



Goa Travel: Being the Accounts of Travellers from the 16th to the 21st Century

Manohar Shetty

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Centuries before Goa became the epicentre of the counterculture of the hippie and flower power generation in the sixties and seventies, it was known as the Eldorado, the City of Gold, the prized possession of the Portuguese empire in the East. From the early 16th century onwards, its magnetic appeal drew scores of travellers and adventurers to its gleaming shores. Driven by ambition, wanderlust, proselytism, and its fabled wealth and beauty, these travellers came from across Europe from Holland, England, Germany, France, Italy and other nations. Many of them left behind vivid and riveting accounts of their journeys and sojourn in the Rome of the East. This anthology encapsulates the best of these writings spread over 450 years of Portuguese rule as well as accounts by the contemporary traveller.

Goa Travels is an essential guide and companion for the curious visitor as well as resident Goans who have forgotten the land's rich, eventful and colourful heritage. It goes far beyond the glossy tourist brochure and will enable both historian and holidaymaker to turn back the pages and dwell on Goa's extraordinary past. The writings also reflect its fading lustre in the 18th and 19th century and its resurrection in contemporary times.

An anthology unlike any in the market, Goa Travels serves the twin functions of a highly readable record of history and a useful product that directly caters to the lucrative tourist market of Goa.

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