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Travel, Shoot, Win - amazing prizes for travel photographers in TPOTY 2011

The 2011 international [Travel Photographer of the Year awards](#) (TPOTY) offer fantastic rewards for successful entrants. Prizes include trips to Marrakech, Oman, Botswana and Cambodia, cash bursaries, photographic equipment and tuition - and a paid photographic commission in England and Scotland; the first such prize in the awards' history.

All winning photographers will also see their prizewinning shots published in the next TPOTY book, Journey Four, and displayed at a major TPOTY exhibition at the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) in London during the Olympic games. And for the Overall Winner there's a further, unique opportunity within that exhibition. With entries open until October 9th, and the awards open to photographers of all levels and all ages and from all countries, there's plenty of time to pick up your camera and get shooting...

The **Overall Winner** of the awards – the 2011 Travel Photographer of the Year - will be given a unique personal showcase within the TPOTY exhibition at the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) in the summer of 2012. The showcase will contain not just their eight TPOTY-winning images but also a selection of their other, non-TPOTY work. This will give them an outstanding opportunity to demonstrate their talents to the large numbers of visitors expected to attend the exhibition in London's cultural quarter at a time when the Olympic Games will make the city a focus for millions of visitors from around the world. In addition they'll receive a £1,000 TPOTY cash bursary, plus Adobe Creative Suite Design Premium 5.5 and Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3 software, a Plastic Sandwich personalised leather iPad portfolio case, complete with iPad2, and a Lexar Professional 600x 32GB CompactFlash memory card + Lexar Professional Dual-Slot card reader.

The winner of the **Spirit of Adventure** portfolio category will be awarded an exclusive commission from Cutty Sark Blended Scotch Whisky to shoot a number of photographs in London, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Cutty Sark will use up to 20 of the commissioned images for internal brand education and the winning photographer will be paid a fee of £4,000, with accommodation and transport for the trip being organised and paid for separately by Cutty Sark. The commissioned images will be used under license only and will be credited to the winning photographer, who will retain the copyright.

Cultures & Traditions – the winner of this portfolio category will travel to Cambodia on a 13-day tailor-made trip with Explore, the adventure travel experts. During their time in this atmospheric country they will see the temples at Angkor Wat and Siem Reap, the caves at Takeo, take a tour of Phnom Penh and visit the 'Killing Fields'.

The winner of the **Exotic** portfolio category will journey to Botswana with Tselana Travel, the luxury tailor-made travel specialists. They will experience a superb safari in the heart of Africa, discovering the Okavango Delta and its breathtaking wildlife. They will go on game drives in open vehicles, enjoy water activities like safaris in Mokoro, and have the chance of some wonderful bird watching. This trip is for two people, so they can take a guest!

The Oman Ministry of Tourism and Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, have teamed up to provide a fantastic holiday prize for the winner of the **Natural Elements** portfolio category. The Oman Ministry of Tourism will host the winner for seven nights in Oman, with Oman Air Business Class flights to and from the country. They will stay in Muscat, Nizwa, Wahiba Sands and the Jebel Akhtar mountains. The prize also includes a city tour of Muscat.

The winners of all four portfolio categories also receive Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3 software plus a Lexar Professional 600x 16GB CompactFlash card + Lexar Professional Dual-Slot card reader. And the Runner-Up, Highly Commended and Commended entrants in all four portfolio categories, New Talent and One Shot (Wild Moments), each receive a Lexar Professional 400x 8GB CompactFlash card.

The winners of the **Best Single Image award** in each of the four portfolio categories will receive a beautiful 24" exhibition print of their winning entry from Genesis Digital, who make the TPOTY exhibition prints, along with a print of one of the fascinating historic images from the archive of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG).

The 2011 [New Talent](#) winner will travel to Marrakech with award-winning tailor-made sustainable travel specialists Tribes Travel and stay in a riad (traditional townhouse) in this colourful and highly photogenic town. They will also receive Adobe, Photoshop Lightroom 3 software, plus a Lexar Professional 600x 16GB CompactFlash card + Lexar Professional Dual-Slot card reader, a personalised Plastic Sandwich leather portfolio case or iPad cover and two TPOTY/Photo Iconic image critiques – one before their prize trip and one afterwards.

