

FELICITY ASTON



Explorer and Scientist Antarctica-Pioneer

Felicity Aston is the first and only woman in the world to ski across Antarctica alone. The 1744km, 59-day journey completed in January 2012 also made her the first person in the world to do so purely by muscle power without the aid of kites or machines. In 2015 she was awarded the Queen's Polar Medal for services in Antarctica, making her one of only 9 women ever to be given the honour. She was also appointed MBE for services to Polar Exploration.

Trained as a Physicist and Meteorologist, Felicity's first polar experience was as a scientist with the British Antarctic Survey. Based for three years on a remote research station on the Antarctic Peninsula, her job was to monitor climate and ozone.

Felicity has led several notable expeditions including the first British women's crossing of Greenland, a 700km winter crossing of Lake Baikal in a Siberian winter and an adventurous expedition in Iceland for young people with a brain injury. She was also part of the first, ever, all-female team to complete the Polar Challenge, a 500km endurance race to the magnetic north pole, has completed the notorious Marathon Des Sables, a 150-mile foot race across the Sahara and has recently returned from a 35,000km drive in a Land Rover Defender to the Pole of Cold (the coldest inhabited place in the world) in the far northeast of Siberia. Felicity has been elected Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) in London. And she led the 38-day, 911km Kaspersky Lab Commonwealth Antarctic Expedition, the largest and most international women's team ever to ski to the South Pole. The team included women from all over the world and Felicity was responsible for selecting and training this diverse, multicultural team of novice adventurers for one of the most arduous journeys on Earth.

Topics (Selection):

- Adventure: Trials and Triumphs
- High Performance Teamwork
- Endurance
- Motivation
- Education

Publications (Selection):

- Polar Exposure: An All-Women's Expedition to the North Pole, 2022
- Life Lessons from Explorers: How to Scale Life's Summits and Think Like an Explorer, 2021
- Chasing Winter: A journey to the Pole of Cold, 2014
- Alone in the Antarctica, 2013
- Call of the White: Taking the World to South Pole, 2011