

Colleen J. Norwine

Colleen J. Norwine is the author of “Great Hostels USA: An Inside Look at America’s Best Adventure Travel Accommodations.”

Colleen wrote the book as an outgrowth of her personal love of travel and belief in the personal and societal benefits derived from it. The book is designed to increase awareness regarding hostels and how people can use them as an inexpensive way to explore new destinations and interact with people from other cultures- easy, adventure travel.

The book was written at the completion of a 12 month road trip, during which Colleen stayed in over 200 hostels across the United States and parts of Canada. Only 97 of those hostels met her standards for inclusion in “Great Hostels USA.”

Colleen took a sabbatical from a 10-year corporate career in Human Resources to travel and explore the country. Upon the completion of her traveling adventure, she decided not to return to the corporate world, deciding instead to go back to college.

While writing her book, Colleen earned an M.A. in Integrated Marketing Communications from Michigan State University. She currently resides in Boulder, Colo. and works for a small firm providing strategic marketing and advertising support to local, regional and national clients.

In addition to her degree from Michigan State University, Colleen holds a B. S. in Communication and Political Science from Texas State University and an M.A. in Organizational Communication from Purdue University.

While a Human Resources professional, Colleen spent several years as an HR Strategist, analyzing external demographic and societal trends and determining their potential impact to the business. She served as Vice President of the Human Resources Futures Association in 2000 and 2001.

Originally from South Texas, Colleen won first place in a 2002 Green Hot Sauce Competition. It was the first, and only, time she ever made green hot sauce. She entered the contest because it sounded like fun.

Colleen’s spare time is spent traveling, hiking and planning her next big adventure.

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