

BOOK CLUB KIT

Two for the Road



TOURS



CHANTEL GUERTIN



Dear Reader,

How heart-warming it is to know that you have picked up *Two for the Road*! I loved writing this book and I hope you fall in love with Gigi and her story. Let me tell you, even though I am most proud of this book, it was my most difficult book to write yet. I wrote this story during the pandemic—when we were locked down and barely able to step outside our homes, let alone jet off to a dreamy destination like the English countryside.

Thankfully, there are people out there who create beautiful virtual walking tours of towns all over the world and post them to YouTube. I spent hours “strolling” the cobblestone streets of Canterbury and Cambridge, London and Lyme Regis. I listened to the sounds and took in the sights, imagining myself (as Gigi) there.

And yet, there’s a reason we travel. We travel to inhale the scent of freshly baked bread from a bakery or smell fresh flowers in a field. We travel to feel the sun on our skin, the salt air in our hair. We travel to discover hidden spots. To meet new people. To experience new things.

But maybe the most important reason we travel is to learn about ourselves.

That’s what I was hoping for when I wrote Gigi’s story. She sets off on this adventure in the hopes of meeting the person behind the voice of her favourite audiobook—the love of her life, she believes—but in taking that leap, and leaving her bookshop and life in Ann Arbor, learns so much more about herself than she could’ve ever imagined.

In the end, we delayed publication of *Two for the Road* so that I could actually go to England myself when travel restrictions were lifted and gather more detail for the book. I spent three glorious weeks exploring the towns Gigi visits, trying new things and meeting new people (while my husband managed absolutely everything at home, including three kids, a dog, a cat, and a visiting hedgehog—all without a single complaint!).

That’s when this story really came together. That’s when I really got to know who Gigi was, and what she was really looking for when she embarked on this spontaneous but slightly outrageous trip.

Where have you travelled that’s changed your life? Drop me a line at chantelguertin@gmail.com or tag me on IG at [@chantelguertin](https://www.instagram.com/chantelguertin). I would love to hear from you.



