

**Centre for the Book**  
**2020 Research Symposium**

# **Booking Travel**












**Friday 20 November 2020**

**University of Otago**  
**Dunedin, New Zealand**

# Call for Papers 2020

The University of Otago Centre for the Book is pleased to announce our ninth annual research symposium. At a time when none of us is able to leave the country, armchair travel suddenly takes on new attractions. But books have always been known for their ability to transport readers to different worlds. This year's symposium attempts to discover the sources of that power, and to distinguish the different modes of transport that books can create.

Relevant topics of the theme might include, but are not limited to:

-  Studies of particular travel accounts
-  Fictional travel
-  Books with maps, whether real or fictional
-  The movement of books, whether by publishers, booksellers, scholars, readers, or in libraries aboard planes, trains, ships, blimps or other transport
-  Studies of books that have inspired travel and travellers
-  Guidebooks as a genre or publishing phenomenon
-  Digital developments in travel writing, reading, or publishing
-  Differences between reading about a place or watching a travelogue
-  Role of travel writing in cross-cultural exchange

The theme is timely and wide-ranging. All of the above topics are of potential interest for the Centre for the Book Symposium, along with others we no doubt have not yet imagined. Recognising the difficulties of travel for many, we are also happy to consider recorded presentations followed by a live discussion on Zoom. So, sharpen that pencil, and email a 250–300 word abstract of your ideas to [books@otago.ac.nz](mailto:books@otago.ac.nz) and set aside November 20th for a thought-provoking symposium.

Abstracts must be received by Monday, 21 September 2020, with a final programme announced by the end of September. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Donald Kerr ([donald.kerr@otago.ac.nz](mailto:donald.kerr@otago.ac.nz)) or Dr. Shef Rogers ([shef.rogers@otago.ac.nz](mailto:shef.rogers@otago.ac.nz)).

## Registration Information

The Centre for the Book Symposium is free to attend, with delegates responsible for providing their own lunch. Because we will not start until 10 am, we will not have a morning tea break, but we are able to host afternoon tea. We do ask that those wishing to attend register on our website, <https://forms.gle/p9kxQvGkji8P34mq5>, so that we can cater for afternoon tea.