

# The Worldly Travelers of Yesteryear Contributed Substantially to Important Tourism Policy Issues of Today

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**Abstract:** Today, we live in interesting times; they are times of change and uncertainty, but they are also the most creative and exciting times of any period in the history of travel and tourism. To understand the foundation of the pinning's of today's tourism we need to appreciate how tourism evolved over time. Much of the information in this article comes from *The Worldly Travelers: Their Lives and Journeys Changed the World*, an unpublished manuscript currently developed by the author of this article for publication as a book. Some of the materials in that publication have been lifted and noted hereinto open our eyes to a better understanding of the broader framework of how the early beginnings of tourism impacts on today's travel and tourism industry.

**Keywords:** Worldly Travelers, History, Exploration, Cultural Tourism, Geotourism, Ecotourism Responsible Tourism, and Adventure Tourism.

#### Introduction

"We have not inherited the earth from our ancestors, we have only borrowed it from our children" (anonymous)

There has been very little research conducted about the great worldly travelers of the past in terms of their impact on tourism policies in the twenty-first century. Recently, my research, based on a small sample of worldly travellers of the past, suggests that we can learn important information from their travels that has a bearing on travel and tourism today. This brief article will highlight certain worldly travelers of yesteryear and, in doing so; emphasize their contributions to a better understanding of current tourism issues. My research has also led to a manuscript for a book titled: *The Worldly Travelers: Their Lives and Journeys Changed the World*.

The worldly travelers in this article were real people seeking knowledge, making new discoveries, and accepting their fortunes bounded by travels with enormous challenges, dangers, and adventures. They were not emperors, kings, presidents, or military conquerors; in fact, they took little part in the political aspects of history-making decisions. Yet, what they did was more decisive for history. It was this: the worldly travelers journeyed, explored, and made discoveries throughout the world that significantly altered humankind's approach to travel, geography, history, science, and technology.

The sample of travelers for this article include the following individuals: Herodotus, Marco Polo, Ibn. Battuta, Jeanne Baret, Charles Darwin, Nain Singh, Charles Lindbergh, and Yuri Gagarin. Each worldly traveler had to learn how to

overcome physical and societal barriers to travel and adjust to different world custom, languages, and cultures as he or she journeyed from place to place. These worldly travelers represented many different nationalities and backgrounds, and, like most people, they had virtues and sins, good days and bad, but they survived interrogations of kings and queens, tests and skepticisms of great leaders, and jealousies of contemporaries and detractors, to pursue unusual travels, and leave behind vivid descriptions of where they had been and what they had learned. These travelers, having an uncommon thirst for knowledge about the world they lived in, and the fortitude and desire to peregrinate, made an indelible mark on the history of mankind. Their unbridled courage, combined with mental and physical strength, allowed them to overcome formidable difficulties of travel and to inspire others to journey and experience new adventures. In the process, these worldly travelers added special insights about new destinations and world cultures that forever impacted on the way in which future generations would live and view the universe.

#### Herodotus: The Cultural Traveler in the Ancient World

One short definition of "cultural tourism" in today's vernacular is, "Traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present." No one in the history of early travel better fits that definition of cultural tourism than the journeys of the great worldly traveler Herodotus (in ancient Greece only one identity name was in use). Herodotus (485-425 BCE), in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE, toured Phoenicia (Lebanon, Egypt, Cyrenaica (Libya), Greece, and areas around the Black Sea and recorded the history, culture, customs, traditions, religions, geography, and practices of the people living in those areas. Up until Herodotus wrote the book *The Histories* (440 BCE) about the countries he visited, the Greek society knew very little about the larger world outside of the Greek city-states. Because of the difficulty of obtaining his book (and besides, not many Greeks of that time could read), most of the intellectual community learned of his travels through his oral presentations at major events throughout much of Greece (particularly in the cultural center of Greece: Athens).

Herodotus was a unique traveler, the first travel writer – he is also known today as the "Father of History" –and certainly the greatest traveler of his era. He was what we might refer to today as a special news reporter of events, places, and people as he encountered them in his travels, and as he repeated and noted historical facts and anecdotes as told to him in the countries he visited. In many circumstances, he commented on stories and legends told to him by individuals he met, not really knowing whether he thought them to be actual facts or fictitious myths that were verbally passed down from generation to generation.

