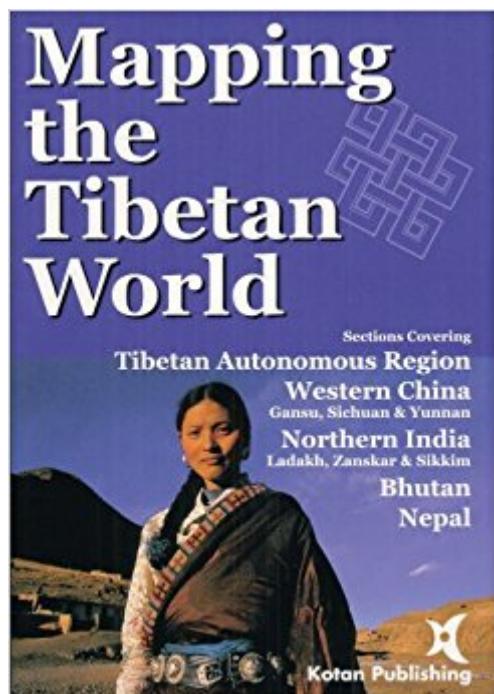


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# Mapping The Tibetan World



## **Synopsis**

This extraordinary budget travel guide to the Tibetan world comes with over 280 tried and tested maps covering the entire region. Get there and get around: Hundreds of pages of travel information. Plus gateway cities: New Delhi, Calcutta, Chengdu, Kunming, Kathmandu and Pokhara. Keep to your budget: Hotel tariffs, tour and trekking costs, permit and visa charges. Pack everything in: Cultural, historical and religious explanations, festival dates, sights & more...

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 424 pages

Publisher: Kotan Publishing; 1st edition (February 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0970171609

ISBN-13: 978-0970171603

Product Dimensions: 6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,667,901 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in Books > Travel > Asia > Bhutan #104 in Books > Travel > Asia > Tibet #149 in Books > Travel > Asia > Nepal > General

## **Customer Reviews**

Although this book has about 300 very detailed maps everything from a map of Potala Palace to downtown Cheng-du it is essentially a travel guide rather than a history of mapping the Tibetan region, as the title may suggest. In the first chapter, the authors, all experienced travelers captivated by Tibet, are admirably forthright about the drawbacks of travel there (e.g., Tibetan mastiffs that bite on sight, the need for vaccinations, altitude sickness, and the absence of gourmet meals) and then spend the rest of the book focusing on the good points, such as the many monasteries and cultural sites and the ability to travel on \$12 a day. Pages are filled with practical tourist information, basic tours, very detailed instructions (e.g., the building in front of which a bus leaves), and plentiful photos. Recommended for all travel collections specializing in Asian geographic areas. Mary Lynette Larsgaard, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

A genuinely distinct travel and cultural guide to Tibet, Bhutan, and the Tibetan areas in Nepal,

W.China, and N.India. -- Book News, February 2001A little gem of a guide, gives excellent synopses that help one prepare for a trip to the Himalayan region. -- Shambhala Sun, May 2001A little gem of a guide, gives excellent synopses that help one prepare for a trip to the Himalayan region. -- Shambhala Sun, May 2001Recommended for all travel collections specializing in Asian geographic areas. -- Library Journal, February 15, 2001The 'Bible' for independent travel in the region. Laminate your copy against the rigours of the Tibetan road now! -- Free Tibet Campaign, Spring 2001This is a highly comprehensive publication with all the latest information,covering even the remotest areas. -- Tibet Society, Spring 2001This wonderful guidebook which contains almost 300 detailed maps is the Bible for Tibetan freaks. -- Tibet Aid, Japan, January 2002Tibet-bound travelers will find no better guide than Mapping the Tibetan World. This is a must-have if you're seeing Tibet. -- Big World Travel Magazine & Hostels.com, December 2000

