

New York, See you later!

How to turn your dreams into *do-it-yourself* projects: **Writing Travel Books**

1. **Devotional**—For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?
—**Mark 8:36**
2. **Have thick skin**, and anytime someone tells you that you can't do something, use it as motivation to prove them wrong!
3. **Set daily, yearly and long-term goals and stick to them!** As long as you are trying to accomplish your goals on a daily basis, and keeping an account of all accomplishments and possible improvements, you can handle any discouragement.
4. **Research is essential for fiction and non-fiction.** Time, place, people, and events all matter. Credit your sources and include people in your "thank you" section.
5. **Develop your concept.** Create bullet points. Articulate the key learnings. If it's about travel content creation, give your readers concrete steps to achieve tangible goals.
6. **Rough First Draft: Start writing.** Fill in the gaps from your concept. If you get stuck, move to the next step. Don't worry about chapters at this point, just get the broad strokes down.
7. **Second Draft:** start refining and continue filling in the gaps. Start adding dialogue and details. Brainstorming, editing & revising are your best assets!
8. **Always read what you've written out-loud!** This prevents the majority of errors that you don't even realize you've made! Your brain works faster than your hands, so you may think you got down all your thoughts but you'd better check.
9. **Third Draft and each subsequent draft:** continue refining, filling gaps, adding steps and details. Never stop editing & revising. Save multiple versions of your drafts as you go & be sure to back it up and email them to yourself for an extra level of security.
10. **Copyright it** and celebrate!

continued »

NYSeeYouLater.com/howto

New York, See you later!

How to turn your dreams into *do-it-yourself* projects: **Writing Travel Books**

11. Get a legal document drafted stating that you retain sole copyright to the content as well as to any content created for you as “work for hire.” Ask everyone to sign it before work begins.
12. Show your final draft to trusted friends and family.
13. Consider hiring freelance editors and proofreaders. Check the web for comments or reviews on professionals you’re thinking of using before you hire them.
14. Cover design: Go to Amazon, iTunes, or BN and start researching Book covers in your genre and making notes on what you like and don’t like. Save examples of each that you can show to a designer or for a reference for yourself. Consider hiring a designer or, *do-it-yourself*. Check out our guide (coming soon)! It will be encouraging to see the cover come to life and will motivate you to push through another revision. Make sure you check reviews and have an air-tight marketing agreement in place for digital and print materials.
15. Subsequent draft: you’ve incorporated any feedback or notes from trusted sources, and you’re very happy with it. Get it proofread and checked/edited for spelling and grammar.
16. Final Draft: you’re completely happy with it and are ready to look for an agent, publisher or you want to self-publish.
17. **Copyright it** again—“with changes!”
18. **Buy ISBNs.** You need to buy an ISBN for each format of your book and a barcode for each printed book.
19. Celebrate your achievement!
20. Next Steps: Look for an agent, publisher or start the self-publishing process. Check out our guide! —*Coming soon!*

NYSeeYouLater.com/howto