

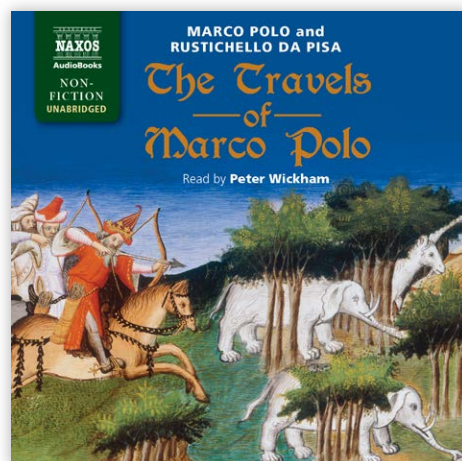
MARCO POLO and
RUSTICHELLO DA PISA

The Travels — of — Marco Polo

Read by **Peter Wickham**

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The Travels of Marco Polo is the classic account of Marco Polo's journey to China from Venice, and his discoveries as an emissary to the great Kublai Khan. Polo explores everywhere from Baghdad, Armenia and Russia to the Caspian Sea, the Gobi Desert and the small fishing villages of China, describing the geography, architecture and customs of these exotic places. He tells stories of assassins, cannibals, fantastical animals, feasts and battles, and gives a fascinating account of the multicultural empire of Kublai Khan. *The Travels* is said to have inspired the voyages of Magellan and Columbus, the latter having kept an annotated copy among his belongings. It remains one of the most entertaining travelogues in existence.



Peter Wickham was born in New Zealand and studied for the theatre at the Rose Bruford College in England. He has worked as an actor in the West End, and in theatres all over the UK and abroad, from Venezuela to Laos. He has performed in television and film, and has written a successful series of introductions to Shakespeare for the BBC World Service. He was a member of the BBC Radio Drama Company, where reading short stories and serials started his audiobook career. For Naxos AudioBooks, he has read Hobbes's *Leviathan*, Swift's *A Tale of a Tub* and Casanova's *The Story of My Life*.

Total running time: 10:55:20

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1	The Travels of Marco Polo	1:49	25	Chapter 18	0:57	49	Chapter 42	1:28
2	Chapter 1	5:39	26	Chapter 19	1:40	50	Chapter 43	0:33
3	Chapter 2	6:05	27	Chapter 20	1:01	51	Chapter 44	2:05
4	Chapter 3	4:45	28	Chapter 21	2:01	52	Chapter 45	4:59
5	Chapter 4	3:34	29	Chapter 22	6:19	53	Chapter 46	1:42
6	Chapter 5	6:17	30	Chapter 23	3:00	54	Chapter 47	4:21
7	Chapter 6	4:59	31	Chapter 24	1:40	55	Chapter 48	3:05
8	Book 1: Chapter 1	1:53	32	Chapter 25	1:25	56	Chapter 49	4:43
9	Chapter 2	1:11	33	Chapter 26	5:55	57	Chapter 50	2:51
10	Chapter 3	2:38	34	Chapter 27	0:45	58	Chapter 51	2:54
11	Chapter 4	5:07	35	Chapter 28	2:38	59	Chapter 52	4:59
12	Chapter 5	1:44	36	Chapter 29	3:13	60	Chapter 53	1:00
13	Chapter 6	1:23	37	Chapter 30	1:08	61	Chapter 54	1:51
14	Chapter 7	3:00	38	Chapter 31	2:27	62	Chapter 55	1:41
15	Chapter 8	6:33	39	Chapter 32	0:42	63	Chapter 56	2:41
16	Chapter 9	2:25	40	Chapter 33	0:55	64	Chapter 57	10:32
17	Chapter 10	0:51	41	Chapter 34	1:08	65	Book 2: Chapter 1	12:19
18	Chapter 11	3:10	42	Chapter 35	2:05	66	Chapter 2	5:13
19	Chapter 12	3:46	43	Chapter 36	4:17	67	Chapter 3	2:36
20	Chapter 13	1:00	44	Chapter 37	6:04	68	Chapter 4	5:32
21	Chapter 14	2:10	45	Chapter 38	4:06	69	Chapter 5	1:17
22	Chapter 15	5:00	46	Chapter 39	2:12	70	Chapter 6	8:20
23	Chapter 16	4:08	47	Chapter 40	1:35	71	Chapter 7	6:24
24	Chapter 17	3:11	48	Chapter 41	2:58	72	Chapter 8	10:24