It is likely that Herodotus came from a well-educated and wealthy family. He grew up in Halicarnassus in Caria (now Bodrum, Turkey). Herodotus lived in an era when Persia was the dominant world power. The Persian King Cambyses had conquered the great civilization of Egypt in 525 BCE, making it a province of Persia. Halicarnassus, once part of Greece, was, at the time of Herodotus, a colony under the subjugation of the Persian Empire. Persia at that time was a somewhat

repressive society and through a number of dangerous circumstances, Herodotus was able to leave the area and move to a new development in Greece.

Herodotus's first major trip was traveling to the cultural center of Greece, the magnificent city of Athens. Athens was a stark contrast to Herodotus' birthplace, the city of Halicarnassus. Not only did the superb Athenian architecture surpass anything he had seen growing up, but the political life and social milieu were radically different.

Traveling during the era of Herodotus was a major challenge for finding transportation, food, accommodations, and safety from pirates on the seas and robbers on land. This was particularly true for Herodotus when traveling to his favorite destination: Egypt. Travel from ancient Greece to Egypt in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE was a major feat of stamina, patience, and luck. But Herodotus was strong and healthy and had a burning desire to learn and know all about the history and culture of Egypt. From his picturesque descriptions of local customs, humor, heroes, tragedies, and historical events, the world gained much knowledge about Egypt and some of the early societies outside Greece. Herodotus was certainly a well-traveled, knowledgeable, and curious traveler who wanted to know as much as possible about the cultures of the places he visited.

# Marco Polo: The Cultural / Geotourism Worldly Traveler of the Medieval Period

A most interesting worldly traveler of the Medieval Period, and a person that would change the future of travel, was none other than the famed Marco Polo. Today, we might well call Marco Polo a geotourist expert. By *National Geographic's Center for Sustainable Destinations*, "geotourism is defined as tourism that sustains or enhances the geographical character of a place –its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of its residents."

Marco Polo (1254-1324 CE) of Venice, Italy, began his travel to China at the age of 17, accompanying his father and uncle, both of whom were highly experienced merchants and travelers. Their travels from Venice to China and return to Venice would take 24 years. They battled bouts of sickness with limited medical care and crossed into territories where wars were taking place causing them to retreat and wait until it was safe to travel again. They escaped from robbers at one point and almost died during snowstorms in crossing mountainous terrains. Marco Polo made notes of such adventures, which would make for interesting reading at a later time. Fortunately, shortly after their return from China, Marco Polo wrote vivid accounts of the details of their travel during this period in his book, *The Travels of Marco Polo* (1300 CE). His book is replete with stories about the customs, culture, and geography of the places the Polo's visited.

From Marco Polo's book and accounts of experiences of other travelers of that era, we have a good idea of the difficulties of traveling during the thirteenth century. A traveler to foreign countries was beset with strange customs, chaotic travel conditions due to the many conflicts and wars taking place, and, depending on the chosen destination and culture, varying degrees of hospitality. To pursue

the wonders of the world at that particular time period, Marco Polo was willing to travel by foot, horseback, camel, donkey, carriage, and boat under some of the most difficult circumstances imaginable. However, Marco Polo brought back with him copious amounts of information revealing new inventions, different customs, interesting products, geographical descriptions, and nuances of other cultures. His interactions with the great Mongol ruler and founder of the Yan dynasty, Kublai Khan of China, and his ability to learn and to transfer knowledge are aptly chronicled in his travel book. *The Travels of Marco Polo*, a best seller throughout Europe, was accepted as the *bible* for describing the social, cultural, economic, and environmental conditions of the places he had visited —Central Asia, Mongolia, China, Tibet, Burma, Siam, Ceylon, Java, India, and other destinations largely unknown in Europe.

Marco Polo was enamored with learning about the life and characteristics of Kublai Khan, the grandson of the famous warlord Genghis Khan. Kublai Khan is considered one of the most effective rulers and administrators in history and ruled the biggest empire to ever exist. In his book, Marco Polo describes each detail of Kublai Khan's life, how he commands his armies, how he rules his empire, and how he accumulated his great wealth.

While Marco Polo's father and uncle were basically interested in trade and wealth during their travels, Marco was more interested in the customs, cultures, geography, and environment of each destination they visited. He noted the animal life, plants, building structures, and new technology of the places visited. He was truly a "geotourist" in every sense of understanding geotourism.

