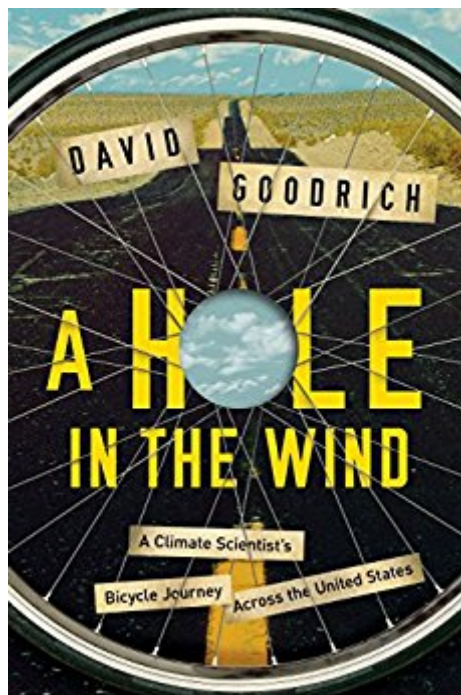




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A Hole In The Wind: A Climate Scientist's Bicycle Journey Across The United States



Synopsis

An epic bicycle journey across the American hinterland that explores the challenges of climate change alongside a diverse array of American voices. After a distinguished career in climate science as the Director of the UN Global Climate Observing System in Geneva, David Goodrich returned home to the United States to find a nation and a people in denial. Concerned that the American people are willfully deluded by the misinformation about climate that dominates media and politics, David thought a little straight talk could set things right. As they say in Animal House, he decided that "this calls for a stupid and futile gesture on someone's part, and I'm just the guy to do it." Starting on the beach in Delaware, David rode his bike 4,200 miles to Oregon, talking with the people he met on the ultimate road trip. Along the way he learned a great deal about why climate is a complicated issue for many Americans and even more about the country we all share. Climate change is the central environmental issue of our time. But *A Hole in the Wind* is also about the people Dave met and the experiences he had along the way, like the toddler's beauty pageant in Delaware, the tornado in Missouri, rust-belt towns and their relationship with fracking, and the mined-out uranium ghost town in Wyoming. As he rides, David will discuss the climate with audiences varying from laboratories to diners to elementary schools. Beautifully simple, direct, and honest, *A Hole in the Wind* is a fresh, refreshing ride through a difficult and controversial topic, and a rich read that makes you glad to be alive.

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Customer Reviews

A fabulous book! Written in spare and elegant prose, this thoughtful story brings the reader along on the journey of a lifetime as the author (a retired climate scientist) pedals his way from sea-to-shining-sea, starting at Maryland's Eastern Shore and riding all the way to the Pacific coast of Oregon. On the face of it, the ride is about observing our changing world in an era when rising temperatures are transforming the face of the land and the sea, and challenging our every notion of what the future holds for our communities and our planet. Beneath, however, is the tale of a humble man who through endless tenacity and a well of patience struggles through rain and cold and heat and fierce winds, minutely observing all that he sees to bring us an up close and personal view of the state of our world. Along the way, he gathers what he calls "land stories" — some poignant, some uplifting, some deeply worrying — but all remarkable for what they teach us about our fellow citizens, our shared history, and this global ecosystem which must be protected if it is to sustain generations yet to come. The book is full of meticulously researched scientific information, wry observations, witty insights, and just enough daring-do to keep a reader turning the page. I felt like I was along for the ride, soaking up from the comfort of my armchair the feel of the Chesapeake Bay in winter, the thigh-burning inclines of the Alleghenies, heart-pumping encounters with unpredictable canines, and glorious views of hills and plains and barrier islands. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to get past the rhetoric of the global climate change "debate" — to understand at the county, community, or even individual level what global warming means for health and livelihoods and environmental preservation.

How often does a science-oriented book keep a non-scientist interested? This is the first one I can remember. David Goodrich tells an entertaining story of his bike ride across the USA and introduces us to the characters and places he finds as he goes. We feel as if we are biking at his side. At the same time, we are learning a great deal about climate science without even realizing we are doing so. Thoughtful but humorous and wise, this is a book that everyone should read.

Get read for a big sprawling ride covering geography, science, history, and bicycling -- all delivered with humor and grace. The feat of biking across the country is impressive, but doing it as a vehicle for explaining the science and impact of global warming is a real treat. So many fun stories, and so much history as well. *Travels With Charley* and *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* may have a new classic joining them.

Goodrich's journey is interesting and inspiring for mature bicycle enthusiasts. It gives little new insight into climate change, but with every discussion and concern the subject comes to the fore of awareness, lest we become complacent. A read worth one's time.

I really enjoyed this book. I love bike touring and the author did a great job of capturing the adventure and writing about the climate along the way.

David puts you in contact with people experiencing the effects of climate change every day! He takes you on an amazing journey too. Add his knowledge and you have a book that totally discounts the climate change skeptics.

very well written

Disturbing book, but a thought provoking book. Everyone should read it.

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