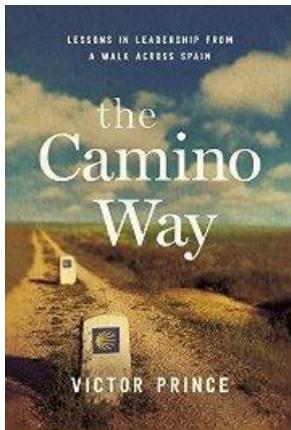


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***The Camino Way: Lessons in Leadership from a Walk Across Spain***

Author: **Victor Prince**

Publisher: AMACOM

List Price: \$21.95 Format: Hardcover, 208 pages

Publication Date: July 13, 2017 ISBN: 9780814438244

Reviewer: **Linus Toy, JD**

Review Date: October 2017

Introduction

Santiago de Compostela is a historic pilgrimage destination on the northwest corner of Spain. The Camino de Santiago is the term often used to describe a pilgrimage journey to that destination. Originally a faith-oriented journey for those seeking an indulgence, forgiveness or penitence, in recent years, it has become a journey for not just the faithful, but also those seeking self-awareness, personal learning, and sometimes, just a tour.

Victor Prince relates the story of his Camino experience, transforming his journey from “just another tour” to a juxtaposition of his prior professional life with a series of soul-baring realizations. Ultimately, he turns the Spirit of The Camino into a series of leadership lessons he wishes he’d learned earlier in life.

Overview of Book’s Structure

Prince starts off with a historical context of the Christian Pilgrimage. Describing how pilgrimage locations rose and fell in prominence across time, he sets the stage for the contemporary rise and popularity of Santiago de Compostela as a pilgrimage destination, and the many routes (literally and figuratively) to Santiago as the Camino de Santiago.

The first half of the book then weaves together The Spirit of The Camino, 7 suggestions to enjoy or succeed in a Camino journey, with relevant anecdotes and tales of his experience from the business and government service career he previously held.

The last half of the book is a series of lessons and realizations the author holds out as a way forward for his future professional life, as well as his sharing and giving back. This part of the book is perhaps less developed and consistent, combining a

disjointed mix of lessons for leadership in organizations, personal growth, and suggestions for approaching one's own Camino journey.

Highlights

Throughout the book, Prince uses quotes from fellow Camino pilgrims, either those he met in person, or those he met virtually through blogging and essays on his own Camino journey before authoring this book. By design, these many varied quotes and messages reinforces the concept that a Camino journey, regardless of purpose, is personal in nature, not to be prescribed or "guided" by outside influence.

Highlights: What I liked!

While initially a quick read, *The Camino Way* grows on the reader, provoking thought and reflection on application in past life experiences and potential actions and direction for the future. In this way, the book consumes the reader for far more than the initial hours needed to "read" the book.

Who might benefit from the Book?

As with a Camino journey, *The Camino Way* is perhaps less prescriptive as a leadership guide, and more of an eye-opener toward the introspection needed to develop one's own leadership style. Anyone looking for "answers" from this book will feel short-changed. Fans of history, those evolving their own spiritual journey, and anyone truly open to non-traditional leadership perspectives will benefit from this book.

Those looking for a guide to The Camino will find Prince offers a few tips, but more importantly, referral to more resources for developing and planning one's own Camino journey.

Conclusion

The Camino Way is the Victor Prince's tale of the transformative power of the Camino de Santiago. Although not an autobiography, it is a reflection of Prince's own transformation in life through his experience on the Camino. His professional career has transformed consulting, banking, and government service to multi-book author and transformation leader/speaker.

While not everyone need aspire to such transformation, the personal assessment and introspection encouraged by *The Camino Way* can be a small or large part of anyone's growth and evolution.

For more about this book, go to: www.victorprince.com/the-camino-way-book or
<http://www.amacombooks.org/book.cfm?isbn=9780814438244>

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Linus Toy, husband, father of two, and inveterate DIY-er, is a Senior Analyst in Bioinformatics for a pre-approval stage pharmaceutical company. He previously held consulting positions as a project manager serving clients in the Technology and Communications industries. He earned his B.A. from Claremont McKenna College and J.D./M.B.A. from the University of Washington. He can be contacted at Linus.toy@gmail.com