The winner of the [One Shot, Wild Moments](#) single image category receives £500, Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3 software and a Lexar Professional 600x 16GB CompactFlash card + Lexar Professional Dual-Slot card reader.

There will be two winners of the beginners' single image category, [First Shot - Work, Rest, Play](#). They will each receive Adobe Photoshop Lightroom3 software and a Photo Iconic photography course, or an online image critique. The two Runners-Up and four Commended entrants each receive critiques.

The [Young Travel Photographer of the Year](#) will receive £500, plus Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 3, Lexar Professional 600x 16GB CompactFlash card + Lexar Professional Dual-Slot card reader, personalised Plastic Sandwich leather portfolio case or iPad cover and an image critique session. The winner of Young TPOTY 14 & Under and the winner of Young TPOTY 15-18 each receive a Lexar Professional 400x 8GB CompactFlash card plus an online critique, while the runners-up receive a Lexar Professional 400x 8GB CompactFlash card.

Finally, the winner of the **Young Photographers' Alliance Emerging Talent Award**, for the most interesting entry submitted by a photographer aged 25 or under in the New Talent or Young TPOTY categories will be given a place on the YPA mentoring programme.

The TPOTY awards are open to amateur and professional photographers from all countries and images can be submitted as prints or uploaded online. Entries for the 2011 TPOTY awards close on October 9th. Entry fees start at £10 and Young TPOTY is free to enter. Images can be submitted online or as prints. Full details on how to enter can be found at www.tpoty.com.

ENDS

For any media enquires please contact Karen Coe at Travel Photographer of the Year on 01728 669185 or email press@tpoty.com. **Images from the 2010 awards are available** to accompany this story – please visit [the Winners Galleries](#) on www.tpoty.com to choose the images you would like, and we will provide them in high-res or as files for web galleries, along with captions.

Notes to editors:

1. Formed in 2003, **Travel Photographer of the Year (TPOTY)** rapidly became one of the world's most prestigious photography awards. Open to amateur and professional photographers of all ages, and from all countries, TPOTY regularly attracts entries from over 75 countries each year. To date, the oldest TPOTY entrant has been aged 88, and the youngest just five years old. Photographers from 35 countries have so far won awards and enjoyed international exposure for their work. The TPOTY winning images are showcased in the TPOTY 'Journey' series of books and at Travel Photographer of the Year exhibitions. In 2011 TPOTY announced a collaborative partnership with the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) to take the awards into a new era, with a major annual exhibition of images at the Society's headquarters in Kensington, London. www.tpoty.com
2. The **Royal Geographical Society (with The Institute of British Geographers)** is the learned society and Professional body for geography. Formed in 1830, our Royal Charter of 1859 is for 'the advancement of geographical science'. Today, we deliver this objective by developing, supporting and promoting geography through research, expeditions and fieldwork, education, and public engagement, while also providing geographical input to policy. We aim to foster an understanding and informed enjoyment of our world. We hold the world's largest private geographical collection and provide public access to it. We have a thriving Fellowship and membership and offer the Professional accreditation 'Chartered Geographer' www.rgs.org For media enquiries related to the Society, its Collections, and events in the Pavilion, please contact Lis Parham 020 7591 3019 or email press@rgs.org.

