

**Chapter 1 : Literary Criticism - Excursions in Book Archive**

*Excerpt from Excursions in Criticism: Being Some Prose Recreations of a Rhymer Elizabeth and James was chequered by a half conventional respect for Ben Jonson, Massinger.*

Samuel Johnson wrote an essay on the subject in *The greater part of travellers tell nothing because their method of travelling supplies them with nothing to be told. He that enters a town at night and surveys it in the morning and then hastens away to another place and guesses at the manners of the inhabitants by the entertainment which his inn afforded him may please himself for a time* – but let him be contented to please himself without endeavouring to disturb others. Johnson, Samuel, *The Idler*, essay no. Some were little more than extracts from the published account. In a very few cases were the accounts criticised. In two cases, both written by Welshmen the criticism was quite pointed. It is my earnest wish to paint the beauties of this astonishing scene in a style somewhat adequate to its singular and wonderful appearance; but alas! Most of them have made a point of visiting the bridge, but few, indeed hardly any, have paid attention to the cataract [possibly because it is hidden]. Those who reside near the spot, accustomed to the horrors of the place, by a daily task of visiting the bridge with strangers, gladly pass over the rest of the job, and unless particularly ordered to point out the cascade, feel happy in having escaped the fatigue of it. It included comments on: London, , 2nd ed. By a Pedestrian traveller. Containing the antiquities, history, and state of the country: These routine seers follow one another like a flock of sheep – They generally travel with a catalogue in their pockets of things to be seen, with which they have been favoured from the journal of some fashionable tourist; and whatever Sir Tasteless Seeall has recommended as worth seeing must be so – whether a beautiful valley or a copper mine, a waterfall or a stocking-machine, the top of a mountain or the bottom of a coal-pit, it is all one. From a Diary kept in Mr Cumberland is known to have been for some time an intimate of the Colonel [Thomas Johnes] and it is not to be wondered at that the hospitality he there met with, the good fare and mellow wine should extort a panegyric to which the place is not entitled and which its benevolent owner did not require. Praise is cheap – Mr Warner [] seems to have caught the fire – He was likewise refreshed beneath the roof and the wine must have been still on the palate of the pedestrian when he painted beauties which he never saw and portrayed images which did not exist – Anon, *Narrative of a Tour through Wales* by an anonymous English Gentleman. Tourists who intend to publish – pick up at random and set down at a venture all they hear; some are indolent, some inattentive, some credulous and some write only to amuse. The Welsh – ought to take in good part what is intended for their welfare and to learn to mend what may not have struck them as an impropriety or a disadvantage, till it is pointed out to them. Others may perhaps have strolled through the streets, sauntered through the lanes, or most meritoriously clambered up a mountain in order to look about them, and then returned hungry and exhausted to their inns where between sleeping and waking, they have recorded in their meagre notebooks, the intelligence of the sexton, or of some passing rustic who has crossed them in their way, and in all probability has been ignorant of the questions that have been asked him, but few of them with Mr Gilpin have examined the deep recesses of the Vale – hence it is that their descriptions are mere birds-eye views, all lamentably alike and generally erroneous – and the remainder of their book is made up of an affection of sentiment and common place remarks to which are added bad roads, bad provisions and imposing hosts. The same slobbered tale is still repeated, and is always worse told by him that tells it last till – it becomes too threadbare for credit. How can a man without knowing the language of the country he professes to travel through, and hurrying between showers, see anything of or procure such information as to enable him to write about it, who scarce ever deviates from the main road in search of anything, and all whose new matter is taken from ostlers or chamber maids. Half the book is filled with a detail of their own miseries; the process of cooking eggs and bacon; the account of the female barber; their invectives against the whole country because the landlord of a hedge-ale house understands his own language better than theirs; because his wig did not well cover his ears; or his small clothes were made of corduroy. Besides, a late quarto tourist has presumed to give from other performances, as history and fact, two or three passages which the gentleman who first gave them to the public told me he

