

# NATURE WRITING

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On land and in the sea, in rain and shine, historical and topical, indoors and out, wild and cultivated, nostalgic and political, here are forty books that focus on nature.

These titles have been chosen for the diversity of subjects covered by authors who write about nature in all its forms.

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Lamorna Ash

942.37

Dark, Salt, Clear: Life in a Cornish Fishing Town

A bracing journey of discovery and a captivating portrait of a community sustained and defined by the sea for centuries.

Simon Barnes

508

Rewild Yourself

We're not just losing the wild world. We're forgetting it. We're no longer noticing it. This book features spellbinding ways to bring the magic of nature much closer to home.

Easkey Britton

797.32

Saltwater in the Blood

An inspiring exploration of the sea's role in the wellness of people and the planet.

Rachel Carson

578.773

Under the Sea-Wind

Celebrates the mystery and beauty of birds and sea creatures in their natural habitat, conjuring the atmosphere of the shore and the open sea and the fragile struggle for life along the shoreline.

Mark Cocker

304.270

Claxton

Passionate, astonishing and inspiring, this book is a celebration of the wonder that lies in our everyday experience.

Rob Cowen

508.428

Common Ground

A unique portrait of people and place through time and an unforgettable exploration of the common ground we share with the natural world, the past and each other.

Jim Crumley

508.411

The Nature of Winter

During winter, dark days of wild storms can give way to the perfect, glistening stillness of frost-encrusted winter landscapes - it is the stuff of wonder and beauty, of nature at its utmost.

Richard Dawkins

501.4

Books Do Furnish a Life

Divided by theme, including celebrating nature, exploring humanity, and interrogating faith.

George Ewart Evans & David Thomson

599.328

The Leaping Hare

A rare and remarkable book about every aspect of the life and legend of the wild hare, exploring nature, poetry, folklore, history and art.

Paul Evans

508.41

How to See Nature

The essays include the The Weedling Wild, Gardens of Light, The Flow and The Commons.

Derek Gow

599.370

Bringing Back the Beaver

An inspirational and often riotously funny first-hand account of how the movement to rewild beavers into the British landscape became the single most dramatic and subversive nature conservation act of the modern era.

Melissa Harrison (editor)

508.2

Autumn

In prose and poetry from across the British Isles, this anthology captures both the exhilaration and the melancholy of this turning point in the year.

Melissa Harrison

914.204

Rain: Four Walks in English Weather

A wonderful meditation on the English landscape in wet weather.

Melissa Harrison (editor)

828.08

Spring

In prose and poetry both old and new, this anthology mirrors the unfolding of the season, inviting us to see what's around us with new eyes.

Melissa Harrison

508.092

The Stubborn Light of Things

This diary maps Harrison's joyful engagement with the natural world and demonstrates how we must first learn to see, and then act to preserve, the beauty we have on our doorsteps - no matter where we live.

Melissa Harrison (editor)

828.08

Summer

This vibrant and evocative collection will inspire you to go out and enjoy the pleasures of summer.

Melissa Harrison (editor)

828.08

Winter

In prose and poetry spanning seven hundred years, this anthology delights in the brisk pleasures and enduring beauty of the year's turning.

Nick Hayes

333.309

The Book of Trespass

Takes us on a journey over the walls of England, into the thousands of square miles of rivers, woodland, lakes and meadows that are blocked from public access.

Jane McMorland Hunter (editor)

808.803

Nature Writing for Every Day of the Year

Enjoy a whole year of the very finest nature writing, with one carefully selected piece to savour every day.

Brian Jackman

910.409

West With the Light: My Life in Nature

After decades spent travelling and writing about the places and wildlife that have inspired him, one of the world's most experienced naturalists has turned his focus onto the story of his inspirational life.

Brian Jackman  
Wild About Britain

508.41

A new collection of the award-winning journalist and author's nature and travel writings from the past 40 years.

Kathleen Jamie (editor)  
Antlers of Water

820.803

Urges us to renegotiate our relationship with the more-than-human world, in writing which is by turns celebratory, radical and political.

Robin Wall Kimmerer  
Braiding Sweetgrass

305.897

Kimmerer shows how other living beings - asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass - offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices.

Patrick Laurie  
Native: Life in a Vanishing Landscape

630.941

Desperate to connect with his native Galloway, Patrick Laurie plunges into work on his family farm in the hills of southwest Scotland.

John Lister-Kaye  
The Dun Cow Rib

333.720

A captivating coming of age tale by one of the founding fathers of nature writing.



Dara McAnulty

508.092

Diary of a Young Naturalist

A powerful and scintillating portrayal of the beauty of the natural world, as it shines a light on autism and of overcoming severe anxiety.

Helen Macdonald

598.944

H is for Hawk

A powerful and profound meditation on grief expressed through the trials of training a goshawk.

Helen Macdonald

508

Vesper Flights

A book about observation, fascination, time, memory, love and loss and how we make the world around us.

Richard Mabey

508.092

Turning the Boat for Home

This book collects pieces across Mabey's rich career, tracing his continually evolving ideas as much as the profound changes in our environment.

Stephen Moss

508.41

The Accidental Countryside

The fascinating and remarkably empowering story of our influence upon the landscape and wildlife of these crowded islands.

Stephen Moss

508.423

Wild Hares and Hummingbirds

A year in the idyllic village of Mark on the Somerset Levels - a watery wonderland rich in nature and wildlife, from birds to butterflies to badgers.

Conor W O'Brien

590.941

Life in Ireland: A Short History of a Long Time

This is the story of life in Ireland – a story half a billion years in the making. We'll see how our wildlife has adapted to the human age and explore what the future might hold for life in Ireland.

Thomas Pakenham

582.16

The Company of Trees

Recounts a personal quest to establish a large arboretum on the Pakenham family estate, Tullynally in Ireland.

Chris Packham & Megan McCubbin

508

Back to Nature

One thing has become clear this last year or two - we need nature more than ever. And it needs us too.

James Rebanks

630.92

English Pastoral: An Inheritance

What it means to have love and pride in a place, and how, against all the odds, it may still be possible to build a new pastoral: not a utopia, but somewhere decent for us all.

Rosamond Richardson

598.072

Waiting for the Albino Dunnock

Shows us how beauty is central to our emotional well-being, and reminds us of the careless damage we are inflicting on the natural world.

Merlin Sheldrake

579.5

Entangled Life

Explores how fungi make our worlds, change our minds and shape our futures and reveals how these extraordinary organisms transform our understanding of our planet and life itself.

Alice Vincent

635.092

Rootbound: Rewilding a Life

Examines how bringing a little bit of the outside in can help us find our feet in a world spinning far too fast.

Janet White

636.301

The Sheep Stell: Memoirs of a Shepherd

The tale of a woman before her time; a woman with incredible courage and determination, truly devoted to the land and its creatures.

John Wright

581.632

The Forager's Calendar

An indispensable guide for everyone interested in wild food, whether you want to explore the great outdoors, or are happiest foraging from your armchair.

# Islington Library Locations

- 1 Archway Library
- 2 Cat and Mouse Library
- 3 Central Library
- 3 Home Library Service
- 4 Finsbury Library
- 4 Islington Local History Centre
- 4 Islington Museum
- 5 Lewis Carroll Children's Library
- 6 Mildmay Library
- 7 N4 Library
- 8 North Library
- 9 South Library
- 10 West Library

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