

**Magic Bus: On the Hippie Trail from Istanbul to India****Rory MacLean**

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A significant part of the United States counter-culture movement of the 1960s and 70s included thousands of adventuresome hippies engaged in spiritual pilgrimages to eastern destinations such as India Nepal Iran and other Hindu Buddhist and Muslim countries. In actuality the Asia overland route east from Europe has been traveled back and forth for 1500-plus years by Alexander the Great Mohammad Marco Polo and other legendary figures. But the events of 9/11 launched a new paradigm in the Islamic world and accomplished travel writer Rory MacLean sought to check out the scene which he details beautifully in his new book *Magic Bus: On the Hippie Trail from Istanbul to India* (Ig Publishing 978-09788431-9-9). Most impressively Maclean has a genuine understanding of the mystical and spiritual elements at play. His engaging travelers voice and descriptive gifts offer a wholly different view of the tortured region from what is currently available via the mainstream media.

MATT SUTHERLAND (February 13, 2009)

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