



LIT TRAVELER

Resource Pathfinder



Mrs. Diana Ho, Librarian, WMHS Gov. John A. Volpe Library | October 2, 2019

General Resources

[WMHS Gov. Volpe Library](#) | [Catalog](#) - [Databases](#)

[Boston Public Library](#) | [Catalog](#) - [Databases](#) - [Overdrive](#) - [RB Digital](#) - [Kanopy](#) - [Pressreader](#)

[Wakefield Library](#) | [Catalog](#) - [Databases](#) - [Overdrive](#)

[Hoopla](#) - Free eBooks - has lots of travel guides (Accessible with BPL eCard or a public library card)

Overdrive at other libraries (accessible with BPL ecard)

- [CLAMS](#)
 - [CW MARS](#)
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- [Merrimack Valley Library Consortium](#)
 - [Minuteman Library Network](#)
 - [NOBLE: North of Boston Library Exchange](#)
 - [Old Colony Library Network](#)
 - [SAILS Library Network](#)

[Ancestry.com](#) : FREE if accessed while sitting in the Wakefield Public Library or a Boston Public Library branch

[CIA World Factbook](#) : The CIA's website has detailed information about all the countries of the world.

[Google Books](#) : Read previews/excerpts of travel books before you buy or borrow from the library.

[Trip Advisor](#) : Generic information, ratings, reviews of countries, hotels, restaurants, day trips, etc.

Literature Suggestions by Country

Most books on this list are readily available in translation. I looked at the map and chose titles specific to particular regions if they were mentioned in the lit traveler map notes.

Afghanistan

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Ahmad Shah Durrani - Charlie Wilson's War (movie) - [The Bookseller of Kabul](#) (book) - [Three Cups of Tea](#) (book) - [Earth and Ashes](#) (book written by a Afghan expatriot later made into a movie)

Argentina

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

[Jorge Luis Borges](#) (Poet) - Eva "Evita" Perón (politician) - [Evita](#) (movie) - Época de los desaparecidos (The Dirty War) - [The Official Story](#) (movie) - Che Guevara - The Motorcycle Diaries (movie)

Australia

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

[Aboriginal Australians](#) - Marcus Zusak (author) - Liane Moriarty (author) - Graeme Simsion (author) - Saving Mr. Banks (movie) - Mad Max (Movie - [1979](#) / [2015](#)) - Ned Kelly (outlaw)

Bangladesh

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Brick Lane (book|movie) - Partition of India - Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

China

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Life and Death in Shanghai (book by Nien Cheng) - Hong Kong Riots - Nanking - *Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan (book/movie) - Ip Man (awesome movie series based on the life of the man who trained Bruce Lee) - [Hollywood and China](#) (censorship issues)

Shanghai

Life and Death in Shanghai (book by Nien Cheng)

The Czech Republic

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

The Unbearable Lightness of Being (book) - Prague - Astronomical Clock
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Egypt

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

The Map of Love (book, by Soueif) - *Akhenaten, Dweller in Truth* (novel by Naguib Mahfouz) - Cleopatra - King Tut - Library of Alexandria

England

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Shakespeare - Victoria (PBS Show) - Brick Lane ([Book](#)/[Movie](#) - about a Bangladeshi woman living in Brick Lane, a part of London) - Pride and Prejudice - Fever Pitch (book) - Sorry!: The English and Their Manners (book) - Zadie Smith (author) - Warsan Shire (poet, made famous by Beyonce's "Lemonade") - Bedlam - British Library - Samuel Pepys

Finland

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

[Books set in Finland](#) - Marimekko (designer) - Moomins (Folklore) - Heavy Metal Bands (e.g. HIM) - Northern Lights - Sami People - Cloud Berries / Karelian Pie (cultural foods)

France

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Camus - Dumas - Proust - Simone de Beauvoir - City of Lost Children (movie) - Amelie (movie) - Au Revoir Les Enfants (movie) - *The Nightingale* (book) - Les Miserables (movie/book/play) - Anthony Bourdain books -