## Ibn Battuta: The Adventurous Traveler of the Middle East

Adventure tourism or travel usually refers to experiencing a destination through physically participating in various activities along the way or during the trip. Possibly the most adventurous traveler of all times was the worldly traveler known as Sheikh Abu Abdullah Muhammad ibn Ibrahim al-Lawati, better known simply as Ibn Battuta (Ibn meaning "son" of), born in Tangier, Morocco on February 25, 1304. Ibn Battuta (1304-1368 CE) was the greatest of the Medieval period travelers. Sometimes he is referred to as the "Marco Polo of the Middle East", but he traveled much longer and much further than did the popular traveler from Venice.

Ibn Battuta grew up in a highly intellectual family with well-educated parents and a father and uncle schooled in Islamic law, both being highly successful lawyers and judges. His birthplace, Tangier was an ancient port city that included, at one point in its history as being a Phoenician colony. The Phoenicians, the greatest sea-faring peoples of ancient times, left a legacy of Tangier as a place of great travel and adventure. Ibn Battuta, being a good student of history, relished the great stories of adventurous travels by the Phoenicians and later societies that circulated through the busy port of Tangier.

With a community like Tangier at the crosswords of hosting travelers from many different countries, it is no wonder that by the time Ibn Battuta was 20 years

old, he was anxious to begin his own travels. He was full of energy, anxious to expand his knowledge of the world, and wishing for excitement and adventure. An opportunity to explore destinations throughout the Middle East and beyond fit his curiosity and interests. His desire was to proceed alone to destinations of interest with no set agenda. Other adventurers, merchants, and friends, however, advised him strongly that traveling solo drastically increased the dangers he would likely encounter. They told him stories of independent travelers who had been attacked, robbed, and killed. On several occasions throughout his travels, he would join caravans which provided him with greater safety, were a source of information about destinations he was interested in and provided for an opportunity for socialization. However, once he began his travels, he would be traveling for the next 29 years covering over 75,000 miles and visiting more than 40 modern day countries.

During his travels on land and sea, Ibn Battuta would have many adventures and numerous near-death challenges along the way. He fought robbers and highwaymen on land; he nearly drowned in one of his many sea excursions; and, he was able survive political whims of despot rulers in many countries he visited. He also had many romantic adventures, was married many times, and fathered children during his travels. Ibn Battuta was an accomplished legal scholar, but on many of his adventurous travels he lived by his wits. He took great joy in discovering new experiences and exercised amazing perseverance and fortitude to complete extensive travels and eventually returned home. After all his adventures, he dictated the stories of his travels to a scholar which ended up as a book titled Tuhfat al-anzar fi gharaaib al-amsar wa ajaaib al-asfar, or *A Gift to Those Who Contemplate the Wonders of Cities and the Marvels of Traveling*, which is generally just call Ibn Battuta's *Rihla*, or *Journey*. His legacy of extraordinary travel adventures as the greatest Middle East traveler has never been surpassed.

## Jeanne Baret, the Botanist Traveler

Botanist travelers travel to destinations to discover new plant life orto view the varied flora in different areas or at specific sites and destinations. Botanical type gardens are generally noted to have existed around 3,000 years ago in Mesopotamia. During the Renaissance in the sixteenth century formal botanical gardens began to appear across Europe, many to be utilized for research purposes or to grow medicinal herbs. Sometimes the highly educated country naturalists would seek out "herb women" who often knew which plants could best be used for medical treatments. Many such women were skilled in using herbs in making home remedies for a broad spectrum of ailments. They usually gained their knowledge through oral tradition, handed down from generation to generation. In addition, poor women often sold herbs and medicines to support their families. Such women knew considerably more about the qualities of plants than did the highly educated male botanists of this time. Jeanne Baret (1740-1807 CE) would end up exploring plants in other countries and become the first woman to circumnavigate the globe.

Jeanne Baret was the most unlikely person to circumnavigate the globe as a botanist in the eighteenth century. She was born in humble beginnings on July 27, 1740 in the small town of Autun, France. Her parents, Jean, and Jeanne Baret were very poor; her father was a local laborer. Jeanne Baret, while highly intelligent, had little formal education, but early in life she learned about certain herb plants that could be used by humans for food or medicinal purposes. It is likely that during one of her forays in seeking plants that she met the well-educated and known naturalist Dr. Philibert Commerson. He was in poor health and hired Jeanne Baret as his housekeeper, caregiver, nurse, and conversationist about medicinal qualities of certain plants.

