

Passport to the World Reading Challenge FAQ

1. **What is the “Passport to the World Reading Challenge?”**

Passport to the World is a 4-month long reading challenge with the goal to read books set in or about as many different countries as possible. Beginning May 1st 2012, you can register with the Mill Valley reference desk and receive a library-issued passport to keep track of your literary travels. Each time you finish a book, record the title and author in your passport and bring it to the reference desk. We'll stamp your passport, record the country the book corresponds to, and give you a raffle ticket. We'll mark your locale on our large map so we can see where everyone is reading. If you're feeling ambitious, we've got “mini-challenges” that you can attempt and which earn you an additional 5 raffle tickets for each one completed.

We'll host 3 monthly meetings where you can meet and discuss books with fellow participants, and we'll have mini-raffles with prizes from various local establishments. If you don't win in the mini-raffles, we'll keep your tickets and enter them in our big, final raffle held in August. Our final meeting and raffle will be held on September 1st and will conclude the reading challenge. You do not need to be present at the meetings in order to win.

In conjunction with our reading challenge, we're offering complimentary programming following the theme of “Passport to the World.” We're offering Conversational Language Groups, a group of sensational guest speakers for our Travel and Cultural Lecture Series, and the Friends of the Library will show films set in foreign locations for their Monday Night at the Movies program.

2. **What are the prizes?**

Aside from personal pride and a sense of accomplishment, you can win gift baskets and certificates from local Mill Valley stores, a Sony Nook, and more. Our three grand prizes are: a gift certificate for Tea for 2 at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, 2 tickets to the Napa Valley Wine Train, and an Annual Pass to our magnificent National Parks.

3. **How do I register?**

Registration begins on May 1st for 94941 patrons, and opens up to non-94941 patrons on May 8th. Stop by in person and speak to the reference desk in order to obtain your passport.

4. **Who can participate in this challenge?**

Anyone of high school age or older can participate in the reading challenge.

5. **Which countries can I choose?**

Any internationally recognized country counts for this challenge! You cannot choose the United States as one of the countries to visit—remember, you don't need a

passport to travel in the U.S! This is an international challenge; the world is yours. See our list of suggested titles organized by continent and country at the reference desk or on this webpage.

6. What if a book takes place in or discusses more than 1 country?

The rules are simple: one country per book. If you read a multiple-country monograph, you'll have the option of choosing one of the countries for your visa stamp.

7. What types of books can I read?

You can read in any format that you'd like: audiobooks, ebooks, eaudiobooks, paperbacks, hardcovers, Braille—they all count. You can read fiction and/or non-fiction.

8. How do these “mini-challenges” work?

In addition to earning one raffle ticket per book, you can take on a mini-challenge and earn either 5 or 10 extra raffle tickets (depending on the challenge). When you've read enough books to complete one of the mini-challenges, come in and let the reference desk know—we'll give your passport a special stamp and hand you the extra tickets.

You cannot use the same book for more than one mini-challenge.

Mini-Challenges:

- **7 Continents:** Tour the globe by reading 1 book from each of the 7 continents: North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, Africa, Asia, and/or Australia. **(10 pts)**
- **European Debt Crisis:** read 4 books from the following list of European countries with the most outstanding government deficits: Ireland, Greece, United Kingdom, Iceland, Portugal, Spain, Latvia, Poland, Slovakia, and/or France. **(5 pts)**
- **“Big Oil” Pipeline Excursion:** get your feet dirty with 4 books from the following oil-rich countries: Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Venezuela, Canada, Iraq, and/or Russia. **(5 pts)**
- **Arab Spring:** read 4 books set in or about countries from the following list: Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Libya, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, Yemen, Bahrain, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, and/or Oman. **(5 pts)**
- **Escape to the Islands:** choose 4 books set in or about non-U.S. islands in the world, such as Togo, Trinidad, Sri Lanka, Cuba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Madagascar, and/or Taiwan. **(5 pts)**

- **Scandinavian Sensations:** read 4 books set in different countries from the following list: Norway, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, and/or Iceland. **(5 pts)**
- **Magnificent Masala:** read one book set in or about 4 of these South Asian countries: India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, and/or Sri Lanka. **(5 pts)**
- **The Heart of Latin America:** read 4 books that take place in or discuss the following countries: Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, and/or Venezuela. **(5 pts)**
- **It All Began in Africa:** read 4 books set in or about the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Canary Islands, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Democratic of the Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and/or Zimbabwe. **(5 pts)**
- **This Desert Life:** test your endurance and read books set in or about 4 of the world's largest desert regions (no matter how many books you read, you must cover 4 different deserts in order to complete this challenge): **(5 pts)**
 - *The Antarctic Desert:* Antarctica
 - *The Arctic Desert:* Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and/or Russia
 - *The Saharan Desert:* Egypt, Chad, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, and/or Algeria
 - *The Arabian Desert:* Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Jordan, Egypt and/or Iraq
 - *The Gobi Desert:* China and/or Mongolia
 - *The Patagonian Desert:* Argentina
 - *The Great Victoria Desert:* Australia
 - *The Kalahari Desert:* South Africa, Botswana, and/or Namibia
 - *The Thar Desert:* India and/or Pakistan
 - *The Chihuahuan Desert:* Mexico

- **Straddling the World:** read 4 books set in or about these countries located on the equator: Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Sao Tome & Principe, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, Maldives, Indonesia, and/or Kiribati. **(5 pts)**
- **In-House Travels:** attend our complimentary programming events: our Travel and Cultural Lecture Series, the Friends of the Library's Monday Night at the Movies (7:30pm in the Creekside Room), our Spanish & Italian Conversational Language Groups (see the reference desk for details) and receive an additional stamp for each program attended.

9. When and where are the raffles held?

We're having 3 raffles where you can also get together and discuss what you're reading with other participants. While you don't need to be present to win, feel free to come to as many as you can!

1st Raffle: Tuesday, June 19th from 6:30-7:45pm in the Creekside Room

2nd Raffle: Monday, July 23rd from 6:30-7:45pm in the Creekside Room

Final Grand-Prize Raffle: Saturday, Sept. 1st from 3-4:15pm in the Creekside Room