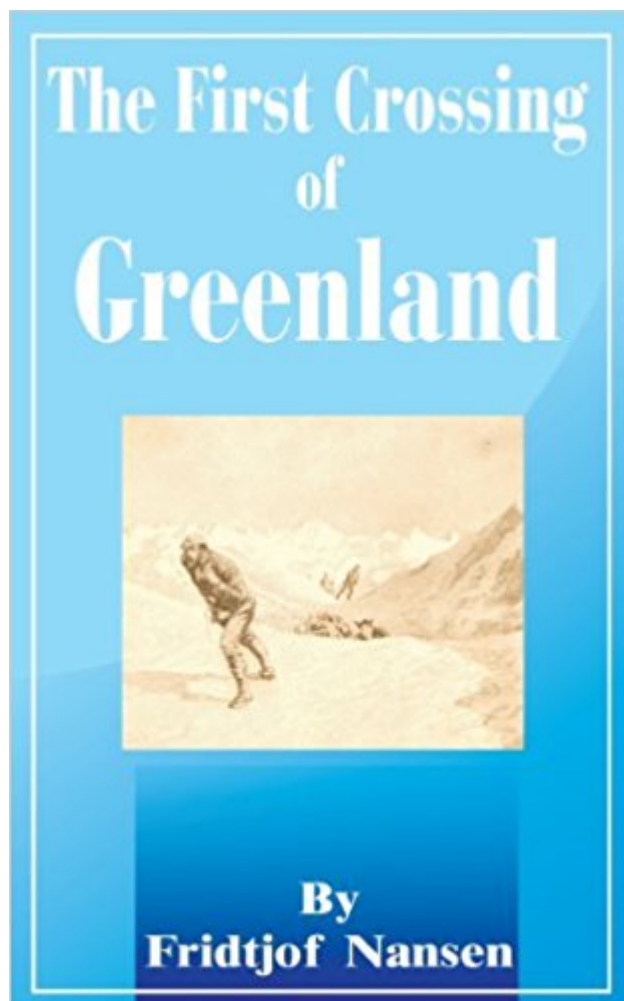


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# The First Crossing Of Greenland



## Synopsis

Across Greenland on Skis - an intriguing account of the first successful crossing of Greenland. Though it's been noted that Peary wanted to be the first to cross Greenland, Nansen beat him to it. As early as 1882, Nansen began to consider plans for a journey across Greenland, the world's largest island. The interior of this barren land had remained completely unexplored, and in scientific circles of the time the most diversified and remarkable theories were held on conditions there. Nansen was keen to ascertain for himself what the country was like and felt that skis were the most suitable means of progression in these inhospitable regions - the aeroplane was, of course, still many years in the future. He had made a public announcement of his intentions in 1887, and in 1888, together with five companions, he put his plan to the test - and triumphed.

## Book Information

Paperback: 468 pages

Publisher: University Press of the Pacific (June 15, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898753775

ISBN-13: 978-0898753776

Product Dimensions: 5 x 1.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,299,424 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in [Books > History > Americas > Greenland](#) #688 in [Books > History > Arctic & Antarctica](#) #899 in [Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia](#)

## Customer Reviews

'The visionary Norse explorer' JON KRAKAUER; 'A modern Viking' DAILY MAIL; 'Nansen looms over the heroic age like an Old Testament Prophet' SARA WHEELER --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Fridtjof Nansen (1861-1930) was the spiritual mentor to Amundsen, Scott and Shackleton and single-handedly made polar expeditions as popular as they are now. Drawn to extremes, obstinate and a restless Faustian character, he was a gifted writer, scientist and diplomat who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1922. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Nansen...a real man. What an adventure! You need to read this and Farthest North...

Great!

A classic worth the read Nansen was not an Amundsen but yet he lead the way

Fridthof Nansen in this book did more to bring skiing to the larger world than any other individual. Until his Greenland crossing on skis, few outside of Norway, or Scandinavia at the most, had heard of skiing, although of course it had existed there for centuries. The early chapter of the book on skis and "skilobing" (skiing) is a marvelous account of the sport, and particularly of Sondre Norheim and the Telemarkers who revolutionized it as recreation. Nansen writes the book in what can only be called a charming tone. He makes the crossing of the icecap seem easy, and indeed, most of the harrowing detail of the expedition relates to the efforts of the party after being dropped off at sea on the east coast of Greenland, through the ice floes with great difficulty, to an eventual landing and a hard climb up to the central ice plateau. There is also considerable detail given about the way of life of the Eskimo and Danish inhabitants of the Greenland west coast, where Nansen and his party overwintered after the crossing. A classic of "cold exploration" and a lively style and good read after more than a century.

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