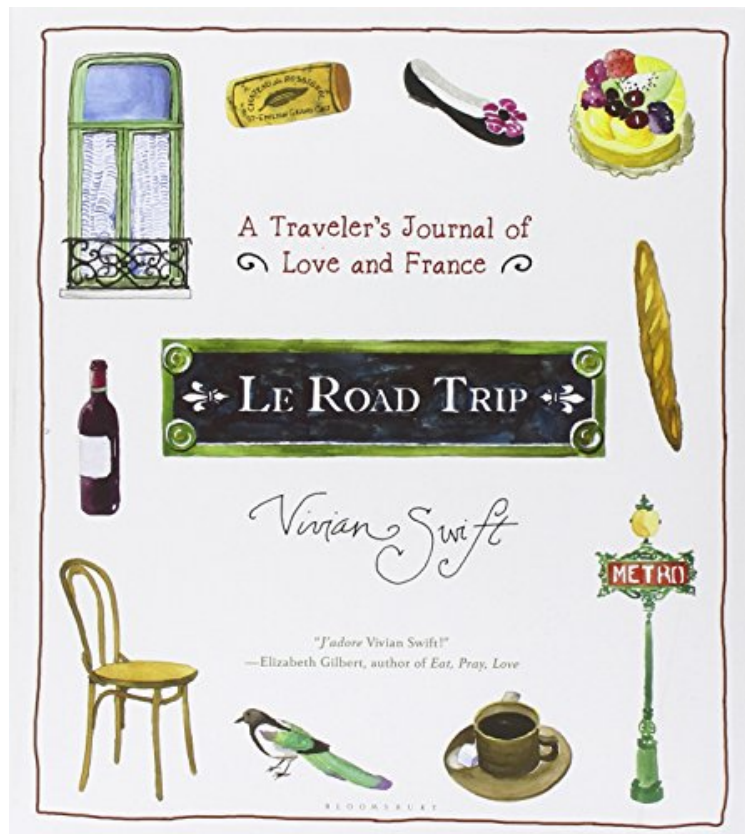


# Le Road Trip: A Traveler's Journal of Love and France

Vivian Swift

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**Vivian Swift : Le Road Trip: A Traveler's Journal of Love and France** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Le Road Trip: A Traveler's Journal of Love and France:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lovely book I think will please.By JimmieBeautiful, thoughtful illustrations and engaging text. I'm an artist and was planning to "sketch my way through France". She has already done it so perfectly.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A delight for the eyes and journaler's soulBy CherylBack in 2011, I purchased Vivian Swift's first book "When Wanderers Cease to Roam". It was a delightful way to get through recuperation from knee surgery and it inspired me to return to my sketchbook journaling. Then I found "Le Road Trip" and loved this book even more. I enjoyed it on so many levels: reading about travel, learning more about France, and again, reinforcing the pleasure of keeping a travel journal. Vivian's sketches in both books are sweet reminders that, while you can take a picture of something--once you sketch it--you mentally "own" every detail about the scene, or building, or whatever. The details are firmly planted in your memory. And you don't have to be a great artist to enjoy that pleasure. Then to read Ms. Swift's words about what she has sketched/painted takes journaling to a whole other level. Do yourself a favor, get the book--and while you are at the store--buy yourself a journal and some paints. You will begin to see the world in a whole different way.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Delightful travel journalBy ScrappyCatThis is a travel journal of the artist's honeymoon in France in September of

2005. It's a delightfully quirky book in which she compares travel and love: "Anticipation. In love and travel, getting there is half the fun. The lustful impatience, the passionate daydreams, the nerve-wracking waiting . . . lovers and travelers are all alike when they find themselves on the brink of a new adventure." page 2. The book is filled with her wonderful illustrations of her trip and lots of fun information. For example: "The beagle rolling in the grass, celebrating being a lucky dog who lives in Paris, is named Benedict. 'Oh, yes, he is a happy dog,' his owner tells me; 'Not very intelligent, but very, very happy.' Travel Tip: Ask Parisians about their dogs -- it's the only time they will gladly talk to you." And in chapter 5, "The Going Gets Tough," she includes a number of "Survival tips for love and travel," including this one on page 113: "Each morning, look at yourself in the mirror and say: 'You're no bargain either.'"

Road trip: those are still the two most inspiring words to vagabonds and couch potatoes alike; after all, the great American spirit was forged by road trippers from the Pilgrims to Lewis and Clark to the Dharma Bums. *Le Road Trip* combines the appeal of the iconic American quest with France's irresistible allure, offering readers a totally new perspective of life on the road. *Le Road Trip* tells the story of one idyllic French honeymoon trip, but it is also a witty handbook of tips and advice on how to thrive as a traveler, a captivating visual record with hundreds of watercolor illustrations, and a chronicle depicting the incomparable charms of being footloose in France. Armchair travelers, die-hard vagabonds, art journalists, and red wine drinkers will all find something to savor in this story.

About the Author Vivian Swift, author of *When Wanderers Cease to Roam: A Traveler's Journal of Staying Put*, is a freelance writer and former assistant vice president of Christie's Inc. When not traveling, she lives on the Long Island Sound with her husband.