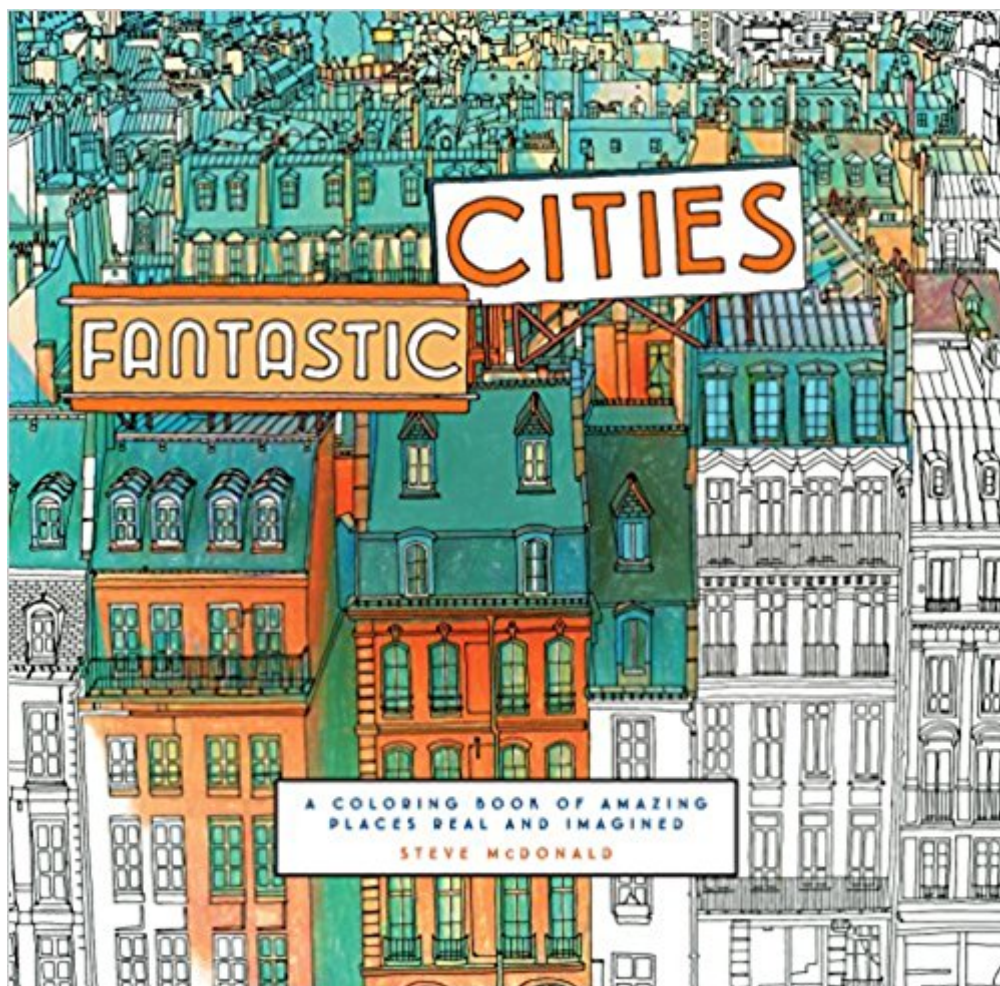


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# Fantastic Cities: A Coloring Book Of Amazing Places Real And Imagined



## Synopsis

This unique coloring book features immersive aerial views of real cities from around the world alongside gorgeously illustrated, Inception-like architectural mandalas. Artist Steve McDonald's beautifully rendered and detailed line work offers bird's-eye perspectives of visually arresting global locales from New York, London, and Paris to Istanbul, Tokyo, and Melbourne, Rio, Amsterdam, and many more. The adult coloring book's distinctive large square format offers absorbingly complex vistas to color, the crisp white pages are conducive to a range of artistic applications, and a middle margin keeps all the artwork fully colorable. Complementing the cityscapes are a selection of mind-bending labyrinthine architectural illustrations for still deeper meditative coloring adventures and imaginative flights of fancy.