Germany

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Angela Merkle - Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Goodbye, Lenin (movie HIGHLY recommended) - Leni Riefenstahl movies (particularly Triumph of the Will) - Karl Marx (author of the Communist Manifesto) -

Munich ("Munchen") Autobahnen - Oktoberfest - Beer Hall Putsch - Robert Harris *Munich* - Mario Puzo (author of the Godfather) *Six Graves to Munich* (book) - Sophie Scholl (movie) / The White Rose (book by Kip Wilson) -

Iceland

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Volcanic Hot Springs - Faroe Islands - Leif Eriksson - Erik Thorvaldson, or Erik the Red -

Ireland

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Angela's Ashes (book) - Oscar Wilde (author) - "[A Modest Proposal](#)" by Jonathan Swift (author of *Gulliver's Travels*, a satire about the famine) - U2 (band) - The Cranberries (band) - Thin Lizzy (band) - The Easter Rising - [Kilmanhaim Gaol](#) - *The Wind That Shakes the Barley* (movie) - *PS I Love You* (book/movie) - [The Crying Game](#) (movie) - *Dubliners* by James Joyce - Tana French (author) - Colm Tóibín (author) - *Brooklyn* (book/movie)

Italy

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Umberto Eco (author) - Dante Alighieri (author) - The Borgia Family - Machiavelli - *Life is Beautiful* (movie) - Fellini (director of *La Dolce Vita*) - *Cinema Paradiso* (movie) - *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (movie, an "Italian Spaghetti Film") - Alessandro Manzoni (author)

Sicily

Cinema Paradiso (movie) - The Godfather (movies) - Garibaldi - The Leopard (movie) - *The Shape of Water* (book - Andrea Camilleri) - The Silent Duchess (book by Dacia Maraini)

Japan

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Haruki Murakami (MAJOR internationally acclaimed author) - *Memoirs of a Geisha* (book / movie) - Yukio Mishima (author)

Mexico

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Volver (movie) - Elena Poniatowska (author) - Gabriel Garcia Marquez (VERY important author) - Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (author/musician/philosopher/nun) - Daniel Sada (poet) - *Like Water For Chocolate* (book/movie) - *The Story of my Teeth* (book) - Frida Kahlo (painter) - Diego Rivera (painter) - Lucha Libre (masked wrestling)

The Netherlands

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Anne Frank - *Girl with a Pearl Earring* (book and artwork) - Vermeer - Van Gogh - Canals - *The Fault in our Stars* (book by John Green) - Rembrandt - Erasmus - Van Halen

Norway

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Lillehammer Olympics - Lillehammer (Netflix Series - funny about
Mafioso in Witness Protection - lots of cultural points of interest) -
Knut Hamson (author noted for *Hunger*) - *The Snowman* (book)

Poland

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Ida (movie) - Oscar Schindler / Schindler's List (movie) - The Pianist
(book and movie - both highly recommended nonfiction) -

Russia

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Anton Chekhov - Enemy at the Gates (movie starring Jude Law about
famous Russian sniper/WWII) - Dr. Zhivago (book/movie) - Anna Karenina
(book/movie)- Chernobyl (HBO series) - Rasputin

Spain

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

The Sun Also Rises (book, Hemingway) – *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* (play by Federico García Lorca) – *Pan's Labyrinth* (movie) – *El Mar Adentro* (“The Sea Inside” movie) – Bullfighting – Gaudi (architect) – Moors – 1498 CE – Picasso – Real Madrid

Sweden

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

IKEA – *Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Steig Larson (book series and movies) – *The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson (book/movie) – Vikings – Gustav Vasa – Lucia Festival

Switzerland

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Topics / Book Titles / Authors to Consider:

Basel – Altstadt – Bern – Lindt Chocolate – Swiss Army Knife – Rolex – *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri – *Steppenwolf* by Hermann Hesse – *The Swiss Family Robinson* by Johann David Wyss – Le Corbusier (architect) – Anna Göldi (last person to executed for witchcraft in Switzerland) – Louis Chevrolet – Albert Einstein
