

# Take a break

Many people have been unable to travel due to the pandemic, or even take a 'staycation'. This August, we encourage you to slow down, look after your mental health, and let these stunning photographs transport you to a different place.

Each year, the Royal Observatory Greenwich hosts the prestigious Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition. Now in its 13th year, the entries — more than 4,500 of them taken across 75 countries — are as awe-inspiring as ever. What better way to review our

place in the world? Even if that place is a frozen world, as shown in the panoramic image of the Aurora Borealis over Vik, Iceland, in winter. To view the 2021 shortlist, please click [here](#). Winners will be announced on 16 September.

We wish you happy travels, even if you do remain in your chair. □

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*Iceland Vortex*. Credit: Laryn Rae