Dr. Commerson was a well-known international naturalist. In 1765, French King Louis XV, in an effort to improve the country's economy and boost the image of France as a leading European nation, ordered her favorite son and military commander, Admiral Louis Antoine de Bougainville to make France's first global expedition to discover new territories, to improve trade, and to potentially investigate new products for France. Such an expedition would need a highly qualified naturalist to identify plants that might have commercial and medicinal qualities benefiting to France. He asked Dr. Commerson to be the naturalist aboard his ship to circumnavigate the globe. Dr. Commerson was honored and thrilled with the opportunity but knew he was too ill to properly fulfill his responsibilities without the help of Jeanne Baret. The problem was France's navy law forbid women from sailing on French government vessels. Jeanne Baret and Dr, Commerson put their heads together and came up with a solution: Jeanne Baret would dress up in a male sailor's outfit, come on board ship as his assistant and hide out as often as possible in Dr. Commerson's cabin. It worked and during their stops Jeanne Baret would leave the ship, gather plants, and bring them on board for her and Dr. Commerson to identify, catalog, and document the specimens. As a result Jeanne Baret became the first women to circumnavigate the globe. Initially, her work went unnoticed. However, a decade after she returned, she began to receive a yearly pension from the French government with the words: "Jeanne Baret, by means of a disguise, circumnavigated the globe...She devoted herself in particular to assisting Mr de Commerson, doctor and botanist, and shared with great courage the labours and dangers of this savant." – French government, 1785.

## Ecotourism and Charles Darwin

By the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, there were many worldly travelers who understood the broad underpinnings of cultural travel and aspects of geotourism in traveling to other lands. There were naturalists at universities teaching the principles and practices of travel to natural areas and the need to conserve the environment. This era of travel, noting special attributes of nature and the natural and built environment, would set the stage for understanding the foundation of ecotourism. Although over the years there were several definitions of ecotourism, it is here defined as "Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the welfare of both the local people and the travelers."

One such giant in the field of natural history, who might qualify as an ecotourist in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, is the famous naturalist Baron Friedrich Wilhelm Heinrich Alexander von Humboldt (generally referred to as Baron Alexander von Humboldt). This well-known German explorer, geographer, worldly traveler, and writer, amongst his many travels and explorations throughout differing parts of the world, spent considerable time studying the flora and fauna and other natural resources in Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico, and Cuba and wrote the book *Personal Narrative of a Journey to the Equinoctial Regions of the New Continent* (English translation). Later he wrote many other books, but his work in South America set the foundation and guidelines for many future naturalists such as Charles Darwin.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882 CE) came from a wealthy and intellectual English family. When he was very young, and having just graduated from Christ's College, Cambridge, where he studied natural science and geology, was chosen by the British navy as a crewman with the title of "naturalist" for a voyage of the circumnavigation of the world on the ship *HMS Beagle*, which began sailing on December 27, 1831. Originally, the trip was planned as a two-year voyage to map the east and west coasts of South America and to note the natural history of the places visited. However, due to storms and other delays, the voyage was extended into a five-year odyssey, with many adventures along the way. Having very little experience as a naturalist, Charles Darwin's work was guided by the writings of Baron Alexander von Humboldt.

Charles Darwin's travels and explorations during the five-year voyage included such places as Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, the Falkland Islands, Peru, and Tahiti which all excited him to no end. One of the famous areas that Charles Darwin visited in South America was the Galapagos Islands, a territory of Ecuador over 600 miles from mainland Ecuador. He found that each one of the islands was unique and possessed different, but limited, plant life and birds and reptiles, especially numerous land iguanas.

Three years after this voyage, Charles Darwin wrote his popular book *The Voyage of the Beagle* which made him very famous. Hector Ceballos-Lascurain, the first person to develop a definition of "ecotourism" noted that "...Ecotourism implies a scientific, aesthetic, or philosophical approach... and knowledge of the natural environment together with its cultural aspects..," is a good description of Darwin's travels. A review of Darwin's travels, research, and writings would suggest strongly that he is the father of "ecotourism" no matter what definition of "ecotourism" is used.

