



## The Narrow Road To Oku (Paperback)

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By Matsuo Basho

Kodansha International, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint, Bilingual. Language: Japanese,English . Brand New Book. In the account which he named The Narrow Road to Oku, Basho makes a journey lasting 150 days, in which he travels, on foot, a distance of 600 ri. This was three hundred years ago, when the average distance covered by travelers was apparently 9 ri per day, so it is clear that Basho, who was forty years old at the time, possessed a remarkably sturdy pair of walking legs. Nowadays with the development of all sorts of means of transportation, travel is guaranteed to be pleasant and convenient in every respect, so it s almost impossible for us to imagine the kind of journey Basho undertook, drifting with the clouds and streams, and lodging under trees and on bare rocks. During my countless re-readings of The Narrow Road to Oku, I would bear that in mind, and the short text, which takes up less than 50 pages even in the pocket-book edition, would strike me as much longer than that, and I would feel truly awed by Basho s 2,450-kilometer journey. I chose The Narrow Road to Oku as the theme of the...



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