

PEOPLE PLACES

DOCUMENTARY
30 MIN.

VERSIONS

English, German, Spanish
(33 x 30 min.)

Arabic, French, Russian
(03 x 30 min.)
56 4410, 56 4489, 56 4490

RIGHTS

Worldwide, VOD, Mobile

ORDER NUMBER

Diverse



Camera on the Move

[The Heart of the Sahara](#) | 00 1411

A part of the vast Sahara, the Ténéré is one of the most beautiful deserts in the world and covers much of north-eastern Niger. The film documents an expedition of German scientists and local guides to the far north of the country, where they investigate the soil and vegetation in a number of oases with the help of aerial photographs.

[The Hidden Kingdom](#) | 00 1176

Not much is known about Bhutan, a country with a population of only 1.5 million. This Buddhist kingdom hidden among the ranges of the Himalayas was completely closed to foreign travellers until 1974, when the reigning king initiated a cautious policy of opening up the country.

[The Jade Route](#) | 00 1379, 00 1380 (02 x 30 min)

For more than 5,000 years jade has been regarded in China as a link between heaven and earth, a bridge to immortality. The most important traditional trade route for jade runs between the Golden Triangle and Thailand to Hong Kong, which is still the centre of the jade business today.

[Insight into a Closed Country: Myanmar](#) | 56 4410

Once known as Burma, Myanmar is slowly opening its doors to Western tourists and businessmen.

[Last Stand on Zanzibar](#) | 00 0389

Known to 19th century seafarers as the “Treasure Chest in the Indian Ocean”, the island of Zanzibar is steeped in legend. Today, the former sultanate is one of the last remaining magical places on earth. The heart of Zanzibar is the seaport with its palaces and the famous Stone Town. Our report documents the participation of German specialists in restoration attempts aimed at saving Stone Town’s decaying architectural treasures.

[Working the Glacier](#) | 00 1138

In 1820, Joseph Naus, a Bavarian lieutenant from a surveying troop, became the first person to reach the peak of the Zugspitze after a dangerous climb. He could never have guessed then that this remote corner of nature would one day become an extremely popular tourist haunt. Today, Germany’s highest mountain is not only the goal of thousands of visitors, it’s also a place of work.

[Mysteries of the Swamp](#) | 00 0916

Five percent of Germany was once moorland. Today, less than a tenth remains. Now, through widespread re-naturalization, they are trying to preserve what little still exists.

[The Atypical Dead – Unusual Graveyards in Europe](#) | 00 0381

The city of Munich paid more than 55,000 euros to equip each of its 27 municipal cemeteries with an emergency exit. This seemingly odd investment is supposed to help prevent the unpleasant consequences of cemetery visits lasting past the evening closing hour. Every cemetery has a variety of interesting stories. We’ll introduce you to a few in our film, among them a “happy” cemetery and an “erotic” one.

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Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben | 00 0822

The annual Steuben Parade is the German-Americans' big celebration on New York's Fifth Avenue. On this day, they recall their origins and proclaim their continuing links with their former home country. But above all, with this cheerful parade they honour Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, or Frederick William von Steuben as he is also known, the legendary drillmaster of the American army. The film looks at Steuben's life – and the mark he made on the world today.

The Potato Story | 00 0045

No one knows when the first potato was unearthed, but it is known that the South American Indians cultivated them over 3,000 years ago. In Europe, the potato's popularity is still a mere 500 years young, and going strong. Creative cooks can whip up a myriad of dishes with the hot potato, and even the textile industry has been able to partake of the vast potential of this unassuming tuber.

Name of the Rose | 00 1607, 00 1608 (02 x 30 min)

Rosicrucians, rose windows, the Madonna in the Rose Bower – the rose is man's oldest cultivated bloom. The symbolic power of the rose is unrivalled – as is its position at the top of the list of flowers people like to buy. While the Dutch lead the market in sales of cut roses, the Germans are the world's foremost breeders.

