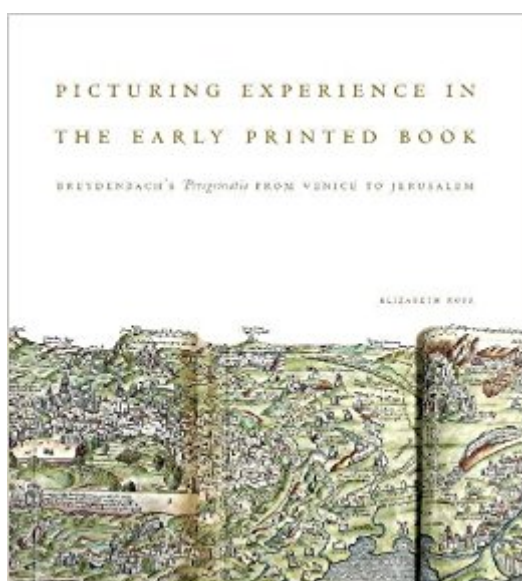


The book was found

# Picturing Experience In The Early Printed Book: Breydenbach's Peregrinatio From Venice To Jerusalem



## Synopsis

Bernhard von Breydenbach's *Peregrinatio in terram sanctam* (Journey to the Holy Land), first published in 1486, is one of the seminal books of early printing and is especially renowned for the originality of its woodcuts. In *Picturing Experience in the Early Printed Book*, Elizabeth Ross considers the *Peregrinatio* from a variety of perspectives to explain its value for the cultural history of the period. Breydenbach, a high-ranking cleric in Mainz, recruited the painter Erhard Reuwich of Utrecht for a religious and artistic adventure in a political hot spot—a pilgrimage to research the peoples, places, plants, and animals of the Levant. The book they published after their return ambitiously engaged with the potential of the new print medium to give an account of their experience. The *Peregrinatio* also aspired to rouse readers to a new crusade against Islam by depicting a contest in the Mediterranean between the Christian bastion of the city of Venice and the region's Muslim empires. This crusading rhetoric fit neatly with the state of the printing industry in Mainz, which largely subsisted as a tool for bishops' consolidation of authority, including selling the pope's plans to combat the Ottoman Empire. Taking an artist on such an enterprise was unprecedented. Reuwich set a new benchmark for technical achievement with his woodcuts, notably a panorama of Venice that folds out to 1.62 meters in length and a foldout map that stretches from Damascus to Sudan around the first topographically accurate view of Jerusalem. The conception and execution of the *Peregrinatio* show how and why early printed books constructed new means of visual representation from existing ones—and how the form of a printed book emerged out of the interaction of eyewitness experience and medieval scholarship, real travel and spiritual pilgrimage, curiosity and fixed belief, texts and images.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Penn State University Press; 1 edition (March 25, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0271061227

ISBN-13: 978-0271061221

Product Dimensions: 9 x 1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #921,623 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #131 in Books > Travel > Middle East > Israel > General #407 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes >

## Customer Reviews

Bernhard von Breydenbach's account of his pilgrimage from Venice to the Holy Land and Egypt revolutionized book publishing when it appeared in 1486. Erhard Reuwich's accompanying woodcuts include highly detailed, multiblock foldout plates. Thanks to Elizabeth Ross's beautifully written text, I feel like an armchair traveler peering over the artist's shoulder as he documents the exotic people, cities, and creatures his party encountered. Part detective, part ethnographer, and always a sensitive art historian, Ross deftly explores the book's creation, reception, and claims of authority and truthfulness. This is the best study in any language of the *Peregrinatio in terram sanctam*. — Jeffrey Chipps Smith, University of Texas at Austin

One of the most popular books of the early printing industry, Bernhard von Breydenbach's *Peregrinatio in terram sanctam* (Journey to the Holy Land) was published in Mainz in 1486 and had many later editions. Breydenbach and his painter/publisher companion, Erhard Reuwich, set themselves ambitious goals. The book was intended, in the first instance, as a practical guide for pilgrims to Jerusalem. Equally important, as Ross discusses at length, was the embedded argument for the return of the sacred lands of the East to Christian control. The first in-depth analysis in English, this study explores both the artistic and intellectual achievements of the *Peregrinatio*. Beautifully produced, it includes large color plates of the seven famous woodcut views of cities along the route from Venice to the East that set a model for later chronicle books. Especially rich is the chapter on Reuwich's extraordinary foldout combination map and topographical view of Jerusalem, presented here as a synthesis of multiple sources, from portolan charts to 15th-century Netherlandish "world landscapes" — all of it distilled via firsthand viewing. A valuable contribution to the *Peregrinatio* literature. — D. Pincus, Choice

