Anne Debraggio, Director, Kirkland Town Library

Summer's imminent arrival might have you thinking about traveling. Whether by armchair, car, plane, or train, the library is a good place to visit for all things travel-related. Check out some of these titles added to our collection over the past year.

"America's National Historic Trails: Walking the Trails of History" by Karen Berger.

There are 19 national historic trails within the National Trails System. These trails – totaling more than 37,000 miles through 42 states – vary immensely. The shortest is 54 miles, the longest more than 5,000. They cover virtually every kind of environment and ecosystem in the U.S. and feature historic and interpretive sites to be explored on foot, or by paddle, sail, bicycle, horse or car. In this large-format book, each trail has its own chapter, complete with an essay, map, and photo gallery. The photography is by Bart Smith, the only person to have hiked all 30 national scenic and historic trails from end to end. (book jacket)

"See You at the Campground: A Guide to Discovering Community, Connection, and a Happier Family in the Great Outdoors" by Stephanie and Jeremy Puglisi.

Stephanie and Jeremy had no clear idea of how they could continue to travel with a growing family and full-time jobs. Then they bought a pop-up camper. From cabin camping to RVs to tents, and from national parks to private campgrounds, Stephanie and Jeremy explore the ins and outs of road trips, camping, and enjoying adventurous, exciting family trips. Perfect for families who have never camped before, those thinking of exploring a new type of camping experience, and seasoned campers seeking high-level hacks and tips. (catalog summary)

"World Travel: An Irreverent Guide" by Anthony Bourdain and Laurie Woolever

A guide to some of the world's most fascinating places, as seen and experienced by writer, television host, and relentlessly curious traveler Anthony Bourdain. An entertaining, practical, fun and frank travel guide that gives readers an introduction to some of Bourdain's favorite places--in his own words. Supplementing Bourdain's words are a handful of essays by friends, colleagues, and family that tell even deeper stories about a place. For veteran travelers, armchair enthusiasts, and those in between. (catalog summary)

"Travel as a Political Act: How to Leave Your Baggage Behind" by Rick Steves

Presents advice on traveling to different countries of the world as a way of increasing our understanding of different cultures and political systems, and appreciating the interconnectedness within the global community. In his third edition, the author considers the new political reality of Brexit, Refugees, Erdoğan, and Trump, as well as populism, nativism, terrorism, and climate change and explains why travel has never been more relevant. (catalog abstract)

"Manhattan" edited by Taylor Bruce. A Wildsam Field Guide.

This field guide features essential travel intel that opens up the city, from the Wildsam-curated record collection and reading list, to a deep-dive into neighborhood profiles and beloved businesses, to historical landmarks and more. Get insights and stories from notable locals such as subway conductors, television pages, boiler repairmen, pastors, Broadway stagehands, and chess teachers. Highlights include a guide to spotting Manhattan's most iconic architecture, where to find the best bagels and historical musings on the subway map, jazz clubs, NYC disasters and basketball teams past and present. (catalog summary)

"Dark Skies: A Practical Guide to Astrotourism" by Valerie Stimac Lonely Planet's Dark Skies is the first world's guide to astrotourism. Meticulously researched by Stimac, this comprehensive companion includes guides to 35 dark-sky sites and national parks, where to see the aurora, the next decade of total solar eclipses and how to view rocket launches, plus the lowdown on commercial space flight, observatories and meteor showers. (book jacket) Along with this book, both the Waterville and Kirkland Town Libraries have telescopes you can check out.

Wherever your travels take you this summer, send us a postcard!