



Little Lori Travels the World by Ship

by Lori Arbel

This story is based on adventures from Lori Arbel's Semester at Sea college experience during which she circumnavigated the world in 100 days. The photographs were taken while in port and developed in a darkroom aboard the ship. She then wrote this story for children of all ages. Arbel's wish is for a better understanding of different cultures of the world and that we all live in peace and harmony with one another. The children's book version of this story may be purchased [here](#).

I'm going to travel around the world by ship!

Before boarding, I make sure I complete my checklist.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. camera | 5. passport |
| 2. journal | 6. money |
| 3. map (to follow my journey) | 7. comfortable shoes |
| 4. vaccinations | 8. a big smile |

My Itinerary

(passport, stamps, ink)

**Cuba Brazil South Africa Kenya India
Vietnam Hong Kong China Japan Home**

I'm on a special ship that holds 700 students. It has classrooms, a library for studying, a basketball court, and bedrooms called cabins. The rooms are very small and have bunk beds to save space.

"All aboard," says the captain. "We are going to sail to our first country."

First stop on this ship is . . .

Cuba

(sweet flavors, canvas, & sea water)

As we dock, I see a lot of people enjoying the water along the seawall, called the Malecón.

The best thing about Cuba is the music! I see people dancing in an old house that has a courtyard and many balconies.

Our ship captain says we must leave. I don't want to miss the ship's sailing.

"¡Adios, Cuba!"

Next stop on this ship is . . .

Brazil

(seeds, feathers, fangs, & river water)

I'm in the Amazon region, which has both the biggest rain forest and the second-longest river in the world. Look, a pink dolphin! These dolphins can only be found in this region. Can you also see the curvy line where the Amazon River and Black River meet?

Later in the day, I meet a local Amazonian named Satere Maue. He speaks Portuguese. Satere Maue helps me fish for piranhas, spot colorful parrots, and find white anacondas in the trees. **Even though I don't speak his language, he is able to show me how to make a necklace using seeds instead of beads.**

"Até logo, Satere Maue. It's time to leave the Amazon."

Next stop on this ship is . . .

South Africa

(clouds, rock, books, & song)

Sailing into Cape Town, I see a huge plateau called Table Mountain. Once a day, clouds cover this flat-topped mountain like a blanket! At night, I dream I sleep under this soft white cover.



The next day I meet a boy named Stanley in his classroom. It is very different from what I'm used to. Stanley also takes me to meet his family at his house. **While photographing his sister, I notice that they use newspaper as wallpaper.**

"Thank you for showing me your neighborhood. Bye-bye, Stanley, I'll miss you."

Next stop on this ship is . . .

Kenya

(dance, patterned cloth, animal hide & photographs)



On the way to our camp site, I visit a Masai village. I meet a woman with **LARGE** holes in her ears, which are a sign of beauty in her tribe. She decorates them with colorful beads.

While on safari, I see animals in the wild. I even photograph a cheetah that captured an antelope.

Later, I meet David, a Masai Warrior. He, like others in his tribe, wears a checkered blanket as clothing. **David shows me how Masai men jump up and down to celebrate.**

"I'll miss you, David."

"Hakuna matata. No worries," he says.

Next stop on this ship is . . .

India

(cows, people, stone, & sparkle)

From the port, I fly to the Taj Mahal. An emperor built this monument in memory of his beloved wife!

While walking, I see many people and a lot of cows roaming and sitting in the streets. **Cows are sacred to the Hindus, and they don't eat them.**

A narrow path takes me to the Ganges River, a religious site. While touring the river, I see people bathing and a merchant selling souvenirs.

"Bandagí, India."

Next stop on this ship is ...

Vietnam

(paint, silk fabric, liquid, & rain)

Ho Chi Minh City. Where are the cars? **There are motorcycles everywhere, many with entire families on them.** Men on large tricycles called rickshaws take tourists around the crowded city.

After seeing colorful silk fabrics in the market, my rickshaw driver takes me to *Nhât* who will make me a beautiful dress. While she is sewing, I find out that we have the same birthday. When I leave, *Nhât* gives me her address so we can stay friends.

Here I am visiting a classroom. One boy looks like he did not sleep last night. I notice they have beautiful almond-shaped eyes. I really love Vietnam because everyone is so nice to me, but I have to leave.

"Tam biêt, my new friends!"



Next stop on this ship is ...

Hong Kong

(incense, calligraphy, & sculpture)

I take a ferry to see the world's largest seated Buddha. Lantau, the biggest island in Hong Kong, is home to this amazing religious structure.

I also notice special Chinese lettering on signs everywhere. This is known as calligraphy.

"Joi gin, Hong Kong."

Next stop on this ship is ...

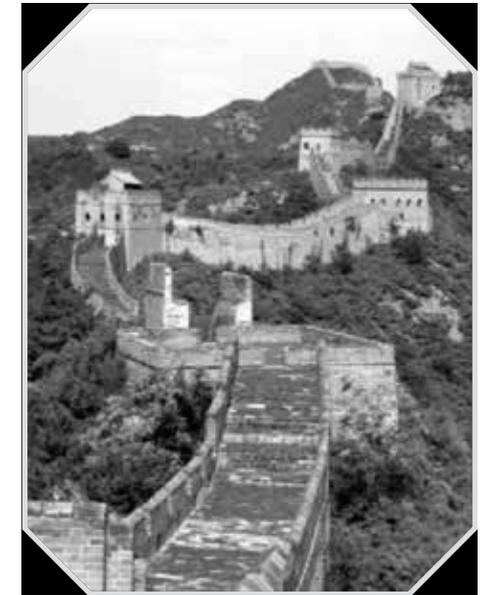
China

(cherry blossom flowers, wood, bricks, & bikes)

On the bus ride to the Great Wall, I see many people riding bicycles. **This wall was built to defend the country from its enemies.** Its snake-like shape extends for thousands of miles. To reach the wall, I climb MANY steps. I am very tired, but the view is worth it!

I have fun sliding down the mountain on a sled. I see pagodas and blooming cherry blossom trees.

"Zàijìàn, splendid China!"



The last country we travel to is ...

Japan

(architecture, kimonos, & dance)

It is raining when I arrive. To avoid getting wet, I seek shelter at the Kyoto Palace.

At night, I see a traditional Geisha Dance. **These women wear beautiful silk kimonos and practice mastering this art form all of their lives.**

"Sayonara beautiful geishas!"

Next stop on this ship is ...

Home