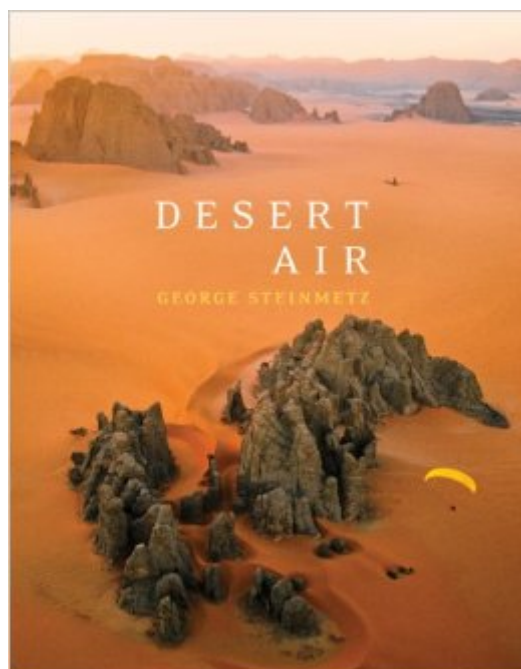


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# Desert Air



## Synopsis

Celebrated exploration photographer George Steinmetz takes his art to a new level in *Desert Air*, the first comprehensive photographic collection of the world's extreme deserts, which receive less than four inches of precipitation per year. Steinmetz has spent 15 years on this epic body of work, capturing remarkable and surreally beautiful visions of deserts, from China's great Gobi Desert to the Sahara in northern Africa to Death Valley in California. Much more than a visual journey, these images are enriched by the exciting stories behind Steinmetz's adventures in some of the world's most difficult and challenging areas—from smuggling his paraglider into Libya to getting arrested for spying in Iran, to crashing into a tree in western China. *Desert Air* reveals extraordinary desert ecosystems that together form a kind of disparate family of coevolved landscapes; similar, yet each unique in its own way. To preview some of these incredible images, watch the book trailer on Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/50387081>

## Book Information

Hardcover: 380 pages

Publisher: Harry N. Abrams (December 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1419705598

ISBN-13: 978-1419705595

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 1.5 x 14.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #661,343 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #370 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Nature & Wildlife > Landscapes](#) #864 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Collections, Catalogues & Exhibitions](#) #1469 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers](#)

## Customer Reviews

Steinmetz' photographs of the world's deserts are absolutely spectacular. George brought to this project not only his extreme talent for making incredible images, but also the passion necessary to accomplish work of this level, and the dedication necessary to devote fifteen years to the project. Steinmetz has a degree in geophysics, and therefore the photographs have an intellectual and scientific basis, as well as an aesthetic one. The use of the "flying lawn-chair," as George refers to his paraglider, is a fascinating story in itself. I worked with George extensively when I was Director

of Photography at the National Geographic Magazine, and I believe he, and Desert Air, are worthy of the highest praise.

This is a hefty collection of gorgeous vistas. It's full of beautiful pictures of desert/arid landscapes that will have you lingering over the pages and wanting to come back to the book days later. I waited until this was a little less expensive, but wow, I am glad I made the purchase, because these are inspiring images from around the globe, and it showed me structures and places I didn't know existed beyond the movies. Do yourself a favor and pick this up!

This book is so amazing, showing pictures of places you never new existed. The photos are gorgeous, and each has a sentence or two explaining what you are seeing. For example, an expanse of white gravel with red piles on it like flowers turns out to be red peppers drying in the sun in China. The introductory text is very interesting also, describing what the photographer and his team went through to get the photos. I have always been interested in dry places and have a number of picture books of deserts, but this is worth all of them put together.

This is a gorgeous coffee table book with high quality printing and beautiful, vivid color. It is heavy so not for reading in bed, but to just hold on your lap while sitting on the couch. I bought this for my mother-in-law, who loves wide, open vistas. It was a huge hit! Everyone who comes over is drawn to it and looks at it for many minutes. It's a conversation piece and a beautiful piece of art.

Love it. Mostly pictures which is just my style. However, there is a little commentary which is quite entertaining to read. This book wasn't just thrown together. Lots of effort went into shooting these scenes and some of it could have ended very badly for the photographer had he not been so fortunate.

I bought this book as a present. Before wrapping it, I flicked through it and became so absorbed in the amazing photographs that I kept it for myself. Truly amazing pictures!

I expected gorgeous photos, and that's what they are. Amazing, most of them. What surprised me is the the writing. Though Mr. Steinmetz does not write much, his writing is crisp, clear, and interesting. I feel like I am reading a great travelogue, and then seeing magnificent photos from his travels. I am spell-bound.

Not only the photos are unbelievable. I also like the stories George tells us about their "making off". And since I am a photographing PPG pilot too (not a flying photographer as George calls himself) I know about all the challenges he was facing. I am eager for his next book Look at:[...]

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