



The Last Blue Mountain: Tales of a Travelling Englishman

By James Chilton

PRESS RELEASE

From Gabon to Guyana, through rainbow markets and rainforests, across impressionist landscapes and high altitude desert, this delightfully diverse collection of travel writing will whet the appetite and feed the imagination.

"The world is full of marvels but they are not to be found in five star hotels..."

One man's unbridled passion for travel is brought vibrantly to life in remarkable new non-fiction, **The Last Blue Mountain**. Author James Chilton relives eighteen glorious years of adventure across far reaching destinations, taking readers off the beaten tourist track and onto uncharted trails of natural beauty and cultural diversity. Chilton reveals his enthusiasm for travel - he has visited some seventy-eight

countries to date - from Madagascar to Shangri-La via Mali and Kalimantan - and his love of food, flora, fauna and, above all, the people he meets along the way. Each of Chilton's chapters are dedicated to a specific destination and can be enjoyed independently offering a snapshot of each country and its cultural landscape. Witty, articulate and with sharp observations, his engaging and often humorous anecdotes are illustrated throughout with his evocative pen and ink sketches, which add a lively personal touch into one man's adventurous and spirited life.

"Your descriptions are vivid and there's plenty of humour to spice up the mix, I very much share your views as to what travel is about - to surprise and beguile." Michael Palin, travel writer and presenter

Born in Rangoon, Burma January 1941, into a military family, James developed a love of exploring from a young age and instead of accepting a scholarship to Corpus Christie, Cambridge he stepped into his father's shoes and joined the 1st Royal Dragoons. During his active service James was stationed in Yemen, Malaya and Singapore gaining rich and unrivalled life experiences. Chilton's exotic trips were often sparked by a passing conversation, a newspaper article or a photo, leading him to find mountain gorillas in Uganda's Mountains of the Moon, a snow leopard in the Himalayas and the flora of Kamchatka, Siberia. Two things are especially close to Chilton's heart; the natural world - which has been the catalyst for trips to the Manu biosphere in Peruvian Amazonia and the sea swimming elephants of Gabon - and his birth place of Burma, which is the subject of several chapters and details the six schools he has built in remote areas of the country and the HEAL Kids Foundation of which he is a trustee. A born storyteller who reveals the hidden delights of travel, Chilton's **The Last Blue Mountain** will illuminate, delight and inspire all readers young and old

About the author: A grandfather of nine and a father of four, James Chilton lives with his wife and two labradors in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire. He holds diplomas in Architectural History from Oxford University, in Design and in Plantsmanship from The English Gardening School and a certificate in the Decorative Arts from the Victoria & Albert Museum. Perennially busy, James draws, sculpts, designs gardens and jewellery and is a member of Bart's Choir. He also a member of the International Dendrology Society and has lectured at the Royal Geographical Society and in Oxford. **The Last Blue Mountain** by James Chilton (published by Clink Street Publishing RRP £12.99 paperback, £8.99 ebook) is available to buy online from 16th March 2015 from retailers including amazon.co.uk and to order from all good bookstores. For more information please visit www.jameschilton.co.

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