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The Marco Polo Odyssey: In the Footsteps of a Merchant Who Changed the World

Harry Rutstein

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The Marco Polo Odyssey: In the Footsteps of a Merchant Who Changed the World

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The Marco Polo Odyssey: In the Footsteps of a Merchant Who Changed the World Harry Rutstein The Marco Polo Odyssey tracks the fantastic journey of an intrepid adventurer who spent ten years following the 13,000 mile overland route of Marco Polo from Venice to Israel, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and finally crossing China to Beijing. It is an account of an exhilarating voyage of discovery and the three expeditions it took author Harry Rutstein to finally fulfill his dream. Using every means of travel available including camels, farm tractors, horses and goatskin rafts author Harry Rutstein became the first person known to have retraced Marco Polo s footsteps. The book chronicles his extraordinary adventures and authenticates the 13th century journey of the great explorer. Marco Polo s travels and subsequent bestselling book sparked the expansion of the mercantile empires of medieval Europe and gave birth to the modern age of globalization. Excerpts of Marco Polo s book, Description of the World, are woven into Harry s narrative, which add depth and perspective to his colorful and humorous stories of travel along the now-abandoned Silk Road. The interwoven historical commentaries, geographical and cultural descriptions confirm just how little has changed in 700 years in many parts of Asia. Over 200 photographs provide a visual travelogue of their own. The keys to Harry Rutstein s success on his odyssey were an unrelenting perseverance and lots of good luck. The Marco Polo Odyssey is flesh-and-blood history and a rousing good story of adventure and achievement. *Includes DVD: On the Roof of the World with Marco Polo.

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