

DAVE ELLINGSON

Adventurer · Author · Filmmaker · Podcaster · Speaker

FOR SCHOOLS

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

- REI, multiple Washington locations: outdoor adventure presentations
- Sno-Isle Libraries: area-wide educators presentation
- Oneota Film Festival, Luther College, Decorah, IA: *The Headwaters* climate change presentation
- 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*
- *Down the Mekong: Voyage of Discovery*, documentary film (20 min.)
- *Travel with Rick Steves* radio interview, #672 "Paddle Boldly" (Mississippi headwaters)
- All photos, books, films and podcasts at paddle-pilgrim.com

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

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