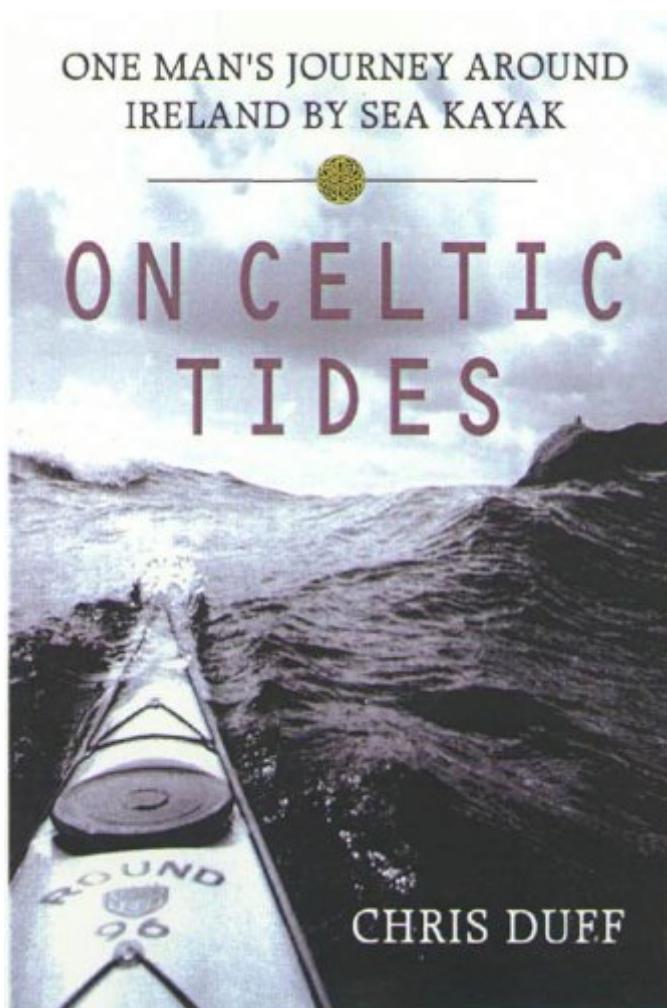


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# On Celtic Tides: One Man's Journey Around Ireland By Sea Kayak



## **Synopsis**

A sea kayak battles the freezing Irish waters as the morning sun rises out of the countryside. On the western horizon is the pinnacle of Skellig Michael-700 feet of vertical rock rising out of exploding seas. Somewhere on the isolated island are sixth-century monastic ruins where the light of civilization was kept burning during the Dark Ages by early Christian Irish monks. Puffins surface a few yards from the boat, as hundreds of gannets wheel overhead on six foot wing spans. The ocean rises violently and tosses paddler and boat as if they were discarded flotsam. This is just one day of Chris Duff's incredible three month journey.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Totally enjoyed this book and the way the story was told. A nice combination of sea kayaking adventure and emotional exploration. Some may be turned off by the details of the on shore portions, but they are an intrinsic part of his journey. Very lyrical writing style, a joy to read. What echoed with me the most was the honesty that came through. Usually trips and tours of this sort are filled with bravado and derring do, but while this certainly contained those moments, it wasn't done

through choice. On days he felt the seas were beyond what could be safely traveled, he stayed ashore. Unlike another similar book I had read, who had a damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead approach, this was a more thoughtful, but goal oriented approach. Am searching now for more books by Mr. Duff.

I found this booking captivating. There is the adventure of the journey around the coast of Ireland, extreme kayaking by a very experienced kayaker. He includes the inner journey of his reflections on the risks, the loneliness and the wilderness. It is a spiritual journey, and he is able to reach into the lives of the Celtic monks on the remote island monasteries with such depth that the reader gains a profound insight into the strength of conviction, and the suffering, of the monks who lived there. Duff meets some fascinating characters on the journey - most of whom live and work on the coast and know the dangerous seas through which Duff has travelled. He gains their respect, and they share with him stories and perspectives that are not easily revealed. On Celtic Tides is a fascinating read

I enjoyed this book. I read many books about hiking adventures and kayaking adventures, and find that they all have their appeal and all teach me something. Chris's book was better written than most. I would have liked to have known more of the mundane things like what he ate, how he cooked, more about the gear he used, problems he had with it etc. Some people go into way too much detail about these things; this book contains too little in my opinion. Finally, I may have given it 5 stars but for the extremely annoying typos on nearly every page of the kindle edition. GRRRRR! Very distracting.

An interesting true adventure story. If you like Ireland, this is a good book to read.

As a kayaker and hobbyist adventurer I really liked this book. I like Chris Duff's writing style, I enjoyed his observations, so many times I found myself nodding and smiling as he describes his adventures and his various personal interactions. All in all I would say that he translates his experiences well and in my opinion manages very well to share his adventure with the reader. If you expect something other than what you would see, think and experience whilst undertaking a epic solo trip in a kayak then sorry you might not enjoy this book.

Chris takes you on a wonderful journey! I am a paddler myself, but this is not a technical piece. The physical demands of the journey itself seem daunting. But what really drew me in as I read was

Chris' love of the sea, of being out in the elements, his love of the creatures that joined him on the journey, and most of all the warmth of his encounters with the people of Ireland! What's more, he shares very intimately about his inward journey and he experienced this island from a very unique perspective. Excellent book. One I will read again!

The book is a mix of kayak adventure and internal journey. I was recently in Ireland and could follow the places and appreciate the kayak adventure part. The language is a bit flowery for my taste on the inner journey. Note the electronic Kindle version has many, many mistakes. It looks like a scan that wasn't fully cleaned up.

Excellent written true encounter of one man solo venture around Ireland very good read! adventure awaits for all who would like to make this trip but know they probably never will or for someone who is considering a similar adventure, excellent and very well written!

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