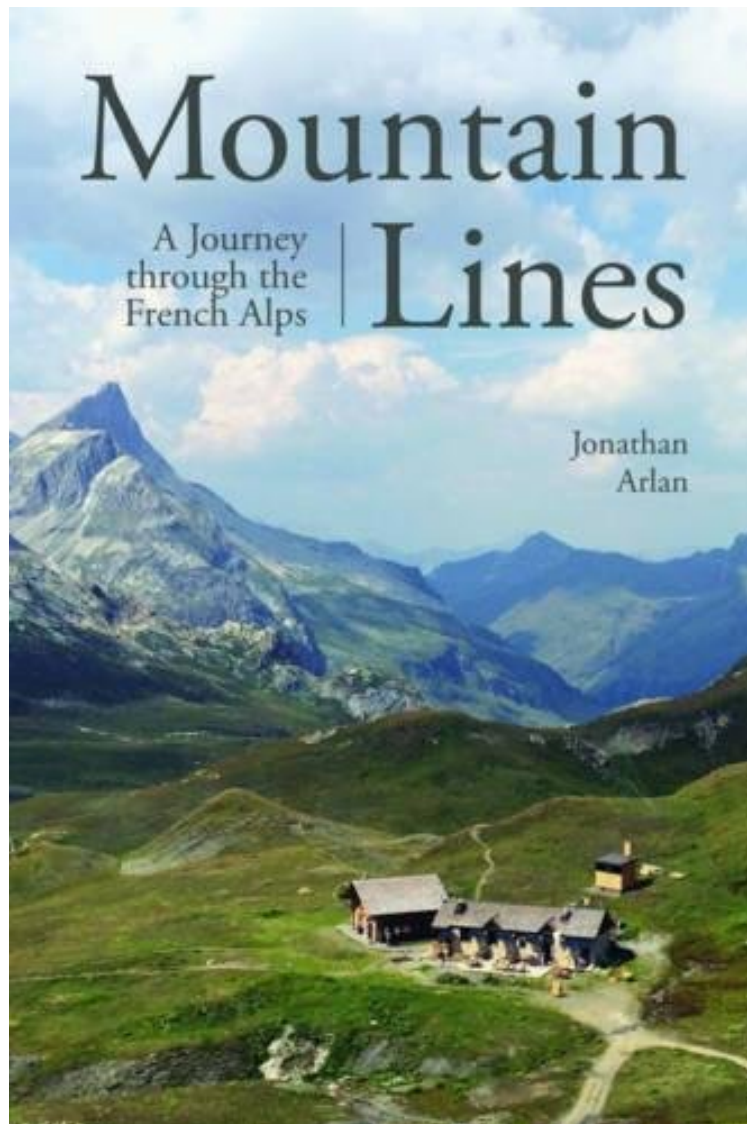


(Download ebook) Mountain Lines: A Journey through the French Alps

## Mountain Lines: A Journey through the French Alps

*Jonathan Arlan*

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**Jonathan Arlan : Mountain Lines: A Journey through the French Alps** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mountain Lines: A Journey through the French Alps:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What I enjoyed most about this book was not only the earnest ...By WTSWhat I enjoyed most about this book was not only the earnest and honest recounting of a fascinating journey, but the parallel pathways toward growth we see in Jonathan Arlan the Ad hoc hiker and Arlan the writer. Similar to his hiking avatar, Arlan finds his footing and his literary rhythm as the book progresses. The story he paints starts off, like

the neophyte hiker, wavering and at times unsure of where it's going or if it should be going anywhere at all. But quickly, Arlan finds his footing both in the mountain paths of France and in his writings. By books end, I was left an open and personal story written in a manner that stays true to the "just because" nature of Arlan's journey. His writing doesn't force a purpose or theme on its reader, but draws you in as he evolves both as a hiker, a human and a writer. Great read for anyone looking to experience a journey. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring and Entertaining By Samantha Heisler I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I thought it was funny and inspiring at the same time. The writing is so descriptive it feels like you are actually on the journey with him. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing By Customer I never finished the book . I suppose I expected more than an account of the physical journey . Disappointing.

A New York Times best summer travel book recommendation A nonfiction debut about an Americans solo, month-long, 400-mile walk from Lake Geneva to Nice. In the summer of 2015, Jonathan Arlan was nearing thirty. Restless, bored, and daydreaming of adventure, he comes across an image on the Internet one day: a map of the southeast corner of France with a single red line snaking south from Lake Geneva, through the jagged brown and white peaks of the Alps to the Mediterranean sea a route more than four hundred miles long. He decides then and there to walk the whole trail solo. Lacking any outdoor experience, completely ignorant of mountains, sorely out of shape, and fighting last-minute nerves and bad weather, things get off to a rocky start. But Arlan eventually finds his mountain legs along with a staggering variety of aches and pains as he tramps a narrow thread of grass, dirt, and rock between cloud-collared, ice-capped peaks in the High Alps, through ancient hamlets built into hillsides, across sheep-dotted mountain pastures, and over countless cols on his way to the sea. In time, this simple, repetitive act of walking for hours each day in the remote beauty of the mountains becomes as exhilarating as it is exhausting. *Mountain Lines* is the stirring account of a month-long journey on foot through the French Alps and a passionate and intimate book laced with humor, wonder, and curiosity. In the tradition of trekking classics like *A Short Walk in the Hindu Kush*, *The Snow Leopard*, and *Tracks*, the book is a meditation on movement, solitude, adventure, and the magnetic power of the natural world.

"A disarmingly engaging memoir by a millennial Kansan, Jonathan Arlan . . . As his mileage mounts, a panoramic portrait emerges, not of the breathtaking alpine backdrop or of the authors endurance but of the emotional landscape created by the fellowship of hikers." New York Times Book "No journey is too short or mundane if taken with an open and inquisitive spirit. The intimacy and candor of Arlan's narrated trek through the French Alps offer latter-day aspirational vagabonds something tangible: a gentle inspiration, a reminder that wandering, and wondering, can and should be an accessible miracle, easy to fall in love with and to pursue." Anna Badkhen, author of *Walking with Abel* and *The World Is a Carpet* "Admirably and amiably describes . . . a journey of self-discovery . . . One of the pleasures of the book is that Arlan strives for no grand pronouncements as he reaches the end of his trail, just stating the satisfaction of accomplishing a goal and a reminding himself 'to take it slow, to not rush.'" Publishers Weekly "As much an interior as a geographical journey, Arlan's first book is enjoyable, companionable travel writing." Booklist "In this spirited account of a walk through the Alps, inspiration carries through. . . [inviting] interlopers in more graciously than other narratives in the genre. The trip proves to be a realignment for Arlan; its open-ended spirit of welcome invites the same sort of adventurousness in its audience. . . *Mountain Lines*, which refuses to relinquish its question marks even at the trails end, is a reminder that such journeys are never a waste." Foreword s Jonathan Arlan paints an evocative picture of what its like to walk through Europes highest mountains arduous days, stunning views, friendly people and his decency and self-deprecation make him an engaging companion for the armchair traveler. Thomas Swick, author of *The Joys of Travel: And Stories That Illuminate Them* "I felt I was riding in Jonathan Arlan's knapsack as he takes the reader on his grand trek from the villages of the French Alps, up through dense forests, past rushing streams, across wildflower-strewn meadows, over stony mountain ridges, and through storm and sun, hardship and good cheer. Reading *Mountain Lines* makes me want to try the Grand Traverse or part of it myself." Peter Stark, author of *Astoria: John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire: A Story of Wealth, Ambition, and Survival*