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- **4K**: Ultra High Definition
- **HD**: High Definition
- **SD**: Standard Definition
- **WW**: Available worldwide
- **VoD**: Video on demand
- **M**: Mobile
- **IFE**: Inflight
- **LR**: Limited rights, please contact your regional distribution partner.
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Life, the Universe and Almost Everything

Our world is a place full of mystery and wonder. What if we looked at it with the curiosity and openness of a child? If we looked beyond textbook answers to basic questions? If we were unafraid to question supposed certainties? And if we just asked, without worrying about seeming dumb?

What happens when scientists are happy to interpret such questions as an invitation to share what they know? When they convey their insights in a way that’s accessible to all, demystify the jargon and explain the most complex interconnections simply and clearly? When learning is fun and astonishing?

Then, we discover a world that’s surprisingly different from the one we think we know. Then, science opens our eyes and leads us by the hand into the unknown. We ask questions about Life, the Universe and Almost Everything. Questions that are both big and small. And we show some of the responses from the world of science – all of them smart, educational and entertaining.
264951 007
Can Geoengineering Save the Climate?

CO₂ emissions are heating up the planet and stoking climate change. It is so advanced that it cannot be halted through changes in individual behavior. What possible solutions are there? The science of geoengineering is developing and testing processes that could help us to slow and alleviate the impact of global warming. But they too come with their own set of consequences. How can geoengineering help us and, if it is to be effective, what are the prerequisites?

264951 008
How is Migration Impacting Our World?

There are many factors driving migration. Some of these are likely to be exacerbated in the future. For example, technological developments that oust people from the workplace, as well as demographic changes and economic crises that force people to seek employment elsewhere. And then, of course, there is climate change. Global interconnectedness also contributes to migration. It can rock political systems and has an economic impact. We look beyond the myths about migration and ask: Whom does it really benefit?

264951 009
Could We Live on the Moon?

“That’s one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind,” said astronaut Neil Armstrong, who in 1969 became the first man to set foot on the Moon. Half a century later, plans are afoot, involving several nations, to launch new missions to the moon. The goal now is for people to spend longer periods of time there. The question is how to make use of resources found on the Moon. Scientists are exploring ideas about how life on the Moon might be made possible with the help of sunlight, ice water and lunar dust.

264951 010
A World Without Slime?

Many children are told that slime is disgusting – and continue to think that as adults. But scientists say slime has amazing qualities and is essential for life. Slime can slide and stick, close and open. It can trap and confuse pathogens. Slime has a particular physical state: it’s a non-Newtonian fluid. And therein lies its secret. Researchers are exploring the capabilities of the slippery substances that are found throughout the natural world.

264951 011
Is Cryptocurrency the Better Money?

Cryptocurrencies have been sending shockwaves through the financial sector since their introduction. They have made some people millionaires and bankrupted others. What’s the technology behind cryptos? Do Bitcoin & Co. have any advantages over traditional money? Why do they worry many economists? Red flags include extreme price fluctuations and the voracious energy consumption involved in crypto mining. Crypto advocates believe the new kind of money is here to stay. Whoever might be right, cryptocurrencies have triggered an intense debate about the nature of money and central banks.

264951 012
Are Computers Prejudiced?

Who gets the job? Who gets the loan? And who has to go to jail? Decisions on such questions are made by people, who can be swayed by bias. If these decisions were entrusted to artificial intelligence, would that guarantee neutrality? AI systems are already used in sensitive areas of this kind. But can we be sure that these systems are working without discrimination? Or are we expecting too much from computers? Could one even teach them moral conduct?
The Mysteries of the Brain

The brain is the nerve center of the human body. It is the point where all information from the body and its environment is collected and processed into reactions and memories. Everything we think, say or do is controlled by the brain, as are processes that occur without our conscious input, such as understanding what we are seeing or hearing, feeling joy or fear, or recognizing danger. Researching the workings of the human brain is an even greater scientific challenge than decoding the human genome.

264762
Documentary,
02 x 30 min.,
2023, HD,
Arabic, English,
Spanish

14 additional episodes available

264762 023
The Power of Gentle Touch
Neuroscientific studies in recent years show that the human brain’s response to gentle touch is surprisingly strong. It releases important messenger chemicals that boost a sense of psychophysical well-being. Your brain can tell if you’re doing the touching or if someone else is. Touching ourselves, for example stroking an injured part of our body, can ease pain and even alleviate stress. The touch of others can strengthen social bonds and give us a sense of belonging. Crucial for these processes are special nerve cells with a hotline to the brain via the spinal cord neural circuit.

