

Kingsley Holgate



Known as the 'Greybeard of Adventure', Kingsley Holgate is one of the world's most respected and colourful modern-day explorers. A humanitarian, adventurer, author, media personality, popular guest speaker, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and Land Rover Ambassador, Kingsley holds the singular distinction of having explored all 54 countries on the African continent, including all the island states.

His lifetime of journeys has taken him on foot, in open boats, by traditional Swahili dhow and Land Rover to some of the remotest and most dangerous regions in the world. He's survived malaria more than 50 times and terrifying interrogations by many of Africa's most notorious rebel leaders.

2023 is a historic year for 'Papa King', as he is affectionately known across the continent. With his son Ross and a veteran expedition team, Kingsley has now achieved another distinction – completing 40 humanitarian and geographic expeditions over the past 30 years across Africa and beyond, many of them world-firsts.

Kingsley's extraordinary journeys include:

- From the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) to Alexandria and the mouth of the Nile (Egypt) in open boats along the waterways of Africa.
- Around the world by Land Rover following the Tropic of Capricorn.
- A decade of adventure following in the footsteps of early explorers, which included circumnavigation of Africa's largest lakes and east-to-west across the continent along the mighty Zambezi and Congo rivers.
- A swashbuckling year-long seafaring journey by traditional Arab sailing dhow up the Swahili coast to the Somali border and back.
- Tracking the entire outline of Africa through 33 countries in 449 days.
- Discovery of the geographic centre point of the African continent deep in the Congo rainforests, as verified by the International Geographic Union (IGU).
- First exploration team in history to reach all 7 of Africa's extreme geographic points, as verified by the IGU.
- As part of the global launch of the new Land Rover Defender, the first 'Hot Cape to Cold Cape' transcontinental journey (from Africa's southern tip to the most northern point of Europe) in 30 years to traverse Africa through the disputed territories of South Sudan and the Republic of Sudan, and successfully reach Nordkapp in Norway's Arctic Circle.

What makes Kingsley and his team even more unique is their enduring humanitarian theme of '*using adventure to improve and save lives*' through:

- **Malaria Prevention and Education** – support to vulnerable pregnant women and young children.
- **Water Purification** – Provision of clean drinking water to water-scarce communities.
- **Mashozi's Rite to Sight** – distribution of reading glasses to poor-sighted people in remote communities.
- **Conservation & Communities** – protection of Africa's endangered wildlife and biodiversity, and humanitarian support to rangers, their families and rural communities.
- **Early Childhood Development** – Transforming underprivileged ECD centres into 'centres of hope'.

To date, Kingsley and his team have assisted over 4 million people throughout Africa and beyond.

Kingsley is also the author of five books on African travel and adventure. His latest, '*Africa – a Love Affair with a Continent*' was published in 2018; the limited-edition print sold out in six months.

For more information, please explore www.kingsleyholgate.com.

If you'd like to engage Kingsley for an entertaining leadership or motivational talk on his remarkable life-story, geographic achievements, extensive humanitarian work and unmatched wisdom gained during a lifetime of adventure, please contact:

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Please note: Kingsley receives many enquiries of all different kinds, and as much as he'd like to respond to all of them, sadly this isn't possible as he's often away for many months on expeditions and ongoing humanitarian work. He will endeavour to accommodate as many requests as humanly possible.