73	Chapter 9	1:26	123	Chapter 59	1:16	173	Chapter 27	1:36
74	Chapter 10	6:22	124	Chapter 60	0:54	174	Chapter 28	2:26
75	Chapter 11	2:56	125	Chapter 61	0:53	175	Chapter 29	1:57
76	Chapter 12	6:26	126	Chapter 62	3:13	176	Chapter 30	0:50
77	Chapter 13	1:21	127	Chapter 63	3:06	177	Chapter 31	0:52
78	Chapter 14	1:26	128	Chapter 64	1:35	178	Chapter 32	0:45
79	Chapter 15	1:44	129	Chapter 65	0:54	179	Chapter 33	1:00
80	Chapter 16	9:21	130	Chapter 66	2:03	180	Chapter 34	1:58
81	Chapter 17	2:59	131	Chapter 67	2:36	181	Chapter 35	2:54
82	Chapter 18	4:01	132	Chapter 68	8:50	182	Chapter 36	4:38
83	Chapter 19	3:22	133	In other streets are the...	8:42	183	Chapter 37	3:29
84	Chapter 20	9:44	134	It must be observed, in the...	8:15	184	Chapter 38	1:03
85	Chapter 21	2:22	135	When the great khan reduced...	10:52	185	Chapter 39	4:10
86	Chapter 22	1:15	136	Chapter 69	2:11	186	Chapter 40	2:13
87	Chapter 23	1:35	137	Chapter 70	0:44	187	Chapter 41	3:31
88	Chapter 24	2:47	138	Chapter 71	0:47	188	Chapter 42	0:52
89	Chapter 25	3:36	139	Chapter 72	1:26	189	Chapter 43	2:29
90	Chapter 26	4:41	140	Chapter 73	1:57	190	Chapter 44	1:17
91	Chapter 27	2:29	141	Chapter 74	1:16	191	Book 4: Chapter 1	8:51
92	Chapter 28	2:39	142	Chapter 75	1:04	192	Chapter 2	0:37
93	Chapter 29	0:58	143	Chapter 76	1:17	193	Chapter 3	3:49
94	Chapter 30	0:49	144	Chapter 77	5:18	194	Chapter 4	1:29
95	Chapter 31	3:57	145	Book 3: Chapter 1	5:00	195	Chapter 5	1:32
96	Chapter 32	1:02	146	Chapter 2	6:58	196	Chapter 6	2:15
97	Chapter 33	0:40	147	Chapter 3	1:35	197	Chapter 7	1:49
98	Chapter 34	2:23	148	Chapter 4	2:03	198	Chapter 8	1:33
99	Chapter 35	2:07	149	Chapter 5	1:12	199	Chapter 9	1:15
100	Chapter 36	3:21	150	Chapter 6	3:41	200	Chapter 10	1:58
101	Chapter 37	6:56	151	Chapter 7	1:26	201	Chapter 11	1:42
102	Chapter 38	5:45	152	Chapter 8	1:44	202	Chapter 12	1:03
103	Chapter 39	2:56	153	Chapter 9	1:14	203	Chapter 13	1:22
104	Chapter 40	5:45	154	Chapter 10	1:18	204	Chapter 14	2:18
105	Chapter 41	7:22	155	Chapter 11	0:43	205	Chapter 15	0:49
106	Chapter 42	9:58	156	Chapter 12	2:56	206	Chapter 16	1:00
107	Chapter 43	1:29	157	Chapter 13	2:59	207	Chapter 17	1:16
108	Chapter 44	2:18	158	Chapter 14	1:49	208	Chapter 18	4:21
109	Chapter 45	1:49	159	Chapter 15	1:09	209	Chapter 19	2:27
110	Chapter 46	1:30	160	Chapter 16	2:37	210	Chapter 20	1:14
111	Chapter 47	1:03	161	Chapter 17	0:51	211	Chapter 21	0:28
112	Chapter 48	1:06	162	Chapter 18	0:42	212	Chapter 22	1:06
113	Chapter 49	4:01	163	Chapter 19	2:46	213	Chapter 23	1:19
114	Chapter 50	1:21	164	Chapter 20	8:09	214	Chapter 24	2:01
115	Chapter 51	0:53	165	The following extraordinary...	8:14	215	Chapter 25	1:32
116	Chapter 52	2:49	166	As soon as a son attains the...	8:14	216	Chapter 26	2:37
117	Chapter 53	3:06	167	Chapter 21	2:11	217	Chapter 27	1:24
118	Chapter 54	2:00	168	Chapter 22	5:16	218	Chapter 28	2:26
119	Chapter 55	6:29	169	Chapter 23	3:19	219	Chapter 29	2:40
120	Chapter 56	0:48	170	Chapter 24	2:01	220	Chapter 30	1:16
121	Chapter 57	1:05	171	Chapter 25	2:59			
122	Chapter 58	0:40	172	Chapter 26	0:43			

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