



## THE TEN-LETTER COUNTRIES

### MORE ZANY ADVENTURES OF THE ALPHABET TRAVELLER

## David Jenkins continues his hilarious travel adventures

Having previously made an 85 000 mile journey to visit all countries in the world whose names are made up of four letters, The Alphabet Traveller is now off to explore 12 countries which all have ten letters to their name. With a hint of Bill Bryson, this fun take on travel writing draws readers into some fascinating parts of the world. *The Ten-Letter Countries* is a story of a unique blend of countries visited by David based solely on their spelling...

'The ten-letter countries are a dozen delightful destinations that few people ever get the chance to visit. Unusual, exotic, the world's richest and poorest, largest and smallest, an outrageous combo of deserts and jungles and mountains and islands. And places I'd never even heard of, couldn't possibly spell or pronounce, let alone point out on the globe,' says David.

He heads to Bangladesh in search of the elusive Bengal tiger but disaster strikes quickly and worse is to follow. After a bungled attempt to break into a Luxembourg jail he sets off to cross the Stans of Central Asia by horse, jeep and bicycle only to stumble upon the world's most notorious heroin trail. Assaulted by customs officials and hi-jacked at gunpoint he manages to escape across the mountains and make it safely over the Steppes in a Lada full of vodka – to a land of oil, pelicans and naked men beating themselves with branches. He follows the Silk Road and the spread of Islam to the deserts of Mauritania and makes the rail journey of a lifetime through the mountains of tiny Montenegro. In the sparkling Indian Ocean he uncovers the sinister side of the seductive Seychelles, finds himself at the helm of an aircraft over the islands of Mozambique and takes a razor attack in his stride to enjoy the wacky wildlife of magical Madagascar...

'Alphabet travelling is bit of a wacky concept,' says David. 'I like to take my readers to an eclectic mix of countries – selected only according to spelling...'

DAVID JENKINS hitchhiked to France the day he left school and has trotted the globe ever since. He has waited tables in Switzerland, sprayed crops in Israel, crewed yachts around the Pacific and cleaned urinals at Sydney Cricket Ground. He became a professor in Japan and then ran a business school in Rio de Janeiro before setting up a company delivering newspapers across Africa. Now based in Cambridge, David's first book *The Four-Letter Countries*, was widely featured in the national media.



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