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- INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MAPS AND BOOKS
- ITM DISTRIBUTION

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AXIS OF EVIL MAPPING NEWSLETTER #9 OF 2026 – September

INTRODUCTION

Lan and I took the two grandsons to Europe for the month of August and tried to see too much. It was enjoyable, but travelling through 15 fairly similar countries in such a short time period merely confused the boys, although we oldies enjoyed seeing new places, like Gdansk and Lubeck, as well as visiting sites seen on previous trips. We visited two of our valued distributors while there, Scanvik Books in Copenhagen and Craenen in Belgium. Now we're back at work, preparing for our next journey, to Kyrgyzstan, and manning our stand at the Frankfurt Book Fair in October. More on that in a moment. The trip also provided Linh and Phuong the opportunity to run ITMB without us looking over their shoulders, and this was a sound move. By removing the kids as well, they could concentrate on managing a worldwide business and keep the wheels moving smoothly – as they did. Six updating projects were completed and sent to press, and nine new titles arrived from our printer. Sales were good, resulting in nine titles running through their print runs, most of which were anticipated and new editions on hand to replace them – not in all cases, unfortunately. Lan now has three weeks to get ten updates competed in the next three weeks. We also saw surges in demand beyond our expectations for Canadian titles, of which there will be more to say in this newsletter. A busy month!

NEW TITLES THAT ARRIVED DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST

We start this month with a title that actually came out a few months ago. The printing of our new edition of Japan was somewhat over-inked on one side and the printer agreed to re-do it. This took time, but eventually, the new, and properly printed, 10th edition of our ITMB map of **Japan**, arrived and was supplied right away to customers who had been awaiting it anxiously for it. In the rush, we forgot to send out the press release, as Lan just reminded me, so here it is. In addition, we are very pleased to announce the following titles: **Bosnia & Montenegro, Greenland & North Pole, Hanoi & Northern Vietnam, Latvia & Riga, Mongolia, Ontario, Quebec City & Gaspe Peninsula, Senegal & Gambia, Spitsbergen/Svalbard and Tahiti & French Polynesia.** That's quite a range! From northern Europe to Asia and on to Canada, ITMB maps the world. Some of these new editions have been circulating informally for the past couple of months, so some of these ISBNs might be already in your system, but this is now your official notice that new versions of good-selling titles are now available. It isn't every day that ITMB announces 17 brand new maps in one day! Remember, a double-sided map may be one file, like Mongolia or Ontario, but most of our maps are two separate entities sharing a single sheet of paper. Both sides always need to be updated. You may only see 10 sheets of paper, but hundreds of hours of meticulous work has gone into creating 17 works of art. I hope that you like what we have produced. Ordering data is included below, in the New Releases section. Enjoy!

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR

ITMB will have a largish stand at this year's annual book fair, in Frankfurt. The format is changing, as things must, and the travel section is now in Building 5. Our stand is 5.1 B 109. It will be staffed by Lan and myself, and we invite all of you to come by and say hello. This show has been a mainstay of the book and map industries ever since the end of WW2. ITMB has been an active participant since 1983, 43 years ago. That makes us one of the longest-exhibiting FBF companies in the world! This year we will be arriving at the show directly from Kyrgyzstan, where we are researching a new map of that interesting country. We look forward to seeing you!

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TRUMP'S MOST RECENT ATTACKS ON CANADIANS

Negotiations for a trade deal seemed to be progressing nicely between Canada and the USA, when Trump threw a monkey wrench into the machinery, threatening tariffs of free trade protected items, then pausing them for a brief three days while he came up with completely new demands on limiting Canadian sovereignty, such as demanding that all French labelling be removed from all Canadian products, which would be highly illegal in a bilingual country like Canada, and insisting that Canada be forbidden from signing trade agreements with any other country without prior American approval, which would destroy Canadian sovereignty. No country could tolerate such gross interference in their nation's well-being.

Needless to say, Carney withdrew his representatives from all trade talks and appealed to national unity. He promptly won three federal by-elections in different parts of Canada with massive majorities, showing that Canadians are united in resisting American pressure tactics to force us to destroy our country and become slaves. No thanks! America can keep its racist practices and its endless wars; we want nothing to do with such matters.

Trump then immediately imposed extremely high taxes on Americans by tariffing a range of Canadian products that America desperately needs. Fine! Great tactic! Just remember that the USA has no aluminum and relies completely on Canada for its needs; also, that 40% of all American gasoline is imported from Canada, as well as all of New York City's electricity. Canada has announced that it will impose reciprocal tariffs on American products shortly after this newsletter is sent out, thereby hurting both countries. Maps are not included in this range of items. However, the remainder of good will felt by Canadians towards Americans has now pretty much disappeared. While we retain friendly relations with individual Americans, the US government has definitively shown that the USA cannot be trusted. Great!!! America has turned into the next-door neighbour from Hell. Thank you Donald Trump for destroying the relationship that has guided our two countries for the past two hundred years.