TRAVEL PRIZE SPONSOR INFORMATION

3. **Cutty Sark blended Scotch whisky** was launched in 1923; its distinctive yellow label has graced the world's best bars and clubs for nearly 80 years. In 2010 Cutty Sark was acquired by Edrington Distillers Ltd. The original smooth, easy-drinking whisky, Cutty Sark was launched specifically for the sociable cocktail set and became an instant classic. Cutty was bootlegged in the USA during Prohibition by Captain Bill McCoy, a smuggler whose contraband was uncut and unadulterated. When Prohibition ended in 1933, the blend's impeccable reputation led to it becoming the best-selling Scotch whisky in the USA, selling more than 1 million cases per year. Originally conceived as an export brand, Cutty Sark is available in over 40 markets around the world; it is particularly successful in the USA and Southern Europe, especially Spain, Portugal and Greece. The Cutty Sark ship has always featured on the whisky's label, an inspiration to embrace adventure. The ship was built for speed and named after a young witch dressed in a 'cutty sark' (short shirt), who could run as fast as the wind, from Scottish poet Robert Burns' celebrated poem Tam O'Shanter. Master Blender, Kirsteen Campbell, selects Scotland's finest single malts – including The Macallan and Highland Park – to create one of the world's favourite blended Scotch whiskies. Cutty Sark is matured in American oak casks, resulting in the signature flavour of vanilla and citrus fruits. For more information, please visit www.cutty-sark.com, Please enjoy Cutty Sark responsibly; www.drinkaware.co.uk
4. **Oman Air** is the flag carrier of the Sultanate of Oman. Founded in 1993, the company has since witnessed massive growth, becoming a multi-award winning luxury international airline. Oman Air currently operates direct international flights from Muscat to over 40 major destinations worldwide, including to the Gulf region, the Middle East, India and the Indian Ocean, as well as to the Far East, Europe and Africa. It is the only airline to offer a daily, non-stop direct flight between Muscat and London Heathrow. Its fleet consists of Boeing 737s and Airbus A330s, Embraer E 175s and ATRs 42s. For the future Oman Air has ordered six Boeing 787 Dreamliners, scheduled for delivery from 2014. Oman Air was the first airline to offer both mobile telephony and Internet connectivity in-flight, and its new fleet of aircraft, spacious and comfortable cabins, and world-class hospitality continue to deliver a superb passenger experience. www.omanair.com
5. **Tribes**, the original Fair Trade Travel® company, is an independent specialist tour operator. They have been offering high quality tailor-made wildlife, nature and cultural holidays worldwide since 1998, and in this time have won many prestigious international awards for their sustainable and ethical principles. Their aim is to offer seriously special experiences for all their travellers. Whether you want a short break in Marrakech, a magical wildlife cruise in the Galapagos Islands, a thrilling African safari, or a trekking challenge in Nepal, Tribes friendly experts work with you to ensure that you get the holiday experience you're looking for. www.tribes.co.uk
6. Established in 1981, **Explore** is the UK's leading adventure holiday specialist, with an inspiring range of over 500 adventure holidays in more than 130 countries, ranging from 3 days to 4 weeks. Experts in walking and trekking, cycling and multi-activity holidays, Explore also specialises in wildlife trips, rail journeys, small boat cruising, Polar voyages and cultural discovery tours. Building on 30 years' expertise in small group holidays, Explore has recently developed bespoke Tailormade adventures for individuals or private parties. Explore's innovative Family Adventures include 70 trips throughout the world designed specifically for adventure-loving families. An award-winning Responsible Tourism policy is (and always has been) the cornerstone of Explore's approach to tour operating. www.explore.co.uk
7. **The Sultanate of Oman** is a country with an enormous wealth of natural attractions, fascinating culture and warm welcoming people. Oman's greatest attraction is its stunning landscape including 3165 km of undisturbed coastline, majestic fjords, magnificent desert expanses, undiscovered rock formation, rugged mountains and an amazing quality of light. Home to a wide range of award-winning five-star hotels, first-class air, road and telecommunications networks, Oman is the perfect destination for leisure, business, conference, incentive travel and film/fashion shoots. www.omantourism.gov.om
8. **Tselena Travel** organizes high-end and tailor-made travel experiences away from crowded mass tourism routes offering a different way to discover the diversity of preserved Africa, the enchanting Pacific and Indian Oceans' Islands, the sublime beauty of South America, the prominent cultural landmarks of Europe or the magical Asia. More than just a travel arranger, Tselena Travel provides advice on fine dining, gourmet stopovers, traditional spots, exhibitions and shows (theatre, concerts, fashion shows, private shopping) and pre-booked tickets upon request. Private jets and helicopters can be scheduled for a wide range of destinations, no matter the distances, making the trip much more comfortable and exclusive. www.tselana.com