264762 024
IQ Test on Trial – The Diversity of Human Intelligence
For a long time, it was assumed that intelligence was measurable. But now, many researchers are taking a skeptical view of that claim. Today, a distinction is made between many different types of intelligence, such as those relating to language, abstractive ability and, say, interaction in team sports. Although it’s obvious that highly gifted people are set apart from the average, what’s not so clear is how intelligence is affected by genes, environmental stimuli, education or even nutrition. Interestingly, labeling someone “intelligent” or “less intelligent” can influence that individual’s performance in a learning environment.
The Quest for Knowledge

Humans have always had a thirst for knowledge – whether it be to improve their lives and circumstances or out of sheer curiosity and the urge to get to the bottom of things. Without scientific discoveries, humanity would not have evolved at such a rapid pace. Life as we know it today would be unthinkable without the knowledge we gain through science and scholarship. Innovations and new insights are integrated into our lives in ever quicker succession. We watch scientists, engineers and inventors as they look for ways to increase human knowledge. These fascinating films accompany them in their Quest for Knowledge.

264700 112
Forensics: Science Hot on the Heels of Crime
Botanists, entomologists, soil researchers and many other scientists hunt criminals from the lab. Forensic science is now an indispensable component of detective work. And its methods are becoming ever more sophisticated: for example, locating invisible blood traces or gleaning detailed information from the forest floor. Pollen analysis allows forensic scientists to look back centuries, as pollen grains are virtually indestructible and can lead to perpetrators long after the crime has been committed. Forensic scientists often supply crucial evidence in the investigation of serious crimes.

264700 113
The Battle for Drinking Water
Things are not looking good for our drinking water supplies. Natural reservoirs are shrinking to worryingly low levels because of climate change. Just 0.3 per cent of all the world's water is potable. Are we headed for disaster? Scientists are sounding the alarm. At the same time, they're working on projects that inspire hope: searching for sources of freshwater in the Mediterranean, investigating the role played by river deltas, and planning the renaturation of key reservoirs such as moorlands. In developing solutions for the future, researchers are also finding it useful to look to the past – the knowhow of the Peruvian Incas, for example, offers solutions to our drinking water problem that are more than a match for modern technological approaches.

264700 114
What Is Our Silence Saying?
Even when we're silent, we're still communicating. This is because our facial expressions and gestures speak volumes about our state of mind. Some things are firmly anchored within cultures, or even across cultures, and are generally understood. But aspects of our non-verbal communication that aren't immediately apparent can be identified and “translated” right down to the last detail. For example, science can help determine whether someone is lying in court and whether that has to do with, say, fear or cunning. Or it provides insights into how consumers perceive advertising. Research suggests that even the way we sit or move says a great deal about us. The crucial question, however, is: What are such insights used for?
Go Out and Play!

Play is deeply rooted in the behavior of humans and many species of animal. It comes as naturally to us as sleeping and dreaming. Some scientists even talk of a play instinct that helps drive evolutionary development. As children play outdoors, they discover what their bodies are capable of. In play, they also practice how to get along with others, learn from their mistakes and recognize potential dangers around them. Play teaches us to manage risks, while encouraging creativity and ultimately happiness. The tougher the challenges we face when we play, the greater the benefits for mind and body.

Turbo Evolution: Urban Flora and Fauna

If they are to survive, animals and plants must adapt to life in our increasingly urbanized world, for example by changing their eating habits or mating behavior. Nature appears to be astonishingly adept at harnessing apparently hostile factors such as environmental and light pollution, noise, garbage and the dense built environment as a motor for change. Many of these adaptations are reflected in changes to animal and plant DNA. In this turbo-charged evolution, genetic material changes over just a few decades instead of millennia. What does this mean for the relationship between humans and nature?

mRNA Technology – Medicine’s New Miracle Weapon?