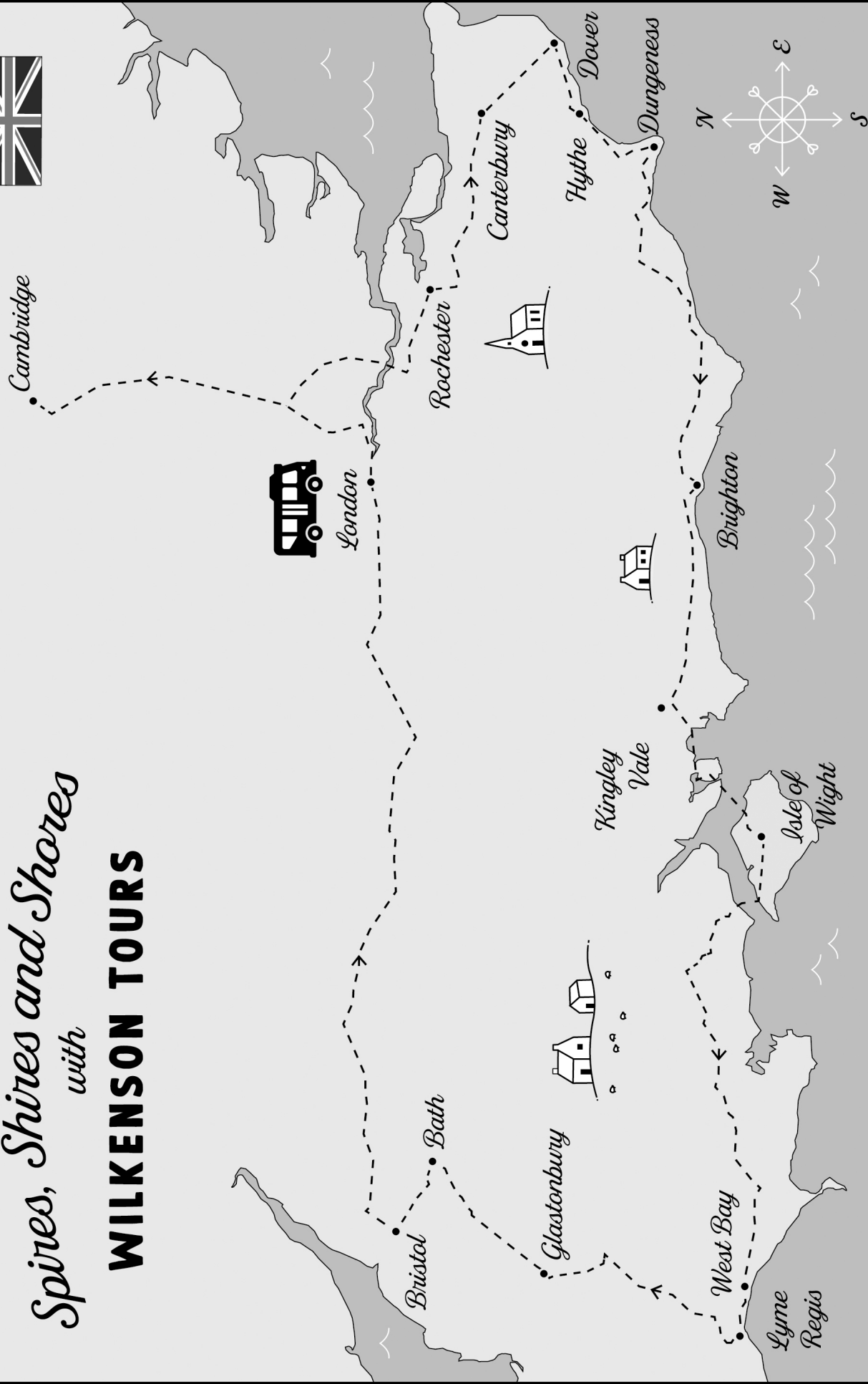
xo
Chantel Guertin



Spires, Shires and Shores

with

WILKINSON TOURS



READER'S GUIDE

1. Gigi meets the most vivid cast of characters on the tour. Who is your favorite and why? Who would you most like to be sitting next to on a bus tour through the English countryside? Who would you least like to be seatmates with?
2. Discuss the ways in which grief plays a role in Gigi's life. How has it had an impact on who she is? Could you relate to her grief? Have you grieved the loss of someone close to you?
3. What was your favorite stop on the Spires, Shires and Shores tour? Would you ever sign up for a tour like this, and consider going on your own? Have you ever traveled alone? Why or why not?
4. Who would play Gigi in the movie version of *Two for the Road*? What about Zane? And Taj? How would you cast all the characters?

5. Grief is a central theme in this story. Describe how other characters, besides Gigi, are grieving. What other themes are at play?

6. How did being away from her life in Ann Arbor change Gigi? How would living in the book's setting change you? Would you ever move away from home?

7. Did Zane and Gigi have a genuine connection? Did you understand her attraction to him?



READER'S GUIDE

(CONT.)

8. Charlotte quickly became Gigi's confidante and source of support on the trip. Why do you think they connected? Do you have someone like Charlotte in your life? What makes you turn to them during tough times?
9. What do you think of Gigi and Taj's relationship? Is he a good match for her?
10. Gigi and Lars have been through a lot together. How would you describe their relationship? Is it similar to the relationship you have with your sibling(s), or the relationships that you've seen between siblings in real life?
11. What do you think happens to Gigi after the book ends? What about the other characters?
12. Gigi went on the tour to find love, but she experienced much more than that. What were some of the lessons she learned on the trip?
13. If you were in Gigi's shoes, would you choose Taj or Zane?
14. Gigi loves love stories so much that she owns Love Interest, a romance-only bookstore. If you owned a bookstore, what kinds of books would you sell?

GIGI'S TWO FOR THE ROAD READING LIST

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES by L. M. Montgomery

BRIDGERTON COLLECTION by Julia Quinn

BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY by Helen Fielding

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN by Annie Proulx

DAVID COPPERFIELD by Charles Dickens

FALLING by Jane Green

FLOAT PLAN by Trish Doller

GREAT EXPECTATIONS by Charles Dickens

THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY

by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

I SEE LONDON, I SEE FRANCE by Sarah Mlynowski

LADY SUSAN by Jane Austen

LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA

by Gabriel García Márquez

MATING FOR LIFE by Marissa Stapley

"THE MONKEY'S PAW" by W. W. Jacobs

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD by Charles Dickens

NORTHANGER ABBEY by Jane Austen



GIGI'S READING LIST (CONT.)

