

(Free pdf) The Long Way

## The Long Way

*Bernard Moitessier*

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# Bernard Moitessier

## THE LONG WAY



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**Bernard Moitessier : The Long Way** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Long Way:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book!By cindyThe author is an excellent writer. He writes with passion and provides lots of useful information of interest to anyone who has fantasies of sailing around the world in a sail boat.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I waited too longBy JBJI waited too long to read

this. I knew the story, but not his. I'd like to think that I see things a bit differently now. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As a sailor I really enjoyed the book By B. Greene As a sailor I really enjoyed the book. I won't speculate on how a non-sailor might take to it. It is a fun way to learn more about how this kind of adventure was approached during this period. Many things have changed, especially with respect to the environment. While he clearly has nothing but respect for his environment some of his actions are typical of the time and can't be judged by our views today. It is far more than a simple log of his journey. His accomplishments are made even more amazing by his apparent lack of concern for them being just that.

The Long Way is Bernard Moitessier's own incredible story of his participation in the first Golden Globe Race, a solo, non-stop circumnavigation rounding the three great Capes of Good Hope, Leeuwin, and the Horn. For seven months, the veteran seafarer battled storms, doldrums, gear-failures, knock-downs, as well as overwhelming fatigue and loneliness. Then, nearing the finish, Moitessier pulled out of the race and sailed on for another three months before ending his 37,455-mile journey in Tahiti. Not once had he touched land.

Moitessier is better known as one of the greatest ocean voyagers and was a legend in his time. Last month we reviewed the last book he wrote *Tamata and the Alliance*. This book is about his Round the World Race for singlehanded yachts. For Moitessier, the race finished in mid-Pacific after he had passed the three Capes and crossed his outward track, leading, and with the hardest sections behind him, he decided to forfeit the race and continue into the Pacific again, to anchor finally among friends in Tahiti. His actions were never explained by the news media; they could not have been, for the voyage had always been seen by Moitessier as something other than a sponsored, publicized, competitive event. It was on the ocean, alone with his boat, that Moitessier began to regard this as a voyage that could not end for him with the reward of those whose values were not his. (Sailing Inland Offshore) One of the world's most famous ocean sailors, Moitessier had sailed for more than a year from Plymouth, England to the Indian Ocean when he inexplicably abandoned the lead in the 1968-1969 Round-the-World single-handed race. He sailed to Tahiti, dropped anchor and dropped out. Until the publication of this book, only Moitessier and a few friends knew why. Most of the book is a diary of that voyage with philosophical side trips into modern civilization. There is also a 60-page appendix that can stand alone as a small reference volume of details such as route planning, sail repair, the problems of sail and line chafe, rigging and hull construction, self-steering, freak waves and weather, plus much more. Altogether a strange, fascinating, and informative book. (Boat U.S.) Language Notes Text: English, French (translation) About the Author Bernard Moitessier was born in 1925 in Indochina and much of his sailing knowledge was gained during time spent at sea with the fishermen of the Gulf of Siam. One of the greatest ocean voyagers, he became a legend in his time. He was also a gifted writer and wrote four books describing his seagoing adventures. He moved to France where he spent the last years of his life working on his memoirs, *Tamata and the Alliance* (Sheridan House, 1995), the story of an unusual man and an exciting life. Bernard Moitessier died in the summer of 1994.