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- **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MAPS AND BOOKS**
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AXIS OF EVIL MAPPING NEWSLETTER #02 OF 2022 –February

INTRODUCTION

As often happens, as soon as a newsletter is despatched, a shipment of maps arrives shortly thereafter. We are pleased to note three brand new titles this month, which are noted in detail below, as well as four updates. I also wish to note that ITMB has been the recipient of three awards/commendations recently. First, our ITM travel map of Kilimanjaro won a prize from the Mountaineering Assn, then our maps of Africa and of Maui/Kauai were selected for display at the 30th International Cartographic Assn's conference in Italy, and this month, our map of Everest/Himalayas won an award from the Mountaineering Assn, for 2021 this time. We don't generally place our maps in front of critics for evaluation, but every so often, we do. Winning excellence awards is shared by the individuals whose months of effort created such maps, and it is gratifying for the cartographers to receive recognition for their painstaking efforts to create a work of beauty as well as accuracy.

THE PASSING OF KERSTIN BORCH

It is with great sadness that I have to report the recent passing of Kerstin Borch, owner of Borch Verlag Naps of Germany, following a long and painful battle with muscular dystrophy. Those of us in the trade who knew her greatly admired Kerstin, who was a very fine person indeed, and ran Borch Maps with integrity and decency. I first met Kerstin shortly after she bought Berndtson Maps out of bankruptcy court. The previous owner, Kai Berndtson, had driven his company into insolvency, but contested Kerstin's right to purchase 'his' company, as she had been employed by him. He litigated furiously for several years, being defeated repeatedly in the courts, but vindictively sought redress repeatedly even though he had no case. The stress of dealing with such legal matters, I feel, severely damaged Kerstin's health. The last time I saw her was at an IMTA mapping conference at Estoril, near Lisbon, where she was supposed to be awarded recognition for excellence. Kai Berndtson protested vehemently against this, still pursuing his vendetta against Kerstin, and IMTA buckled under such pressure and refused her the honour she richly deserved. She spent most of the conference in her room debilitated by an attack that I am convinced was brought about by stress. This is the last time, to my knowledge, that she made a public mapping appearance or participated in IMTA (now IMIA). ITMB continued to represent her line at the Frankfurt Book Fair for the next several years. Kai Berndtson died a number of years ago, and despite his years of effort, Borch Maps succeeded and is now a respected and popular line of international travel maps. ITMB is honoured to have represented the line in North America since its founding. Her brother Marcus took over the running of the company a few years ago, and I am grateful to him for advising me of Kerstin's passing. She was one of the finest people I have ever known, and will be greatly missed.

YEAR OF THE TIGER

On a happier note, 2022, at the beginning of February, marks the second of several New Year celebrations held around the world each year. For the Chinese diaspora, this is the Year of the Tiger, one of the twelve animals that constitutes the astrological lunar calendar, and is normally celebrated by dragon dances, a parade, and ceremonial gift-giving 'good luck' gestures. The Vietnamese around the world align themselves traditionally with the same lunar calendar, and celebrate Tet, their name for the beginning of a new year with the preparation of delicacies steeped in their own culture, which is quite different than the Chinese heritage. Lan, being the unofficial Vietnam ambassador to the world, was quite active in this year's preparations, writing a new song to welcome in the Vietnamese Tiger year, and performing it as part of the Vietnamese embassy's on-line Tet celebration, rehearsing with her dance group to record a traditional folk dance which, thanks to Covid, had to be videotaped and presented virtually by the Vietnamese embassy in Ottawa, and recording several folk songs for the enjoyment of those of (largely) Vietnamese heritage now living in Canada, of whom there are almost two million. The two grandsons, being ardent Canadians, don't really care about such traditions, but were quite happy to accept a Good Luck envelope containing \$20.

