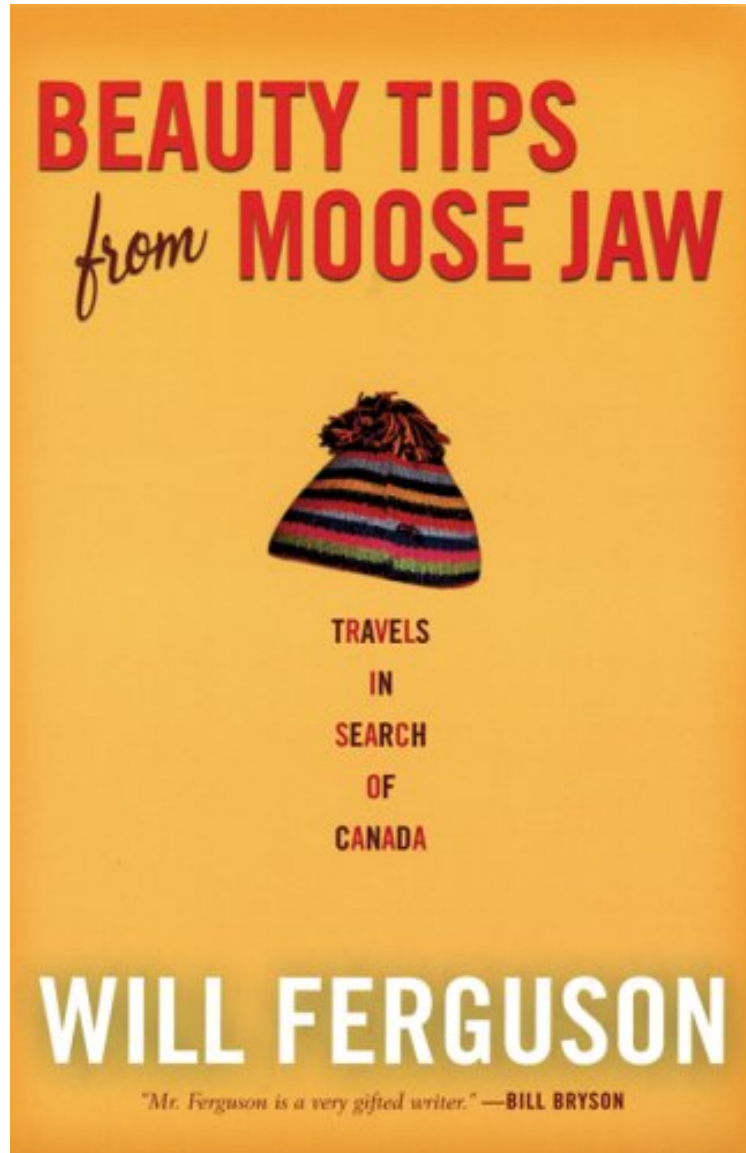


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Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw: Travels in Search of Canada

Will Ferguson

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Will Ferguson : Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw: Travels in Search of Canada before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw: Travels in Search of Canada:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More of a personal account of the author's travelsBy Annie FreewriterThere were places it was funny and places where I understood a little more about Canada but I was expecting more, so it got a little dry and boring in some places. I think the other book Will co-wrote might be more

interesting. I would like to find a book about Canada that covers more history. This seems more like a partial memoir with a few interesting tales thrown in. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ForgettableBy Super pickyI read it but six months later I don't remember it.....0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good ReadBy kkI really enjoyed this book. Written with humor and insight into Canada and her great history. Some places I have traveled to and now so many more I want to see.

Canada's number one humorist, routinely compared to our own Bill Bryson, has written a funny, idiosyncratic, and warmly humane book full of sly observations and witty stories culled from his travels among the people and places of our neighbors up north. Will Ferguson spent the past three years crisscrossing Canada. In a helicopter above the barren lands of the subarctic, in a canoe with his four-year-old son, aboard seaplanes, and along the Underground Railroad, Will's travels have taken him from Cape Spear on the coast of Newfoundland to the sun-dappled streets of old Victoria. Funny, poignant, and insightful, *Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw* is a provocative tribute to a land that is akin to a series of loosely connected outposts peopled with some of the most interesting folks in the world.