The coronavirus crisis was a turning point in the development of messenger RNA technology. For a long time, it didn’t seem suited to therapeutic use, until it was successfully used as the basis for vaccines against Covid-19. mRNA technology has been undergoing rapid development ever since, bringing scientists working in the field closer to their goals, including the treatment of previously incurable heart and tumor diseases. More than 150 mRNA-based therapies and vaccines are in development worldwide. We explore the technology’s great potential and consider some of the risks.

Bacteria: Both Friend and Foe

Bacteria get a bad rap. People associate them with disease and death. But humans carry just as many microbes in and on them as cells in their body. And many of the bacteria play an important role in maintaining health. Scientists are identifying “good” and “bad” bacteria and seeking to utilize these insights in medicine and industry. For example, in the development of medicines and cleaning agents that don’t kill all bacteria but intervene in a regulatory fashion to create the right mix.

Geoengineering: Can Technology Save the Climate?

If we can’t halt climate change, should we try to intervene in the climate system to mitigate the impact of our harmful emissions? That’s what geoengineering aims to do. It’s an approach that’s gaining traction in climate research. One aspect is to develop technologies to extract and store CO2 from the air. Another is to find ways to reflect sunlight back into space in order to reduce global warming. As scientists experiment with such possible solutions, are we simply being distracted from the core issue: the need to slash greenhouse gas emissions? And should we mess with a system that we don’t fully understand?

Seaweed: The Oceans’ Brown Gold

Seaweed is a source of iodine, which is an antiseptic. But that is not all: Scientists have discovered that large algae, which often grow in extensive underwater forests, have a whole range of other qualities. They’re indispensable for biodiversity and play a key role in the absorption of carbon dioxide and thus in climate protection. Research teams from France and Chile are working together to explore the scientific and economic potential of seaweed forests off the coasts of the two countries. Key goals are to promote seaweed farming and protect seaweed forests. They are a resource under threat: They will disappear if global warming continues at its current rate.
digital

The digital revolution has advanced into many areas of our lives. For most people, digital technologies are now an intrinsic part of both working life and leisure time. In many ways, they enrich our life and make it easier – for example, by making information and resources accessible, providing a diverse range of communication platforms, and taking on monotonous or dangerous jobs. Highly complex systems can now detect cancer cells in tissue samples more quickly and efficiently than ever before, or brake vehicles ahead of a potential collision. But these technologies also harbor risks. Many everyday interactions require us to divulge a huge amount of personal information – used by unknown entities to bombard us with news, marketing and political messages. The question remains: Who – or what – are the better decision-makers. Humans or machines?

264940

Documentary,
05 x 30 min.,
2022–2023, HD;
Arabic, English, Spanish
10 additional episodes available

264940 011

Digital Attraction – Challenging Beauty Ideals

Everyone needs profile pictures for social media or job applications. On digital platforms, self-portrayal often turns into self-marketing. What some consider blemishes can be easily removed with the help of filters. This leads to the dissemination on social media of physical ideals far removed from reality – and to these ideals becoming more homogeneous around the world. How does the way people really look and see themselves relate to their tweaked online images? And who decides what’s beautiful and what is not?

264940 012

The Spirit of Tech – How Mind and Matter Relate

Religion and digital technologies have more in common than we might think. Both are bound up with desires, fears and hopes. Many of the promises of the technological universe built on data and algorithms resemble those of mainstream religions. The digital age is creating its own brand of savior – the likes of Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk. Devotees of dataism believe that the entire universe consists of data flows. Some hope that with the help of data we will at some point be able to give machines some sort of consciousness. But how many of the secrets of life can really be described or even “recreated” using scientific methods, with math or physics? Will humans ever be in a position to create conscious machines – or will machines be able to develop a consciousness of their own accord?

264940 013

Delegated Responsibility – What Sort of Tasks Can We Entrust to Machines?

Whether it’s autonomous vehicles, autonomous drones or medical applications, technological progress has vastly expanded the scope of human activity in recent years. But technology can be used to both good and bad ends. Drones can be deployed as weapons of war – or, say, used to locate and recover the injured following natural catastrophes. In medicine, AI is already used to grade the genetic viability of harvested human eggs. But should machines then decide which should be fertilized and implanted, and which discarded? Scientists, philosophers and programmers are all grappling with the question of how much responsibility should be assigned to machines – and which decisions are best left to humans.
What is Reality? – How Deepfakes Work

Deepfakes are synthetic media created by Artificial Intelligence, where real people are made to say and do things that they have not actually said or done. Experts fear that, by the year 2030, up to 90 per cent of all online videos could consist of synthetically generated images. These days it’s already difficult to tell a deepfake from an authentic video. And the Computer-Generated Imagery applications used to create this kind of material are now very user-friendly and accessible to all. Should we be defending reality against fakes? And if so, how?

