

Exploring New Zealand

Land of variety, from tropical forest to glacial peaks, from deep water sperm whales to basking fur seals; bubbling mud pools, offshore volcanoes, and amazing scenery. Join David on his two month exploration of this land of wonder, and participate in a police chase while in a stolen car...



Montserrat – Reclaiming Paradise

In 1995 David witnessed, dangerously close, the eruptions and evacuations that changed Montserrat for ever. He



returned many years later to see how the island is faring. With the population having lost two thirds of its land there have been major impacts, and challenges. See what it is like to live on the new Montserrat. (As featured on Radio 4's 'Excess Baggage' show)



Iceland: Fire forged Wilderness

Iceland, a country that shouldn't be there, is a part of the North Atlantic seafloor that has volcanically grown above sea level, and offers an exciting and alien landscape for all those who wish to marvel at nature in the raw. David shares his experiences of this fascinating country, informed by his broad geological background and love of wild places.



Environmental talks



David has university lectured on environmental issues for many years. His **Climate change** talk examines impacts, measuring environmental change, and how evidence is collected. His **End of Nature** talk asks how much of nature we are prepared to sacrifice to maintain our lifestyle.

David studied geology at Edinburgh University and then worked as a ranger in the Grand Canyon, on expedition science in Botswana and on a biodiversity survey of Montserrat. While the Royal Geographical Society's Expeditions Advisor, he fell off a mountain and self rescued with broken legs. He has run environmental courses for Edinburgh and Glasgow universities and lectured at the University of Maine. He tutors on the environment for the Open University, guides in Italy and Iceland, and travels with purpose. David was awarded Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society in recognition of his communication skills. He has written for national journals, and contributed to Radio 4's *Excess Baggage* travel show.



David Edwards

Speaker on travel, adventure & the environment

Stories, ideas, and insights from around the world in entertaining and informative talks with high quality images.

Hawaii – Paradise, Conflict & Volcanoes



Hawaii is the most isolated populated area in the world, and one of the most intriguing places on the planet. It's a tropical island with snow capped mountains that is part of the USA but feels very different. Come to WWII's Pearl Harbour and



meet survivors, see Hawaii's exciting volcanic activity, learn how its diversity and mix of cultures sets it apart from Trump's view of America, enjoy the wildlife, and learn what it's like to live in a place with a huge diversity of culture and geography.

Antarctic Dreams

Antarctica has gripped people's imagination for centuries. With superb images from his expedition, David examines why it is still important to us today. It is a touchstone of environmental change and tells us much about our past and our future. Geology, climate, wildlife, politics and personal sacrifice come together in a landscape which has inspired generations.

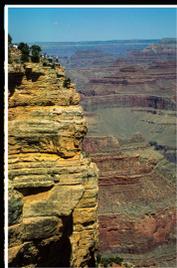


Pompeii: Vesuvius' Legacy and Warning



Using his expertise as a guide to Pompeii, Herculaneum and Vesuvius, David looks at the fascinating stories gleaned from the clues that litter the landscape in one of the most densely populated, and threatened, areas of Europe. Pompeii's destruction and rediscovery cause us to ask: what will the next, overdue, eruption bring?

A Ranger at the Grand Canyon



As a National Park Ranger in the Grand Canyon David explored it extensively, and in this talk he shares his intimate knowledge of the area. 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, and his close encounter with a rattlesnake is only one of many highlights.

Botswana: Love, Lions and Democracy

David spent three months in the bush as a leader on a youth expedition. Close encounters with elephants, lions, cheetahs, giraffes, wildebeest and chameleons are woven into the story of this endearing country. The struggle for survival in the Kalahari is contrasted



with the lushness of the Okavango Delta. David has returned to Botswana to stay with local people and learn about everyday life, its health, political and social challenges, and also about Africa's greatest love story.



Surviving the Volcano

"Volcano threatens to erupt" was the newspaper headline as David arrived for 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 while a volcano rages.



My Exploding World

His work with volcanoes has taken David to Italy, Hawaii (collecting molten lava), Canada (evading grizzlies), Montserrat (evading ash avalanches), Iceland, and New Zealand (evading carjackers). In this talk he shares some surprising insights and dramatic photography, and explains why volcanoes are so important, exciting, and relevant to understanding our world.



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. See how it uncovers secrets from the last great unexplored wilderness that help us decipher the story of our planet and what the future holds.

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 he analyses the attraction of this harsh yet beautiful area, using the national parks and monuments of Arches, Saguaro, Petrified Forest, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce, Zion, Grand Canyon, Organ Pipe Cactus and Chiricahua. David draws on historical texts, his geological training, and months of exploring on foot.



Our Energy Future updated

Join David for riots, the overthrowing of governments and deals with oppressive regimes, as we try to ensure that we 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? Based

on his university teaching this topical talk will provide an understanding of the political, ethical, social and practical considerations. 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, grizzlies, the eccentricities encountered along the Alaska Highway, gold panners, ghost towns and an appreciation of a remote Canadian way of life.