PREDICTIONS FOR 2022

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Covid remains a potent threat, but we have largely become numb to its potential to harm, and accepting that the new 'normal' looks pretty much as we see it at the beginning of 2022. I predict that Omicron is the future of the virus, something that resembles a bad flu for those fully vaccinated with a booster, and kills off or seriously debilitates those who are unvaccinated. More than 40,000 Americans have died of Covid during this month of January alone, almost all of them unvaccinated individuals. I predict that the figure for February will be even higher, as many Americans have become obstinately convinced that Covid either doesn't exist or is a Democratic Party plot to seize control of their brains. Fox News and various political talking heads do their best to stoke the flames of hatred and bigotry, thereby ensuring that many more Americans will die in the months to come. However, the current surge of Omicron variant will gradually abate, or will be tamed by a special vaccine, and we will all breathe a great sigh of relief as long as nothing else arrives to create a further surge.

I further predict that travel will recover a fair portion of its vibrancy during 2022. I am encouraged by the fairly high sales figures ITMB has seen during January. It appears that a lot of people are planning to resume travelling during 2022 and are doing their homework to prepare for resuming a more normal existence, albeit one that is conscious of the risks involved. I predict that travel to Africa and to Asia will remain in the doldrums for several more months, but travel to Europe and those parts of the Western Hemisphere close to the USA will steadily improve, as well as travel within Europe by Europeans. This is working on the assumption that Russia does not invade Ukraine, but continues to bluster and threaten and destabilize. If it does invade, all bets are off. The West cannot afford to see Putin strengthening his goal of re-creating the Soviet empire.

AGENT SONYA

This reference to Russia leads to something more historically relevant than map related, although there is an element pertinent to maps included. The history of the 20th century is punctuated by a series of conflicts – the denouement of imperialism and the beginning of the dissolution (largely) of colonial empires (at least by Britain), the First World War, the rise of fascism and the resultant Second World War, followed by the Cold War and the so-called Winds of Change that brought so many countries into existence, including Vietnam and its bloody civil war, followed by the collapse of the Soviet empire and several resultant conflicts, followed by the rise of militant Muslim extremism. One of the most remarkable human figures shaping the 20th Century is a virtually unknown German Jewish girl named Ursula Kuczynski, better known as the Soviet spymaster Agent Sonya. Growing up in post-WW1 Germany, she became a fanatical opponent of anti-Semitic sentiment that was stoked by Hitler and his supporters throughout the 1920s and '30s into an eventual 'Final Solution' that killed millions. At the time, only the communistic Bolsheviks inside Germany were fighting the growing threat of fascism, so it is natural that she was drawn into the orbit of idealistic communism (America was, at that time, quite anti-Semitic and turned a blind eye to what was emerging in Europe; so did Britain and France).

She was recruited by Moscow, trained, and sent to China, where she lived in Shanghai during the turbulent 1930s along with thousands of largely-German Jewish refugees who flocked to Shanghai for supposed safety. She acted as radio liaison between the Soviet Union and Chinese communists opposing Chiang Kai Chek and militaristic interventions by Japan, operating under spymaster Richard Sorge, who was later sent to Japan as a spy, caught, and executed. After Japan invaded China in 1937 (the REAL start of WW2), Agent Sonya had to flee China. She was posted to Switzerland by the GRU, where she set up anti-fascist communistic spy networks inside Germany prior to and during WW2, including a plot to kill Hitler that unfortunately had to be aborted. The Swiss were officially neutral during the war, but had to be very careful not to annoy Hitler, who regularly threatened to invade (using tactics similar to Putin's today). As a result, Sonya lived in fear of being exposed both by the Swiss government and by German agents operating inside Switzerland.