Data Protection – How to Maintain a Safe Online Presence

What do cybercriminals, Big Tech companies and intelligence agencies have in common? They’re all keen to get their hands on Internet users’ personal data. That’s because in the 21st century control of this kind of information equals power. But divulging personal data is necessary for using online tools and for taking part in society nowadays. What might adequate online data protection look like? Different issues require different approaches: for example, raising awareness among young people about safeguarding their private lives; or ensuring journalists can send sensitive material via secure channels. If Internet users want a safe online experience, what questions should they be asking themselves? And what tools and strategies can they use as they navigate the web in their everyday lives?
For screening and comprehensive catalog information, please register online at b2b.dw.com.
TeleMed

Huge progress has been made in medicine in recent decades. For example, the discovery of fiber optics has made it possible to take a close look at the stomach and intestines. Magnetic resonance imaging creates three-dimensional images without using harmful X-rays. Advances in intensive care, transplantation and genetic engineering are making it possible to tackle diseases previously regarded as incurable. But there is still much uncharted scientific territory, for example with regard to diseases that have only emerged with our civilization.

264607 107
Tired All the Time: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
People with chronic fatigue syndrome suffer a catalog of ill effects. Often their complaints aren't taken seriously; their permanent tiredness puts huge pressure on their relationships and can result in social isolation. The process is usually gradual: physical and mental resilience decreases with no obvious cause. The disease has come under greater scrutiny since the coronavirus pandemic and the emergence of long COVID. One hypothesis is that viruses can trigger the syndrome.

264607 108
Herbal or Synthetic Medication: The Risks and Side-Effects
Herbal products are gaining in popularity worldwide. Whether used to treat a cold, a chronic illness or a wound that isn't healing properly, they are often seen as gentler alternatives to conventional medicines. Many pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies have responded to the growing demand. It is often claimed that herbal supplements harness "the gentle power of nature" but that doesn't mean they are free of side-effects. Nor are they always effective in treating an illness. In some cases, the best results may be attained with a combination of herbal products and conventional medicines.

264607 109
Back to Active Life: The Healing Power of Movement
Physical exercise can ease symptoms and even slow the progression of a range of diseases and conditions – ranging from back pain to certain cardiovascular disorders. We've known for a long time about the benefits of regular exercise. But recent research shows it can also be an important part of cancer treatment, reducing side-effects and improving overall physical health and mental well-being.

264607 110
Menopause: The Hormonal Rollercoaster
Many women over 40 suddenly find themselves dealing with unfamiliar physical and emotional discomfort: from hot flushes, muscle and joint pain and insomnia to forgetfulness and dramatic mood swings. This can be very unsettling for those not initially aware of the cause. The changes are triggered by the hormonal upheaval associated with the gradual cessation of the menstrual cycle. Nowadays there are many ways to alleviate the symptoms of menopause and the anxiety they bring – from various medical treatments and dietary changes to psychotherapy and support groups.
Struggle for Survival

One in four species of mammal, one in eight species of bird and a third of all amphibian species are threatened with extinction. The diversity of life on our planet is declining at an alarming rate. The International Union for Conservation of Nature’s Red List of Threatened Species shows that not enough is being done to save them. The number of species on it has increased dramatically. Immediate, drastic action is required to preserve valuable habitats and halt the extinction of species.

264702  054
On a Knife Edge – The Survival of the Iberian Lynx
Early this century, the Iberian lynx was on the verge of extinction, with a population of about 150 in just two areas in Spain. But then came the first successful captive breeding program, with a lynx named Saliega. Her first litter marked the start of a campaign to reintroduce this small, wild-rabbit-hunting species of lynx to other regions across the Iberian Peninsula.

264702  055
Mexico: Rescue Team for Sea Lions
All too often, sea lions in Mexico become entangled in fishing nets. Although they are usually able to free themselves, many sustain serious injuries or can’t shake off pieces of net around their tail or fins, and then die a painful death. A team of vets and other experts set out to catch such endangered sea lions and conduct life-saving operations.

