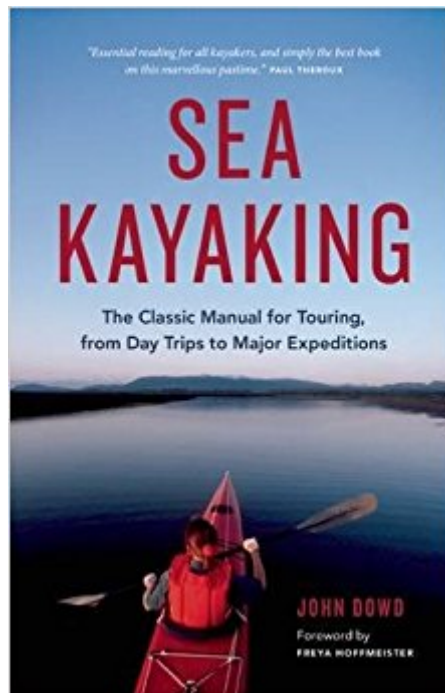




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Sea Kayaking: The Classic Manual For Touring, From Day Trips To Major Expeditions



Synopsis

Still regarded as "the bible" for both new and experienced kayakers after more than thirty years in print, *Sea Kayaking* covers the basics of equipment and technique, including types of paddles and strokes, as well as such essential skills as how to read the weather and the water, how to navigate with and without GPS and how to travel with a group. Drawing on his many years of experience paddling in all climates, John Dowd presents practical advice on dealing with potential hazards (from surf to sea ice to sharks), carrying out rescues and planning for long-distance expeditions. New for this edition are hints about digital technologies for planning and navigating while kayak touring as well as lots of tips for outfitting boats, adapting equipment and finessing fishing technique while kayak angling; whether casting and jigging for fun on a day trip or trolling for dinner on a longer expedition. Also fully updated are the sections on managing risk and the inspiring stories of adventure, including Freya Hoffmeister's record-breaking circumnavigation of Australia and Japanese paddlers' increasingly challenging trips around the islands and beyond. As a sport, sea kayaking continues to evolve. Once the sport of a very few long-distance paddlers embarking on international expeditions, then the recreational pursuit of many weekend tourers, sea kayaking is now popular with many day trippers as well. As more and more paddlers take to the water; for the day, the weekend or many months, this classic guide continues to be required reading for those seeking adventure on the open ocean.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John Dowd has been paddling kayaks for more than forty years and has led many expeditions. He

was a publisher of the sport's first magazine, Sea Kayaker, and is the former owner of a specialty kayak shop. Dowd lives in Nanaimo, BC. Freya Hoffmeister is a world-renowned expedition kayaker. She has circumnavigated Iceland, New Zealand and most recently Australia on a solo and mostly unsupported trip chronicled in the book Fearless: One Woman, One Kayak, One Continent. She is currently in the middle of a solo circumnavigation of South America.

Dowd's Sea Kayaking: The Classic Manual for Touring, from Day Trips to Major Expeditions was certainly worth the investment of money and the time it took to read it. His writing style is easy to follow and, for the most part, pretty objective. I skipped over about 30% of the book. Mainly because at almost 60 years old, I have chalked up tons of experience as a camper, outdoors cook, and whitewater paddler. So many of the things he covered for the novice were of no interest. That being said, every other part of the book specifically about sea kayaking was worth its weight in gold. If you make one serious mistake out on the water it could be extremely costly (and dangerous). Putting that in perspective, the book deserves a spot on every kayaker's bookshelf to be read and re-read.

Highly recommended. A fantastic, clearly written book by one of the founding members of the modern sea kayak movement. Dowd's gentle, patient tone comes from decades of experience. He makes important points about safety, trendiness, knowledge vs. certification, and most all, enjoying paddling.

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