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Nataliia Voloshkova  
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# Cambridge Elements

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## BLUESTOCKINGS AND TRAVEL ACCOUNTS

*Reading, Writing and Collecting*

Nataliia Voloshkova  
*Dragomanov National Pedagogical University*

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# Bluestockings and Travel Accounts

## Reading, Writing and Collecting

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**ABSTRACT:** This Element proposes to relate the eighteenth-century world of travel and travel writing with the Bluestocking salon. It locates eminent British travellers and explorers in the female-presided intellectual space and examines their multifaceted interaction with the Bluestockings between 1760 and 1799. The study shows how the Bluestockings acquired knowledge of the world through reading, discussing, writing and collecting travel accounts. It explores the ‘social life’ of manuscripts and printed travel texts in the circle, their popularity and impact on the Bluestockings. This Element builds upon the body of evidence provided by their published and unpublished diaries, correspondence and private library catalogues.

**KEYWORDS:** bluestockings and reading, eighteenth-century travellers, reading practices, women’s book ownership, women’s travel writing

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