

Book blurbs of *To Belém & Back*:

“Watch out for the potholes! Enough of an outsider to succumb to fearless wanderlust in a dangerous land, enough of an insider to know better, Batchelder is that rarest breed of travel narrator: part intrepid adventurer, part cultural interpreter, full-time storyteller. Taking the reader on a rich, startling odyssey of modern Brazil, *To Belém & Back* is told with consummate verve, a sly wit, and sumptuous detail of character and place. You’ll find yourself booking a flight – and a car rental – before the tale ends.

“The writing is such a pleasure: vivid, witty, evocative, and erudite. A rare combination!”

– Zach Wallmark, PhD, Musicologist and Editor, Neil A. Kjos Music Publishing Co.

“If you are looking for a primer on big, brash Brazil, this lovely book is for you. In it, Batchelder takes a journey of discovery with his black Lab, traveling the country’s interior and encountering its culture, history, and colorful people. I don’t know of another travel essayist on Brazil who knows the country so intimately. His wry and funny encounters, often provoked by the novelty of a pet dog, remind one of Steinbeck and his Charley. *Saudades!*”

– William deBuys, author of *The Walk* and *River of Traps*

“Batchelder enriches this lively journey through Brazil with his deep knowledge of the history, culture, politics, flora and fauna – not to mention his fine writing and understanding of dogs.”

– Tom Swick, author of *A Way to See the World* and former Editor, Fort Lauderdale Magazine