

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Who in the World Would *DRIVE* to Panama?

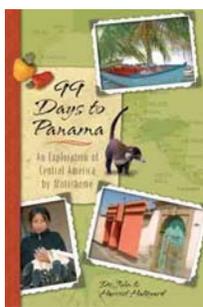
(Houston, TX) How did an average couple from Houston wind up traveling across Central America in a motorhome with their dog? Their desire to visit local people and culture took them onto byways, into homes and up rivers that tourists seldom see. Their book *99 Days to Panama* clearly explains how anyone can follow in their tire treads.

In this humorous account of their fascinating experiences, the readers join right along with the Halkyards in their RV on this highly entertaining adventure. Intimate stories, detailed and practical information illustrated by over 400 full color pictures will intrigue the vicarious traveler as well as the explorer. Who would have thought you could take your dog through Central America or that you can transit the Panama Canal for free?

- Visit rural homes and learn about the culture first hand
- Find out the how you can transit the Panama Canal on a yacht at no charge
- Learn about seldom seen Mayan ruins that rival the most famous
- Wonder at the bureaucratic peculiarities of the various border crossings

“...A vibrant travel essay and an especial treasure for armchair travelers.”
Midwest Book Review

The Halkyards are world travelers and have explored extensively throughout Mexico and Central America. Harriet, who has 20 years experience in the travel industry, specializing in taking visitors to unusual destinations, was a Drama lecturer at University in Australia. They are available for interviews.



Ordering information

99 Days to Panama (ISBN 0-9749080-3-7, 352 pages, over 400 colored photos) is available for \$24.95 in most bookstores, Amazon.com or direct from the publishers at www.99DaysToPanama.com or 14121 Cardinal Lane, Houston, TX 77079.

Brindle Press – 14121 Cardinal Lane, Houston, TX 77079
281-556-0893 - 281-556-0895 (f) – email info@brindlepress.com
<http://www.99daystopanama.com>

Reviews and Endorsements

99 Days to Panama

"*99 Days to Panama: An Exploration of Central America by Motorhome* is an engaging travel memoir of one couple and their travels from a Mayan church to an off-the-cuff school presentation in El Salvador to paddling upstream in Belize. Beautiful full-color photographs on every page illustrate this absorbing account relating practical advice on everything from how to travel in a motorhome with a dog to clear directions for prime RV camping spots to staying safe on an extraordinary adventure. A vibrant travel essay and an especial treasure for armchair travelers."

Midwest Book Review

"This is a very practical book for anyone wanting to travel to this particular part of the world. The style of writing is excellent and full of good humor..."

Dee Ann Ray

Clinton (Oklahoma) Daily News

"A thorough and detailed presentation on touring Central America by motorhome, providing much needed helpful information and advice to anyone anticipating such a trip".

Sue Bray

The Good Sam Club

"They show how easy and safe an extraordinary adventure can be. Their experiences, both humorous and dramatic, introduce people and cultures off the well traveled roads. It is an excellent guide for backpackers, campers and RVers."

Karen Foulk, Author

147 Fun Things to Do In Houston

"This book illustrates the true spirit of the Maya."

Thor Jansen

Mundo Maya

"I simply loved *99 Days to Panama*. It reads like letters from a friend. Harriet engages us in her enthusiasm for the people and places she visits, and she really has quite a way with words. Besides being a fascinating memoir, the book is a very good read. And it's a must-read for anybody who wants to go to Central America."

Mary Louise Ruehr

Record-Courier, (Ohio)

"*99 Days to Panama* can be enjoyed not only by veteran armchair travelers for it's entrancing stories and enchanting photos; but it also offers encouragement for those who didn't realize how easy and enjoyable a trip through Central America can be."

Marcella Gauthier

Escapees Magazine

"*99 Days to Panama* is both insightful and witty; reading this book is like going along on an exciting vacation with John, Harriet and Brindle, the dog. John and Harriet have done an excellent job in providing all the necessary information on how to go from Texas all the way to Panama. We highly recommend *99 Days to Panama* to anyone who wants to take a great adventure to Central America."

Pete Castillo

Sanborns's Travelogs

"I was greeted by a sensitive and savvy traveler. The book gives a true portrayal of the hazards and rewards of traveling through Mexico and Central America. The book is a fount of information (and) I got a belly laugh."

Garry G. Newman

The Redmond Spokesman

Harriet & John Halkyard

HARRIET HALKYARD was born in England and traveled throughout Europe before moving to Australia. There she lectured at the University of New South Wales in the National Institute of Dramatic Art. She then settled in San Diego where she worked in tourism for 20 years winning a reputation for accommodating visitors. She is a member of the American Red Cross' International Disaster Response Unit and is active in disaster relief across the Nation, as well as being a public speaker and instructor for the organization.



JOHN HALKYARD is a native of Syracuse, New York. He attended Purdue University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received his doctorate in Ocean Engineering. John is a research engineer in the offshore industry, and has specialized in developing deepwater offshore oil and gas production systems. He also travels the world explaining this technology to industry and academia. He is a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Western Australia where he served a sabbatical. John has authored many papers on offshore engineering and is a contributing author to the Handbook of Offshore Engineering (Elsevier Publishing).

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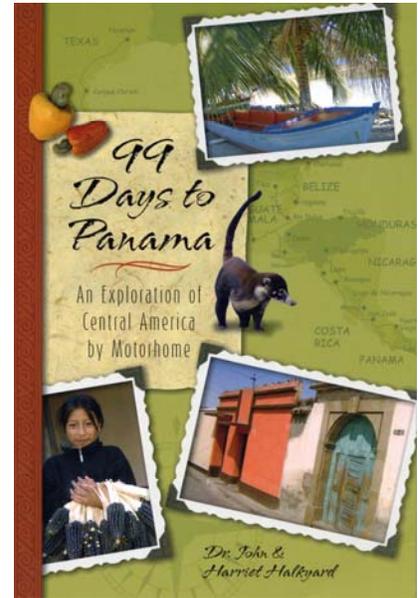
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99 Days to Panama

In 2003, John and Harriet Halkyard bought a motorhome, packed up the dog, and headed for Central America. This book is an entertaining chronicle of their adventures and a practical guide for those who will follow. There are over 400 full color pictures of their encounters and camping places.



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