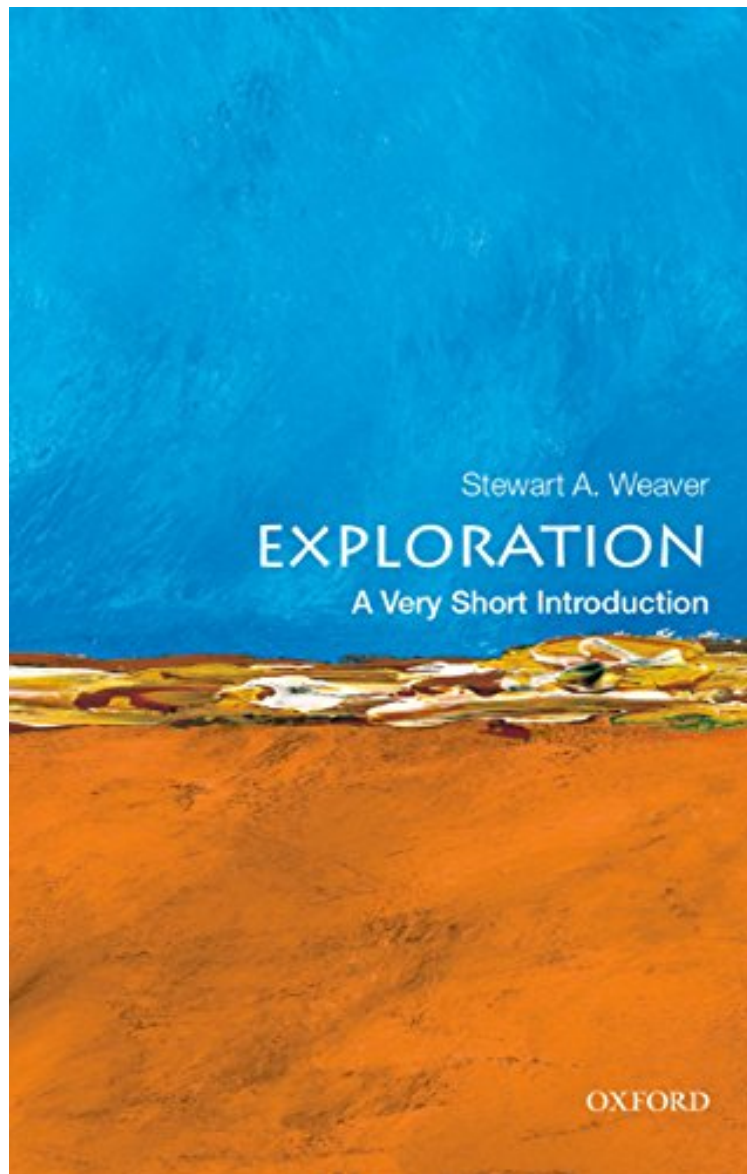


(Mobile book) Exploration: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

## Exploration: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

Von Stewart A. Weaver

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**Von Stewart A. Weaver : Exploration: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exploration: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
Exploration: A Very Short Introduction Von Anka To explore is a timeless aspect of the human condition (p. 40), and

this drive has carried humans across all kinds of boundaries and limits into previously uncharted territories. This Very Short Introduction discusses the nature and the intellectual concept of exploration. It tries to work out the underlying similarities in explorations throughout human history, and discusses different paradigmatic explorations (detailing and comparing e. g. marine explorers from Polynesia, Scandinavia, and later Italy, Spain, and Portugal, and even later, Britain). Exploration is further distinguished from discovery. While discovery is a great achievement in itself, it is not necessarily explorative but may be accidental, and an explorer must seek but not necessarily discover. Exploration combines adventure and, increasingly since the age of Enlightenment, scientific intentions. A central argument of the book is that there existed a true Age of Exploration, at its peak in the 15th 16th century. This claim is bolstered by the historical facts that in particular Columbus was exploring with global ambitions, with unprecedented in scope, and lasting effects still shaping the modern world. Every exploration will have some effects in its time, which can be rather small, or have a lasting technical, economical, and intellectual legacy. For different explorers (including some who were wrong in their interpretations), these are considered carefully, giving an insightful analysis on the cultural context of exploration. This includes the link of exploration to imperialist motivations of commercial, religious, and national origins. The great thing about this book is this thematic overview which attempts much more analysis than a mere list of explorers and their destinations. Despite some quite deep topics, the examples are all interesting and well integrated into the overarching topics. The final chapter discusses how the globalised world could leave space for future exploration on the earth, in the sea, the biosphere, and in space. Some of the discussion here comes across as a bit rushed, but nevertheless provides food for thought on the next steps in exploration. This book is a delight to read, and makes one think about events everyone has heard before in a bigger context.

**Kurzbeschreibung** We live in an age of globalization on every conceivable level, but globalization has a deeper history than politicians and pundits often allow, and nothing is more significant to its history than exploration. Wherever trade or faith or empire followed, explorers usually led. Their motives were as many-sided and various as their actions; their legacies are contested and mixed. But none can doubt the significance of explorers to the making of the modern world. For as long as human societies have existed, people have felt the urge to venture outside of them, either in search of other societies or in search of new land or adventure. Exploration: A Very Short Introduction surveys this quintessential human impulse, tracing it from pre-history to the present, from east to west around the globe, and from the depths of volcanoes to the expanses of space. Focusing on the theme of exploration as encounter, Stewart Weaver discusses the Polynesians in the Pacific, the Norse in the Atlantic, and other early explorers. He reflects on the Columbian "discovery" of the Americas, James Cook and the place of exploration in the Enlightenment, and Alexander von Humboldt's epochal encounter with tropical South America. The book's final chapters relate exploration to imperial expansion in Africa and Central Asia, assess the meaning of the race to the North and South Poles, and consider the significance of today's efforts in space and deep sea exploration. But what accounts for this urge? Through this brief study of the history of exploration, Weaver clearly shows how the impulse to explore is also the foundation of the globalized world we inhabit today. Exploration combines a narration of explorers' daring feats with a wide-lens examination of what it fundamentally means to explore. **ABOUT THE SERIES:** The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable. **Pressestimmen** In 35,000 words (130 pages) is it possible to give appropriate scope to the subject as a whole and still say something meaningful about the explorer, the subaltern, the contact zone or the encounter? In Stewart Weaver's hands, yes. Written with a deft touch, his account of exploration gives scope while still finding room for subjects that require special detail and analysis. \* **Studies in Travel Writing** \* **Kurzbeschreibung** We live in an age of globalization on every conceivable level, but globalization has a deeper history than politicians and pundits often allow, and nothing is more significant to its history than exploration. Wherever trade or faith or empire followed, explorers usually led. Their motives were as many-sided and various as their actions; their legacies are contested and mixed. But none can doubt the significance of explorers to the making of the modern world. For as long as human societies have existed, people have felt the urge to venture outside of them, either in search of other societies or in search of new land or adventure. Exploration: A Very Short Introduction surveys this quintessential human impulse, tracing it from pre-history to the present, from east to west around the globe, and from the depths of volcanoes to the expanses of space. Focusing on the theme of exploration as encounter, Stewart Weaver discusses the Polynesians in the Pacific, the Norse in the Atlantic, and other early explorers. He reflects on the Columbian "discovery" of the Americas, James Cook and the place of exploration in the Enlightenment, and Alexander von Humboldt's epochal encounter with tropical South America. The book's final chapters relate exploration to imperial expansion in Africa and Central Asia, assess the meaning of the race to the North and South Poles, and consider the significance of today's efforts in space and deep sea exploration. But what accounts for this urge? Through this brief study of the history of

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