

Interview Questions for Jane V. Blanchard

1. **Why did you write *Hadrian's Wall Path: Walking into History*?** As I walked among the ruins and visited the museums and archaeological sites, I was transported back 2000 years to the time of the ancient Romans. History become alive for me. For the first time ,the past was more than dates and events—it was about people, like you and I ,with feelings, hopes, disappoints, and trying to make the best out of life. I just had to write about that.

2. **This is part of a series. Tell us about it.** The "Woman on Her Way" books describe my adventures on ancient European routes or primitive wilderness trails. I talk about my physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wanderings. To date I have two books. This one about Hadrian's Wall and *Women of the Way: Embracing the Camino*, about my walking the Camino de Santiago.

3. **Why did you walk the Hadrian's Wall Path?** In 2013, Dennis and I were on a biking and hiking adventure across 13 European countries. Since we needed to get across England to France, we sought out walking trails that might be interesting. We choose the Hadrian's Wall Path because it sounded interesting and different.

4. **What site did you like best along Hadrian's Wall?** Hadrian's Wall Path is beautiful, so choosing a favorite site is difficult. I really enjoyed the Birdoswald Roman Fort and Museum, where we spent the better part of a day exploring the excavations and museum.

5. **What's the most important thing readers will learn from *Hadrian's Wall Path: Walking into History*?** For me, my greatest lesson was having history come alive by making a connection to the ancient Romans. The past is about real people, not just about facts. I'm not sure a reader can make that leap without actually experiencing Hadrian's Wall, but I am hopeful that the book will help them find that connection and that they too will have history come alive .

I also hope that readers will learn about the value of maintaining historical artifacts and monuments such as this.

6. **What was your biggest surprise while walking Hadrian's Wall Path.** As a Floridian, I found walking The Path very cold. But contrary to American belief, the English are warm, fun-loving, and kind. I read a 2014 study by British Airways that the Americans feel that Brits are "a bit stand-offish" and "uptight". Interestingly, that reports said that "One in six Britons thinks Americans are friendlier than adults from the UK."

7. **When do you write? Is it easier to write in the morning or at night?** I am most creative in the morning, so that is when I write, and then I spend the rest of the day doing edits and marketing.

8. **Who's your favorite author?** Stephen King. I have read just about everything he has written and watched his writing skills develop over the years. I've read his book, *On Writing* several times and find it inspirational.

9. **Where can we buy the book?** You can buy the book on Amazon, Barnes and Nobles ,Goodreads, Kobo, Smashwords, and most on-line bookstores. You can get an autographed copy on my Wesbsite: WalkingIntoHistory.com.