



Award-winning travel book provides a perfect companion reader to director Walter Salles' 'The Motorcycle Diaries.'

*Christopher P. Baker's award-winning travelog, **Mi Moto Fidel: Motorcycling Through Castro's Cuba**, provides a literary mirror-image and perfect companion reader to Walter Salles' **The Motorcycle Diaries**, due for release on September 24, 2004.*

OAKLAND, CA ([PRWEB](#)) September 8, 2004 -- Brazilian director Walter Salles' latest movie, **The Motorcycle Diaries**, promises to boost sales of **Mi Moto Fidel: Motorcycling Through Castro's Cuba**, Christopher P. Baker's award-winning literary mirror-image of the Salles movie. **Mi Moto Fidel** provides a perfect companion reader to the movie, due for release on September 24, 2004.

Based on an adaptation of Che Guevara's account of his six-month odyssey around South America in 1952 on a 500cc Norton motorcycle, **The Motorcycle Diaries** reveals the youthful Argentinian's extraordinary coming of age in a rite of passage that parallels that of **Mi Moto Fidel**. Baker's own motorcycle diary -- winner of both the 2002 Lowell Thomas Award -- Travel Book of the Year and the Grand Prize in the North American Travel Journalist Association's Awards of Excellence -- records the author's own emotionally and erotically charged three-month, 7,000-mile peregrination through Cuba, undertaken in 1996 on a 1,000cc BMW motorcycle.

The film, starring Mexican actor Gael GarcÃa Bernal as the young Che Guevara, depicts how Che's journey sparked a dawning of his social conscience that would propel the future guerrilla leader into a revolutionary icon worldwide. Che's tilt toward communism found its full blossoming when he became Cuba's Minister of Finance & Industry following the triumph of the Cuban revolution in 1959. Four decades later, Baker's journey through the forbidden, adoptive island of Che spawns its own epiphanies, resulting in a remarkable travelog that Jon Lee Anderson, author of *Che Guevara: A Revolutionary Life*, calls "a bittersweet glimpse of life inside the last Marxist utopia."

"Philosophically Che and I started at a similar reference point; ultimately, by contrast, my own Cuban journey tilted me the other way," writes Baker, winner of numerous literary awards and the author of five books about Cuba, including the recently-released *Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles*.

Mi Moto Fidel (National Geographic Adventure Press, 2001) has been widely acclaimed for its deeply-scored portraits and penetrating analysis. "This is a wonderful adventure book...a meditation on philosophy, politics, and the possibilities of physical love. It has the depth of a novel and the feeling of a great love story," commented the Lowell Thomas Award judges.

Paperback editions are available wherever books are sold. Hardback copies are available through the author: www.travelguidebooks.com



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