



TMAC SCORING CRITERIA / MATRIX

BEST TRAVEL BOOK

November 25, 2024

Award Descriptions

This category is open to any travel book published or re-issued in 2023 or 2024. From a book of your own personal essays to a travel guide to narrative non-fiction to a children's book this category is open to all styles of book. Multi-author works (up to four authors) are also welcome, prize is shared between contributors. Authors must submit two copies of their book for judging.

Judging Considerations

The book submission will vary widely and should be judged on their own merits. For example a children's book submission shouldn't be judged against a longform narrative submission but each should be judged according to how well they meet the author's intended goal. In the case of multi-author books—judge as though it's a single author. In acknowledgement of the fact author developed books require a different set of skills than big-name templated guidebooks, you have the option of adding up to three additional points for Presentation (IE a perfect score would be 13 out of 10) for books that are produced by the author.

Criteria	Considerations	Points
Originality	Does the book fill a need or appeal to a specific niche? Would it stand out in a bookstore?	15
Starting to read	Does the introduction help prepare you for the information to come? Does the opening draw you in?	10
Presentation	Does the book come together as a whole? Is it well-organized? Does the appearance make you want to pick it up? (up to +3 for independently developed books)	10
Research	Is there evidence of thorough research? Is there factual accuracy when history or information are presented?	10
Style	Does the tone fit the story? Is it readable and engaging? Does the writing and tone fit the intended audience?	10
Content	Is there the inclusion of essential/expected information? Is it too long or too short?	10
Outcome	How well does the book accomplish its intended mission? Does it fulfill the promise of the introduction or title?	15
Overall Excellence	This is the WOW factor. Does the book impress you? Does it leave you wanting to read more or dive into more of this writer's works?	20