had, in a playful sally of genius, been fabricated by him as an experiment to see how easy it was to quiz the age, and become a successful literary impostor. He [Jones] wished for a severe shower of criticism to brush away such insects, that multiply to the misleading all who wish for information and truth, by adopting fraud and propagating error. He hoped he should yet live to see, for the honour of his own country, a native tourist spring up with the talents of a Pennant, an antiquary, a scholar and agent who would undertake to explore South Wales on the same plan as he [Pennant] did North Wales and rescue it from insult and misrepresentation. Amongst other instances of accurate [sic] research the author passes within half a mile of a small lake Llyn y Dywarchen on which there is a very curious floating island â€” mentioned by Giraldus â€” Parker, John, , *Tours through Wales* , NLW MS C, p.

**Chapter 2 : Cruise Reviews, Port Reviews, Shore Excursion Reviews**

*Discover and book your next shore excursion on any cruise line to any destination. Cruise Critic provides thousands of reviews and ratings to help you plan your next cruise vacation.*

This is a great chance for a truly Alaskan experience: Begin with an aerial overview of Misty Fjords National Monument and those granite cliffs. Just beyond is a series of small, remote mountain lakes that would be next to impossible to reach on foot. Your pilot picks out one of the lakes, lands the floatplane, and turns off the engine. You can step out on the pontoon, breathe in the fresh air and listen to the silence. Join Taquan Air for the experience. From late July to September, there are reliable but not guaranteed bear-viewing opportunities outside of Ketchikan. Note that these are black bears, not brown or grizzly bears. If you want to see brown bears while on a Southeast Alaska cruise, your best bet is to take an evening nature tour to Haines in August and September. Fishing Listen up, anglers or non-anglers: There are a lot of fish in Ketchikan, so your chances of catching one here are excellent. The best time to cast your line is when the pink salmon are running, in mid-to-late summer. In fact, they return to the streams around Ketchikan by the thousands. If your cruise itinerary includes Sitka, fish there in place of Ketchikan or fish in both places. Sitka faces the open Pacific Ocean, so fishing in Sitka tends to offer a wider variety of species, including king salmon and halibut. Their fascinating history and culture is one reason Ketchikan is such a special place to visit. This tour introduces you to both. The single most famous aspect of the Tlingit people is the totem pole. Most visitors know little about them, but the Saxman Village tour offers a deep look at the Tlingit culture overall, and particularly their totem poles. The Lumberjack show is an entertaining look at the world of logging and the skills needed to survive in this dangerous industry. Lumberjacks compete in a dozen events including sawing, chopping, axe throwing, and log rolling. Mountain Point Snorkeling Adventure Snorkeling? Enter the water and snorkel above shallow tide pools while your PADI-certified instructor describes the ecology and the various creatures you see. Just be sure to take advantage of this unique opportunity here: But since dog sledding is a winter activity, cruise ship visitors in the early days never had a chance to experience it. That all changed when helicopters became readily available to travelers. Glacier Trek Explore a glacier on foot! There are different activity levels depending on how active you want to be. You start with a float in Mendenhall Lake with a view of the blue-tinged Mendenhall Glacier. The river winds through the forest, and you end the trip floating through a Juneau neighborhood. Watch for real Alaskan wildlife, like a family barbecuing salmon in their backyard! Taku Lodge with Salmon Bake This long-running favorite tour combines a number of appealing activities into one trip: Get out and enjoy the lodge and its wilderness ambience. Local guides offer a short nature walk on a wilderness trail, or you may choose to relax. Then enjoy a time-honored Alaskan tradition—the salmon bake. The succulent grilled salmon attracts bears, of course, and you may be lucky enough to spot one! Whale Watching The combination of plentiful marine plankton and favorable currents makes the waters near Juneau a popular feeding area for humpback whales. And Juneau has a reliable number of humpback whales feeding in the nearby channels. Learn more about the Whale Watching Adventure. This is the same route traversed in the winter of by thousand of gold-hungry stampedes. Best of all, there are dozens of options to combine the train tour with another activity. History buffs can add a visit to Liarville, a re-created gold rush camp complete with Vaudeville entertainment and a salmon bake. White Pass Train with Bike Ride This is the tour to take if you want to combine a train trip with some action. Ride this historic train up the White Pass summit. Then, when you reach the top, get outside and ride a mountain bike back down. You can take a ride on the sled and even learn the basics so that you can take the reins yourself. Definitely an unforgettable experience! Glacier Bay Flightseeing Several factors make Skagway an ideal port for flightseeing. One of course is the spectacular view of Glacier Bay from the air: Also good to know, though, is that Skagway is the port in Southeast Alaska with the least amount of rainfall, so your flight is less likely to be cancelled! Skagway Scooters A new addition to Skagway, this operator lets you take the handlebars and explore Skagway on two wheels. After a short tutorial to make sure you feel safe and confident on your scooter, you can either set out on your own or take the guided, narrated tour. The guided option lasts 2. Sights