# Walking with Nain Singh to Explore the Forbidden Lands of Tibet

Experienced travelers note that the best way to see a destination or a city is by walking. However, the modern walking tour is usually relatively short, well-marked, and easily accomplished. For the more physically fit travelers, a hike into the mountains provides wonderful sight-seeing opportunities. One of the greatest

worldly travelers, explorers, and walkers is the Indian, Nain Singh (1830-1882). In his explorations of the Himalayas and Central Asia he walked 1,580 miles.

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century a strange kind of dangerous game was being played by the British, Russians, Chinese, and Tibetans. The British, who at the time ruled India, wanted to expand its trade routes through Tibet, a country they knew little about. The Russians did not want the British to gain access in Tibet as that might have an impact on Russia's expansion plans. The Chinese wanted the British and Russians out of Tibet so they could better control their policies for Tibet. The Tibetan's wanted everyone out of their territory so that they could seek greater independence from foreign powers. The British, with a strong hold on India, decided to train certain Indians to explore and "spy" on the various happenings in Tibet. The best and most highly skilled explorer of Tibet for the British was the highly reliable Nain Singh. He was strong, healthy, intelligent, and could hike mountains and walk long distances tirelessly.

The British used ingenious training methods and disguises for their surveyor-spies like Nain Singh and his cousin Mani Singh. In 1863 they were the first trainees the British wanted for their missions to learn about the terrain, economy, religion, politics, and society of Tibet. Nain Singh Rawat (formal name being Rai Bahadur Nain Singh Rawat) was born October 21, 1830 in the Milam Village in the Johaar Valley of Kumaon of northern India about twenty miles from the Tibetan border. Thus, Nain Singh's family had a strong association with the Tibetans, spoke the language, were highly intelligent, had a long-time trading relationship with Tibet and were accustomed to hard work and travel at high altitudes. Mani Singh was not as willing as Nain Singh to undergo the rigors, dangers, and deprivations associated with such travel. Nain Singh, on the other hand, seemed to thrive on the arduous and rough conditions of the journeys. He was a true explorer/traveler exhibiting perseverance, energy, and courage, which were highly important qualities for traveling into unknown territories.

Nain Singh accomplished successfully all the missions assigned him by the British government. In addition to his adventurous travels into Tibet, he also traveled and mapped areas of India, China, Nepal, and Kashmir, and he traveled to such areas Bhutan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. His energy, intellect, courage, curiosity, explorations, and geographical endeavors in the unknown territories surrounding India led to changes in that part of the world. He is remembered as the man who mapped the forbidden land of Tibet. The last words about Nain Singh's many contributions to discoveries he made for the British Empire came from a letter written to the Royal Geographic Society by the great geographical scholar Colonel Henry Yule, who noted: "...His [Nain Singh] observations have added a larger amount of important knowledge to the map of Asia than those of any other living man." Through his travels and explorations, the worldly traveler Nain Singh changed the world in which we live.

# **Charles Lindbergh and Responsible Tourism**

One of the key areas of concern with respect to sustainable tourism policy is sometimes referred to as "responsible tourism" which can be described as "...tourism that maintains tourism benefits for communities, minimizes negative social or environmental impacts, and helps local people maintain the sustainability of their own localities. A special worldly traveler, who later in his life understood and practiced "responsible tourism", was the world-famous aviator, Charles Lindbergh.

Charles Augustus Lindbergh II, (1902-1972) became a world-famous legend in 1927 when he was the first aviator to fly from New York to Paris. When he landed in Paris he was immediately mobbed by a crowd of 150,000 spectators. His fame spread all over the world and he became the world's most popular superstar. His global travel to countries around the world, and his fame as a pilot led him to advocate vast advances in aviation technology from 1928-1960.

Then, almost overnight, during the early 1960s, Charles Lindbergh's whole attitude toward the advances that were being made in aviation changed. He began to regret the impact of aviation on the environment. He noted that "The primitive was at the mercy of the civilized in our twentieth-century times...and nothing had made it more so than the airplane I had helped develop. Ironically, it caused him, the person who had all his life supported technological improvements in civilian aircraft, to oppose the supersonic passenger jets being developed by the airlines. In fact, he noted that civilization often destroyed the development of birds and other species. He went on to say, "I realized that if I had to choose, I would rather have birds than airplanes." Most of his travels from then on were related to nature and a concern for the welfare of people in primitive surroundings. He reread Henry David Thoreau's book *Walden* and noted especially the phrase by Thoreau that "...in wildness is the preservation of the world..."

