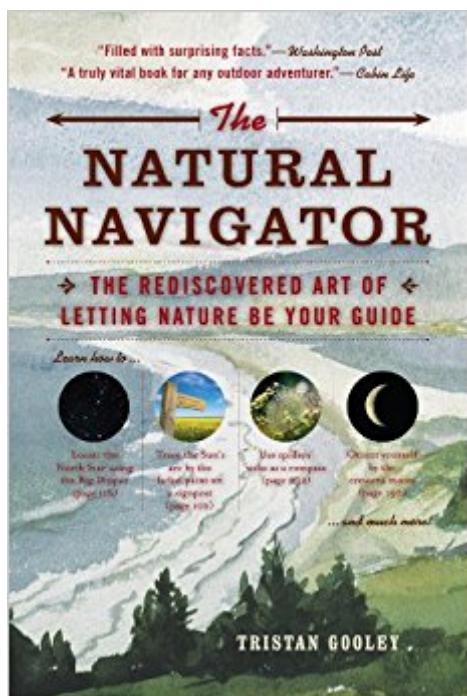


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The Natural Navigator: The Rediscovered Art Of Letting Nature Be Your Guide



Synopsis

Before GPS, before the compass, and even before cartography, humankind was navigating. Now this singular guide helps us rediscover what our ancestors long understood—*that a windswept tree, the depth of a puddle, or a trill of birdsong can help us find our way, if we know what to look and listen for.* Adventurer and navigation expert Tristan Gooley unlocks the directional clues hidden in the sun, moon, stars, clouds, weather patterns, lengthening shadows, changing tides, plant growth, and the habits of wildlife. Rich with navigational anecdotes collected across ages, continents, and cultures, *The Natural Navigator* will help keep you on course and open your eyes to the wonders, large and small, of the natural world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Eagle Scouts don’t hold a candle or compass to Gooley, a professional outdoorsman if there ever was one and an engaging proponent of navigation *au naturale* in this compelling guide. Readers will learn how to evaluate clues in nature—from stars in the night sky to evaporating puddles underfoot—to discover where they are and how to get where they need to go. Gooley’s particular spin is that this subject is not just about survival skills; it’s an art form that can reveal to anyone willing to look hard enough the beauty and utility of nature’s patterns. It is, he writes, “about reintroducing a childlike curiosity to the journey.” But it is also about applying discipline and scientific rigor to how we move through the world. Chockfull of incredibly useful information ranging from the simple (e.g., how to make a sun dial) to the more complex (e.g., how to outline the sun’s arc based on latitude), this book will appeal to veteran trailblazers and

cautious nature-lovers alike. Indeed, for those prone to stick to the Discovery Channel rather than venture afoot, Gooley's personal travel anecdotes alone are enough to make this worth a read. Inexperienced hikers will nevertheless want to keep a compass handy on their next outing, but with Gooley's tome in tow, the journey will be all the more rewarding. *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* deeply poetic book . . . Mr. Gooley provides ample instructions, complete with diagrams of wind patterns and tide heights, for living and traveling like a natural navigator. *Wall Street Journal* *[A]* "This in-depth book gives us the tools to reengage with our natural world in a clear and understandable way. I love it!" *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Bear Grylls, author of *The Kid Who Climbed Everest* and *Man vs. Wild* *[A]* "The perfect book for getting you started on your own adventure." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Sir Ranulph Fiennes, adventurer and author of *Race to the Pole* *[A]* "The Natural Navigator is a wonderfully stimulating book. Tristan Gooley sidesteps technology to celebrate our own powers of observation, and suggests that the art of natural navigation is something we should never have forgotten." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Michael Palin *[A]* "Before GPSes, people navigated by the stars, the wind and shadows on the ground. Tristan Gooley, an English adventurer, shows how it's done in *The Natural Navigator* . . . This fascinating book is filled with surprising facts." *Washington Post* *[A]* "His know-how won't only lead you home, but help you find yourself." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Red Bulletin *[A]* "Gooley, a longtime adventurer who teaches what he calls *[A]* natural navigation, *[A]* has compiled an intriguing trove of tips and tricks from cultures such as the Inuit and Aborigines . . . Even for readers who never intend to rely on these tips to find their way through the wilderness, *The Natural Navigator* is a great primer on how the forces of nature affect the landscapes and seascapes that everyone travels through." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Science News *[A]* "[P]rovides a delightful refresher course . . . His enthusiasm for the basic facts of earth science and astronomy are part of the charm of *The Natural Navigator*." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* The Providence Journal *[A]* "Packed with helpful illustrations, Gooley opens your eyes to the clues that the natural world happily shares with all of us, if we just take the time to look. . . . A truly vital book for any outdoor adventurer." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Cabin Life *[A]* "As Gooley reminds us, navigation is, first of all, about understanding where you are. His marvelous book is a good starting point." *Entertainment Weekly* *[A]* Mick Herron, *Geographical Magazine* *[A]* "This wonderful book takes the skill set back several generations further, to the vanishing (but often surprisingly simple) arts of navigating by sun, moon, stars and natural phenomena. If this sounds arcane and unlikely, it's not: armchair readers will revel in the beautifully written material on myth, science, folklore and history, and the fascinating details and tips . . . This is the sort of charming and inspiring

