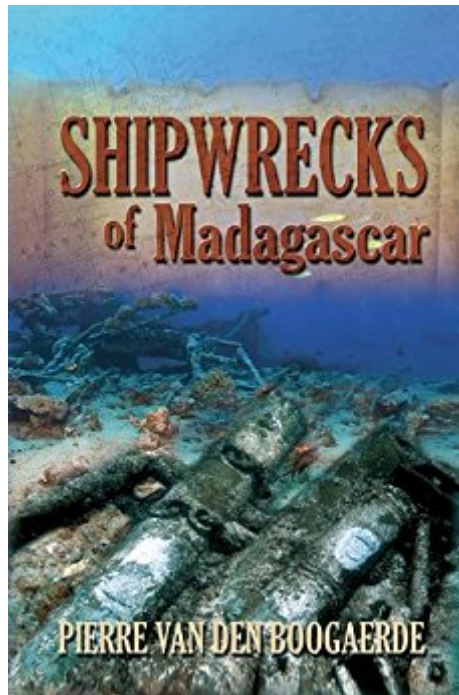




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Shipwrecks Of Madagascar



Synopsis

Synopsis:Shipwrecks of Madagascar recounts the stories of about a hundred notable shipwrecks off the coast of Madagascar from ancient to modern times and the fate and adventures of survivors. It covers ships of the mighty Portuguese, Dutch, British, and French East India Companies, of numerous pirates who visited or settled there, of the British and French Navies, of the sailing vessels and steamers of the 19th century, and of more recent times. Shipwrecks are unknown relics for most people. This captivating book provides an interesting history into the many that occurred and helped shape Madagascar into the country it is today.**About the Author:**Pierre van den Boogaerde was born and raised in Ghent, a provincial town in Belgium. He studied law and economics both in Belgium and the U.S. He spent most of his career working for an international financial organization based in Washington, D.C. but was posted in Madagascar about three years ago. Pierre has also been an avid wreck diver for about 30 years.

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Customer Reviews

the was a very interesting book - nicely written for easy readinggood background to the ships and

their crews. many facts and references kept me busy with google as I was interested to know more

Buy this book only if you like sloppy fiction, not as a reference book. The author seemed to have conducted his research from behind his computer and did not bother to check his [almost entirely and mostly] faulty secondary references. He even references these known bad sites as if they are important. The author is able to sink ships around Madagascar that did not sink remotely in the area [e.g. the Dutch VOC ship Zierikzee sank in Mauritius/Reunion waters] or has juicy stories about survival and journeys across land that relate other periods and geographical areas [e.g. he apparently does not know that the island of Macassar is not Madagascar (Macassar is the old 17th century name for the island of Celebes which is part of Indonesia today and 4000 miles from Madagascar)]. This last example typifies his findings. When a few letters look the same he includes it as gospel hoping that the ignorant don't know better. The list of errors is too long for this review. It's a shipwreck of a book and a complete waste of time and money. It is so bad that one would question other publications from the same publisher who apparently has no editor.

It reads like an adventure book - except these stories are real! This book makes for a fun and thoroughly entertaining reading as it tells the true stories of ships that shipwrecked around the island of Madagascar from the time of the great sea explorations of the 16th century through the pirate era of the 17th century to recent times. It makes for both fun and educational reading as it entwines a look into the history of sea travel and the history of Madagascar, with the adventure and survival stories of people that found themselves stranded on often inhospitable terrain. The stories of the pirates that made Madagascar their stronghold in the 17th-18th century are fascinating. The many photos of the ships and the wrecks really make one relate to the stories. The style is easy and entertaining. The book is very well researched. It truly makes history come alive!

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