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When it appeared that Germany was about to invade Switzerland (a real threat that didn't happen), she managed to escape to Britain by marrying a UK citizen (although she was already married to another German agent who was operating in China still). She orchestrated radio communications between Russian 'assets' in the UK and GRU headquarters in Moscow. Over four years of WW2, 'Sonya' radio-transmitted tons of data to Moscow, including all the data necessary to build a nuclear bomb, thanks to ideological traitors like Klaus Fuchs. She even secretly controlled the very first 'mobile' phone usage, via an American invention used by two British-trained spies (secretly Russian agents) who were dropped into Berlin in the last weeks of the war and provided invaluable information for both the western allies and the Russians by speaking into a 'walkie-talkie' while located inside German-controlled Berlin beamed towards an American plane flying overhead. We take mobile phones for granted today, but it was fascinating to discover how such technology developed and was initially used.

Agent Sonya's story is a brilliant read, encapsulating most of the momentous events of the century all of us grew up in, recently published for the first time by Penguin Random House (ISBN 9780593295106). It is 500 pages long and loaded with notable names of historical significance and far too detailed for me to provide anything except one tidbit of mapping trivia. Her colleague spy in Switzerland in 1940 was Sandor Rado, a Hungarian cartographer running a firm in Geneva called Geopress, whose function was to provide maps to news outlets, while his secret purpose was to gather information on Nazi Germany for the Soviets. His Red Orchestra network of spies in Italy, Spain, and Germany made him Public Enemy No.1 for Nazi Germany – and Sonya was his radio contact providing all his secret intelligence material to Stalin. After WW2, he returned to Russia and was rewarded for his years of service by being thrown into prison, emerging only after Stalin's death, getting himself out of Russia as soon as he could, and soon becoming the head of the Hungarian government's cartographic service. Those of you who remember Cartographia as a publishing house of excellent international maps can thank Rado, the Soviet spy, not to mention Gizella Bassa, a brilliant cartographer who designed many of those maps and went on to found Gizimaps.

VIRTUAL TRAVEL FOR THIS MONTH

Although Covid appears to be plateauing, it is far too soon to the 'light at the end of the tunnel' as anything more than a faint glimmer of hope. Thus, for most of us, actual travel in real time remains sadly out of reach. Virtual travel, however, stimulates our intellect, if nothing else. This month's journey takes us to New York City and a little-known fact about the grandest railway station in the world – Grand Central. The late 1880s and early 1900s saw dozens of grandiose rail temples of enormous magnificence being erected in Europe and North America. Most of these are still standing and looking much as they did when erected a century or more ago.

One of the most amazing such complexes was Grand Central Terminal, built in the 1890s by William K. Vanderbilt during the heyday of American railroading. The foundations were ten stories underground, housing a gigantic electricity complex that converted alternating electricity into direct current to activate the third rails that ran all trains along the Atlantic seaboard. The several levels above that contained workshops and storage areas, then there was the subway level, then the lower concourse, then the upper, or main, concourse. Thousands of people use this station each day to come to NYC to work or shop, but in the era before cars, virtually everyone coming to NYC arrived at Grand Central, a building so large that it occupied an entire city block and was a virtual city, with shops, restaurants, an art gallery, a movie theatre, and a thirty-foot-high gold clock.

It was also, until the early 1950s, the site of Manhattan-henge, named after Stonehenge in England for a remarkable phenomenon that may have been designed by the original architect or may have occurred simply by coincidence. Every December 5th, at sunrise, the sun rises in such a manner as to shine directly down 43rd Avenue and strike the east windows of Grand Central Terminal in such a way as to flood the main concourse in an amazing floodlit manner. The rising sun creates a celestial masterpiece simply because of the way Manhattan's streets are aligned east to west – but you can't see it anymore. That is due to the fact that, after WW2, the USA granted a large piece of land on the shore of Turtle Bay to the United Nations, which used it to build a 39-storey tower that we all now refer to as the UN Secretariat Building, or simply the UN. The tower is tall enough to block the light of dawn from the east windows of Grand Central, so the main concourse is no longer flooded with light in the way it used to be. This phenomenon was eloquently described in David Marshall's definitive work on the terminal, simply called Grand Central, published in 1946.