The Myth | 00 1607**The Business | 00 1608****Wallenstein's Castles | 00 0199**

Albrecht Wenzel Eusebius von Waldstein, also called Wallenstein, was immortalized in Friedrich Schiller's trilogy. He was the commander of the Catholic League during the Thirty Years' War. The richest and most powerful man next to the emperor, his realm stretched from Bohemia to the Baltic. He was master of over 400 castles and palaces. A visit to these castles and palaces is a journey through time from Wallenstein's era to the recent past.

A Baroque Treasure Chest | 00 0991

The Baroque came late to Westphalia under the tutelage of master builder Johann Conrad Schlaun, who was commissioned by Clemens August, bishop of Münster from 1719 to 1761 to construct buildings of all kinds. In the course of his career, Schlaun was involved in virtually every secular and religious building erected in Westphalia.

A Piece of Bavaria's Heart – The Andechs Monastery | 00 1274

The Andechs monastery, founded in 1455, is thought to be Bavaria's oldest place of pilgrimage. But the Benedictine abbey, perched high above Lake Ammersee, is more than a religious retreat. The monastery's brewery and its legendary Doppelbock beer have made it part of Bavaria's culture and way of life. The holy mount is a place where monastic spirituality meets Bavarian savoir vivre.

Where the Ticking Never Stops – The Story of the Black Forest Clocks | 00 1155

The story of the art of clock-making in south-west Germany dates back to the 17th century. The best-known ticker from the "dark fir woods" is undoubtedly the cuckoo clock. Even today, 300,000 of these are made annually, mostly mass-produced in factories. But it's still quite possible to find clocks being made by hand in the old tradition. This report looks at the history of Black Forest clocks.

Pilsner – The "Queen of Beers" | 00 0406

For millions of Europeans, Pilsner is the "queen of beers". This light-colored, bottom fermented, full bodied beer with its strong aroma of hops was the creation of Vilhofener brewer Josef Groll. On the eleventh day of the eleventh month in the year 1842, a tradition was born. On this day, in the Bohemian town of Pilsen, the first keg of the new barley brew was tapped. The delicious golden drink quenched many a thirst of body and soul and celebrated a roaring success among the drinkers of the day (brewed with a minimum of 12.5 percent beerwort, it's no wonder). Our feature report takes a somewhat less than sober look at Pilsener's story of success, and offers some fascinating facts on its background along the way.

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Köbes, a Kölsch, Please! – Cologne’s Beer Speciality | 00 1291

Served in tall, thin glasses, Kölsch is available on tap only in Cologne and its environs. At present, twenty different varieties of the pale-colored beer are brewed in the Greater Cologne area. But with consumption of the 600-year-old brew declining, a few of these may be headed for extinction in the face of market domination by the more popular Pilsner. This feature is not just about beer, but about a piece of Cologne tradition.

Serving on a Square-Rigger | 00 0508

The “Gorch Fock” is the official training vessel for the Federal German Navy. What is the daily routine on board really like? A camera team spent seven days with the crew on the high seas, en route from Lisbon to Barcelona.

Working on a Cruise Ship – On Board the MS Europa | 00 0974

For the passengers aboard the MS Europa, the journey to Norway and Spitzbergen is a dream cruise come true. But for 300 men and women, the flagship of the Hapag Lloyd Shipping Company is a place of work. There are 41 different jobs to be done here in round-the-clock shifts. We observe some of the crew members at work and hear why they chose to work on board a cruise ship.

How Much Punishment Can a Body Take? – The World of the Roller Coaster | 00 1253

No amusement park is complete without a roller coaster. And German manufacturers and “carnies” are at the cutting edge. The Eurostar and the Five-looper are two of the biggest traveling roller coasters in the world. One of the world’s leading developers of new sensations on rails is the engineering office of Werner Stengel, the “guru of roller coasters”. The most extreme example to have ever been built is set to make its debut in the US.

Heavenly Bodies – The Culture of Fitness and Beauty | 00 1177

There was a time when the soul or mind was the centre of interest. Now it seems to have moved further outward to the body – one’s own body. In a world of brandname products, physical appearance is what counts. In this report, we look in on the temples of the new body consciousness and ask sociologists, psychiatrists and philosophers how it happens that good looks now seems to count more than what is inside.