From Publishers Weekly
Humorist Ferguson (*Why I Hate Canadians*) offers an appealing, brisk account of his many travels in his native land, from the "England as it never really existed" veneer of Victoria to the "certain dignified ugliness" of Newfoundland moose. The title story, in which Ferguson has his limbs and his ego massaged at a Saskatchewan health spa, perfectly represents the book's twin charms: Ferguson's comic cynicism, and his descriptions of intriguing events and individuals tied to the places he visits. In this tale, the levity of Ferguson's interaction with a male "reflexologist" bearing peppermint oil is offset with an account of a hard-luck 1930s Finnish immigrant so desperate to return to his native land that he built an iron ship completely by himself, which stands to this day on the Canadian prairie as a sad but powerful symbol. While humor and history are the book's uniting elements, a lack of narrative harmony results from breaks in chronology and distinct shifts in scene. Ferguson acknowledges as much in his introduction, and while the approach makes the book episodic, it jibes with the author's premise that "Canada is not a country but a collection of outposts." (June 16) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Yet another masterfully entertaining examination of Canuckishness penned by the Calgary author.... In each stop on this coast-to-coast travelogue, Ferguson sneakily wraps a local history lesson in a wickedly entertaining meander through obvious and obscure local landmarks.... Insightful and gag-filled.... Ferguson's fascination with Canadiana is infectious."—*The Calgary Herald*"Full of surprises... and idiosyncratic charms.... Travel writers don't always get to climb Everest or visit the Taj Mahal, and they can be judged best by what they come up with on a slow day. Ferguson is good when he's sipping a handful of icy water out of Hudson Bay; he's better eating pancakes in a Finnish restaurant in Thunder Bay.... Ferguson proves a companionable guide in *Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw*."—*National Post*"Will Ferguson is a talent. He writes refreshingly, provocatively and eloquently. He takes on issues from a contrarian's perspective, but never exceeds the bounds of reason. He looks for the essence and his search brings out some smashingly insightful stuff."—*Ottawa Citizen*"Ferguson's strength does not lie in whether he writes funny or not. His strength is that he writes so well."—*The Times-Colonist*"[Ferguson] delves into the soul of the cities he visits, sometimes climbing into helicopters, seaplanes and kayaks, and attending underground poetry slams."—*Airlines*"Ferguson takes readers on this quest for hidden gold in the best tradition of the true Canadian voyageur. He uncovers nuggets of hidden treasure in the stories of small towns and their resilient people. The landscape itself proves larger than life. He mixes the historical with the contemporary, adds a touch of humour and brings readers close to his subjects — in a way that only he can manage. . . . For those of us who seek to know that place beyond the horizon, this is a great journey and a great read."—*The Costco Connection*, Buyer's Pick"[Ferguson's] writing leaves nothing to be desired. It's got a kind of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* shtick that generally has readers guffawing in public spaces. . . . His vast historical knowledge . . . adds intellectual credibility to what is already a hilarious read."—*Georgia Straight*"You'll enjoy this book. . . . Ferguson [gives us] lively, thought-provoking riffs on Canadian culture. . . . Anyone who can spin a tale as well as Ferguson, while peppering it with trenchant and often humorous commentary on what it means to be a Canadian traveling through Canada, will easily grab and hold the reader's attention for the more than 300 pages that make up this book."—*Quill Quire*
Praise for Will Ferguson: "Will Ferguson is a talent. He writes refreshingly, provocatively and eloquently. He takes on issues from a contrarian's perspective, but never exceeds the bounds of reason. He looks for the essence and his search brings out some smashingly insightful stuff."—*Ottawa Citizen* "The funniest writer in Canada."—*National Post* "Ferguson possesses a crafty eye for detail, not to mention a highly developed understanding of the essential folly in what passes for everyday life."—*Edmonton Journal* "Lively, knowledgeable, opinionated, disrespectful, debatable, and immensely readable."—*The Gazette (Montreal)*
From the Hardcover edition.
About the Author
The author/co-author of eight books of non-fiction and one novel, Will Ferguson is one of Canada's best-selling writers. His first book, *Why I Hate Canadians* was a bestseller and established him as an iconoclastic writer; his most recent, *How to Be a Canadian*, co-authored with his brother Ian, has been a *Globe and Mail* bestseller for over eighty weeks. His other books of non-fiction include *Bastards and Boneheads* and *Canadian History for Dummies*. His first novel, *Happiness™*, won the

2002 Leacock Medal for Humour and the 2002 Canadian Authors Association Award for Fiction. It is now published in twenty-nine countries and twenty-three languages. Will lives in Calgary with his wife, Terumi, and their sons, Alex and Alister. From the Hardcover edition.