

The image shows the front cover of the Guinness World Records 2024 book. The background is a vibrant, detailed illustration depicting a variety of world records. It includes a large red octopus, a dinosaur, a person in a spacesuit, a person on a unicycle, a person on a bicycle, a person on a skateboard, a person on a surfboard, a person on a horse, a person on a boat, a person on a plane, a person on a car, a person on a motorcycle, a person on a bicycle, a person on a skateboard, a person on a surfboard, a person on a horse, a person on a boat, a person on a plane, a person on a car, and a person on a motorcycle. The title 'GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2024' is prominently displayed in large, white, bold letters with black outlines. A circular Guinness World Records logo is positioned between the words 'WORLD' and 'RECORDS'. A red circular badge in the top right corner says 'Half price'. A small white badge in the bottom left corner says 'WITH BONUS CONTENT'.

WITH
BONUS
CONTENT

FIRST WOMAN TO COMPLETE THE EXPLORERS' EXTREME TRIFECTA

Adventurers attempting this unique trio of feats must visit Earth's highest and deepest extremes and enter space. Vanessa O'Brien (UK/USA) topped Everest on 19 May 2012 and dived to the Challenger Deep on 12 Jun 2020 – making her the **first woman to reach Earth's highest and lowest points**. She then made a sub-orbital spaceflight on the sixth crewed flight (NS-22) of the Blue Origin New Shepard rocket on 4 Aug 2022. It took her 10 years 77 days to complete the trifecta.

O'Brien visited the Challenger Deep with US explorer Victor Vescovo in the submersible DSV *Limiting Factor* (see pp.116–17). On 4 Jun 2022, Vescovo became the **first person to complete the Explorers' Extreme Trifecta**, as part of Blue Origin's NS-21 mission.



On 4 Aug 2022, O'Brien joined five other adventurers on Blue Origin's NS-22 mission. At an altitude of 100 km (62 mi), they crossed the Kármán Line that marks the edge of the atmosphere, entering space and experiencing weightlessness. Not that they had long to enjoy it: after a duration of only 10 min 20 sec, they were back on Earth.



O'Brien was formerly a banker, but when the 2008 economic crisis hit, she underwent a fundamental reassessment of her priorities. A friend joked about her trying to climb Everest and O'Brien seized on it. Having summited in 2012, she decided to attempt Denali. By the following year, she'd completed the Explorers' Grand Slam (Last Degree), having climbed all Seven Summits and visited both the North and South poles in 11 months.