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## On a Shoestring to Coorg: A Travel Memoir of India

*Dervla Murphy*

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#1262564 in Books Overlook TP 1990-11-23 1990-11-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 .83 x 5.41 x 8.00l, .68 #File Name: 0879513810272 pages | File size: 62.Mb

**Dervla Murphy : On a Shoestring to Coorg: A Travel Memoir of India** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On a Shoestring to Coorg: A Travel Memoir of India:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A book to loose yourself in By Carroline Clarkson A cannot put down book a great read. Appreciate the honest no fluff candid observation and experience Dervla writes about in the fasinating place of Coorg. 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not quite like new. By Kristy Parke This book was advertised as used, "like new" condition, but there were several pages with highlighting. It was also slightly warped. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Free-spirited travel writing-- true travel writing. By Jeff Commissaris This is truly travel writing at its' best in my humble opinion. This book was seemingly written with no apparent agenda; just a woman traveling through southern India with her daughter on a small budget and observing thing in an honest and genuine journal. The writing is superb and the story-telling narration moves at a pace that puts the reader almost close enough to the country of India to smell and see everything along with her. This book was written in 1974, and it's interesting to travel back in time and see how materialism and capitalism have changed the country over time through the author's eyes. There are a WIDE variety of topics in this book, some including: Western hippies living in India and the affects of such, Tibetans living in Switzerland, the caste systems of India, Indian culture, and rich textures of a lot more. "Beyond a doubt one has to walk or cycle really to appreciate the flavour of a place. Bus journeys are all very well in their way, but they are not true traveling." - Dervia Murphy "In Coorg, where the only readily available pastimes are reading, card-playing and conversation, one realizes the extent to which, in the West, we have grown independent of our neighbours for entertainment. I suppose this is just one more milestone along

mankind's road to a completely dehumanized existence." - Dervla Murphy I look forward to reading and absorbing more material from the author.

With her five-year-old daughter as a traveling companion, Dervla Murphy set off for Bombay, with plans to meander through southern India. Traveling by boat and by peasant-filled buses, Dervla and Rachel made countless friends. Along the way, they fell in love with Coorg, the smallest of India's provinces, where they stayed for two months. Their keen appreciation of India's natural beauty brings to life this tiny mountain paradise.

From Publishers Weekly In the fall of 1973, Murphy responded to a periodic travel itch by taking her five-year-old daughter Rachel to India, a journey that began in Bombay, proceeded down the coast, then turned inland to the remote and rugged highlands of southern India. They traveled by train and bus, staying at hostels or primitive hotels. Murphy found that Rachel was a link rather than a barrier to the natives. They discovered in Coorg an atypical India: neither crowded nor impoverished, Coorg boasts a magnificent landscape, temperate climate and congenial people (a curiously Anglicized atmosphere). The Murphys visited local families and had occasion to explore a culture in which ancestor veneration is practiced. The author discusses caste in detail; she and Rachel attended festivals, a christening ceremony, funeral and wedding. In their journeys they encountered Tibetan refugees, Western hippies, transplanted Europeans. Readers who enjoyed Murphy's *Muddling Through* in Madagascar will find this lively travel memoir to their taste as well. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. [Murphy] is the best kind of traveler: observant, high-spirited, and impervious to discomfort. -- *The Sunday Telegraph* About the Author Dervla Murphy is one of the very best loved of travel writers. She was born in County Waterford and since 1964 has been regularly publishing accounts of her journeys - by bicycle and on foot -- in the remoter areas of four continents. She has also written about the problems of Northern Ireland, the hazards of nuclear power, and race relations in Britain. *The Times Literary Supplement* called her 'an admirable woman -- she has a romantic soul and a keen eye'.