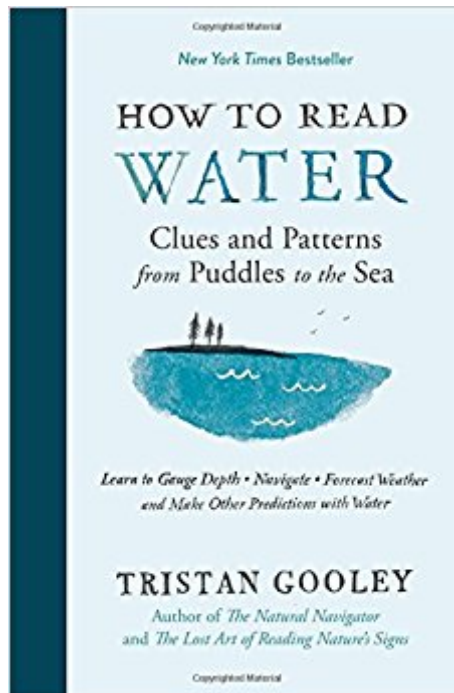




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# How To Read Water: Clues And Patterns From Puddles To The Sea



## Synopsis

A New York Times Bestseller A Forbes Top 10 Conservation and Environment Book of 2016 Read the sea like a Viking and interpret ponds like a Polynesian – with a little help from the “natural navigator”! In his eye-opening books *The Lost Art of Reading Nature’s Signs* and *The Natural Navigator*, Tristan Gooley helped readers reconnect with nature by finding direction from the trees, stars, clouds, and more. Now, he turns his attention to our most abundant – yet perhaps least understood – resource. Distilled from his far-flung adventures – sailing solo across the Atlantic, navigating with Omani tribespeople, canoeing in Borneo, and walking in his own backyard – Gooley shares hundreds of techniques in *How to Read Water*. Readers will: Find north using puddles Forecast the weather from waves Decode the colors of ponds Spot dangerous water in the dark Decipher wave patterns on beaches, and more!

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #14,416 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Hydrology #7 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Oceans & Seas > Oceanography #8 in Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Star-Gazing

## Customer Reviews

“Mr. Gooley misses little in his paean to Earth’s most abundant resource. . . . He starts small, at a mud puddle watching ripples fan out from a pebble drop, and ends big, in the frigid reaches of the Arctic Sea. Along the way he asks and answers many questions. If you like water, as I do, you will learn a lot.” – *The Wall Street Journal* [Gooley’s detailed observations are breathtaking as he patiently explains how to see. Jam-packed with information, birders, naturalists, hikers, hunters, and anyone interested in the natural world will find

much of use. *Forbes* "Gooley is your man. . . . With unflappable practicality, he shares simple ways to understand your surroundings, whether you're beside a stream or on the open sea at night, without instruments. *Discover* "Even if you don't live near a lake, river or ocean, this fascinating book teaches you how to read water patterns in rain puddles and any other place water gathers. *San Francisco Chronicle* "With the help of this book, and with careful attention and observation, anyone can learn how to interpret the messages water offers to aid in everything from navigation to weather forecasting. A riveting and highly accessible book that will appeal to water enthusiasts and nature lovers of all kinds. *Library Journal* "Avid and budding outdoorspeople will appreciate Gooley's breadth of knowledge and accessible approach. *Publishers Weekly* *Sunday Times* "Must Read book "This inspired guide to water in all its forms will make a big splash. . . . Gooley has done his subject proud "this is seriously fascinating stuff. *Times* "This study of the behavior of rivers, lakes, and seas brims over with astonishing facts. . . . His observational skills can be breathtaking. . . . Gooley's infectious delight in knowledge translates into a gleeful hoarding of words . . . . The joy of these words and phenomena is that they make you yearn to observe them in the real world. . . . Gooley even manages to explain tides coherently and excitingly in just 14 pages, which is quite some feat, given that they are a lot more complicated than being a mere effect of the moon's gravity. *Sunday Times* "The quirks and habits and secrets of good old H<sub>2</sub>O were crying out to have a book written about them. That said, it had to be written by the right person. . . . Fortunately, the job went to Tristan Gooley. . . . His tales recount wisdom gathered on the ground (literally), often by trial and error, and his joy at discovering something almost makes you feel you did the work yourself. . . . The book doesn't just cover the rural sections of the waterfront: urban dwellers get a look-in too. *Spectator* "Quite apart from being well written and an enjoyable read, there is plenty in the book that is revelatory. *The Royal Institute of Navigation* "He writes with passion, humor, and clarity, and engages so deeply with the tributaries of inquiry that reading it feels as exhilarating as being towed by a dolphin. . . . There's so much here that I can't do it justice; chapters on water at night; currents and tides; reading waves; the coast. This is an absolute gem of a book. A must-have for anyone who loves the water. *The Outdoor Swimming Society* "The goal of the author is to have his readers never look at water the same way after reading this book. He has certainly achieved his objective and I doubt I will now ever

