

Nicholas Crane

Writer/Presenter

Nicholas Crane is an author, geographer, cartographic expert and recipient of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society's Mungo Park Medal in recognition of outstanding contributions to geographical knowledge, and of the Royal Geographical Society's Ness Award for popularising geography and the understanding of Britain. Between 2015 and 2018, Nick was the elected President of the Royal Geographical Society.



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Publications

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
COAST: OUR ISLAND STORY 2010 World Rights: BBC Books	This is the first book to be written by a Coast presenter in a narrative format and it will become the definitive guide to our coastline. Nick Crane brings his geographer's eye and love of the British landscape to take us on an enthralling journey along our coastline. Both a celebration of and reference guide to the the coast, Nick draws on all the elements that have made the TV series such a success, from local history to national defence, forts and ports, fishermen and artists, sacred buildings and detailed cartography, as well as taking in iconic landmarks, seaside holidays and, of course, wildlife. Nick's evocative prose and extensive knowledge infuse this book, which combined with two colour plate sections, make this an unmissable purchase for all fans of the British coast.

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GREAT BRITISH JOURNEYS 2008 UK: Weidenfeld & Nicolson/BBC	<p>In GREAT BRITISH JOURNEYS Nicholas Crane follows in the footsteps of eight early travellers who crossed the length and breadth of Britain, revealing the country as it had never been seen before.</p> <p>From Gerald of Wales' 12th century recruitment drive for the Crusades to H V Morton's adventures of 1927 in his bull-nosed Morris, each of the eight had their own mission and faced their own challenges. John Leland, Henry VIII's famous chronicler, was sent mad in his attempt to record the landscape in writing. Celia Fiennes rode out in 1698 aiming to be the first person to visit all the counties of England, when Britain was in the grips of a 'Little Ice Age'. Thomas Pennant explored the wilds of Scotland on foot and by boat, caught in a vicious storm in Loch Maree, while William Gilpin viewed England from the relative safety of rivers and canals. All left narratives behind for others – Daniel Defoe's A TOUR THRO' THE WHOLE ISLAND OF GREAT BRITAIN (1724-1727) provides a detailed account of trade on the eve of the Industrial Revolution, while William Cobbett's RURAL RIDES gives first-hand evidence on the plight of the poor of the countryside. Their passion is evident in these tales, and so provides the inspiration for Nicholas Crane's latest adventure, as he traces their routes across Britain, discovering wetlands and mountain ranges, beaches and cliffs, and marvelling at how much has changed between their landscapes and ours, and yet how much remains the same.</p> <p>GREAT BRITISH JOURNEYS accompanies an eight-part television series, beginning on BBC2 on Sunday 12th August.</p>
MERCATOR: THE MAN WHO MAPPED THE PLANET 2003 UK: Weidenfeld; US: Holt; Dutch: Ambo-Anthos; German: Droemer; Hungarian: HVG; Korean: Sakyejul	<p>Gerhard Mercator was the famous sixteenth-century cartographer who created the so-called 'Mercator projection', a map which, in flattening out the globe, enabled the great age of exploration of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Mercator was more than simply a map-maker, however: he was at the very centre of the scientific and intellectual revolution of his time. Nicholas Crane, a man much used to relying on maps, brings Mercator and his world to vivid life.</p>
CLEAR WATERS RISING: A MOUNTAIN WALK ACROSS EUROPE 1996	<p>This is the story of a journey of 10,000 kilometres across Europe from the Atlantic coast of Spain to Istanbul. Nick Crane completed this adventure entirely on foot. It took him 17 months crossing Europe's uplands from the Cantabrian mountains of Spain via the Alps and the Carpathians to the Balkans and finally the Black Sea. His aim was to find for himself Europe's last mountain wildernesses and to record the lives of its people living at the periphery of the modern world. The journey was also to become a test of his own physical and mental determination. Most of the time he was far from civilization, sleeping in caves, forests and snow-drifts, confronting cold, loneliness, genuine dangers and imagined fears.</p>

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WHY GEOGRAPHY MATTERS: A BRIEF GUIDE TO THE PLANET 2018 WEIDENFELD & NICOLSON	<p>One word binds us all: geography. We are all geographers, human beings who care about the places we think of as 'home' - our habitat. And yet we have lost touch with the connection between our actions and the state of the planet that we all share. We need a new narrative that restores the connections between humanity and the Earth. We are being confronted by a daily barrage of geographical stories on climate change, geopolitics, population growth, migration, dwindling resources, polluted oceans and natural hazards. These are planetary concerns affecting all people and all places. They are challenges which can be addressed through geography.</p> <p>In this short but powerful book, Nicholas Crane makes the compelling case that never has geography been so important. On this finite orb, with its battered habitat, sustained in dark space by a thin, life-giving atmosphere, we have reached a point in our collective geographical journey where knowledge is the best guarantor of the future.</p>