264702  056
Freedom not Captivity – Goldfinches in Algeria
Goldfinches are popular pets in Algeria. Captured in the wild, they end up in cages in living rooms across the country – and in such numbers that they’ve become a rare sight out in nature. Conservationists appreciate their compatriots’ fondness for goldfinches, but they want to reduce the demand for wild specimens to ensure that goldfinches don’t disappear altogether.

264702  057
Otters Challenged by Climate Change
Eurasian otters are small, agile, and hunt fish. They need clean rivers and lakes framed by natural vegetation, something that’s becoming increasingly rare as industrial farming and urban development spread. Although the species is widespread from North Africa to East Asia, it’s under threat in many regions. Targeted protection projects are often successful. But the Eurasian otter is facing a new, powerful threat in the form of climate change.

264702  058
Saving the Sea Turtles of the Adriatic
Many species of sea turtle are on the list of animals facing extinction. The loggerhead turtle is considered vulnerable. Specimens often get caught up in fishing nets in the Mediterranean. Fishermen in an area of southeastern Italy can now alert a local conservationist when this happens, and he will collect the injured turtles and take them to the veterinary clinic at the University of Bari for a check-up before returning them to the waters of the Adriatic.
The Great Outdoors
Our National Parks

All around the globe, national parks play a key role in maintaining the ecological balance and biodiversity of our world. As nature reserves, they promote the natural and long-term development of extensive habitats and their species and ecosystems. National parks provide people with the scope and space for scientific research and education, as well as for leisure and tourism. This series takes a fascinating look at national parks all over the world. Using breathtaking footage, we show the unique character of these biospheres.

164836 032
A Park of Superlatives – Wood Buffalo National Park, Canada
Covering almost 45,000 square kilometers, Canada’s largest national park is also the second largest in the world. It’s also the biggest dark sky preserve on Earth. Founded in 1922 to protect a herd of free-roaming wood bison, it is now home to around 3,000 of the animals – the largest free-roaming herd left in the world. There’s no better place to observe North America’s largest land mammal than here in the unspoiled heart of Canada. With the Peace-Athabasca Delta, the Wood Buffalo National Park also boasts one of the largest freshwater inland river deltas on Earth.

164836 033
Protected by the Jungle – Pù Mát National Park, Vietnam
Large swathes of the Pù Mát National Park are thick virgin forest, offering a natural sanctuary to native species. But some of these animals are threatened by poaching: Asiatic black bears are hunted for their bile, which is used in traditional medicine, and pangolins for their scales and meat. Park rangers and staff at the animal protection agency “Save Vietnam's Wildlife” do their utmost to ensure the safety of these and other endangered animals.

164836 034
Life On and In The Water – Tun Sakaran Marine Park, Malaysia
This marine reserve off the coast of Borneo comprises eight volcanic islands and one of the most species-rich reefs in the world. While the vibrant diversity of underwater life draws scuba-diving day trippers, members of the native Sama Dilaut community live on the water in boats and pile houses. But since the archipelago was designated a nature reserve, their traditional way of life has been under threat. While some families felt compelled to leave, others have found eco-friendly ways to earn a living there, such as the cultivation and sale of algae.
164836 035
The Mysterious Rainforest – Darkwoods Conservation Area, Canada
The world has very few temperate rainforests that are not located close to the sea. One of them is the Darkwoods Conservation Area in southwestern Canada. In the country’s largest private nature reserve, meltwater creates a cold, damp climate where several at-risk tree species thrive, among them whitebark pines. Lichen on the oldest pines sustains the last mountain caribous of North America, which share this pristine habitat with grizzly bears, rare freshwater salmon, and threatened bat species that live in vast abandoned mines.

164836 036
Balancing Nature Protection and Mass Tourism – Banff National Park, Canada
Canada’s oldest national park is also one of its most popular. The landscapes of mountains, glaciers, rivers and lakes are breathtaking. Banff National Park in the Rocky Mountains is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site and attracts more than four million visitors from around the world each year. They come to experience unspoiled nature. But hosting so many people while conserving the environment is a major challenge for the staff at the park.