include the Dyea flats, the site of the old tent city where the Gold Rush actually started, and the head of the historic Chilkoot Trail. Tours to Haines from Skagway Note: Skagway is great for history and adventure. Your cruise ship will offer tours that are hassle-free and can be purchased on board. The Mendenhall is a fun whitewater trip that starts with a spectacular view of the Mendenhall Glacier. This trip begins with a scenic, mile drive into the heart of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, an extremely rich wildlife area. When the sockeye salmon are running in July, you may spot bald eagles or more. Chilkoot Wildlife Tour and Chilkoot Kayak Tour The nature tour in Haines is a driving tour with plenty of stops takes you to one of the most wildlife-rich areas in Southeast Alaska: Chilkoot Lake State Park. Expert naturalists accompany you along the way, taking time to set up spotting scopes and bring the wildlife in close. Look for harbor seals, bald eagles, and mergansers a fish-eating duck. Later in the summer, spawning salmon and brown bears add to the mix. The guides follow ethical wildlife-viewing protocols to keep people and bears safe. Another way to experience the Chilkoot surroundings is by kayak. The views are spectacular, with giant peaks surrounding the lake, and waterfalls flowing down from the mountains. Beginning in mid-July, you can often see sockeye salmon spawning in a shallow tributary stream. Some ships that dock in Haines offer tours to Skagway. Instead, take advantage of having the town of Haines to yourself. You can enjoy any of the four tours mentioned above: Or try one of our recommended tours below. This tour is designed to show you. Juneau also has a photo tour that is very popular. The Juneau tour uses a boat while the Haines tour is by van. A Taste of Haines Much of Alaska touring revolves around stunning visual sights. But this tour gives you a chance to experience Alaska with the sense of taste of smell. How small is this brewery? They can only accommodate 10 guests at a time, and Paul likes to quip that Anheuser Busch spills more beer in a day than Haines Brewing Company brews in a year! Then continue to Dejon Delights to see and smell! There are bountiful samples and you may be tempted to ship home a fillet or two! The Sitka Sound Science Center features a salmon hatchery, aquarium, and touch tank. In fact, the cuddly sea otter is a huge part of the history of Southeast Alaska and Sitka in particular. Its fur was the first important commodity exported from Alaska, before gold or oil. Fishing No doubt about it Sitka is a world-class fishing destination. It boasts the shortest rod-hour to catch ratio for King salmon in the entire state of Alaska. So, if you dream of catching an Alaska salmon, this is a great place. Your tour operator will process, freeze, and ship the fish back home for you. Sitka sits directly on the open ocean, so you can go after all five species of Pacific salmon in an easy outing from Sitka. The halibut fishing grounds are farther from shore, requiring a longer tour. All these species, plus lingcod, rockfish, and others feed heavily in Sitka Sound throughout the summer.

### Chapter 3 : THE 10 BEST Tortola Tours - TripAdvisor

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*Excursions in criticism, being some prose recreations of a rhymer, by William Watson.*

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