## Book Information

Age Range: 10 and up

Paperback: 60 pages

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Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 359 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #40,910 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > Arts &](#)

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## Customer Reviews

View larger    Amazing Places Real and Imagined    In my city drawings I always try to accentuate the characteristics that make a city unique. For example, the organized chaos of a favela in Brazil, the towering majesty of a skyscraper in New York, or the historic façades of Parisian row houses. I try to capture something that illustrates something unique about that place.

Color Bird's-Eye Perspectives of Global Locales from Artist Steve McDonald

Guadalajara    Rocinha Favela, Rio    San Francisco    Singapore

"this detailed coloring book focusing on densely packed city life, and is great for people who love coloring architecture and geometric shapes"-Geek DadBOOK OF THE WEEK-Florida Times-UnionAn Off Duty Top 50 selection. - Wall Street JournalHoliday Gift Guide Pick-RackedSFHoliday Gift Guide "Canadian artist Steve McDonald presents the urban landscape as a canvas for creativity--dozens of painstakingly rendered streetscapes from cities including San Francisco and Istanbul offer several fun and theraputic hours with crayons."-Metropolis magazineHoliday Gift Guide PickAfar MagazineHoliday Gift Guide Pick- Cosmopolitan.com"Render Manhattan or Montreal in whatever color scheme you please with Fantastic Cities, in which artist Steve McDonald's detailed line drawings offer bird's-eye views of the world's major cities."

-Architectural Digest"If you love the process of creating art...these books will soothe your soul"

-Sweety HighHoliday Gift Guide Pick -Real Simple magazineHoliday Gift Guide Pick "For your detail-oriented dad: show him just one cityscape and he'll be occupied for hours."-PureWowHoliday Gift Guide Pick "A top pick for creative travelers, this adult coloring book features intricate illustrations of urban landscapes including Paris, Tokyo, London and New York by artist Steve McDonald. Much has been said about the psychological benefits of colouring within the lines (it's proven to help with anxiety and stress) and is there a more satisfying way to kill time on a long-haul flight?" -Jetsetter" In a perpetual state of wanderlust? While coloring can transport you to a more peaceful place, feeling like you're in a new city is a special experience. This is the goal of Steve McDonald's Fantastic Cities: A Coloring Book of Amazing Places Real and Imagined. As you're planning your next trip, take a break from the stress of booking flights and settle down with Fantastic Cities as you imagine your next adventure. One of my personal favorites."-Alfred James, Pocket Mindfulness"I would highly recommend this not just as a colouring book but also as a sketchbook."-ParkaBlogs"Here's an activity book perfect for those lazy, hazy days of summer or those crazy days when you just need to take a break, focus on simple, creative tasks and chill out."

- Stuck at the Airport"Before you set off on your next flight, grab a copy of this coloring book to entertain yourself during the journey. Even if you're not currently heading to an exotic location, the images of beautiful international cities are bound to inspire your next itinerary, or at least keep you occupied when the overwhelming wanderlust kicks in." -Health.com"Fantastic Cities is an architecture-lover's dream." - Apartment Therapy"...this new book of DIY cityscapes is downright exquisite."-CityLab from The Atlantic

Steve McDonald doesn't just draw the cities of the world. A lifelong traveler since his family moved to the Middle East in 1979, he's lived in Saudi Arabia, Italy, India, and Indonesia, visited dozens of

other countries, and spent the better part of two decades traveling his native Canada from coast to coast via car, bus, helicopter, canoe, ship, and on foot. Everywhere he goes he soaks up the local color, the architecture, and, most of all, the lines. Steve's process includes observing, sketching on-site, and taking photos for reference in the studio, as well as working from many noted photographers' material. He lays down initial groundwork lines in pencil or on a tablet and then gets busy with the details. Although he works in many media, including acrylics, watercolors, and colored dyes, his favorite is simple pen and ink. When he's not knee-deep in the intricate details of his drawings, Steve is likely surfing (most recently in the waves off the coast of Bali, where he lived for two years with his family) or cross-country skiing in the snowdrifts of rural Ontario, which he currently calls home. A graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design, Steve's work has been showcased in many gallery exhibitions, television documentaries, and various publications, and can be found in many private homes and corporate collections worldwide. You can also find it online at [artbysteve.squarespace.com](http://artbysteve.squarespace.com).