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I first saw Grand Central in the 1960s, when I visited the World's Fair being held in Flushing Meadows. I did not appreciate, at the time, the complexity of the system, only marveling that so many trains seemed to be arriving or departing. I've recently read *Time After Time* (Lisa Grunwald, Thorndike Press), describing in detail how levermen in control towers manually switched tracks for hours each day to route trains in and out of two levels of hundreds of tracks underneath the station. They were considered so vital that, during WW2, all of them were declared to be essential workers and prohibited from serving in the military. Now, I want to travel by train to NYC once Covid fades into memory, just to experience Grand Central once more.

HOW ONE KNOWS ONE IS AGING

1. Age 60 may be the new 40, but 9:00 is the new 'wee small hours' that used to be after midnight.
2. When I say 'The other day...' I could be referring to anytime between yesterday and the beginning of rock 'n roll in 1954, or an event during 'the war'.
3. When you are sitting on a park bench and someone sits next to you, you start a conversation without intending to pick anyone up. In fact, picking up some sweet young thing doesn't even occur to you.
4. When you squat, your knees sound like a goat chewing on an aluminum can.
5. When you don't mean to interrupt other people, but randomly remember things and get really excited.
6. When 'drinking responsibly' means not spilling your cup of hot chocolate.
7. When Wednesday seems like Sunday and you wonder what happened to Monday.
8. When you forget the last time you bought yourself anything new to wear.
9. When being tested doesn't mean have your heart checked, but your Covid status, and a negative test has a whole new meaning than for cancer. We all pray we're negative, not positive.
10. When someone asks you what you did over the weekend, and you can't remember that a weekend has just passed, let alone what day of the week is today.
11. Most importantly, you know you are aging when the news reports yet another passing of yet another famous celebrity, and you realize that each one is younger than yourself.

WORK IN PROGRESS - all sellers/librarians please note

ITMB, as of mid-February, 2022, has ample inventory of almost all of the titles traditionally carried as part of our publishing line. We have way too many titles at press. We ask for your understanding if a particular title happens to be unavailable in the short term. Generally, we have ample inventory. The following titles are under development:

Arizona/New Mexico – This title is now out of print temporarily. Lan has updated the artwork, which is now at press and expected fairly soon. We hope.

Austria – This is a double-sided mapping project that has been years in the making. ITMB introduced a single-sided map of Austria a few years ago, which sold, but did not do justice to an important country like Austria. As a result, we have re-worked the artwork into a double-sided map of the country and made it into a Rail/Road map. No ETA

British Columbia: North Half – BC is as large as the USA west of the Rockies, or all of Western Europe, but the northern half of this vast province is lightly populated and poorly mapped. It is, however, a very attractive touristic destination, if for no other reason than the fact that access to the Yukon, Alaska, and the Northwest Territories are accessed through northern BC. ITMB produced a very successful detailed map of the southern half of BC a couple of years ago. Covid has provided the opportunity to prepare an equally detailed map of the northern half of this marvelous province. The line work will still take several months to complete.

Florence and Northeastern Italy – One of the most-visited cities in Europe is Florence. This second edition map is being developed as a double-sided city and regional map covering all of Tuscany and surrounding provinces. The city itself needs no introduction to map sellers, so all I'll say is that it covers the urban area in excellent detail at an incredible 1:5,000 scale, showing all attractions. This map was ground-truthed during December and dozens of improvements noted. The artwork is being modified as a result. The regional side is completed, covering from Venice to Milan to below Sienna. No ETA

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France Riviera/Mediterranean Coast – The south of France is very popular touristically, but it is traditionally divided into two parts – western Languedoc and eastern Provence (or Riviera). The distances involved are not great, so we are developing a double-sided map to show the entire coastal area. The line work has been completed, but the final touches will probably take another three months. No ETA.

New Mexico – see Arizona, above

New Orleans/Mississippi River – We are well into developing artwork covering this important city travel destination map, including a separate map covering the Mississippi River Basin, but it will be several months before the artwork will approach completion.

