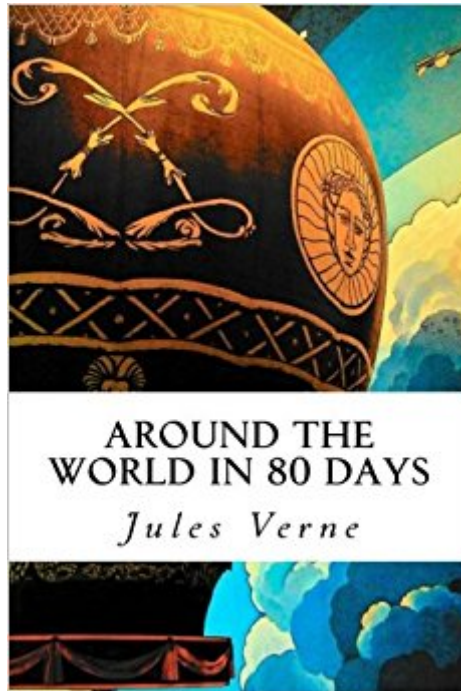




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# Around The World In 80 Days



## Synopsis

Around the World in Eighty Days (French: *Le tour du monde en quatre-vingts jours*) is a classic adventure novel by the French writer Jules Verne, published in 1873. In the story, Phileas Fogg of London and his newly employed French valet Passepartout attempt to circumnavigate the world in 80 days on a £20,000 wager (roughly £1.6 million today) set by his friends at the Reform Club. It is one of Verne's most acclaimed works. The story starts in London on Tuesday, October 1, 1872. Fogg is a rich English gentleman living in solitude. Despite his wealth, Fogg lives a modest life with habits carried out with mathematical precision. Very little can be said about his social life other than that he is a member of the Reform Club. Having dismissed his former valet, James Foster, for bringing him shaving water at 84 °F (29 °C) instead of 86 °F (30 °C), Fogg hires a Frenchman by the name of Jean Passepartout as a replacement. At the Reform Club, Fogg gets involved in an argument over an article in *The Daily Telegraph* stating that with the opening of a new railway section in India, it is now possible to travel around the world in 80 days. He accepts a wager for £20,000 (equal to about £1.6 million today) from his fellow club members, which he will receive if he makes it around the world in 80 days. Accompanied by Passepartout, he leaves London by train at 8:45 P.M. on Wednesday, October 2, 1872, and is due back at the Reform Club at the same time 80 days later, Saturday, December 21, 1872.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I see now why this is a classic! This was my first time reading this spectacular novel, and having not seen the film, I was thrilled with Mr. Doug's journey around the world. Verne gives painstakingly

historically and geographically accurate details throughout the novel, which gives the reader the sense that they are making this famous journey around the world within the hours it takes them to read about it. If you are one for adventure, travel, history, or simply a good read, you will be more than satisfied to procure a copy of *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

Well I must say that the movie *Around the World in 80 Days* was a outstanding movie and I have seen it more than five times! However, until recently, I had never read the book. So I decided to turn off the computer, turn off the TV etc, relax with lots of fluffy pillows and read this book. And every page I thoroughly enjoyed, it was so well described that I felt like I was on a trip around the world with them. This timeless book is still wonderful, maybe more so in today's hurry up and tech times! What a way to relax and unwind after a stressful day. This book I found more detailed than the movie and I found myself bookmarking passages to refer to as I will be reading this book from time to time, again and again and again... Highly recommend this book!

I really enjoyed this adventure story. The characters are interesting, there are plenty of adventures and mishaps and it all happens as they travel East around the world on a bet. (view spoiler) I thought it was hilarious that Americans are portrayed as foolhardy, obnoxious and wild. It seemed more dangerous to travel by train across the US than any other country, and in fact this would have been the time of the wild west. I also enjoyed the descriptions of San Francisco, being that it's one of my favorite cities. They take many forms of transportation including a elephant and a sledge with sail that slides across the frozen prairie. However no balloon, as someone mentioned. Passepartout is easily my favorite character with his brave, honorable but fairly foolish ways.

*Around the World in 80 Days*, the classic travel adventure story by Jules Verne, is just plain fun. The mysterious Phileas Fogg, so phlegmatic as to be eccentric, sets out to win a bet against fellow members of his club, who believe it is impossible to circle the globe in just 80 days. Accompanying him is his French valet Passpartout, who had only begun his employment that very day, and who was looking forward to a calm life of predictability. This tongue-in-cheek humor sets the tone for the entire story, which is filled with adventure, mishaps, and humorous irony. Fogg is beset by one obstacle after another, not the least of which is Inspector Fix, who doggedly follows Fogg believing he is the notorious criminal who robbed a London bank on the very day that Phileas Fogg set out on his adventure (all of which Fogg is totally unaware). Will Phileas Fogg be able to overcome it all in time to make it back to London by 8:45 pm on December 21, the precise time at which he must

appear in his club in order to win his bet? Although the characters are little more than caricatures who always show the same mood, still they are fun characters. And the reader soon becomes so swept up in Verne's highly imaginative tale that it is easy to forgive him for the lack of character development. Verne's depiction of non-English cultures will strike the modern reader as stereotypic and bigoted; still, one must consider the prevailing opinions of the times in which Verne wrote, and remember that this is, above all, a fantastic adventure story meant to be purely entertaining. Jim Dale is a fabulous narrator, giving each character a distinct voice which lends even more color to this already colorful story. He does an excellent job with the couple of American characters, something which almost no British narrator is able to do. This is one I will listen to again, and I recommend it as enjoyable, lighthearted entertainment

I cannot emphasize enough how delightful Frederick Davidson's reading of this magnificent, ingenious, hilarious, divine book is! This book is everything! The father of steam punk places machines on every page. No one who loves great literature can possibly fail to be amused by this one.

My twelve year old son and I read this book concurrently, and we both enjoyed it very much. Fogg's travels provide a wonderful world geography lesson, especially if locations of his travels are mapped during the reading. Not only did we learn about geography, Fogg models a superb example of many virtuous characteristics not found in any form of media today. He exhibits self-control, patience, love and self-sacrifice, generosity, gentleness, determination, and even grit! I wish there were authors around today such as Jules Verne. Although this book was read primarily for academic reasons, we gained so much more from it than expected!

A great Verne classic! In particular this edition is worth every penny! The pages are of thick cardstock and the dust jacket is just fantastic! The illustrations really bring the story to life. And the story is of course riveting. A GREAT classic!! This edition is one of those books that will be an heirloom. It is hardy enough in construction (includes a bright satin ribbon as a bookmark!) to endure and the story will be relevant forever. Again a wonderful classic presented in such a way to rival the characters and plot. I would gladly recommend this book and the others in the series to others, and as a mom of five and a nanny to many this book can be appreciated and enjoyed for many, many years. A great investment to encourage reading, creative writing and most especially time with your children reading together!! The other books in this series (Sterling Illustrated

Classics) are also of great quality.

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