GMJ MAPS AND DISTRIBUTION

I would like to introduce you to Guy Johnson and his wonderful line of maps of cities and regions all over Canada and the USA. GMJ Maps was founded to supply a traditional map market for inexpensive street maps of American cities that were being discontinued by the 'big boys' of the American mapping trade as being not worth having. I will pick on Chico, California, a nice college campus town, as an example. A few years ago, the last American map publisher doing this city went out of business. Guy, a Canadian doing business out of Vancouver, received a phone call from an obvious American (by his accent), noting this, and asking if Guy could supply him with a map of Chico, which, to be honest, Guy had never considered doing. The man said that he was only a local 'leg man', but could place an initial order for 60,000 copies. That certainly got Guy's attention! He provided the map and started trolling for other similar situations, which were readily forthcoming, and his line grew rapidly, focusing on smaller to middle-sized American cities. Soon, AAA and Rand McNally were signing contracts with him to provide maps for their marketing, and his product line grew even larger. Great for GMJ!

As Mapart started to fall apart in Canada (you knew I would get around to sad-sack Mapart sooner or later), GMJ Maps issued its own series of Canadian city maps, using the artwork first developed by – you guessed it – Art Schwartz. This cut into Mapart's margins and no doubt contributed to its demise as a powerhouse of Canadian mapping. Whatever. To cut a long story short, GMJ and ITMB have a deal to market all the extensive GMJ line internationally. We have done so for years, but Mapart's demise works to create a fresh marketing approach. Now, I hasten to add that GMJ continues to market on its own to anyone it wishes to, but ITMB has its own range of customers that do not overlap with those of GMJ, and our two firms have always worked well together.

The GMJ product line consists of hundreds of titles – far too many to note in a newsletter. However, the line IS extensive, and is modestly priced. At this time, I wish to introduce you to some Canadian cities that are now available to you; cities that are of a significant size. They are street maps, not travel reference maps, but will sell well in Europe or Australia. The retail price will be $5.95 to $7.95 per map, depending on where you are in the world, and in which currency you use. These are all included on our ITMB web store page. Ready? Here goes:

Calgary, Edmonton, Frederickton, Halifax, Hamilton, Kamloops, Kelowna, Kitchener, Lethbridge, London, Moncton, Montreal, Nanaimo, Niagara Falls, North Bay, Prince George, Quebec City, Regina, St. John (NB), Saskatoon, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Timmins, Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, Whistler, and Windsor.

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Some of these names will be familiar to you, others not. My point is, they are now available to you at a reasonable cost, as well as maps of each province. In addition, you now have access to a very large range of American cities, hundreds of them, far too many to note in an article like this, as well as individual state maps and regional recreation maps. You can contact Linh for a complete list of hundreds of titles that you may not have previously realized existed. Go for it! What do you have to lose?

CANADIAN GOVERNMENTAL MAPS

Just to keep you looking enthusiastically at new opportunities, ITMB can supply you with detailed topographic maps published by the Canada Map Office for all of Canada at 1:250,000 scale (902 separate titles covering the entire country) and 1:50,000 scale (13,500 separate titles), again covering the entire country. In addition, we can supply you with all 9,500 topographic maps of British Columbia published by the BC government at 1:20,000 scale. Obviously, it would be impractical to list thousands of titles in an article like this, but all these maps are available to you for under $20 each, depending on where you are in the world. Such maps are recorded by numbers, not names; for example, Vancouver is 92G6, but work with us and we can supply you with the maps you need. Contact Linh at linh@itmb.com.