ONE DAY IN DECEMBER by Josie Silver

OUR DARKEST NIGHT by Jennifer Robson

PERSUASION by Jane Austen

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE by Jane Austen

THE ROAD TRIP by Beth O'Leary

THE ROSE CODE by Kate Quinn

SAFE HAVEN by Nicholas Sparks

SEA SWEEP by Nora Roberts

SOMETHING BORROWED by Emily Giffin

THE SWEET HEREAFTER by Russell Banks

TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES by Thomas Hardy

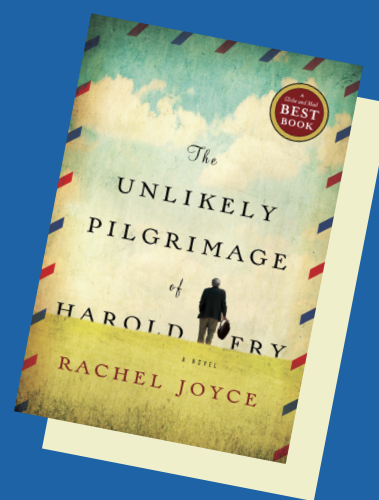
THE UNHONEYMOONERS by Christina Lauren

THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY

by Rachel Joyce

THE WEATHER IN THE STREETS

by Rosamond Lehmann



GIGI'S TRAVEL PLAYLIST



"LONDON CALLING" by The Clash

"THIS MUST BE THE PLACE" by Sure Sure

"AMALFI" by Wild Pink

"SOMEWHERE IN ANN ARBOR" by Anson Seabra

"CONEY ISLAND" by Taylor Swift ft. The National

"SEDONA" by Houndmouth

"GO YOUR OWN WAY" by Fleetwood Mac

"AUSTRALIA" by The Shins

"ENDS OF THE EARTH" by Lord Huron

"SALTWATER" by Geowulf

"ALASKA" by Maggie Rogers

"DRIVING SOUTH" by Goth Babe & Blood Cultures

"KYOTO" by Phoebe Bridgers

"HOMESICK" by Noah Kahan

"BRAZIL" by Declan McKenna

"CHICAGO" by Sufjan Stevens

"TRANSATLANTICISM" by Death Cab for Cutie



Vist Spotify for the full playlist!

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3mTlanrBanwZuQIAsWPLN6?si=04a8de83640b4713>

GIGI'S PLAYLIST: AUDIOBOOK EDITION

BEACH READ by Emily Henry

THE LOVE HYPOTHESIS by Ali Hazelwood

DIAL A FOR AUNTIES by Jesse Q. Sutanto

ONE NIGHT ON THE ISLAND by Josie Silver

THE PROPOSAL by Jasmine Guillory

EVERY SUMMER AFTER by Carley Fortune

INSTAMOM by Chantel Guertin

THE MATCHMAKER'S LIST by Sonya Lalli

DAISY JONES & THE SIX by Taylor Jenkins Reid

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS by Maggie Knox

BOOK LOVERS by Emily Henry



ELEMENTS OF A PERFECT ENGLISH AFTERNOON TEA

PLATES AND CUPS AND SAUCERS

Bust out your finest china—or whatever you have that’s closest to china! It doesn’t need to be fancy, nor does it need to matching—in fact, mismatched will add some charm. If you’re looking for items to add to your collection, visit your nearby thrift store, or your local Winners. You’re sure to find one-of-a-kind things to make your afternoon tea special.

A VARIETY OF TEA

Brew a pot of something special, but make sure to have a few other options on hand—herbal, decaf, and green tea are all good choices. Add a plate of lemon slices to the table so guests can help themselves.

SWEET AND SAVORY SNACKS

Have a mix of bites and treats for your guests: scones with jam and cream, cookies and bars, and also some classic sandwiches, like cucumber, chicken salad, and ham-and-cheese.

A PLEASANT PLAYLIST

Ambiance is everything, so take some time to build a playlist of songs to play in the background. Find songs that add to the vibe you’re going for. Spotify and YouTube have some great playlists if you’re stuck!



RECIPES

VANILLA EARL GREY TEA WITH MILK

This is a cozy recipe that's perfect for a tea party—or for curling up with a good book (or audiobook!).

Makes one cup of tea

60 ml milk (non-dairy will work here, too)

240 ml boiling water

2 Earl Grey teabags

2 tsp maple syrup (optional)

In a small saucepan over low heat, warm the milk. When the milk is steaming, add the vanilla and maple syrup, and stir. Put the teabags in a mug and cover with boiling water. Let steep for a minute, then top with a splash of vanilla milk. Add more sweetener if desired and enjoy!

Adapted from Vanilla and Bean



BUTTERY SHORTBREAD COOKIES

Makes 16 cookies

1 cup unsalted butter, softened

½ cup sugar

2 cups all-purpose flour

Preheat the oven to 350° and line a 9x9 baking pan with parchment paper. Using a stand or hand mixer, cream the butter and sugar until it's pale yellow and fluffy. Slowly add the flour, beating until everything is well combined. Press the dough into the prepared pan, then prick with a fork. Bake until light brown, 30-35 minutes. Remove from the oven, and while it's still warm, gently remove the cookie from the pan (use the parchment paper to make this easier!), cut into 16 squares, and let cool on a wire rack.



Adapted from Taste of Home

RECIPES

CUCUMBER SANDWICHES

What's a tea party without a cucumber sandwich? Enjoy these for your next afternoon tea alongside a piping hot cup of earl grey (or a cocktail!).



Makes two sandwiches

4 slices white bread (sourdough also works here)

Garlic & Fine Herbs Boursin cheese (butter can be used instead)

Half an English cucumber, peeled and thinly sliced

Salt and pepper to taste

Cut the crusts off the bread, and spread a layer of the cheese on each slice. Add the cucumber to two slices of bread, layering the rounds. Season with salt and pepper, top with the other two slices of bread, and cut into quarters. Delicious!

GARDEN PARTY GIN AND TONIC

No cocktail is more quintessentially English than a gin and tonic. Here we've added a little flair to give it more spring-y, garden party vibes. Buy a great dry gin (bonus points for an English brand), use lots of ice, and sip away!

Makes one cocktail

2 slices of lemon

2 slices of cucumber

50 ml dry gin (we like Sipsmith or Bombay Sapphire)

Ice

Cold tonic water

In a glass, drop in lemon and cucumber slices, then top with gin. Add the ice, then top off with tonic water. Give an extra squeeze of lemon if you desire, then enjoy immediately.