This is the first guidebook to include the whole Tibetan world. Roughly one third of the main body of the book is devoted to the Tibetan "Autonomous" Region, one third to other Tibetan lands governed by China, and one third to Bhutan and the Tibetan areas of Nepal and India. It is an intensely practical book, directed to the independent traveller using public transport. It includes information about public transport which is readily available nowhere else; it does not include the telephone numbers of bus stations - an unfortunate omission. The many excellent maps include regional maps, and no less than 126 maps of towns, many of them mapped in no other available book. Important improvements would be: the inclusion of Chinese characters where appropriate in the text; the addition of markers to every Chinese word or name wherever it appears to indicate the tones, without which they cannot be pronounced; and a guide to the pronunciation of Tibetan, without which the section Survival Tibetan is scarcely useful. Some travellers will want more information about the furnishings and images in Tibetan temples. In most of the territory covered, although not for India, Gyurme Dorje's "Tibet Handbook with Bhutan" (Footprint Handbooks) will provide that information, and be a complementary companion book. The book will be indispensable for the serious traveller who wishes to understand the extent and the diversity of the Tibetan world.

We spent a month in Tibet and that included more than 2000 miles overland across the tibetan plateau from Lhasa to Mt Kailash and back. This book was a continous companion of mine and I have to admit I have never come across a better guidebook while I travelled to other continents. You will not realize it till you look back at those amazing weeks and the tattered book of yours, to realize that how much you referred to it. The guys who wrote it, please accept my hearty congratulations.

You have done a phenomenal job. just one minor suggestion. I have yet to come across a tibetan guidebook that recommends wearing masks or carrying them. Once you are out in the open desert in a 4x4, unless you have a mask, 2 weeks of exposure would lead to nose-bleed due to dry air and continuous dust dumped into your 4x4 (at least it did in my case- call me a pansy :-)

'Mapping the Tibetan World' is a very ambitious project, and one that succeeds brilliantly. The once-great Tibetan world, though based on common culture and language, has splintered over the centuries into slabs attached to China, India and Nepal--with Bhutan the sole independent nation remaining. This book reassembles the complex jigsaw into a cohesive whole again, making it the perfect guidebook for travellers keen on visiting overlapping regions of the Tibetan plateau on a single trip. The marvel is how all the complex data is compressed into 424 pages. The maps are highly detailed and many are not found in other sources: among them are excellent trekking maps. If you want to explore the Tibetan sphere of influence, this is the book. Michael Buckley, travel writer, author of *Heartlands: Travels in the Tibetan World* and the *Tibet Travel Adventure Guide*

Mapping the Tibetan World is the portable encyclopedia of the Tibetan world i was waiting for !! have now this wonderful little book always close to me so that i can read a bit here and a bit there whenever i have five minutes to spare. It has informations on all aspects of Tibetan life, culture, history and geography as well as Tibetan Buddhist philosophy and symbols. The many maps included makes it easy to plan your trip in Tibet and other Tibetan cultural regions. The only suggestions i could make to the publisher would be a LARGE PRINT version for people who like me have bad eyesight, and may be a color coding to distinguish the various regions (chapters). A wonderful job done by this team of young explorers, many thanks to them !

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At first glance, I thought this guide would be difficult to use as I was so used to the layout of Lonely Planet. However, I quickly adapted to it and found it very informative and reasonably up to date. Most useful was the section on Buddhism when visiting the extraordinary temples in Tibet, as well as advice on routes to take and how to get places. Unfortunately, after a vehicle accident just outside of Lhasa, my book went missing somewhere between the side of the road and the hospital bed (don't let that put you off visiting this remarkable country!). So I was overjoyed when I discovered the guide again in Kathmandu, and bought another copy so I could continue to use it!

This book is a must for travellers, it has easily the best set of maps to Tibet that I have ever seen and they are really easy to follow. The travel information is also very detailed, especially when it comes to the local public transport timetables and routes. I am also impressed that it covers in detail all the Tibetan areas in the Chinese controlled areas and beyond and not just around Lhasa.

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