GODFREY MAPS

Just to keep the ball rolling on interesting and unusual map lines that ITMB can offer, are you familiar with the reproduction early Ordnance Survey maps that Godfrey Maps publishes in the UK? These have the original OS map on one side, circa 1840 to 1914, and descriptive text on the reverse. Godfrey started with the corner of England he lived in, just for fun, and was overwhelmed by the demand for ancient OS maps. He now has more than a thousand titles, covering all parts of England, and these are available to you for $9.95 each. Again, this is a very specialized line, extremely useful for genealogy and for what a particular part of England looked like in 1850, or 1870, or 1894, depending on whether or not the original survey map has been actioned by Godfrey. Just to make things really interesting, ITMB also stocks the original Ordnance Survey series of maps covering England following the end of the Napoleonic Wars, initiated by the great Duke of Wellington as a means to assist England in the early stages of the Great Industrial Revolution. Such maps are of interest to historians and genealogists alike; specialized, I grant, but very interesting. As an aside, the reason that British governmental mapping is called ‘Ordnance’ dates back to the Peninsular wars of Spain in the Napoleonic era, when French troops would hide on the far ide of mountains, safe, so they thought, from shelling. Wellington used flagmen to attempt to hone in on them, but eventually developed the concept of contour mapping. After all, if one knows the elevation on one side of a mountain, that same elevation has to persist on the far side of that same mountain. That enabled his artillery (the Ordnance Division) to shoot over the mountain and land shells closer to where the French were, reliably. Hence, the name!

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAPS, RAND McNALLY MAPS, FRANKO MAPS, AND MICHELIN MAPS

With the collapse of Mapart, distribution rights that they held for several publishing lines disappeared. These have transferred to ITMB. Lucky us. Of course, lumping all of these lines into one brief paragraph in a newsletter is inadequate. This is a mere summery, which will be expanded in next month’s newsletter. ITMB has always marketed National Geographic’s extensive line in the USA, and informally, in Canada, particularly its international titles, but also a wide range of its Trails Unlimited recreation maps. We are now expanding our marketing formally into the Canadian market for NatGeo, and also into the Australian/New Zealand markets.

The extensive and well-known Rand McNally line is also now available for Canadian customers from ITMB, particularly their atlases and wall maps. American customers can continue to order from their American suppliers, or from us. The Rand maps are now mostly GMJ maps under the Rand cover, but the Rand name is great for marketing, so ITMB is adding quite a few Rand maps to our overall mapping representation. Again, a detailed listing of so many titles would be inappropriate for a newsletter, so please contact Linh for what we can provide.

Franko is a specialized line of recreational and historic maps that we have marketed in Canada for years, and are now opening to international marketing. The line is oriented towards surfing and fishing retailers, but some of their titles cover off-beat countries, so the line is worth marketing to the international community.

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ITMB has always marketed Michelin Maps in the USA, but is now the Canadian distributor of this extensive line. This also extends to Australia and New Zealand, but obviously not to Europe. I will have more information on all these important lines, and more, in next month's newsletter. We all have a lot to absorb, and changing marketing is moving quickly. That's enough new stuff for one month!

MAGNA CARTA AND ITS INFLUENCE ON TODAY'S WORLD

We take for granted certain rights in most countries – freedom of speech, freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention, freedom of religious worship, a right to have a say in taxation, and a right to protest against governmental policies. It was not always this way, and even today, we have to struggle to maintain our rights in a rapidly-evolving world. 1,100 years ago, laws tended to be whatever the reigning monarch said they were. Alfred the Great first codified (i.e. wrote down) laws for the area of England that he controlled, in about 980AD. This is significant, because rulers over the next several centuries were somewhat constrained by written-down laws. Like Trump, arrogant rulers tried to come up with authoritarian ways to overcome popular sentiment to laws favouring the rich and powerful over those affecting ordinary folk. This came to a head in 1215 in England, on a pleasant meadow in Runnymead, close to Windsor. King John was beset by his nobles and landed gentry, who rebelled against his authoritarian rule – and they won. He was forced to sign a document we now call the Magna Carta, limiting his powers and granting real rights to everyone. The rock on which he sat, and the field of battle, can be seen to this day, more than 800 years later.

No copies of this original 'Great Charter' have survived, unfortunately, but it was copied many times, and four of these somewhat later versions are still existing, and can usually be seen on display at the British Library in London, or in Lincoln Cathedral. While the Magna Carta was originally a pact between an authoritarian monarch and his rebellious landed gentry, it has come into modern times as an embodiment of basic human rights, granting individual protection under law, freedom from arbitrary detention without due process of law, and guaranteeing the right to a fair trial by one's peers. It is, today, the basis of English Common Law, the fundamental pillar of the American Constitution, and the foundation of the concept of the rule of law in many societies around the world. In short, it is the foundation of the concept of the rule of law. It isn't so much what the Charter says so much as what it has come to mean over the centuries. Fundamentally, it represents a society wanting to live under the rule of law, with protections against abuse, rather than under an authoritarian system where no one's rights are respected.