164836 037
In the Giant Lizards’ Realm – Komodo National Park, Indonesia
The national park where the biggest attraction is a population of rare Komodo dragons comprises three islands and the sea that surrounds them. People living on the islands have mixed feelings about the giant lizards, which threaten their livestock but also attract the tourists they depend on for their livelihoods. Ranger David Hau, an expert on Komodo dragons, works to maintain neighborly relations between humans and beasts.

164836 038
Where the Water Shines - Iberá National Park, Argentina
The Esteros del Iberá in northeastern Argentina is one of the world’s largest freshwater wetlands. It was under threat from industrial farming until a private foundation got involved and worked to renature a large part of the region and restore biodiversity there. It then handed that area over to the state, which established the national park in 2018. One highlight among the conservation projects is the reintroduction of jaguars after decades of absence.

164836 039
At the Foot of the Himalayas – Shuklaphanta National Park, Nepal
The nature reserve in southwestern Nepal founded in 1973 extends over grassland, river valleys and forests, from lowlands to elevations of more than a thousand meters. It’s home to a multitude of rare and threatened plants and animals, including one of the world’s largest populations of swamp deer. Conservationists and rangers not only monitor and protect tigers, Indian rhinoceroses, crocodiles and other species, but also work to raise awareness of nature conservation issues within local communities.

164836 040
Darwin’s Legacy – Galápagos National Park, Ecuador
Due to their isolated location in the Pacific Ocean, the Galápagos Islands are home to many endemic plant and animal species and are thus a perfect place for biological research. The naturalist Charles Darwin described the volcanic islands as “a little world within itself”; what he discovered there was a key impulse behind his theory of evolution. Almost the entire archipelago is a national park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This does impose some restrictions on the 25,000 people living there, but many of them consider nature conservation a top priority.
Global Ideas

Melting polar caps, devastating hurricanes, and rising sea levels. The changes ascribed to climate change are disheartening to say the least. Our series Global Ideas features people across the world who are pursuing innovative projects to counter global warming.

To reduce greenhouse gases, maintain biodiversity, provide food for thought, and promote effective action – these are the goals of the projects we profile. We present initiatives that are exemplary in character and creative in approach. Each show has four reports. All the projects are “best practice” models, featuring ideas worthy of emulation.

SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

Mozambique – Legalizing Gold Prospecting
Illegal prospectors at the Chimanimani National Park in Mozambique are damaging the environment. In their quest for gold and precious stones, they often chop down trees and contaminate the water with toxic mercury. So, the provincial government has started a program to help miners set up their own, legal and eco-friendly mining cooperatives.

Dominican Republic – Tourism Industry Reduces Plastic Waste
The Dominican Republic markets itself as a tropical island paradise of white-sand beaches and blue ocean. Yet mass tourism produces heaps of plastic waste. Now Eddy Rosado from the UN Environment Program is helping the tourism industry clean up its act.

South Africa – Tax Breaks for Nature Conservation
Financial expert Candice Stevens shows South Africa’s landowners how turning their holdings into protected areas can cut their tax bill and protect the environment. She and her NGO Wilderness Foundation Africa have transformed 500,000 hectares into nature reserves.

Indonesia – Leather from Mushrooms
Adi Reza Nugroho’s startup, Mycotech, makes fabric out of mushrooms. The fungi grow on a substrate of locally sourced organic waste. The mycelium leather produced in Bandung, on Indonesia’s main island Java, is vegan and eco-friendly. It’s already being used to make shoes.
SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

Ghana – Sustainable Sugar Cane Cultivation
The sugar cane industry in Ghana has been in crisis for years. Farmers use chemicals, and burn crop residues in the fields, destroying the soil. In addition, climate change means less and less rain. Ghanaian Audrey S-Darko wants to convince farmers to adapt cultivation methods that improve harvests and protect the environment.

Colombia – Pablo Escobar’s Hippos
The Rio Magdalena in the province of Antioquia is the home of Dona Chavita. She offers tourist trips for people want to see something truly unique: Hippos. Not in Africa, but in Colombia. The animals’ presence is a legacy of the drug lord Pablo Escobar. And unfortunately, they are a problem.

Maldives – Sea Grass Protects Islands and the Climate
A valuable ecosystem lies on the Maldives' seabed: seagrass beds. Once threatened, they are now being studied and protected. In the fight against climate change, they are valuable reservoirs for carbon dioxide. They also protect the islands from erosion.

