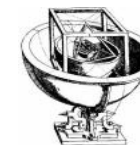


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# The Bering Strait Crossing

## James A. Oliver

**Where Continents Meet . . . In a new publication for a new century, James A. Oliver blends geography with exploration and international relations to recount a story that has, incredibly, been lost to the archives - but which belongs to the future as much as to the past. Along the way, the author debunks the "Bering Strait Bridge" as a myth, but opens up new vistas of reality.**

*The Bering Strait Crossing* is an adventure story that is still unfolding, and which, in the 21st century, presents a frontier with new challenges on the horizon . . . The "Ice Curtain" of the Cold War years is drawn aside to reveal the half-forgotten character of the Intercontinental Divide. From East and West, enter a cast of extraordinary protagonists: Pliny the Elder, Mercator, Dezhnev, Vitus Bering, Shelikhov, Captain Cook, William Gilpin, Roald Amundsen, and - since the end of the Cold War - George Koumal, whose vision for a mighty project to cross the strait is worthy of Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaire* . . .

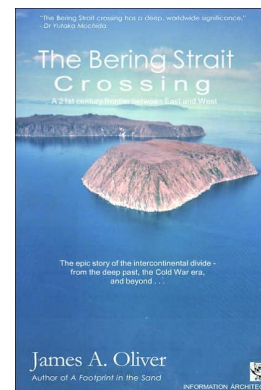
The Bering Strait is the globe's crossroads between North America and Eurasia.

At the end of the last Ice Age, the Beringia corridor (*above, right*) was an ancient transmigration route for both humans and fauna.

The Intercontinental Divide is formed by the 53-mile wide Bering Strait between Alaska and the Russian Far East.

The Polar ice cap (*right*) is seen to encompass the Northern Sea Routes, which meet at the Bering Strait.

*Courtesy:* NASA/JPL. Book cover image: © Aeromap, US, Inc.



**"The Bering Strait crossing has a deep, worldwide significance."  
- Dr Yutaka Mochida**



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The Bering Strait Crossing  
A 21st century frontier between East and West



The epic story of the intercontinental divide -  
from the deep past, the Cold War era,  
and beyond . . .

James A. Oliver  
Author of A Footprint in the Sand



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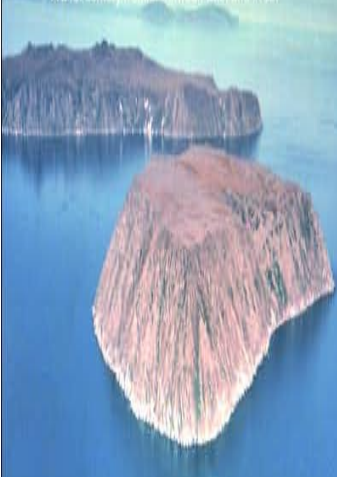
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- Dr Yutaka Machida

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### the author

**James A. Oliver** is an international writer, editor, and journalist. He is also the author of *A Footprint in the Sand* - an epic political comedy inspired by the end of the Cold War, and *The Anarchist's Arms* (a three-act political comedy for the stage) set in near-future London.

*The Bering Strait Crossing: A 21st century frontier between East and West* is the first instalment of a projected trilogy.

The overall publishing strategy includes: a paperback, hardback, and digital file - with a web site for the Intercontinental Divide research project (ongoing).

James Oliver is reported to be working at a remote location on the second part of *Where Continents Meet*.

### overview

*The Bering Strait Crossing* is the epic story of the Intercontinental Divide. The 53-mile wide strait, named for Danish explorer Vitus Bering (1681-1741), separates four continents across the Europe-Asia landmass and the Americas.

Isolation, extremes of climate, and geopolitical tensions have interfaced to create the perception of a frozen limbo at the edge of the world. Yet the Bering Strait is the world's geographical crossroads linking East with West - and the Pacific with the Arctic Ocean.

In the modern era, various schemes have been proposed - rail, ferry, tunnel - by which to cross the strait. Since the end of the Cold War, a scheduled air service has been in place. The strait remains undefeated in terms of a terrestrial link between the USA and Russia - so far.

The author uncovers a world-shaping revelation: that the Bering Strait has the potential to become a global shipping nexus *via* the Northwest Passage and the Northern Sea Route between Europe, North America, and Asia.

In the early 21st century, the self-induced amnesia of the long Cold War years is yielding to a fresh outlook between East and West across the strait. In a world thirsty for energy resources and trade, the prospect for US-Russian cooperation across the northern Pacific Rim is tantalising in its multiplicity - and vastness - with profound

### Bibliographic Data:

*The Bering Strait Crossing* is a non-fiction title available in hardback and paperback from September 2006. Data is also available *via* Nielsen Book Data and Bowker.com

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Category: Non-fiction - Exploration/Geography/World Affairs (International Relations in the 21st century) as literary non-fiction.

### Notes for Journalists and Editors

Review copies are only available to high-quality international press periodicals and radio outlets. For a copy of the paperback, please go to the main website [www.beringstraitcrossing.com](http://www.beringstraitcrossing.com) - select Press Bureau or Contacts - and use the email system to contact the publishers at Information Architects: a copy will be mailed to you by drop-shop consignment (leave your address and delivery tel. number for DHL). . . For interviews with James Oliver, please follow the same procedure or contact him direct [via jamesoliver@iainprint.com](mailto:jamesoliver@iainprint.com) - or use VoiceMail Option: +44 (0)709 211 1923 (24 hrs) in the United Kingdom

media resources: please visit the web site for preview, front cover download, other images, and additional text.

### notes for booksellers:

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