

## News From:

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## *In the Footsteps of Daniel Boone:*

### Following a Pioneer

Every place Daniel Boone traveled, he faced danger. Time and again, his long life was almost cut short by British soldiers, Cherokee warriors, Shawnee raiders, and frontier outlaws, not to mention the buffalo, bears, wolves, and panthers prowling the wilderness, or the threat of starvation, fires, and freezing winters.

With the publication of the new book *In the Footsteps of Daniel Boone*, travelers can visit 85 of the places Boone visited, while facing no greater dangers than bad weather, flat tires, and fast food.

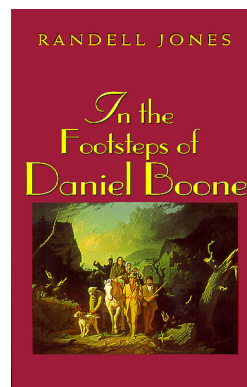
Written by Randell Jones, *In the Footsteps of Daniel Boone* is the fourth volume in the *In the Footsteps*<sup>™</sup> series of historical travel guides. "This book takes the reader to the places where the stories unfold and shapes the visitor's understanding of events by adding the dimension of being there," Jones says. "Standing atop Pilot Knob, for example, from which Boone first saw the 'beautiful level of Kentucky' and gazing out across the same landform connects the reader in a way no narrative of the tale can.

"Traveling from Oldtown, Ohio, to Fort Boonesborough State Park helps the reader appreciate the 160 miles that Boone covered in four days after escaping from the Shawnees."

Boone was born in Pennsylvania in 1734. Nearly 86 years later and 1,000 miles away, he died in Missouri in 1820. In between, he moved with his family to Virginia and then to North Carolina, where he began making expeditions as a market hunter. During the French and Indian War he served as a wagoner at Braddock's defeat near what is now Pittsburgh and later patrolled the Blue Ridge against hostile Cherokees.

After the war, he continued his long hunting, venturing as far as Florida. He also explored a land he had heard about during the war: Kentucky.

Boone made his name by leading settlers into Kentucky; in time, more than a quarter-million pioneers would follow Boone's trail through the Cumberland Gap and onto the Wilderness Road. The Wilderness Road is now commemorated at a Kentucky state park, while the Cumberland Gap is now part of a national park.



Once in Kentucky, which was then part of Virginia, Boone was elected to represent the settlers in the Virginia legislature, in the midst of the American Revolution. When not dodging Redcoats, Boone was instrumental in defending Boonesborough and the rest of Kentucky from British-aided Shawnee attacks.

Near the end of his life, Boone moved with his family to Spanish-owned Missouri, where he participated in the transfer of the Louisiana Territory to the young United States.

The site descriptions in *In the Footsteps of Daniel Boone* are supplemented with an appendix that lists major sites in the order in which Boone visited them, as well as a bibliography, an index, maps, and photographs.

**Randell Jones** is a past president of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association, a historical reenactor, and a storyteller who has performed at the National Storytelling Festival. He has been a consultant for the National Park Service, as well as the tourism departments of both North and South Carolina. He lives in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, not far from where Boone grew up.

**Title:** *In the Footsteps of Daniel Boone*

**Author:** Randell Jones

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