Namibia/Botswana – Oil Exploration Threatens the Okavango Delta
The Okavango Delta is a unique natural paradise in southern Africa. But it is threatened. A Canadian company is drilling for oil and gas on the Okavango River in Namibia - in the middle of a protected area. Local residents and conservationists are alarmed.
175 Years of Zeiss
The Rise of a Global Company

175 years ago, the young mechanic Carl Zeiss opened a small workshop for precision mechanics and optics. These humble beginnings in the German city of Jena were the foundation of the Zeiss technology company, which today operates worldwide.

The production of glass with game-changing optical properties was one of the developments that helped Carl Zeiss create a company that valued scientific research highly, while never forgetting science’s social impact. Zeiss microscopes have been used by more than 30 Nobel Prize winners. To this day, these instruments offer unrivaled image resolution, with lenses that can display structures one thousand times smaller than a human hair. Light microscopes allow living cells to be examined with extreme gentleness and speed.

The Zeiss company was involved in the moon landing in 1969, and thus helped redefine the limits of what humans are capable of. Images of the historic event were captured using Zeiss camera lenses developed specially for space. These lenses were key to the later development of photolithography, which plays a decisive role in the production of microchips. Developments in extreme ultraviolet lithography led to Zeiss winning the German Future Prize together with the Fraunhofer Institute and the Trumpf company.

The DW documentary delves into history of the Zeiss company and also examines current developments in the photonics sector, in which the firm is a key player.
Farming for the Planet

Agriculture is under pressure to feed a burgeoning global population. And it has undergone dramatic developments in this regard over the last 100 years. But increasing industrialization of the sector has negative consequences: it burdens the environment and replaces manpower with technology, providing fewer people with a livelihood. If these developments continue unchecked, then before long the food we eat will be controlled by large corporations, and food markets will be geared towards short-term profit – at the expense of non-renewable resources such as land and water, at the expense of the rural population and biodiversity. But this is not the only way forward. Sustainable agricultural approaches and an efficient smallholding economy can in utilization of natural resources. There are examples of this all over the world, pursued by people who are Farming for the Planet.

064858 022
The Power of Community – For Sustainable Farming
Travelling abroad as a young man, the agricultural engineer and farmer’s son Rudolf Bühler gained first-hand knowledge of the situation facing farmers in Africa, Syria and Bangladesh. He realized that if smallholders pursuing sustainable farming are to stand a chance in the face of industrial farming, they need to work together. Back in Germany, in 1988 he founded an agricultural producers’ organization, which today has more than 1,500 members. Bühler campaigns for farmers’ rights around the world and for sustainable, organic farming – as an adviser to the United Nations, in conflicts with the farming industry, and in partnership with groups such as India’s pepper growers.

064858 023
From the Garden of the Sea – Seaweed Farmers in Europe
Although 70 per cent of the Earth’s surface is covered by water, overall only a small fraction of our food comes from the sea. Seaweed is, however, a foodstuff that’s both nutritious and sustainable. While it has been on the menu in parts of eastern Asia for millennia, in other regions the idea is still catching on. Along the coast of Norway, where the waters are often very clear and nutrient-rich, the seaweed growing business is gradually gaining momentum.

064858 024
Back to Basics – Kenyan Agriculture Responds to Climate Change
While northern Kenya is gripped by drought, farmers in the fertile west of the country struggle to cope with increasingly unpredictable weather. In both regions, climate change means farmers and cattle-herders are facing new challenges. The Kenyan food scientist Ruth Oniang’o promotes the cultivation of nutritious and climate-resilient indigenous crops to ensure food security and is calling for a shift away from importing maize. Cattle-herders in the north are moving to Lake Turkana in the desert in a bid to survive by catching fish.

064858 025
Productivity and Animal Welfare – The Modern Dairy Cow
Pricing pressure has been forcing dairy farmers in Germany and Switzerland to rear larger, more productive cows. But this is bad for the animals’ health. While some farmers throw in the towel, others are reverting to smaller cows or trying to balance animal welfare and enhancing productivity. It’s an issue that agronomists at a German research institute are seeking to address: Opportunities for natural behavior and activities are important for dairy cows’ wellbeing and yield.

