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To Belém & Back: Backroads Brazil with my Black Lab
Local author Ben Batchelder launches his new travel adventure at a gala event at the Coral Gables Museum, Mon., June 15th

The one-night book intervention, 6:30-9:00pm, includes a photo exhibit, reading, Q&A, and reception hosted by the Brazilian Consulate, Americas Society, and Earthdog Press, with support from Banco do Brasil, Coral Gables Museum and Books & Books

Miami, FL, June 2nd, 2015

Have you ever wondered how to travel with a favorite pet in a huge tropical country where footloose foreigners are suspect?

In a remote journey, including the notoriously dangerous Belém-Brasília highway, that few locals brave, the author and his dog explore a love affair with Brazil, where emotional and physical attachments are fraught with risk.

“Brazil in many ways, culturally and historically, is the flip-side of the American experience. This travel yarn comes at a crossroads for the country – about to host the Olympics – and in a humorous way elucidates the foreignness of a “gringo” traveling in a foreign land, made all the more outlandish by the company of his pedigree dog,” Batchelder offers.

To Belém & Back is the author’s second book. Published by Earthdog Press, it was launched in São Paulo, Brazil, Feb. 2015, and is now rolling out for its US launch. The \$15.99 paperback and special \$6.99 color eBook version, with 41 full-page photos, are available at www.backroadsbrazil.com/books, by calling 917-273-1840, or emailing info@earthdogpress.com.

Batchelder has traveled extensively on American and Brazilian backroads. Nothing in his background, from a degree in Visual & Environmental Studies at Harvard to an MBA from Wharton, adequately prepared him for the experiences. Nevertheless he has published two books on his New World journeys, that map the inner and exterior geographies of meaningful travel, with plans for more.

Contact the author for interviews, excerpts, reviews, or review copies, and please register for the June 15th gala event at 285 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, via the Americas Society/Council for the Americas site [here](#). Media kit is available at the book’s media page [here](#).

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About the Author



Batchelder abandoned a cozy corporate career and, instead of returning to the U.S. like a normal re-pat, moved deep into the interior of Brazil. Having grown up in Cambridge, Mass, he currently leads a bi-hemispheric life, as a mountain man with a writer’s retreat in the hills of Minas Gerais, Brazil who comes down to the sea at Miami Beach, FL. He can be reached at benbatchelder@hotmail.com or 917-273-1840, or by contacting him at benbatchelder.com or backroadsbrazil.com.