

'Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards' to take place in February

Nominations now open to Publishers

Awards expanded and enhanced to coincide in February 2017 with Stanfords Travel Writers Festival at Destinations – the World's largest Consumer Holiday & Travel show

The second Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards will take place on the evening of 2nd February 2017 in a hotel near Olympia.

The Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year in association with The Authors' Club remains a highlight of this new collective ceremony as part of an expanded roster of new prizes in a unique celebration of the beauty, joy and power of travel publishing.

Booksellers and libraries across the UK and Ireland are invited to participate by helping to select the longlists in many of the categories and by mounting a month-long promotion of the shortlists, which represent the best travel writing of the past year, throughout January next year leading up to the ceremony.

The travel industry is a willing partner in this enterprise and it has been decided to host the ceremony close to the Olympia Exhibition Hall on the first night of Destinations, the World's largest consumer holiday and travel show, so all the travel companies and exhibitors can attend and support the shortlisted authors whose work inspires a love of travel and exploration.

Wanderlust magazine have been secured as media supporters for the awards, whilst Lonely Planet Pathfinders, National Book Tokens and the Destinations Show are sponsoring new prizes for travel bloggers and illustrated books respectively.

Agile Ideas have been recruited to project manage the whole awards ceremony and campaign leading to the awards.

The categories in this year's awards include the following

	National Book Tokens Children's Travel Book of the Year
	Lonely Planet Pathfinders Travel Blog of the Year
	Destinations Show Illustrated Travel Book of the Year
	Food & Travel Book of the Year
	Fiction (with a Sense of Place)
	Innovation in Travel Publishing
	Wanderlust Adventure Travel Book of the Year
	Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year
	Edward Stanford Award for Outstanding Contribution to Travel Writing
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Shortlists are to be created from the submissions by a panel of booksellers and travel publishing buyers from across the industry. The winners in each category will be selected by a variety of judging panels featuring travel writers and experts to be announced shortly.

The prestigious Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year, as announced earlier this year has moved their judging period in order for the winner to be revealed at February's ceremony. Administered by and run in association with the Authors' Club, this separate judging panel will be chaired by award-winning writer; Sara Wheeler.

"We were delighted with the reception for the first year of the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards from the trade and public alike," said **Tony Maher, Managing Director of Edward Stanford Limited**. "So to be able to build on this support to create an industry-wide celebration of travel writing at a key time of the year is very exciting. Our plan is to align the Awards with the Stanfords Travel Writers Festival to create a singular highlight of the year for travel writing fans."

It is hoped that more individual companies may sponsor many of the new categories. Anyone interested in participating in or partnering with the awards from a commercial perspective should contact; Alastair Giles; Alastair@agile-ideas.com ASAP

All eligibility and criteria for inclusion are listed on the website: **www.edwardstanford.com** The details on how to submit direct for the Lonely Planet Pathfinders Travel Blog of the year award will be announced shortly.

Key dates:

22nd September 2016 - Submissions open for all categories

17th October - Submissions close

10th January 2017 - Shortlists announced

2nd February - Winners announced alongside Stanfords Travel Writers Festival

All queries relating to the Authors' Club should be made to: Chris Schuler; cjschuler@authorsclub.co.uk

Further information

About the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards:

Launched in 2015, the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards seek to celebrate the best travel writing, and travel writers, in the world. In its first year, it consisted of the Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year and the Edward Stanford Award for Outstanding Contribution to Travel Writing, with the latter being awarded by a panel of high street and independent booksellers. The category list was expanded in 2016 to cover other areas of print and online travel writing. The winner of the 2015 Edward Stanford Award for Outstanding Contribution to Travel Writing was Bill Bryson.

About the Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year, in association with the Authors' Club:

In 2006, the Rev. Dr. William Dolman and the Authors' Club launched the Dolman Travel Book Award. Edward Stanford Limited relaunched the Dolman Travel Book Award in 2015, renaming it the Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year, in association with the Authors' Club, doubling the prize fund to £5k and adding it as a category within the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Awards. Last year's winner was Horatio Clare's *Down to the Sea in Ships*.

About Stanfords:



Edward Stanford Limited was founded in 1853 by Edward Stanford in Charing Cross Road in London. In 1901 the Company moved to its current flagship location in Long Acre, Covent Garden. Famed throughout the World as a publisher of maps, Stanfords expanded into retail following the move to

Covent Garden. To this day Stanfords stocks the largest range of maps in the World as well as travel guides, the World's largest selection of globes and other travel related product. It has a further shop in Bristol, a website and a specialist Business Mapping Service based in Manchester. Edward Stanford Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Edward Stanford Group Limited.

