



# What's the travel itch?

**the travel itch** offers a fresh Canadian perspective on travel that will entertain and inform you while agitating your itch to go.

Image by Uecrow ©

## Features

**the travel itch** will titillate you with descriptive and insightful tales of fascinating places. It'll take you hiking on Nova Scotia's Cabot Trail and sailing down the Nile on a traditional Egyptian felucca. You'll hang out with the Kalahari Bushmen and travel to some of the most interesting areas on earth.

## Columns and Blogs

Writers from across Canada are excited to share their unique perspectives while sojourning in fascinating places.

## Bad Trips

Ever been taken on a wild ride by a hostile Venetian gondolier or trapped on an ice flow off Baffin Island? **the travel itch** highlights our readers' most hellish travel experiences.

## Kids Travel

Our younger readers have worlds of their own and offer their youthful perspectives on travel.

## Food and Drink

**the travel itch** samples international drinks and delicacies and reports on restaurants everywhere to help ensure your trip is a gastronomic adventure. We also share readers' favourite ethnic recipes so your every meal can be a step into another culture.

## Galleries

Never been there? Our online exhibit of readers' stunning pics will incite you to go.

## Book and Film Reviews

**the travel itch** reviews of travel and culture-related literature and films from Canada and around the world will help you pick reads and reels to tide you over until your next escape.

## Links

**the travel itch** wants to ensure that you are outfitted with the most up-to-date travel information by linking you with sites and experts who will keep you posted on everything from health issues to political conditions.



## Who gets the travel itch?

People who enjoy **the travel itch** have a keen passion for Canada and the world. Their travel style is a reflection of how they live. While travelling, they enjoy being active, have a zest for new experiences and want to feel connected with life and the world around them.

When in England, they explore the gentle countryside on foot, hostelling or staying in bed-and-breakfasts along the way. They climb in the Virungas to visit Africa's mountain gorillas and treat themselves to Turkish baths in ancient Istanbul. In the Russian Federation they cross the steppes on the Trans-Siberian train.

Readers of **the travel itch** trek in the Andes, cycle through medieval towns in Tuscany and, when the mosquitoes aren't too intense, venture onto the Canadian prairie to enjoy its myriad summer festivals. They do yoga retreats in India, go on eco-tours of the Galapagos Islands and sip lattes and Americano coffees while enjoying the dynamic cultural blend of Vancouver's Commercial Drive.

Our readers are more than fun and adventure seekers. When they travel, they learn about a culture. They immerse themselves in its history and dive head first into its traditions and customs. They can easily spend hours on end yakking with Hutterites in rural Saskatchewan or wandering central Guadalajara, enjoying its colourful street life, museums and galleries.

**travel itch** readers care about the world they live in and are determined that their respect for the places and cultures they visit is reflected in their choices. Like at home, our readers do their utmost to contribute to local economies by supporting local businesses rather than big international chains. They strive to blend in rather than remain separate and will risk looking stupid in order to communicate with people in their own language. They are actively involved in conservation and express a respectful interest in social and political issues. Put very simply, people who read **the travel itch** are good travellers.



# Want to spread the travel itch?

Are you burning to share your addiction to travel? **the travel itch** wants you to retell your stories to thousands of like-minded people.

## Adventures

We're looking for non-fiction stories written by Canadians. Articles should have a central focus – such as your search for the perfect orchid in Peru or your visit to a traditional Shuswap sweat lodge – a strong narrative and sense of place, and include some history of the region you are writing about. We are especially attracted to interesting tales set in farflung places or experiences you have off the beaten path. Articles must be accompanied by related photos. A max. of 1,500 words please.

## Bad Trip, Man!

**the travel itch** knows that exploring the world has its downsides. We want to hear about the time you were trapped in a speeding bus in Thailand, robbed by street urchins in Delhi or chased by polar bears in Churchill, Manitoba. We appreciate stories that maintain respect for the people or cultures involved and writing that illustrates a strong sense of humour. Please keep stories to 1,500 words max., please.

## Kids Travel

If you're anywhere below the age of majority and still travelling with your parents, we want to hear about your latest trip. Please include information – in 900 words or less – on the things you enjoyed most and those you wouldn't recommend in order to help families better plan their time away.

## Galleries

A picture paints a thousand words. Send us your best travel shots so others can get a taste of your favourite places.

## Bites & Brews

Are you a gastronomic traveller? Or just simply an imbibor of local brews? Your reviews of ethnic restaurants, local food or drinks should include a description of your experience and information on price (in Canadian dollars), ambience and service. **the travel itch** is also interested in articles that explore unique ethnic recipes and ingredients, report on international culinary events and review cook books. Please limit articles to 1,000 words.

## Reads & Reels

**the travel itch** wants your opinion on travel narratives, guidebooks, travel pictorials and works that portray – in fiction or non-fiction – the colourful and dynamic cultures that exist in Canada and other parts of the world. Please limit your article to 1,000 words and include all the information relevant to what you are reviewing, including author, publisher, price and date of publication. We're also seeking reviews on Canadian and international movies – recent works or long-forgotten gems. Remember to include pertinent information such as country of origin, director, actors and year of production in your article of 1,000 words max.

# Submissions

## Articles

**the travel itch** accepts original freelance articles from budding or blossomed Canadian writers. Please submit your story by email to [submissions@thetravelitch.com](mailto:submissions@thetravelitch.com). Articles must be embedded in your email body and be ones for which you hold all rights. Attachments will not be opened. A letter of query is not necessary, but please include a brief outline of your story, some information about your writing history, a short biography and your contact details at the top of your submission.

## Payment and Rights

**the travel itch** is a new publication manned by a dedicated troop of travel addicts who, when not wandering the world, volunteer their time to bring you great travel stories. With great regret, we are not able to pay contributors at the moment.

Should you choose to write for us, we would like to archive your story on our website for up to a year. We don't mind multiple submissions as long as we are informed whether your article has been accepted elsewhere.

## Images

Please use Google's Picasa program to submit images. Remember to include a description of your image, as well as any associated credits and captions. Once you have uploaded your work to Picasa, email your image files to [submissions@thetravelitch.com](mailto:submissions@thetravelitch.com). Submit your photos as jpegs and your graphics as gifs at dimensions of 72 dpi at 400 x 600 pixels. Some images may require cropping.

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