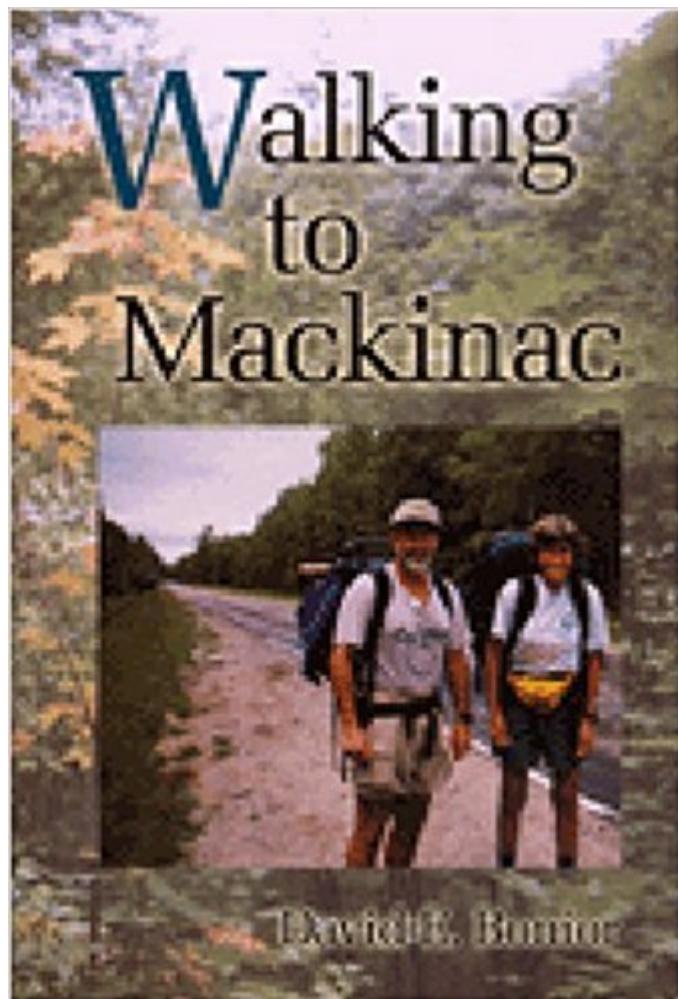


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Walking To Mackinac



Synopsis

According to his wife, U. S. Representative David E. Bonior is a contemplative man who has had some pretty "harebrained" ideas. It was just such an idea that led Bonior and his wife Judy to walk the 325 miles from their home in Mount Clemens--a suburb of Detroit--to the quaint coastal sidewalks of Mackinaw City, the Lower Peninsula's northernmost point. Walking to Mackinac chronicles the Boniors' three-week journey to connect with the people and the history of their home state, to explore Michigan at human pace, and to appreciate it more fully. The Boniors plotted their own course, stringing together trails, back roads, and abandoned railway beds. They both carried twenty-five to thirty-five pounds on their backs, so they limited each day's effort to a walkable distance that would end at a campsite or motel. Both in their early fifties, neither of the Boniors had ever undertaken a trek of this magnitude or done any camping to speak of. Their daily challenges were humorous, daunting, and even frightening. While the book focuses on the Boniors' journey, what moves the narrative forward is the story of Michigan. The journey serves to link the Underground Railroad and waterways, the fur trade and the lumber industry, agriculture and the automobile, and of course the people all along the way. If you have ever taken a trip on a whim, or if you have even just thought about ignoring the "sensible" voice inside your head, Walking to Mackinac is sure to delight you. Both entertaining and informative, the Boniors' story reminds us once again that even the longest journey begins with a single step. David E. Bonior is the Democratic Whip in the U. S. House of Representatives. He represents Michigan's Tenth Congressional District and lives in Mount Clemens, Michigan, with his wife Judy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I found this book to be very interesting. I know of David Bonior, but didn't know that he was such a good writer. I commend him and his wife for completing this long hike!

I picked up this book with eager curiosity having traveled to upper Michigan and the U.P. with my family many times. I would usually come across Bonior's book in the Michigan outdoor sections of bookstores, and finally had the opportunity to read it when I discovered it again at my local library. Reading Bonior's book this winter made me yearn for a summer camping trip with my family once again. David and Judy Bonior weave together a tale of hiking, exploration, learning and love of the outdoors. Being a native from Michigan, I was delighted to read the interesting trivia, tidbits and facts about many of the places we have toured in my home state. I look forward to rediscovering many of those places Bonior writes of with my family when we venture "up north" again. Bonior's love for the people of Michigan, love of his home State, and his love for the great outdoors shines through each page turned. You learn something of Bonior's character and integrity --as well as the strength of support that he has in his wife Judy, who traveled with him on this journey. I recommend this book to anyone seeking to discover Michigan, learn Michigan's rich history, and meet some of the great people past and present that make Michigan that great state that it is. I wonder if the Boniors will ever attempt this walk again and/or encourage others to travel with them across the State... The book is truly an inspiration to those that love hiking, camping and the gift of nature as well as to those who have a fondness for Michigan.

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