

DAVE ELLINGSON

Adventurer · Author · Filmmaker · Podcaster · Speaker

FOR ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

Need inspiration for your next adventure in life? Move beyond the impossible and imagine what's possible by dreaming big. Recognize the "angels" and allies who are ready to help. Launch with confidence and excitement, and learn in the great outdoor classroom and cathedral.

I am the Paddle Pilgrim. This spirit has taken me down the Mississippi River, the Erie Canal and Hudson River to the Statue of Liberty, the fjords of Norway, and the Mekong River in Southeast Asia. These epic journeys capture the people, cultures, spirituality and history of diverse peoples around the world. They became my teachers and friends. What will your adventure be?

ABOUT DAVE

Dave Ellingson is an author, award-winning documentary filmmaker, adventurer, podcaster, and public speaker. A pastor and former professor, he brings curiosity, humor, and a lifetime of experience to stories about adventure, relationships, spirituality, and the human experience.

Featured on *Travel with Rick Steves*, he continues to write, make films, host conversations, and speak about the discoveries and possibilities offered at every stage of life.

Farm to Film Fest 2026 · Top of the Crop

Asia South East Short Film Festival 2024 · Special Mention

Religion and Faith Int'l Film Festival · Outstanding Excellence

Oneota Film Festival 2023 · Documentary Short

PRESENTATIONS

- Canoecopia, the world's largest paddling expo, Madison, WI: Erie Canal and Norway film presentations
- REI, multiple Washington locations: outdoor adventure presentations
- Adopt A Stream Foundation, Everett, WA: *The Headwaters* climate change film
- Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, Carefree, AZ: retreat speaker, "Go Outside & Play"

BOOKS & MEDIA

- Seven *Paddle Pilgrim* books: the Mississippi River, the Mississippi Headwaters, the Erie Canal and Hudson River, Norway, the Mekong, *Running Around the World in 80 Days* and *Ain't Got Time to Die*
- *The Headwaters: Kayaking Through Climate Change*, documentary film (18 min.)
- "The Great Outdoor Classroom," article in *3rd Act Magazine*, May 2022
- *Travel with Rick Steves* radio interview, #672 "Paddle Boldly" (Mississippi headwaters)

ENDORSEMENT

> *"Whenever Dave Ellingson invites me into his kayak, I know I'm in for a true adventure. It's white water for the soul in a way that is truly transformational travel."*
>
> — Rick Steves, travel writer and television personality

BOOK DAVE

In person or on Zoom

paddlepilgrim@gmail.com
paddle-pilgrim.com