Cities from around the world have been brought together in this large square book, skylines, individual landmarks, images from above, looking down famous streets, and shorelines to bring you artistic architectural renditions just waiting for you to add color and your own unique style to bring these cities to life. If you love the cover page and example pages you will love this book. 1. This square (11 3/4th inch x 11 3/4th inch) 29 pages with 58 illustrations printed front and back of each page on heavy weight, bright white paper. 2. Along the binding in small text the name of each city is listed so you know which city the illustration is of. 3. I tested Fiskars Gel Pens, Staedtler Triplus Fineliners, and Staedtler Triplus Fibre Tip Pens, and Stabilo Point 88 Fineliners. These do not leak through the paper in this book. Yeah! 4. Bic Mark it ultra fine and Sharpies do leak through these pages so cannot be used in this book. 5. Pentel Arts color pens do not work in this book they act like sandpaper and heavy coloring digs a hole in the page. 6. Six small colored examples have been added to the inside front cover to inspire you.

"Fantastic Cities" by Steve McDonald is simply a fantastic collection of detailed aerial views of a huge variety of cities from around the world. The list is simply too long but includes cities in Germany, Canada, Greenland, France, Yemen, New York, Italy, Japan, Singapore, the Netherlands, Rio de Janeiro, Turkey, India, Mexico, England, Australia, and Greece. Those are the real cities - there are also imagined places as well. Some of the designs are presented in an almost mandala form as well. The book is really stunning in the sheer scope of coloring. Both my husband

and I like to color architectural drawings and this book is a feast for those, like us, who appreciate this art form. The book is oversized at 11.5 by 11.8 inches. I mentioned this because framing these will be a little more unusual, but you can always mat them to a more standard size. The only unfortunate thing about the book is that the designs are printed on both sides of the paper and I have experienced bleed through with some of my gel pens and markers. If you want to color each of the designs with gel pens or markers, you can always purchase a second copy. As soon as the book arrived and both my husband and I decided we wanted to color it, I purchased a second copy. My original thought is to use my pencils with really sharp points, but I will have to decide on a case-by-case basis as to how each design speaks to me. If you use inks, I would still suggest using a sheet of freezer paper behind the page you are working on to keep the inks from bleeding through to yet another page. I use freezer paper in between the sheets (if I am keeping it in the book) or under the page if I remove it from the book. I find that it works well for me. You can also put multiple sheets of heavy stock paper in between if you don't have freezer paper handy (it is sold at most grocery stores and is fairly inexpensive and can be reused.) The pages are bright white and a nice heavy stock. The pages are not perforated but the book can be made to lie flat. It appears that the pages should be fairly easy to remove from the glue edge binding but I haven't attempted as yet. At least half of the designs in the book have very intricate and small details and I am sure that I will have to use my magnifying lamp for those designs. The book has a whopping 58 intricate designs (not including the title page which can easily be colored, too). There is a table of contents of sorts on the inside of the cover page but also nice is that each design is labeled with the title/location. There are so many choices and so many designs I want to color, I have to think about which one to start with. I color in adult coloring books as a stress reliever at the end of busy days (especially those days when I watch my grandson!) I find that the process of colorizing puts the busy thoughts out of my head and I am able to focus single mindedly, such as you do in meditation. This should be a lovely book for taking stress away and each project will take some time to finish. Both my husband and I are looking forward to coloring these designs.

Eek! It's like Christmas morning right now. UPS hurled this over my gate this morning at 6am. The illustrations inside are awesome, I CAN'T WAIT to attack this book. BTW, the pages aren't perforated so if you're like me and you want to work on your coloring on a flat surface, get an x-acto knife and slice the pages out from the binding. There are designs on both sides of the page, so I might just buy a second book so I can work on some of them with pen. I plan to start out with pencil, but sometimes pen is more vibrant and fun, but can also bleed through on designs you might want

to work on in the future. These are designs you need to be patient with. I think they'll take a while to finish so plan to work on them in stages if you can only put in an hour here or there.

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Fantastic Cities 2018 Wall Calendar: A Coloring Calendar of Amazing Places Real and Imagined  
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