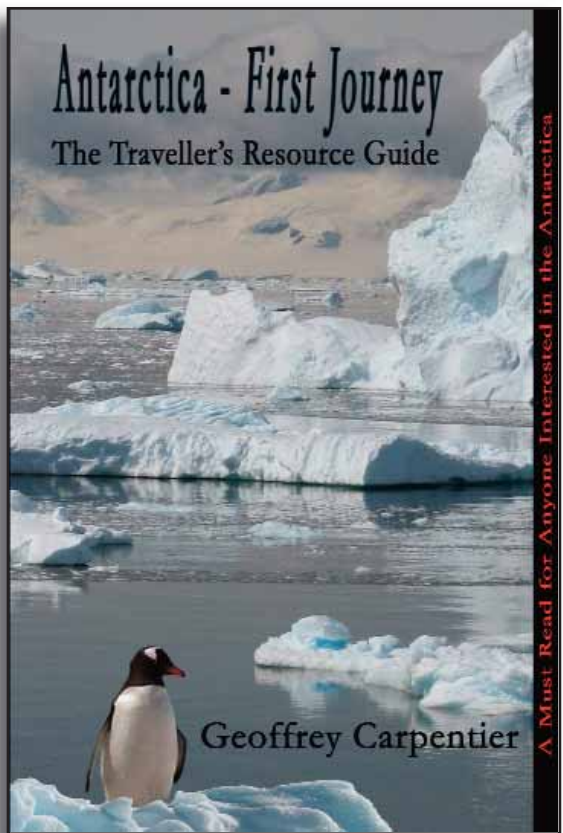
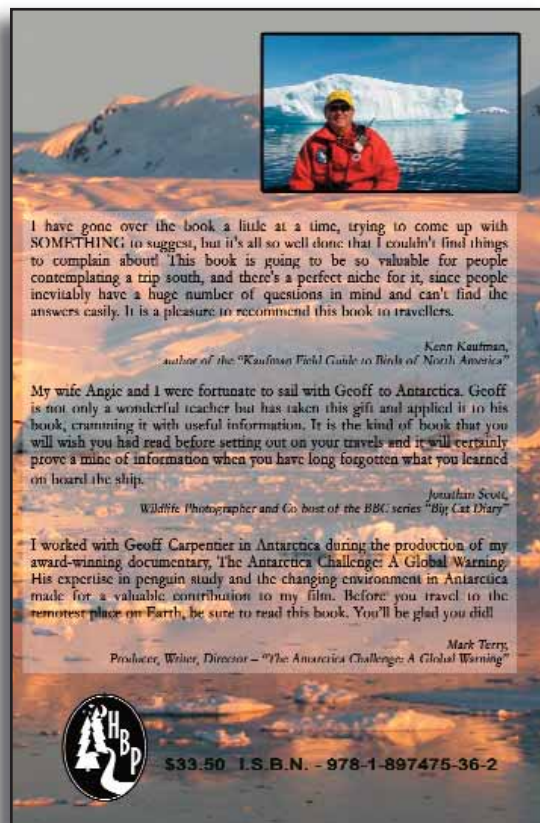


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What did **THE POLAR TIMES** have to say?

written by Richard Wolak for the Polar Times, magazine of the American Polar Society

The most recently published guidebook for Antarctic travel is Antarctica – First Journey by Geoffrey Carpentier. Early on, Carpentier provides excellent discussions on how to choose among the many ships, trips, activities and itineraries that are currently available.

He follows that with detailed commentary on all facets of accomplishing the actual travel from an excellent packing list and budget considerations, to documentation issues, luggage, financial tips, dietary needs, clothing, insurance, and even airport parking. There is a full chapter on travel safety and health issues (from prevention to symptoms to remedies that are both conventional and homeopathic). There is also a primer on geographical, weather, and ice terminology to provide the reader with the basic language of the world he will be encountering on his adventure.

The writing style is light and engaging, and the pages of the book are thoroughly interspersed with anecdotal and fun-to-know information, most of it in easily distinguished boxed text (with colored backgrounds).

There are nearly 200 of these garnishings that include definitions of obscure terms, shipboard terminology, natural oddities, quotations of note, historical references, personal experiences, “fun faunal facts,” and warnings of potential dangers. The listing of sites of interest has nearly 200 entries covering the Peninsula, the South Shetlands and more northerly islands. Overall, the book’s content reaches far and wide, touching on many topics that were quite new to me. Its emphasis on the nitty-gritty of dealing with a broad range of travel issues will serve its audience well.

Geoff Carpentier is a seasoned expedition guide and has travelled the world, teaching visitors about the flora and fauna. Over the years, Geoff has compiled a huge volume of information that is now gathered in this book. Geoff will both entertain and teach the reader about travel, sea-board safety, wildlife, ice and snow. You will learn about, weather and climate, history and geography. This book will give you insights into the private lives of birds, mammals, fish, invertebrates and flora.

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