It is, in 2026, very much threatened in the USA, where arbitrary arrest and detention is commonplace, unfortunately, where modern-day concentration camps house tens of thousands of individuals who are arbitrarily incarcerated without any degree of legality, and where cruel and unusual deprivation of rights is a daily reality. Fortunately, millions of right-minded Americans are doing marvellous work to overcome these abuses of law. This situation affects all of us, in all parts of the world. If law is superseded by the will of an authoritarian oligarchy, we all suffer. Do you want armed and masked thugs beating you up with impunity, 'disappearing' you into any one of two dozen detention centres? The question we all must ask is 'Who is next?" As we learned in Germany's Hitler era, another 'enemy' always replaces the one currently being persecuted. The 'illegal aliens' of Trumpian vitriol is soon replaced by Mexican 'rapists', then by Venezuelan 'drug smugglers', then by Haitian legal refugees, then by who? Cuban refugees, perhaps, or Philippinos? Or Chinese? Who is next? There is always a 'next'. Are you next?

TITLES THAT HAVE RUN OUT OF COPIES DURING AUGUST

Inevitably, we have expended our inventory of a few titles during August. In most cases, the new edition is ready to replace it, or is at the printer and expected shortly. Occasionally, we are caught short when a larger order than we normally receive brings a print run to a close faster than expected, and we have to scramble to get an update completed quickly. Fortunately, Lan is usually on top of depleting inventory, and delays are limited to a couple of months. Also, we are finding all too frequently that distributors all too often hold inventory surplus to what they can sell, and we are then burdened with unwanted returns. This month, we wish to advise that the following are out of stock:

Africa West Coast Atlas has been discontinued as a title.

Cape Verde Islands – a new edition is at the updating stage, due in November

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Cuzco is out of print, with a fresh edition due in October

Eastern Europe has run out of copies. A fresh edition is at press and expected in October.

Georgia and Armenia has just reached the end of its print run. The new edition is due in September.

Nepal finished its current print run during August, a fresh edition is at press and expected in October.

New Brunswick – unexpectedly strong sales during August have depleted inventory faster than expected. Lan's team is working on an update, but this will take time.

Newfoundland also experienced a surge in sales that depleted our inventory much faster than anticipated. However, a fresh edition was sent to press in July, and is expected during October.

Norway South also experienced a sudden surge in sales; this sometimes happens, but always catches us by surprise. A fresh edition should be ready in November.

Togo/Benin is at press for a fresh edition, expected in October.

Washington, DC has finally run out of copies. Regrettably, this city is not very popular with travellers at the moment (like Moscow), so we have not initiated an update. We will review the situation when America is more friendly.

Yukon – a fresh edition is at press, expected in October

NEW RELEASES TO THE END OF AUGUST, 2026

Bosnia & Montenegro Travel Reference Map 2nd edition 2027 1:400,000 ISBN 9781771291200 UPC 817712912008 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Bosnia, or more properly Bosnia Herzegovina, and neighbouring Montenegro, share a common heritage, first under the Ottoman Empire, then under the Austro-Hungarian Empire, then under Yugoslavia, German occupation, and finally, Tito's authoritarian rule post WW2. Nonetheless, each component should be seen separately. Montenegro is very 'Western' in its outlook, popular with cruise ships and visitors. Bosnia is more Muslim oriented, nice, pleasant, and friendly, but more subdued and not as outgoing. Herzegovina always seems to be a forgotten entity hoping that nobody notices them. Again, it is a very nice, peaceful country and welcomes visitors. This map combines all three entities, with Montenegro dominating side 1. Major urban areas are named in both their Latin and Cyrillic spellings for ease of use. Part of side 1 and all of side 2 is devoted to the much larger entity of Bosnia Herzegovina, with a detailed street map of Sarajevo included, as well as a Top Attractions list. Motorways are slowly transforming transportation routes in the region and the map includes the most recent improvements. The main highways are paved and shown in green. Red roads are probably 4x4 tracks, but may be navigable by high-clearance vehicles. **AVAILABLE**

Greenland & North Pole Travel Reference Map 6th Edition 2026 on waterproof paper 1:3,000,000/1:9,000,000 ISBN 9781771292979 UPC 817712929792 $15.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Greenland has been much in the news lately, so this most recent update is a welcome sight! Access to the island is easier now, with regular flights from Canada, Iceland, and Denmark, but getting around is still challenging. A couple of expedition-type cruise ships also attract visitors The Canadian coast guard now makes regular stops in Greenland. The political situation remains a bit volatile, with Trump occasionally making provocative statements, but generally speaking, the Greenlandic people try to welcome visitors, be friendly, and ignore politics. By air, Nuuk, the capital, is still the best way to enter the country; by sea, ships from Iceland visit several ports. The second side of the map is one of those unique maps that ITMB loves to publish. During the International Polar Year, Canada received permission from all fifteen countries north of the 55th parallel to produce a map centred on the North Pole – the 'true' North Pole, not the magnetic one that moves around. The result is a brilliant map of a part of the world most of us will never visit, but offers an amazing perspective as to how political entities as diverse as Russia, Denmark, Scotland, and Canada all fit together in a geographic reality that is only found here. Like antarctica, this region is extremely unusual, but unlike Antarctica, the pole is not over land, but frozen water**. AVAILABLE**