Sideline: Stuntman | 00 1432

Our film depicts the ordinary working day of one of these stunt artistes who risk life and limb for their counterparts, but rarely emerge into the limelight.

The Color Man | 56 4489

In his color mill the chemist, Dr. Georg Kremer, has exchanged synthetic chemistry for ochre, green earth and umber, and lapis lazuli from Afghanistan. With his earth colors from all the corners of the world, he supplies painters and restorers who value Nature’s rich palette higher than the products from the lab.

Taste Enhancers – When Tongues and Chemicals Meet | 00 1645

In order to give synthetic food the look and taste of the genuine article, it is loaded with taste enhancers, additives and “non-additives” (they’re additives too). Modern cooks rejoice in the job description “food designer”. Gourmet Hanjo Seissler and food chemist Udo Pollmer meet for dinner. Over haddock on seaweed and pigeon with chanterelles, Seissler the tongue and Pollmer the taste enhancer analyze the German drama waiting in freezing compartments and on supermarket shelves – quick’n easy to open, quick’n easy to prepare and even quicker’n easier to demolish.

The Last Master Bell Founder | 00 1584

There is only one master bell-founder – the last master of this centuries-old craft – left in all of Germany. For fifty years he has operated his own foundry in Saarburg, where he casts bells by hand in clay forms buried in the earth. This feature shows the birth of a bell – from the mould to the casting, to solemn consecration.

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Fire, Chalk, Ash and Sand – The Art of Glass-Blowing in Germany | 00 1010

Glass is the oldest synthetic material made by man. Virtually the only limits on the possibilities for moulding and shaping it are those of the glass-blowers and artisans themselves. Bohemia in particular has enjoyed a reputation for top quality glass-making since the early 17th century. The artisans who established it came from Germany. Modern glass art, especially the “studio glass movement” which has developed since the sixties, is as popular as ever in Germany.

King of the Nether World – The Tunnel Builder Martin Herrenknecht | 00 1574

Tunnel rock drills that bear the name Herrenknecht are the Rolls Royces of their field. The manufacturer in the village of Allmannweier has been building tunnel drivers for some twenty years. The force behind the drivers is Martin Herrenknecht. His machines started out drilling holes in Germany and neighboring countries, but now Herrenknecht has tunneled his way across the globe.

Calligraphy | 00 0123

They are called “calligraphers” and, with a sharpened quill and steady hand, they keep the age-old art of beautiful writing alive. In these hi-tech times of word processors, books of hand-lettered text, artistically rendered certificates and greeting cards are winning more and more fans and admirers.

Plakat Polski – Poster Art in Poland | 00 0040

One independent form of poster art that set the direction for all of Europe was developed in post-war Poland. The designs of Polish graphic artists and painters are genuine works of art, not just graphic design. An art form that slipped past the communist censors, the posters are witty, playful and filled with inside jokes. This feature report presents some of the most outstanding Polish poster artists and their work, from 1945 to the present.

Plutonium – Dealings with Death | 56 4490

Plutonium – a radioactive and synthetic chemical element, more precious than gold and more toxic than Dioxin. Approximately 200 tons of this substance are already stored in Russia’s nuclear weapons arsenals, and this is increasing year by year – despite disarmament.

Rubbish Heaps of the High Seas – Uses and Misuses of the North Sea Oil Platforms | 00 1797

For decades, they have been mining “black gold” and pumping it through hundreds of kilometers of pipeline to the shore. They are marvels of engineering – some larger even than the Eiffel Tower. They are places where thousands of people work at jobs in heavy industry. And they stand up to the salt water, corrosion and the North Sea storms for years. But their life spans are limited. The European Commission has calculated that about 500 oil platforms will be taken out of service over the next two decades, amounting to a seagoing scrap heap of half a million tons of steel. Plans for their disposal are nowhere in sight. The confrontation over the Brent Spar got the debate underway about what should be done with decommissioned oil platforms. Shell Oil was pressured into developing an alternative to sending the Brent Spar to the bottom of the sea. It was towed to shore, broken up and recycled. Now, other corporations appear to have recognized the potential profits in recycling and have begun working on techniques to lift the artificial islands out of the sea and bring them to dry land.