About the Authors' Club:



Founded by the novelist and critic Walter Besant in 1891 as a place where writers could meet and talk, the Authors' Club also welcomes publishers, editors, agents, journalists, academics and anyone professionally involved with literature. Early members included Oscar Wilde, George Meredith, Thomas Hardy, Arthur Conan Doyle, JM Barrie, Jerome K Jerome, Ford Madox Ford, HG Wells, Compton Mackenzie, Thornton Wilder and Graham Greene, while guest speakers included Emile Zola, Mark Twain, Rudyard Kipling, Winston Churchill, Bram Stoker, TS Eliot and Clement

Attlee. (Recent guests have included Deborah Moggach, Miranda Seymour, Robert MacFarlane, Matthew Sweet, Amanda Craig, Blake Morrison, Susie Boyt, Charles Spencer, Lisa Appignanesi and June Whitfield.)

The Club will celebrate its 125th anniversary in November 2016.

About Agile Ideas



Launched in Bath in 2004, Agile Ideas is an independent, project management agency specializing in Book-based Prizes, Awards and Promotions. Since, helping to create the commercial platform for the original Richard & Judy Book Club, Agile Ideas, have project managed and

helped administer many properties including; The Wainwright Golden Beer Literary Prize, The Bord Gais Energy Irish Book Awards, The Specsavers CrimeThriller Awards, The Cross Sports Book Awards.

About Destinations: The Holiday & Travel Show



THE TIMES

With a 23 year legacy, Destinations: The Holiday & Travel Show, in association with The Times, The the holiday & travel show Sunday Times and The Sunday Times Travel Magazine, has established itself as the World's largest consumer travel event. Over 68,000 THE SUNDAY TIMES passionate travellers flock to our events at Olympia London and Manchester's EventCity to meet with

over 640 leading and independent travel brands and tourist boards. The Destinations Show in London also presents the Stanfords Travel Writers Festival; a showcase of the very best travel authors sharing their inspiring stories and experiences over four days of talks, panel sessions and book signings.

About Wanderlust....



The proudly independent, multi-award winning Wanderlust travel magazine launched 23 years ago. It is the UK's leading magazine for people with a passion for travel combining the right mix of wildlife, activities and cultural insight – not to mention inspirational writing and photography. Travel author Bill Bryson said, "There simply isn't a better magazine for the serious traveller.".

Co-founder and Editor-in-Chief, Lyn Hughes, was lauded by *The Times*, as one of the "50" Most Influential People in Travel", and it is her passion, specifically for sustainable tourism, that continues to focus the Wanderlust Travel Media business on providing exciting content, about exploring the wonders abound throughout the world.

About National Book Tokens....



The only gift cards accepted in all major bookselling chains and independents across the UK and Ireland, including: WHSmith, Waterstones, Blackwell, Easons, John Smith, Foyles, Stanfords and all good independent bookshops. They can also be spent online and on eBooks
The perfect gift for any occasion, from birthdays and Christmas to congratulations and Mother's Day; from exam results and Father's Day to back-to-school or perhaps as a

simple "thank you"

The perfect gift for recipients of all ages, from toddlers excited by the massive range of fantastic children's books in their local bookshop, to life-long booklovers, with time to browse and find something new

About Lonely Planet Pathfinders....



At Lonely Planet we live and breathe travel. We are always inspired by our community's tales from the road. We created Pathfinders to evolve our community into an ever-expanding network of travel experts.

We're inviting all with a passion for adventure to try their hand at travel writing through a blog post. Blogs and social media play an increasing role in the travel planning process. Real stories from real people —

people with a passion for exploring the world – are an endless source of inspiration for travellers. Lonely Planet wants to nurture this travel documenting talent and share the best content with our global audience.

Whether you're new to the scene or a seasoned pro, enter as you might be what Lonely Planet Pathfinders are looking for.

For more information please contact Alastair Giles on 0799 088 7271 at or alastair@agile-ideas.com

Visit EdwardStanford.com for further details and to request POS packs. Follow the Edward Stanford Awards on Twitter - @ESTravelAwards #StanfordDolman

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