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Hanoi & Northern Vietnam Travel Reference Map 3rd edition 2026 1:15,000/1:900,000 ISBN 9781771293471 UPC 817712934710 $13.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 - The capital of Vietnam is changing rapidly as the country modernizes. New elevated rapid transit lines now dominate the futuristic look that the government hopes will transform a city founded a thousand years ago to cope with the realities of the 21st Century. Hanoi is now a massive city of five million people and needs a road system that can move goods and people efficiently as well as providing housing that is modern and safe from flooding. Unfortunately, this means that much of the old housing must be demolished and people moved to more outlying areas. Intellectually, this makes sense, but emotionally, no one likes being uprooted from familiar patterns. This map shows the current status of the new rapid transit line and the new bridge being constructed across the Hong River An inset map shows the extensive ring road under construction. Side 2 is equally updated to show the expanding network of motorways extending from Hanoi to the Chinese border and south to Hue. The northern portion of Vietnam is also rich with heritage, and sites attractive to visitors are noted. This is a major update to an important map. **AVAILABLE**

Japan Travel Reference Map 10th Edition 2026 on waterproof paper (2nd Printing, 1st Printing destroyed) 1:1,000,000 ISBN 9781771293990 UPC 817712939906 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – The several islands that comprise Nippon, the country we call Japan, is one of the most popular travel destinations in Asia, and for that matter, in the world. The country is obviously scenically attractive, historically interesting, touristically friendly, and easy to get around. The country is well-managed, hotels meet modern standards, and the food is great. No wonder Japan is popular! Side 1 shows the northern island of Hokkaido, the northern portion of the main island of Honshu, and detailed inset maps of Central Tokyo and of Osaka/Kyoto. Side 2 concentrates on the rest of the country, with several insets showing various outer islands. Although the map shows roads and motorways, it emphasizes the rail network, which is extensive, and the way most visitors travel around. Shinkansen rapid lines are shown separately from main-line tracks. **AVAILABLE**

Latvia & Riga Travel Reference Map 3rd Edition 2027 1:470,000/1:7,000 ISBN 9781771294546 UPC 817712945464 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Having just visited the country last month, I can testify that it is a lovely and friendly country, well worth a visit. This map is up-to-date and accurate. Side 1 is Riga, with a large inset of the old town, which is what most visitors concentrate on. The tram lines are interesting. We took a hop On-Hop Off bus tour, so saw most of the city. The second side is the entire country. Although plans are afoot for a trans-Baltic motorway, not much has happened yet, so we left the proposed route off the map. The road system is in good shape, but two-laned except for a short stretch out of Riga The Russian border is closed, of course, due to the war with Ukraine, but we left the crossings in place, as one always hopes that sanity will prevail and peace be restored. We also left off the Canadian air force base for the same reason. This is a tourist map, not a political statement. **AVAILABLE**

Mongolia Travel Reference Map 9th Edition 2027 on waterproof paper 1:1,800,000 ISBN 9781771295048 UPC 817712950482 $15.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – The fiercely independent country of Mongolia is wary of its neighbours to the south (China) and to the north (Russia), but is easy to enter by land, at least from China, and easy to travel around, although the road network in the western half of the country is extremely bad. Side 1 shows the Gobi Desert, which is the principal touristic attraction of the country, with a large inset of Ulaan Baatar (which is the most accepted way to spell the name in the Latin alphabet). Side 2 covers the rest of the country, but the road network becomes very spotty once one leaves the green lined roads and is virtually non-existent in the western third of the country There is a railroad from the Chinese border to Ulaan, but the trains don't connect, and it is far easier to reach the capital by road. We were fortunate in finding a person willing to rent out his vehicle, as there is virtually no car rental business in the country. Spending a night in a yurt was an interesting experience, but quite safe. We also spent a night in a hotel twenty metres from the Russian border. This is an adventuresome country, excellent for those who are prepared to put up with some pretty basic facilities. Nice people, invariably smiling, but English is at a premium. Definitely an off-the-beaten-path place worth visiting. **AVAILABLE**

