

New Zealand

Land of variety, from tropical forest to glacial peak, from deep water sperm whales to basking fur seals; bubbling mud pools, offshore volcanoes, and amazing scenery. Beautiful natural light ensured stunning photographs. Join David on some of his treks through this land of wonder, and also learn of his role in a police chase while in a stolen car...



About David

David graduated from Edinburgh University and worked as an expedition science leader in Botswana, as a field studies tutor teaching earth science, and for the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) as their Expeditions Advisor. While at the RGS he fell off a mountain and self rescued with broken legs. He has worked as a ranger in the Grand Canyon national park, and on a biodiversity survey of Montserrat. He was the Director of Studies for Edinburgh University's Global Environmental Change international summer school and has produced environmental resources for the National Trust for Scotland. He has run environmental sustainability courses for Glasgow University, tutors on the environment for the Open University, worked on ocean research ships, and has lectured at the University of Maine. David is a Fellow of the RGS and in 2012 was awarded Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. He has had many articles published in national journals, and has contributed to BBC Radio 4's *Excess Baggage* travel programme.



Equipment and fees

David can provide a Windows laptop, digital projector, projector stand, wireless remote, and cabling. Projector screen to be provided by the venue.

Any fee quoted will be all inclusive. The fee will be considerably lower if David is already going to be in your area for a talk on an adjacent date: travel costs are therefore already covered. Check the website to see his current bookings.

"Sincere thanks for a superb evening last night; everyone enjoyed it... you are a born storyteller, being able to play and hold an audience so well. These are, I think, the prerequisites of a successful evening ... we learnt much as well as being entertained."

Joan Gaffney, International Travel and Holidays Association

"We all greatly enjoyed your visit and excellent lecture. We have been having lecture series for a number of years but one of our members said to me 'This is the best we have had!'."

David Morris, Richmond Civic Society

David Edwards

Lecturer on travel, adventure & the environment

'Stories, ideas, and insights from around the world'

David offers a range of entertaining and informative talks. They are illustrated with high quality images, and provide unique insights into the area or subject in question.

Montserrat – reclaiming paradise

*new for
2012*



In 1995 David witnessed the eruptions and evacuations that changed Montserrat's destiny and which he talks about in his popular talk: 'Surviving the volcano'. Sixteen years later he went back to see how the island has recovered and to revisit areas which have been destroyed since he was there.

With the population having lost two thirds of its land space there have been major social shifts and challenges. David explores these and shows what it is like to live on the new Montserrat.

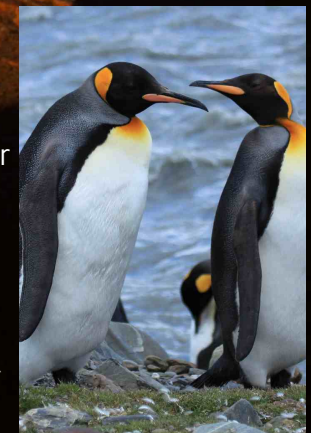
(For those who have already heard David speak about the momentous events of 1995, this will be a fascinating follow up talk – as featured on Radio 4's 'Excess Baggage')



Antarctic dreams

*new for
2013*

Antarctica has gripped our imagination for hundreds of years and in this talk David explores why it is still important and relevant today. It is a touchstone of environmental change and can tell us much about our past...and our future. Geology, climate, wildlife and personal sacrifice come together in this landscape which has inspired artists, scientists, explorers and naturalists for generations.



"Your lecture was undoubtedly one of the best we have had this season, and we look forward eagerly to a return visit."

Susan Holmes, Guildford Travel Club

A Ranger at the Grand Canyon

David worked as a National Park Ranger in the Grand Canyon, exploring it extensively, and this talk will give insights only obtainable from someone who knows the area intimately. From the earliest peoples, the first



Europeans to see it, and its subsequent history, David will surprise and entertain. Beautiful flowers, the area's spectacular geology, history, and wildlife will all be explored. David will also detail the threats to this unique area. This presentation draws large attendances every time he gives it. His intimate encounter with a rattlesnake is

not the least of the highlights.....

Botswana: love, lions and democracy

Share David's insights gained from living for three months in the bush as a leader on a youth expedition. Close encounters with elephants (dangerously so), lions, cheetahs,



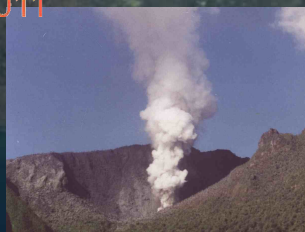
giraffes, wildebeest, praying mantis, and chameleons are woven into the story of this endearing country. The struggle for survival in the harsh Kalahari is contrasted with the lushness of the Okavango Delta, and David will explain the conservation issues. David returned to Botswana in

2009 to stay with local people and learn about everyday life, its health, political and social challenges, and the greatest love story of the African continent.

Surviving the volcano

"Volcano threatens to erupt" was the newspaper

updated
2011



headline greeting David as he arrived to participate on a biodiversity survey in the Caribbean paradise of Montserrat. David witnessed the eruption that marked the beginning of the evacuations and the disruption to this idyllic island. Meanwhile David was trying to catch snakes with his bare hands... and the snakes were winning. See what it's like to monitor wildlife on an island (including tree frogs, lizards and bats) while a volcano rages.



The Ship with a Hole in it

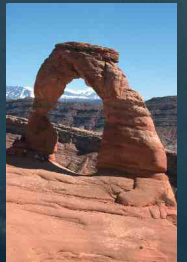
Join David on the exploration drill ship JOIDES Resolution, an international platform for ocean research. It has unlocked many of the secrets of the oceans, from climate change to plate tectonics; building on the cold war mapping of the seabed for nuclear submarine warfare. David shows how it uncovers secrets from the last great unexplored wilderness that help us decipher the history of our planet and see what the future may hold.

new for
2012



Utah and Arizona – a love affair

Over a dozen years David kept returning to the wilderness of Utah and Arizona, drawn to a landscape that captivated him as no other had. Here David attempts to analyse the attraction of this harsh yet beautiful area, using the national parks of Arches, Saguaro, Petrified Forest, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce, Zion, and Grand Canyon, and national monuments such as Organ Pipe Cactus and Chiricahua. David draws on historical texts, his geological training, and months of exploring on foot.



Our Energy Future

Join David for riots, the over throwing of governments and deals with oppressive regimes, as we try to ensure that we

updated
2013



have access to the energy that allows us to have economic development, high literacy rates, long life expectancy and low infant mortality. Why is energy security so important? What environmental issues should govern our energy choices? This



topical talk will provide an understanding of the political, ethical, social and practical considerations that need to be considered. Be surprised and better informed by this entertaining and thought provoking talk.

Wilderness Canada

A two man exploration on the Juneau Icefield on the Alaska border, in an area accessible only by float plane and boat, at the headwaters of the Yukon River. But the quest for wilderness did not always go according to plan.... Stunning glacial architecture, crevasses, the eccentricities encountered along the Alaska Highway, gold panners, ghost towns and an appreciation of a remote Canadian way of life. And well, would *you* rescue a grizzly bear from a crevasse?

