

## ● Travel, learn and share

### Discovering the world with the Society

“Understanding the world through travel and sharing our experiences can help us appreciate the pressures we’re putting on the planet and our role in securing its future,” said President Michael Palin. With a host of exciting new projects related to travel from the Society, it’s never been easier for Fellows, members and the public to learn about our world.

Have you ever considered, for example, a trip to Colombia, or perhaps even Kamchatka? Well, hundreds of members have already enjoyed learning about destinations as diverse as these as part of the Discovering Places programme since it began in 2007. A sell-out event on Libya in the summer 2010 term saw specialist Amelia Stewart sharing her passion for the country alongside author of the Berlitz Guide to Libya, Chris Bradley.

Or perhaps you have gazed out of an aircraft window at a craggy coastline, arid desert, or spectacular mountain range and wanted to find out more about the landscape, culture and people flashing by 11,000m below? The Hidden Journeys [website](#) has already launched three initial flight paths revealing fascinating journeys of discovery using images and maps from our Collections as well as Fellows’ and members’ photographs.



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Our ‘Hidden Journey’ to Johannesburg, for example, traverses both the Tropics and the Equator, from the searing aridity of the Sahara to the sub-zero temperatures of the Swiss Alps and the suffocating humidity of the Congo Rainforest.

Fellows and members can [submit their own photographs](#) to Hidden Journeys to help build a catalogue of images everyone can enjoy.

We’d love to [hear what you think](#) about the project and the routes you would like to see unravelled. After a successful first year, and with continued generous support from the project’s donor, the Society is working to expand the project and explore how the website could be utilised in flight.

Meanwhile, Fellows and members may recall the captivating exhibition by photographer Yann Arthus-Bertrand, *Earth from the Air* that mesmerized the world with its eye-catching aerial images? The Society received funding in 2010 to develop its own exhibition – [Britain from the Air](#) – in partnership with Wecommunic8, the street gallery pioneers that brought Bertrand’s famous exhibition to the UK.

From majestic highlands to abandoned shipyards; from the stillness of standing stones to the vibrance of our sprawling cities, *Britain from the Air* will combine the drama and beauty of these landscapes with intriguing stories and surprising facts that invite the viewer to explore their local, regional and national environments from above. Thought-provoking quotes and texts accompany the images to engage, enthuse and inform in equal measure.

*Britain from the Air* opened in mid-September 2010 in the historic public spaces of Bath.

The Society’s education team have provided [online learning resources](#) to support teachers and classes visiting the exhibition.

More than 100 stunning images, sourced from a wide range of photographers, plus material from our own Collections will tour the country in the run up to 2012 to illustrate just how much there is to explore on this island of contrasting landscapes. There are plans afoot to develop the exhibition online too.