned off by the prejudice he found as he talked to people he met, something I also admired about this really great writer.

This was the first Steinbeck book I have read, at least as I remember. It is for a History club. This book is witty, funny, and sad sometimes. The clothes washing idea is something I would never have thought of, and that's what the club members commented. He also said he wanted no one to recognize him. I wonder if anyone really would have. If he dressed like everyone else, would someone really recognize his face? There wasn't social media then, just book covers, magazines. I would like to know what others think about this. If Steven Tyler came to your town in blue jeans and a plaid shirt, no jewelry, etc. would anyone know it was him?

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