be able to walk past a lake or even a pond without checking for surface patterns. —thebookbag.co.uk —“Gooley, who has single-handedly been reviving natural navigation in this age of GPS, has the birdwatching skills of Bill Oddie and the deductive powers of Sherlock Holmes. He can make you feel that you’ve spent half your life walking about with your eyes only half-open. He does it again with this fascinating guide to watching and interpreting water, everywhere from the garden pond to the Pacific. —Telegraph —“This book is a treasure in its un-ironic display of joyful curiosity, and its serious pursuit of this curiosity to knowledge that is a pleasure in itself. —Washington Free Beacon  
2016 Foreword INDIES Bronze Winner

Tristan Gooley is the New York Times bestselling author of *How to Read Water*, *The Lost Art of Reading Nature’s Signs*, and *The Natural Navigator*. He is a leading expert on natural navigation, and his passion for the subject stems from his hands-on experience. He has led expeditions in five continents; climbed mountains in Europe, Africa, and Asia; sailed small boats across oceans; and piloted small aircraft to Africa and the Arctic. He is the only living person to have both flown solo and sailed single-handedly across the Atlantic, and he is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Navigation and the Royal Geographical Society. He is currently vice chairman of Trailfinders, and he runs the world’s only school of natural navigation.

I really wanted to like this book. I love the concept of it. I can see it’s potential. But this book does not really teach you much about the concepts. It plays like a very long advertising similar to a get rich scheme. Where you get little snippets here and there to keep you interested but at the end of day, not really knowing much about how to apply these concepts because the author primarily gives you "success stories" of these concepts being used. Little on the "how". Which makes me feel short changed when the title starts with exactly that. Maybe the author is hoping the book will sell his "hands-on" classes. But in my opinion, if you short change me on information in the book, I have no reason to conclude that you won’t do the same in the hands-on classes. I didn’t expect to know everything from one book, but I do feel there should be much more how-to in here than there is if it’s supposed to be a how-to book. I didn’t buy it to primarily read excerpts on other people or the author having used the concepts successfully.

Only partway through, but I’m thoroughly enjoying it. I pre-ordered this book based on reviews from Britain. While waiting for the US release, I read Gooley’s "Lost Art of Reading Nature’s Signs" which

I loved. It is informative and entertaining, covering a wide variety of topics from wild places like Borneo, to cities. I was then really looking forward to "How to Read Water" but was unsure if an entire book on one topic would be as riveting. Halfway through and I can honestly say, it is. I'm torn between wanting to read more and more, to wanting to read and reread a section deeply and see if I can find examples. Many examples can be found far from oceans or large bodies of water, so this is not just a book for people on shorelines. The author's knowledge, excitement and joy of learning and teaching new things really comes through in his writing.

Tristan Gooley, the author of "How to Read Water" has a passion for the subject. I've no doubt, at all, he is the foremost authority. You'll learn, from this book, things about all the different types of water bodies that you've never imagined and much more than that, too. I've been around water for a significant part of my life: a tour in the U.S.N. aboard a ship for some years and I've sailed, motor boated, and paddled most types of boats. Some of the information in the book I was aware of but much else went way past my imagination. It's about the different types of water and how the elements and weather effect it. But it's also about the creatures that live within it, tides and currents, and more. Not all of the information was to my interest, but much was and I enjoyed the knowledge shared. It was a good read.

Practical, interesting and very accessible book about how water teaches us to enjoy, navigate and appreciate our world. If you live near water (even puddles), this is a must-read book.

This is a fabulous book for sailors. I highly recommend it. Husband and I fought over who would read it first.

As a sailor you can always use information about wind weather and especially water. This books delivers a the facts and in an interesting way.I highly recommend this book. The author keeps it informative and interesting throughout.

A lot of sleep-inducing stuff in this book but plenty of info on waves, beaches, currents, etc. that is fun, educational and worth the time to read.

Love the book and went to meet the author at a book signing in Princeton.

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