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Ontario Travel Reference Map 5th Edition 20271:800,00 (South) 1:1,500,000 (North) ISBN 9781771296038 UPC 817712960382 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Canada seems to be a popular travel destination these days, with politics turning people away from the USA in the millions, Ontario is a very pleasant place to visit. It contains Toronto, the largest city in Canada by far, and the nation's capital, Ottawa. Side 1 shows the southern portion of the province, with a good-sized inset of downtown Toronto. The back cover portrays Toronto's expanding rapid transit network, with the much-delayed Queen Street subway finally underway after 50 years of talk. Side 2 covers a vast area of the far north at a reduced scale that still fills the page. Plans are in place to push roads further into undeveloped areas. Train services exist to Moose Factory on Hudson Bay, and Via Rail operates a passenger service to western Canada from Toronto, but this is driving country across terrain the size of western Europe The new Gordie Howe bridge to Detroit doesn't show at this scale, but it is the most expensive bridge ever built in North America, and yes, Lake Ontario is still Lake Ontario. No one has the right to unilaterally change the name of an international waterway shared by two countries. This is a part of the world full of history. Come see. **AVAILABLE**

Quebec City & Gaspe Peninsula Travel Reference Map 2nd Edition 2027 ISBN 9781771296472 UPC 817712964724 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – The only walled city in North America is Ville Quebec, and the old town inside the walls is much as it was two hundred years ago, albeit tarted up somewhat by tourist shops. Founded in 1608, QC is one of the oldest urban areas in North America, with a largely French population that makes it unique as a travel destination. Side 1 shows the city in excellent detail, with the historical centre on the right. Side 2 covers Quebec Province from Montreal to the interesting peninsula called the Gaspe (pronounced Gas-pey) at the mouth of the St. Lawrence Estuary. This is the portion of Quebec most often visited and includes a large inset of Montreal to orient people arriving from the west, but the focus of the map is the Gaspe Peninsula, jutting far out into the Atlantic**. AVAILABLE**

Senegal & Gambia Travel Reference Map 8th Edition 2027 1:500,000 ISBN 9781771297394 UPC 817712973948 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Senegal and Gambia should have been one country, but rivalry between Britain and France dictated otherwise in the days when slave hunting was very lucrative. The British sailed up the Gambia River and shot off a cannon every so often to establish their right of ownership, which is why Gambia has such an unusual border The French concentrated on the coastal areas, with their capital at St. Louis and their commercial capital at Dakar, which controlled the slave trade. That was then, this is now. Dakar is now a sophisticated urban centre with an excellent harbour and rail connections to the interior. Gambia is an English-speaking enclave that almost splits Senegal in two. Side 1 shows the western halves of both countries and side 2 the largely undeveloped eastern half, with inset maps of Dakar and of Banjul, the capital of Gambia. It is now practical to drive to both countries from Europe, via Morocco, but most travellers arrive by air. **AVAILABLE**

Spitsbergen/Svalbard Travel Reference Map 2nd Edition 2026 1:700,000 ISBN 9781771297509 UPC 817712975096 $15,95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – The northern Arctic island archipelago known as Spitsbergen in English and Svalbard in Norwegian is one of those off-the-beaten-track entities that is a bit difficult to reach, but well worth the effort. Side 1 shows the entire set of islands in very good detail, with an inset of Bear Island, which is too far away to include on the main map. Most of the land mass of the islands is uninhabited, with the population concentrated in four small settlements. There is an airport near Longyearbyen, the 'capital' of this remote set of islands, and ships sail from Norway on a regular basis. Thousands of tourists make the effort to come here, just to say that they have visited one of the most remote places on earth. This is an excellent and detailed map of an unusual spot. Side 2 is a map of northernmost Norway, simply to provide coverage of an unusual part of Norway. **AVAILABLE**

Tahiti & French Polynesia Travel Reference Map4th Edition 2027 ISBN 9781771298186 UPC 817712981868 $15.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – What can be said about the gem of Polynesia that hasn't been said many times before? Side 1 shows all of Polynesia from Hawaii to Easter Island to Vanuatu, showing the main routes followed by cruise ships This side also shows detailed maps of Rarotonga and Aitutaki in the Cook Islands, as well as of Tongatapu and Vava'u. Side 2 concentrates on the Society Islands, which most people associate with the heart of Polynesian culture. Tahiti is the principal island and the capital of French Polynesia, Papeete (inseted). The main islands of Moorea, Bora Bora, and Raiata are shown, as well as lesser-known islands such as Huahine, Tahaa, Maiao, Tupai, and Maupiti – all of which are very attractive. Touristic sites on all the islands are noted, particularly hotels, dive sites, and air strips. This is a very popular travel destination! **AVAILABLE**