North and South Dakota, plus Nebraska – ITMB is gradually extending its coverage of the USA via a series of state maps. The Dakotas form a natural entity for one side, and Nebraska for the reverse side. The line work is complete, and we are working on the final details. No ETA

Richmond, British Columbia – That's right folks, something we do receive a constant stream of requests for is a map of our own city which, as we discovered, has never been properly mapped. As a result, the proof checking is taking longer than usual due to inaccurate info on various web sites. We have driven over 1,000 kms. Up to now, checking place names, landmark buildings, parks, bike trails, and newly-opened streets. We are also updating our Vancouver map at the same time to serve as a bike map for the reverse side of Richmond, so our Metris van is visiting the gas pump more often than it normally does. ITMB has had a map of Vancouver City for a number of years, and recently published a map of North Vancouver and West Vancouver (two independent cities in the vicinity). Richmond will be the third segment of the Greater Vancouver region in our product line; ready, as always, when it is finished.

Russia's Heritage Cities – The current edition is out of inventory and consideration of a fresh edition is being developed in combination with a fresh map of European Russia (that portion west of the Urals). It won't be ready until the spring of 2022.

NEW RELEASES: JANUARY, 2022

Amazon & Brasil North Travel Reference Map 6th Ed. 2021 1:3,000,000 on waterproof stone paper ISBN 9781771290203 UPC 817712902030 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – We first mapped the Amazon River Basin for a rainforest protection conference many years ago, preparing what we thought was a pretty good rendition until we arrived at a conference full of experts who were able to add so much more data that we re-did the map before publishing it. We have updated it repeatedly as more information has come to light and are pleased to release this sixth version, which does something that we have wanted to do for some time – it adds a detailed map of the northern half of Brazil/Brasil to a river map that covers portions of seven different countries. The map is printed on revolutionary stone paper (tear-resistant, waterproof, friendly to the environment, and bio-degradable as well as extremely durable), and has two different cover pictures, so it can be marketed either as a map of Brasil or of the Amazon Basin – or both! This is, unfortunately, one of those titles caught up in lockdowns during 2021, so is coming out later than hoped for, but is a solid-selling map of great interest to travellers; it is also the only map of the river basin in print. As the world emerges from the era of Covid, this part of the world will once again dominate demand for South American explorers. **AVAILABLE**

Brasil North Travel Reference Map, see Amazon, above

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France Atlantic Coast Rail and Bike Map 1st Ed. 2022 1:600,000 ISBN 9781771292887 UPC 817712928870 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – France is a rather large country, and while it can be portrayed on a map as a country, mapping it in segments provides an opportunity to concentrate on regions at a better scale. This map, covering the coastal region of France from the Cotentin Peninsula south to the Spanish border and east as far as Paris and Montpellier in Languedoc is the first of what we hope will be a series covering the country at an improved scale. The second title, covering the Mediterranean Coastal region, is now underway. This map is double-sided, covering from Quimper and Paris at the northernmost portion of coverage, to Angouleme and Clermont at the southern extreme on one side, with the second side covering from Bordeaux and St-Etienne south to Bayonne/Pamplona and Nimes/Avignon in the south. This is a part of Europe that has been fought over for centuries, and as such is dotted with fortresses proclaiming its historic importance. This map has been designed with the leisure traveller in mind. Although it shows all motorways and highways, rail connections by train are emphasized, as are long-distance Euro-Velo cycling routes that are being developed in many parts of Europe. At this scale, it would be impractical to record all accommodations, but we have included a new feature that is thus far peculiar to France, and that is motorway hotels at rest areas. Naturally, the map is rich with places of touristic interest. **AVAILABLE**

