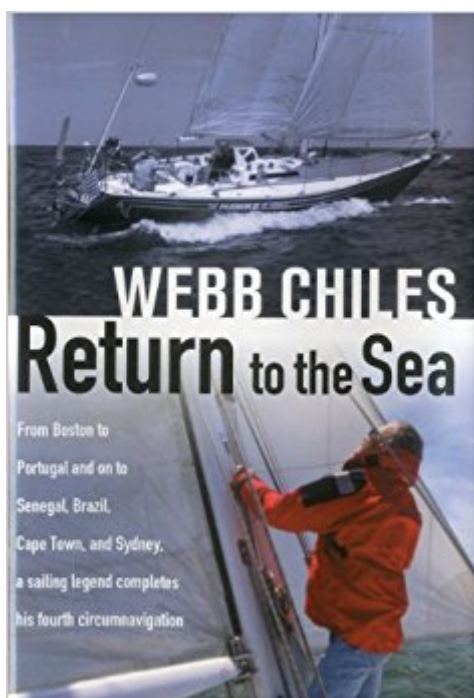


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# Return To The Sea: From Boston To Portugal And On To Senegal, Brazil, Cape Town, And Sydney, A Sailing Legend Completes His Fourth Circumnavigation



## Synopsis

Renowned sailor and author Webb Chiles, whose adventures were previously chronicled in *A Single Wave*, returns with a beautifully written account of his fourth circumnavigation. Chiles departs with his wife, Carol, leaving the bleak winter of Boston Harbor and his despair over the near-fatal loss of his previous vessel, *Resurgam*. His joy in being at sea again makes this a joyous and inspiring story. Chiles tempts his readers to make the voyage too, observing some of the great harbors of the world with a true sailor's eye, exploring the Atlantic ports of Portugal, Africa, and Brazil, crossing the Southern Ocean, and finally arriving in Australia. On board *The Hawke of Tuonela*, he writes lyrically about time and memory at sea, the appeal of lying at anchor off a small village, his hardest passage in a quarter century, and his unique philosophical view of life under sail.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Sheridan House; 1st Edition edition (October 31, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1574091808

ISBN-13: 978-1574091809

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,867,781 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in [Books > Travel > Africa > Gambia & Senegal](#) #68 in [Books > Travel > Africa > South Africa > Cape Town](#) #94 in [Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > Australia > Sydney](#)

## Customer Reviews

By his own admission, the author's life has been dominated by three things: words, wind and women. *Return to the Sea* is his fifth published book, and he has written numerous magazine articles. Hence, the 'words'. The 'wind', of course, is the element that enabled him to do four circumnavigations, during which he set a number of sailing records. There were other voyages, too, and all told, his adventures were on five different boats: *Egregious*, *Chidiok*, *Tichborne* 1 and 11, *Resurgam* and *The Hawke of Tuonela*. And the third 'W'; in his alliteration? Well, as he weaves his fascinating tale through the early days and brings you up-to-date, I lost count of the number of wives, let alone 'women'; but it did seem to just about equal the number of circumnavigations! In the main, this book is about his last round the world

shot, on The Hawke, and about Carol, the lady who did much of the trip with him before returning to Boston to set up her won business, but is still very much a part of his life. Together, they cross oceans, and explore some of the ports of Portugal, the Azores and South America, before heading for South Africa and what the author calls "One of my favourite cities". Of course it is Cape Town. And while the boat is being overhauled he and Carol hop on the Blue Train, visit the Kruger Park, see the Drakensberg, drive down the Garden Route and generally do in a couple of weeks as much as many in South Africans do in a lifetime. Webb has much praise for Royal Cape Yacht Club, and for the people he met. He also has some canny observation on a land he had first visited some years earlier. It is at this point that Carol goes home, and Webb sails on to complete the circumnavigation in Sydney. It is a story that will hold the reader's interest, not only for the content, but for the easy going, colorful manner in which it is told. (Sailing and Yachting 2006-01-01)

Webb Chiles is one of the world's most experienced sailors. He has completed four circumnavigations, set two world records, and was the first American to round Cape Horn single-handed. He has written dozens of newspaper and magazine articles as well as several books, including *A Single Wave* (Sheridan House, 1999). When not traveling, he lives in Boston.

This book is written for seamen, and seawomen, Webb Chiles is the finest living writer about seafaring, the best since Captain Slocum, Chiles is modeest and completely honest with his readers. He never exaggerates. You won't find any giant 100 foot waves in his writing, but he's been there, so he knows. He circumnavigated in an 18 foot open boat, rounded the Horn solo and, on his fifth round-the-world trip, re-entered the Western Hemisphere by way of the Cape of Good Hope. If you've been to sea, professionally or as an amateur, you won't be able to turn out and go to sleep. You'll just keep reading. If you've never done it, but think you'd like to know what sailing the sea alone is like, be warned. You're very likely to find yourself browsing yacht brokerage lists.

Excellent author, wonderful reading ! Will highly recommend !

Fairly well written but he's a little self obsessed. I was expecting something deeper about the journey and less about him and all his relationships.

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