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NEW RELEASES TO THE END OF JULY, 2026

British Columbia South Travel Reference Map 6th Edition 2026 on waterproof paper 1:750,000 ISBN 9781771291156 UPC 817712911568 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – BC is a huge geographic area, so large that it needs to be mapped in segments as well as being an entire entity. This map covers the south half of the province at an enhanced scale (there is a separate map doing the same for the northern half of the province). This scale allows ample room to portray Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland region, and all three routes through the Rocky Mountains to eastern Canada The area of coverage is from the American border north to the top end of Jasper National Park, and from the Pacific Ocean east to Calgary, in Alberta. The map is particularly noteworthy for its portrayal of parks, campgrounds, and roads joining together the many towns of the interior. It is particularly recommended for those in Europe intending to fly into either Vancouver or Calgary and rent a mobile home (known over here as a recreational vehicle) to explore the region before dropping off the vehicle and flying home. Good insets of central Vancouver and Victoria are included. **AVAILABLE**

Cairo & Nile Delta Travel Reference Map 5th Edition 2026 1:12,000/1:900,000 ISBN 9781771292009 UPC 817712920096 $14.95 cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Egypt is one of the most popular travel destinations in the northern part of Africa, and rightly so. Cairo is a fascinating city, extremely vibrant, and touristically interesting. The pyramid complex in Giza has to be shown as an inset, due to space limitations, and another inset shows the coastal city of Alexandria. The history of these two cities goes back thousands of years, entwining ancient pharaohs, Anthony and Cleopatra, Napoleon, and the British army in WW2. Side 2 covers much more than the actual delta of the Nile River, including everything as far south as Luxor and the Valley of the Kings. An inset shows the Aswan area, showing the original locations of various ancient sites that were moved (at great cost) to new sites near Aswan High Dam as the lake was created. This map would be perfect for anyone taking a Nile cruise. The rail line is also shown for those travelling by train. **AVAILABLE**

Guangzhou & China Southeast Travel Reference Map 3rd Edition 2026 1:15,000/1:3,000,000 ISBN 9781771292962 UPC 817712929624 $14.95cdn/us E/GBP12.90 – This is actually the third time we have published a map of the huge Chinese city formerly known as Canton, north of Hong Kong. China is a country of very large urban areas, of which Guangzhou is the forth largest (the largest is Chongqing, formerly Chungking). The two cities are related by history. Guangzhou was the heartland of nationalist fervour against the last monarchy of China and the revolution led by Sun Yat Sen that established modern-day China. Chongqing, was the only city never to fall to the Communists during the long Chinese civil war that ended in 1949, with Chiang Kai Chek flying to Taipei to establish an island fortress from which (he hoped) to re-capture the mainland. This map celebrates the largest city in southern China; one that is easy to reach from Hong Kong and is the beehive of Cantonese China that remains alive to this day as the focal point for the Han people, many of whom have been the 'Chinese' seen so often in North America. The city is gargantuan in size, but has three focal points for visitors. The first is the Sun Yat Sen Memorial Museum, which is a must-see for anyone hoping to understand China. The second is Samian Island, the former Western trading post that defined the city (and the country) in its early dealing with the world at large, and the third is the Canton Tower, representing today's China. Side 2 represents the most detailed and accurate portrayal of southern China in print. Stretching from Kunming in the southwest along the coast to Shanghai and west to the edge of Tibet. It includes a maze of motorways joining Guangzhou to all the major urban areas in Southern China. Xi'an, Wuhan, Changsha, Nanning, Guilin, Chongqing, Chengdu, Wuxi, Nanjing, and Suzhou may not be names familiar to most of you, but they are the future of travel as China re-opens to the world, and are all on this side. This is an amazing map of the most important country in today's world**. AVAILABLE**

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Japan West & Kyushu Travel Reference Map1st Edition 2026 1:550,000 ISBN 9781771294003 UPC 817712940032 $14.95 cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Japan is a very popular travel destination. This map replaces the Japan West map that were have had in our product line for several years, so is not an update. By changing side 2 to a map of the large island of Kyushu, it is different enough to justify calling it a first edition. Side 1 of the map is dedicated to the island at the far western part of Japan, Kyushu, along with a few off-islands that are connected to the main island by ferries. The three major urban centres are Fukuoka in the north, Nagasaki in the centre-west, and Kagoshima in the south. The island is connected to the other islands constituting Japan by both a rail bridge and a motorway bridge. Shinkansen fast-rail service is readily available, and of course, the main attraction is the Nuclear Bomb Museum that devastated Nagasaki in 1945. Side 2 covers the principal island of Honshu from Nagoya west to beyond Hiroshima and the often-ignored but interesting island of Shikoku. Osaka, Kyoto, and Nara are also on this side. Each side has a Top Attractions list, and all rail lines are shown. This is an ideal map for a visitor wanting to explore parts of Japan often ignored by those concentrating on the country's renowned 'main' attractions. **AVAILABLE**