book you want to recommend and buy for others. A must for any lover of the outdoors.â•• Tim Jepson, The Telegraph â•“The best nature writing changes the way you experience the world. Tristan Gooleyâ•“s The Natural Navigator will teach you how to find your way using not just the moon, sun and stars but spiderâ•“s webs, tennis courts and even ruts on a track. He throws in entertaining anecdotes from the history of navigation and from his own impressive Atlantic journeys, but really heâ•“s giving you an addictive hobby, and a newly refined sense of time and place.â•• James McConnachie, The Sunday Times (London) â•“Gooleyâ•“s calm, contemplative authority on matters solar, lunar and celestial establishes his guru credentialsâ•“ but itâ•“s his revelations about the clues that lie scattered about the natural environment that really entrance: how puddles drying on paths, the shapes of sand dunes, the graininess of scree on the lee of a slope can all be enlisted to summon compass points to your horizon.â•• Chris Born, Time Out London â•“Gooley is a fine writer with a philosophical passion for the subject, and he occasionally veers into areas that are perhaps not strictly within the remit of the book, but these are effortlessly pleasant diversions that add to the whole. His timing is strong, with anecdotes dropped in at just the right intervals to keep you turning the pages. His advice is at times glorious in its simplicity and fascinating in its execution.â•• Laurence Mackin, The Irish Times â•“In a sat-nav dominated world, where GPS and a host of other acronyms designed to get us from A to B have overtaken paper maps, it is refreshing to meet someone who understands technology, but prefers to find his way by practicing the rare and ancient art of using natureâ•“s signposts, from puddle patterns to shadow lengths . . . Iâ•“m hooked. Back at the beech, I make a mental note of emerging bluebell patches, forming an internal map that Iâ•“ll use to find my way around the wood.â•• Paul Evans, BBC Wildlife Magazine â•“Gooley artfully covers all a natural navigator would need to know for any situation he or she may find themselves in, be it a wilderness trek, a jaunt through the local woods, or just the walk to work.â•• The Englewood Review of Books

Tristan Gooley is the New York Timesâ•“s bestselling author of *How to Read Water*, *The Lost Art of Reading Natureâ•“s Signs*, and *The Natural Navigator*. He is a leading expert on natural navigation, and his passion for the subject stems from his hands-on experience. He has led expeditions in five continents; climbed mountains in Europe, Africa, and Asia; sailed small boats across oceans; and piloted small aircraft to Africa and the Arctic. He is the only living person to have both flown solo and sailed single-handedly across the Atlantic, and he is a Fellow of the Royal

Institute of Navigation and the Royal Geographical Society. He is currently vice chairman of Trailfinders, and he runs the world's only school of natural navigation.

This book is one of my favorite books of all time. This is the stuff you discuss on a camping trip, and despite discussing it at length, no one can quite remember the actual facts and rules of thumb that actually get you through. This is ancient wisdom we have lost. Could you sail across the ocean without modern devices and find your way? Could you hike miles and days through the woods with cloudy skies and find your way? People have done this for literally ever, yet we have all lost this ability in modern times. The usefulness of the stars might have been what originally interested humanity in them, rather than what they really are. Sand dunes, snow drifts, moss, puddles, stars, the sun, and even city buildings can all be used by us to get our bearings. I highlighted this book, then wrote notes in a little carry booklet of my own to take with me. This is invaluable information, all in one place.

A very enjoyable book and great to read .learnt some helpful tips a great book from a very good seller.

Wonderful read!

Very interesting and entertaining.Finding it has information I had learned as a boy, but have forgotten. A lot of new things also. Enjoying this book very much.

Great book way too much historical background but great book

the one book to bring with you on an adventure. the book to buy 10 copies of because you give yours away 9 times.

this is an incredible book, if you have an interest in the bush or sea and don't want to rely on modern technology then this is for you. I will use this for years, there is so much information contained within these pages

I expect to enjoy its lessons in little chunks here and there when I want to relax with interesting non controversial thoughts. With this use I would have preferred more pictures. Like a coffee table book.

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