North and West Vancouver Cities Street Maps, see Vancouver, below

Queensland (Australia) Travel Reference Map 1st Ed. 2022 1:900,000 ISBN 9781771296334 UPC 817712964342 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.96GBP – We complete our series of regional maps covering Australia with this map of Queensland, which nicely fills a double-sided sheet with only small portions of adjoining states showing. The map also includes a large inset map of central Brisbane. At this scale, the road/rail network of this part of Australia becomes very clear. The first side concentrates on the northern portion of the state, and the other side, the more densely-developed southern half. The map includes a listing of the state's top attractions, and notes all major touristic attractions. Although gas/petrol stations are commonly found, we have included some gas symbols in remoter parts of Queensland to encourage drivers to venture into roads less travelled. All states and territories of Australia are now available from ITMB as separate maps, as well as our very popular country map **AVAILABLE**

Russia Far East Republic, see Kamchatka, above

Spain South Half Road and Rail Travel Reference Map 1st Ed. 2022 1:700,000 ISBN 9781771297264 UPC 817712972644 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – The southern half of Spain (and of Portugal, which is also included) consists of the portion from Toledo/Castellon south to the Mediterranean. Side 1 (the cover side) focuses on the eastern portion, from Granada to the coast, including the Balearic islands of Mallorca, Menorca, and Ibiza, and the other side the portion of Spain west of Granada, including that portion of Portugal from north of Lisbon to the Algarve. Gibraltar is included, as are the Straits and the Spanish enclave of Ceuta and part of Tangier. A large inset of the seven Canary Islands is also shown. This map completes our regional mapping of Spain (the other two titles are Spain North and Cataluña/Barcelona). Spain has invested heavily in its train network, so we note both rapid train and regular train routes, as well as the expanding motorway network. Major touristic sites are noted, as always, with special attention to world heritage sites. The scale is excellent for those wanting to explore this portion of Spain at leisure. **AVAILABLE**

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Vancouver North and West Biking and Hiking Map 1:20,000/1:55,000 1st Ed. 2021 ISBN 9781771298735 UPC 817712987358 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – Vancouver, British Columbia, is actually a gathering together of 23 cities and towns in a loose federation of shared interests. ITMB's map of Vancouver is, in reality, only the City of Vancouver, with most of greater Vancouver on the reverse side. North Vancouver and West Vancouver are separate municipalities located on the north shore of Burrard Inlet (the harbour making the Vancouver area the largest port on the Pacific coastline). There are four municipalities on the north shore, all of which are named after Captain George Vancouver, the renowned British naval explorer and mapper, and why these four do not merge into one remains one of those enigmas wrapped in a puzzle. Regardless, this is the first-ever street map of all four municipalities, but more importantly, the north shore communities is where the mountains that make the Vancouver area so attractive are located. This means that this is where all the ski resorts exist, all the downhill skiing is done, where the 2010 Olympic Games were carried out, and where dozens of biking routes, hiking trails, and recreational opportunities exist. As a result, this map has international marketing opportunities and year-long sporting venues. It includes the Horseshoe Bay ferry terminal to Vancouver Island, the Cypress Mountain viewpoint, the Grouse Grind extreme-run climb, the Baden-Powell hiking trail, and Deep Cove small-boat harbour, with its access to remote Indian Arm. This is the second map covering the greater Vancouver area in detail, with the third portion being due for release this coming spring. **AVAILABLE**

NEW RELEASES in late 2021

Cape Town & Garden Route of South Africa Travel Reference Map 1st Ed. 2022 on waterproof stone paper 1:10,000/1:1,350,000 ISBN 9781771291736 UPC 817712917362 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – Lan and I travelled South Africa's southern coastal route, known as the Garden Route a few years ago and found it fascinating. Shutdowns during the Covid upsurges in 2020 allowed Lan enough time to concentrate on producing an excellent map of Cape Town on tear-resistant Stone paper, covering the city in excellent detail, and a second full-sized map on the reverse side covering that portion of the country known as Cape Province; essentially, from Cape Town north to the Namibian border, east to the Transkei, and north to Potchefstroom. This encompasses the wine districts of Stellenbosch, the lovely towns of George and Knysna on the south coast, historic Port Elizabeth, the very interesting Transkei homeland, all of Lesotho, and the arid interior regions that resonate with history – Graaff Reinet, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, and Upington. **AVAILABLE**