Kilimanjaro & Northern Tanzania Travel Reference Map 8th Edition 2026 1:63,000/1:1,300,000 ISBN 9781771294225 UPC 817712942258 $15.95 cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Kili is the tallest mountain in Africa, a dormant volcano that is within easy striking distance of Nairobi, in northern Tanzania. Side 1 shows the mountain itself, with all its climbing routes (permits required). Side 2 covers all of the northern third of Tanzania to Lake Tanganyika and south to Dodoma, the nation's new capital. This side is more useful for most visitors, as it includes Serengeti and a dozen other wildlife preserves, Zanzibar Island, and the southern half of Lake Victoria. Although few visitors make the effort to reach Kigoma on Lake Tanganyika, this is the site of the David Livingstone Memorial, and is a town replete in colonial buildings. Closer to Nairobi is Ngorongoro Park, an extinct volcano with the greatest concentration of wildlife in Africa. This side also has excellent inset maps of Arusha and Stone Town. **AVAILABLE**

Madagascar Travel Reference Map 7th Edition 2026 1:1,000,000 ISBN 9781771294997 UPC 817712949974 $14.95 cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – The island of Madagascar is actually the country of Malagasy, but the island name is so established as Madagascar that even the locals call it that. This very large island, off the east coast of southern Africa, is best reached by air. Side 1 covers the northern portion of the island, with an excellent inset map of Antananarivo, the capital, included. As a bonus, the main islands of the difficult-to-reach Comoros Islands is on this side. The southern portion of Madagascar fills side 2. As this country is not as well-known as many others, generous capsule comments are scattered throughout the map to help visitors get around. The cover picture is one of the best we have ever seen. If it doesn't make you smile, nothing will! **AVAILABLE**

Sunshine Coast of BC & Lower Mainland Region Travel Reference Map 3rd Edition 2027 1:250,000 ISBN 9781771297523 UPC 817712975232 $12.95 cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – British Columbia is far too large a geographical area to show all of its attractions on one sheet! The region just north and a bit west of Vancouver City is called the Sunshine Coast. It is joined to the mainland by a ferry service, from Horseshoe Bay to Gibsons, and by a further ferry from Earl's Cove to Saltery Bay. Separate ferries join the region to Vancouver Island (from Powell River) and to Texada Island. Much of the interior of the region is mountainous, with huge glaciers, but there are numerous inlets (Europeans would call them fjords) and are great for sailing or kayaking. Vancouver is shown in the lower right corner, as well as the popular highway to Whistler, and the ferry route to Nanaimo, on Vancouver Island. Side 2 is a very interesting map covering what is known as the Lower Mainland. This is the portion of British Columbia where 80% of the province's population lives, and includes the coastal area of Washington State, the San Juan Islands (USA), the Gulf Islands (Canada) and the southeastern portion of Vancouver Island. The map stretches from Whistler in the north to Bellingham/Victoria in the south, and from Nanaimo in the west to Chilliwack in the east. These names won't mean much to those not familiar with BC, but the map is a very detailed regional topographical map adapted for recreation, showing hiking trails, fishing areas, parks, camping sites, and wilderness preserves. It captures the essence of the region perfectly! **AVAILABLE**

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USA Southwest Travel Reference Map 5th Edition 2026 on waterproof paper 1:900,000 ISBN 9781771298629 UPC 817712986290 $14.95 cdn/us E/GBP 12.90 – Southern California, Nevada, Arizona, and part of Utah constitutes a regional entity within the USA that is unique. Side 1 shows California from Sacramento, the State Capital, south to the Mexican border at Tijuana. The region is dominated by San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego, but the interior is desert-like. Death Valley is a large depression, much of it below sea level. Further north, the Reno/Carson City region used to be a major mining area, but is now a gambling and touristic attraction. Side 2 is an arid flat plain, with Las Vegas in the north, and Pheonix/Tucson in the south. The famous Route 66 passes through its centre, as it wends its way towards Santa Monica. Lots of touristic attractions are shown on the map, such as the OK Corral in Tombstone, the Titan Missile Launch Site, south of Tucson, and the massive Hoover Dam, southeast of Las Vegas. This is a map to explore the USA by car**! AVAILABLE**

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