In 1962 Lindbergh became connected with the World Wildlife Fund and its parent organization, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Increasingly, he found that the views of the IUCN in terms of nature and the environment matched his own. He became deeply involved in most of the issues on the environment and in trying to save animals such as the great blue whales and other species. Because Lindbergh was so well-known the world over, he used his popularity to proselytize for the causes that he supported to heads of government in many different countries. His efforts in this regard helped to secure stronger policies to protect the wildlife in their countries.

Lindbergh was especially concerned for the primitive people living in outlying islands of the Philippines. Through his work with these people and his popularity, he was able to gain world support to protect their way of life.

In light of Lindbergh's contributions in promoting the benefits of positive social and environmental impacts on local people and in the conservation of fragile cultures and species, he was certainly a major proponent of "responsible travel." Because of his celebrity status, he was able to cause international political leaders

and others to be more conscious of protecting the environment and understanding the needs of tribal populations (especially in Africa and the Philippines). He worked on conservation issues right up until he died in 1972.

## Yuri Gagarin- The First Space Tourist

2021 was the year for discussing space tourism after Sir Richard Branson successfully took Virgin Galactic into space and returned safe and sound. It's a wonderful reminder that 60 years earlier, in 1961, Yuri Gagarin (1934-1968) was, for all intents and purposes, the "first space tourist". Yuri Gagarin made his flight at a time when the world was just beginning to think about traveling into space. There were lots of unknowns at the time, but Yuri Gagarin took on all the challenges and completed a highly successful mission.

Yuri Gagarin's family suffered greatly during World War II as did many families in the then Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Soviet Union - now Russia). After the war the Soviets, and the United States and most of western Europe, entered into what became known as the "Cold War". Also after the war the Soviet Union and the United States began to recruit German scientists, engineers, and technicians who had worked on advances in rocketry in Germany to help boost their respective interests in space exploration. This competitive phenomenon became known as the United States-Soviet Union "Space Race". By 1957, the Soviet Union launched the first artificial satellite, Sputnik, to orbit the earth, which clearly put the Soviet Union ahead of the United States in the "Space Race". The U.S. response in 1958 was to establish the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to lead the U.S. space program. In 1959, the Soviet Union successfully launched an unmanned Lunar rocket that reached the moon.

While all these space activities were taking place Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin was making his way toward becoming a Soviet Union cosmonaut. He expressed a strong interest in the Soviet Union space program, and in 1959, after mental and physical examinations were conducted, he became a cosmonaut candidate. In 1960, at the age of 26, Yuri Gagarin became one of twenty chosen for the cosmonaut training program. After all kinds of tests, the proposed manned space flight was narrowed to two individuals: Yuri Gagarin and Gherman Titov. These two cosmonauts underwent more tests. Yuri Gagarin was the final choice to go into space. On April 12, 1961, dressed in his spacesuit, Yuri Gagarin ascended the stairs to the launch pad. He climbed into the space vehicle, *Vostok I*, and shortly thereafter he took off. The launch was successful, and cheers were heard throughout the building. He became the world's first human to fly in space. The news of the flight sparked a wave of euphoria across the world. The name Yuri Gagarin became known in almost every household throughout the globe. As the first human in space, Yuri became an instantaneous universal celebrity.

For several years after his historic flight, Yuri Gagarin traveled the world to speak about the progress of the Soviet Union's space program. He was the world's superhero and he received medals and all kinds of awards from the many countries he visited. After a while he became bored and frustrated with the ceremonial life.

Finally, he returned to the Soviet Union in the role of deputy training director for the cosmonaut program. On March 27, 1968, Colonel Yuri Gagarin, and chief training director Colonel Vladimir S. Seryogin were flying a MIG-15 on a routine training exercise when their plane crashed, and both men died. Yuri Gagarin was 34 years old. Exactly why the plane crashed still remains a mystery. Whatever the cause, the world lost one of its most notable worldly travelers.

#### Conclusion

It is clear from this small sample of worldly travelers of the past that much can be learned from their travels and tribulations in terms of today's sustainable tourism policies. These individuals studied the environments and cultures of the lands they visited. Many wrote books to let the world know of history-making events and how the world looked at the time through their eyes.

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