Cariboo/Chilcotin (BC) Travel Reference Map 1:300,000 1st Ed. Limited print run ISBN 9781553419808 UPC 815534198044 \$9.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – Due to travel restrictions brought about by Covid, travel by land within North America is now the preferred method of travel, despite air travel being popular during holiday seasons. The region known as the Cariboo covers central British Columbia, and is BC's most popular recreational area. It covers Hwy 20 west to Anahim Lake and east to Mahood Lake, following Hwy 97 as it snakes northwards from Hat Creek to Quesnel, showing hundreds of wilderness campsites, historic Barkerville and the gold rush fields, and the week-long canoeing experience of the Bowron Lakes. Dozens of provincial parks are included, with hiking, biking, boating, and horse riding experiences to enjoy, hundreds of lakes to explore, tons of lakeside resorts to enjoy, and towns with interesting names like 108 Mile, Buffalo Creek, Horsefly, and Chilko to discover. **AVAILABLE**

Georgia and Tbilisi Travel Reference Map 1st Ed. 2022 1:600,000/1:7,000 ISBN 9781771298018 UPC 817712980182 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – Georgia, the country and not the American state, is a very nice, but threatened country of great historical importance. Bordered on the west by the Black Sea, on the north by Russia, and on the east by Azerbaijan, and with an ill-defined border with Turkey on the west, Georgians must be nimble to retain their independence. Only with neighbouring Armenia does Georgia enjoy relatively good relations. Historically, Georgia is a Christian enclave that dates back to the earliest days of Christianity, and its many churches are major touristic attraction. This map portrays the country as accurately as is possible, showing the expanding network of motorways, major churches, castles, touristic sites, and regrettably, areas of contention with both Russia and Azerbaijan. The reverse side shows a full-sized city map of Tbilisi, the capital. **AVAILABLE**

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Gulf Cruising and the UAE Travel Reference Map 1st Ed. 2022 1:1,500,000 1:900, 000 ISBN 9781771296267 UPC 817712962676 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP – The Gulf, in this case, is the Persian Gulf, or if you prefer, the Arabian Gulf or, if you wish to, the Iranian Gulf. Regardless of which name one prefers, it is the body of water between Iran and the Arabic Emirates of Bahrain, Qatar, Dubai, and Oman/Muscat. It is also a popular cruising locale, with ships operating from Dubai to various ports of call. It also covers a considerable amount of geography, so side 1 concentrates on the water area from Kuwait/Iraq/Iran south to Bahrain and Qatar, along the coastline of the UAE to Oman and the Straits of Hormus, and along the coast of Oman to Muscat. It also includes inset maps of Manama (Bahrain), and Doha (Qatar), for the convenience of users. The second side of the map shows all of the United Arab Emirates and most of Oman, with insets of central Dubai and Muscat. **AVAILABLE**

Wales and Cardiff Travel Reference Map 1st Ed. 2022 1:300,000/1:8,000 ISBN 9781771291743 UPC 817712917430 \$13.95cdn/us E9.50 8.95GBP - ITMB finds the UK to be a never-ending source of maps needing to be prepared, such as this one of Cardiff and Wales. Cardiff is the capital of Wales, and is also an international access point to the UK; a map seems desirable. The city is based at the mouth of the River Taff, with most touristic points being concentrated in the harbour area, the city centre, and a concentration of eateries along Albany Road. Cardiff is shaped by two parallel motorways; the A4232 close to the waterfront, and the A48 near the northern extremities. Both are included in our map, which also shows historic sites, hotels, and tourist amenities. The reverse side shows all of Wales as an entity, showing roads, rail lines, ferry crossing points, and access routes to England. **AVAILABLE**

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