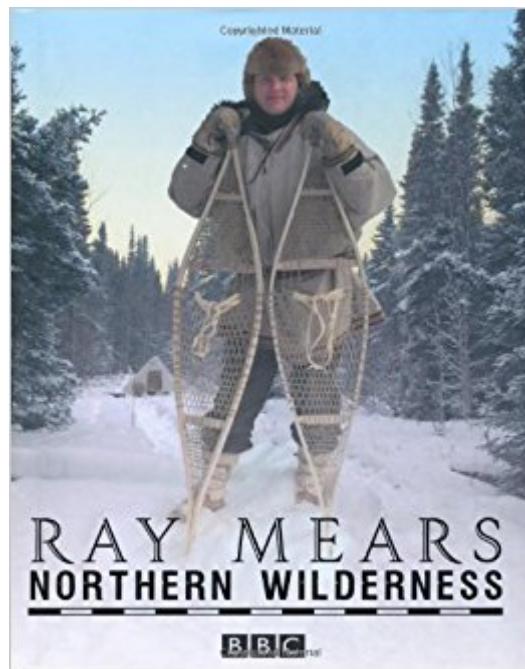


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# Northern Wilderness



## **Synopsis**

Examining extreme environments, this fascinating look at the frozen north includes explorations from the vast Boreal Forest with its rich animal life to the Hudson Bay fur trade and trappers who traded with the hat manufacturers of England. The guide follows the paths of the great early northern explorers, Samuel Hearne and David Thompson, who survived through their knowledge of what is now called bushcraft, as they trekked across the tundra and the Rocky Mountains. The ways of the Inuit are explored, including how they combat snow blindness and build shelter. This book is rich in bushcraft, as the unique survival techniques of the Native Canadians and the Inuit are explained, as are the ways the prospectors in the gold rush used bushcraft skills to survive.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 220 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,396,052 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #76 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Ecosystems > Arctic #664 in Books > Travel > Canada > General #884 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Ecotourism

## **Customer Reviews**

"Ray Mears is a bushman first and foremost and really can survive in any extreme environment. I can't think of a better companion in a crisis." "GQ"Give the man a couple of twigs, a flint and a curved knife and he is transformed into a poet." "Times on Ray Mears Vanishing World

Ray Mears founded Woodlore, a school of wilderness bushcraft and survival. He is the author of Bushcraft, The Outdoor Survival Guide, Ray Mears Goes Walkabout, and Ray Mears Vanishing World.

This is a great book, if you have not seen Ray's series Northern Wilderness. It is a GOOD book if you HAVE seen the series because it pretty much repeats what he related in the series. Either way,

I recommend owning it. It is definitely a keeper! In this book, Ray covers the great explorers of Canada including my favorite Samuel Hearne. What these great men accomplished opened up not only Canada, but the US as well. The tactics and principles that these men developed were copied by every other backwoodsman and explorer -- and are still being copied today. As one reviewer has said, this is not a book on the techniques of bushcraft, nor was it intended to be. Ray has already written, what is to be written on those subjects. This book is a book on the history of Canadian bushcraft and reiterates the guiding principle of what Ray has always espoused: By adopting aboriginal techniques, technology and knowledge you can survive and even exist in the bush.

Not a survival/bushcraft book. This is more of a history book about the Hudson Bay Company and the early exploration of Canada. There is a bit of bushcraft knowledge but it is mentioned in passing.

I bought this book thinking that in it would be bushcraft and how to handle life in the northern boreal forest. There is little of either of these in the book. It is more of a history of the early settlement northern Canada, particularly that of The Hudson's Bay Company, with some description of flora and fauna thrown in. Within its context, it is a well-written entertaining book. Just don't expect much bushcraft if you buy it.

Good companion to the video series, which I wish was available on blu-Ray in the U.S.

Awesome

... this is not a book containing practical information about bushcraft skills or the natural world of the boreal forest. The back cover blurb is quite deceptive in this regard, so please just be aware. It is primarily a history of the exploration of the place that would come to be called Canada by the various agents of the European fur trading companies, and it is not the most compellingly written history to be had. It is an okay book, but not necessarily one worth spending one's hard-earned cash on. If this era is of interest to you, consider checking it out from a library, spending a couple hours with it as a survey of the history of the Hudson's Bay Company and North West Company and the search for the Northwest Passage, and then move on to more interesting and well-written accounts of same. There are some nice color photographs throughout. The main underlying thesis of the book -- that wise intelligent newcomers treated the North American continent's indigenous inhabitants with respect and adapted to the new environment by adopting the skills and methods of

those who had lived there for centuries -- is a bit of a no-brainer for me. Maybe such a perspective would be a revelation to some folks, and maybe those folks would find this book more useful on a conceptual level than I did. All the same I respect Ray Mears and find him eminently likeable. But this book -- meh.

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