This study is a monograph in the proper sense, a broadly cast and well integrated interpretation of a major marking point in the history of travel, geography, religious politics, and book printing. Regarding the many unresolved problems — for example Reuwich's pictorial sources, the precise circumstances of the book's production, the texture of the narrative and its basis in actual experience — Ross is fully informed and ventures no unsupported conclusions. . . . The design [of Ross's book] is notably generous and the production exceptional, appropriate to the study of an important monument in the history of the book. . . . Above all there is the elegance and clarity of the writing: measured, jargon-free, and often commanding as well. Not only is this book a pleasure to read, but also the care taken in the

research and the soundness of the author's judgment are manifest throughout.ââ "Peter Parshall, The Medieval ReviewââThe persistence of scholarship on aspects of cross-cultural encounters between Christian Europe and the Muslim East in the medieval and early modern period is testament to an ongoing interest in the multifarious ways in which Europeans engaged with, represented, and perceived their eastern counterparts. Ross makes a valuable contribution to scholarship in the field and concurrently to our understanding of authority and representation in early printed works.ââ "Amanda van der Drift, ParergonââElizabeth Ross writes convincing arguments in elegant prose. Moreover, her book is a refreshing, jargon-free study, dripping with ideas and analysis.ââ "Kathryn M. Rudy, The Historians of Netherlandish Art

Elizabeth Ross is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Florida.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Picturing Experience in the Early Printed Book: Breydenbach's Peregrinatio from Venice to Jerusalem  
Venice: Where To Go, What To See - A Venice Travel Guide (Italy, Milan, Venice, Rome, Florence, Naples, Turin Book 3)  
Venice: The Best Of Venice For Short Stay Travel (Venice Travel Guide, Italy) (Short Stay Travel - City Guides Book 4)  
Venice Travel Guide: Venice, Italy: Travel Guide Book  
A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Venice, Italy & Unforgettable Italian Travel (Best Travel Guides to Europe Series Book 4)  
Venice: Where To Go, What To See - A Venice Travel Guide (Italy, Milan, Venice, Rome, Florence, Naples, Turin) (Volume 3)  
Venice and Verona for the Shameless Hedonist: Venice and Verona Travel Guide: 2017 Venice and Verona Travel Guide Now Featuring 6 New Walking Tours  
Venice 2017: A Travel Guide to the Top 20 Things to Do in Venice, Italy: Best of Venice Travel Guide  
Venice and Verona for the Shameless Hedonist: 2017 Venice and Verona Travel Guide Now Featuring 6 New Walking Tours (Venice for the Shameless Hedonist) (Volume 2)  
O Jerusalem: Day by Day and Minute by Minute the Historic Struggle for Jerusalem and the Birth of Israel  
The Carta Jerusalem Atlas (Formerly Illustrated Atlas of Jerusalem)  
Jerusalem the Eye of the Universe: A Pictorial Tour of Jerusalem  
Top 12 Things to See and Do in Jerusalem - Top 12 Jerusalem Travel Guide  
Streetwise Jerusalem Map - Laminated City Center Street Map of Jerusalem, Israel - Folding pocket size travel map  
Jerusalem (Insight Guide Jerusalem)  
Venice Coloring Book for Adults: Relax and color famous landmarks from the romantic city of Venice, Italy (Arts On Coloring Books) (Volume 5)  
Venice in 3 Days (Travel Guide 2017): A Perfect Plan on How to Enjoy 3 Amazing Days in Venice, Italy: A Guide Book with: 3 Days Itinerary, Google Maps, Food Guide, + 20 Local Secrets to Save Time & Money  
Bundle: Calculus: Early Transcendentals, Loose-Leaf Version, 8th + WebAssign Printed Access Card for Stewart's

Calculus: Early Transcendentals, 8th Edition, Multi-Term Italy Travel Guide - Best of Rome, Florence and Venice - Your #1 Itinerary Planner for What to See, Do, and Eat in Rome, Florence and Venice, Italy: Italy Travel Guide, Italy Travel, Italian Travel Streetwise Venice Map - Laminated City Center Street Map of Venice, Italy Venice PopOut Map: Handy, Pocket-sized, Pop-up Map for Venice (PopOut Maps)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)