064858 026
From Curse to Blessing – Aquaculture in the Floodplains of Bangladesh
Large swathes of Bangladesh and its farmland are flooded every year during the monsoon season. In one of the worst-hit regions, an NGO has developed a program whereby farmers switch between paddy and pond, and earn a living part of the year from aquaculture. This seasonal solution also improves conditions for growing rice the rest of the year, by reducing the presence of weeds and parasites and enriching the soil with natural nutrients. But where this is being practiced, tensions have emerged, as has the potential for conflicts over land and access to freshwater.
Guardians of Truth

DW’s series follows Can Dündar as he meets other Guardians of Truth – activists, journalists and politicians – exiles like him forced out of their homelands. He investigates their struggles as they make new lives for themselves while pursuing their dangerous quest for truth. He talks to them about their motivations and the personal cost of speaking out against authoritarian politics.

Can Dündar’s personal history allows a unique insight into the lives and minds of these fighters for democracy and freedom. In Erdoğan’s Turkey, Can Dündar has been regarded as ‘Public Enemy No. 1’ ever since he exposed illegal arms shipments by the Turkish government to Syria back in 2015. Declared as a terrorist by Turkey’s President and threatened with imprisonment, Can Dündar survived an assassination attempt and fled to Germany.

884952
Documentary,
02 x 60 min.,
2022–2023 HD;
Arabic, English,
German, Hindi,
Spanish
01 x 60 min.,
Turkish
01 x 60 min.,
Russian
Trailer

884952 001
Can Dündar Meets Anabel Hernández

Dündar meets the journalist Anabel Hernández, who’s been investigating drug-related crime and corruption in Mexico for more than 20 years, publishing numerous books and articles on the subject. She is best-known for highlighting close links between the government and the drug clans – groundbreaking research that almost cost her her life. Luckily, she wasn’t at home on the day 11 armed men showed up to shoot her dead. She knew then that she would have to leave her home country. Not that she doesn’t return from time to time, under tight security, to continue her work and see her family. Can Dündar meets her in exile and then again, during one of these highly dangerous trips back home. He poses the pivotal question: what’s driving her to take this huge risk again and again?

It’s a question that Anabel Hernández grapples with herself. She knows that each time she says goodbye to her family, it could be the final farewell. Whenever she leaves for a research trip to Mexico, she makes sure her son’s documents are prepared and accessible, in case of an “emergency”, she says. Even before he could walk, the little boy has always been accompanied by bodyguards, she adds, almost apologetically. But she also says this: “It’s my homeland, and we journalists are the prosecutors, there’s no independent judiciary, no justice, people have to know what’s happening.”
Can Dünder Meets Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya has a mission not of her choosing. In 2020, her husband Sergej made the transition from blogger to presidential candidate, standing against the dictator of Belarus, Lukashenko. Like all opponents deemed to be potentially dangerous, he was thrown in jail. In a spontaneous move, his wife Sviatlana declared her own candidacy for the post – and was permitted to run. The dictator didn’t see her as a threat – but Tsikhanouskaya and her team captured the hearts of the people and her popularity levels soared. When election day came Lukashenko claimed victory with an alleged 80 per cent of the vote, leading hundreds of thousands of people to cry fraud and take to the streets in protest. Tsikhanouskaya received death threats and was forced into exile.

However, her fight against the dictator Lukashenko continues – from Lithuania. Tsikhanouskaya has been received by world leaders and showered with awards. Can Dünder accompanies her on her travels and experiences her struggle to secure freedom for political prisoners, including her husband Sergej. Dünder encounters a woman who, to this day, doesn’t feel totally at ease in her role. How can someone who never wanted power be a leader?
Full Report Zoom

DW’s on-the-ground reporters are always close to the action, be it covering international events or zooming in on the quirks of daily life. Camera always in hand, they report on the changes they see taking place in Europe and around the world. This represents a selection of reports from our ongoing series.

Imam and Gay – Islam and Tolerance
Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed wants an Islam that is more tolerant of the LGBTQ community. He’s fighting for gay Muslims to be able to live their lives openly without fear or shame.

Brussels Sends an Envoy – EU Aid in Latin America?
Janez Lenarčič is the EU’s Commissioner for Crisis Management. However, he also deals with problems far beyond Europe’s borders. In Colombia, Janez Lenarčič meets with the leaders of an indigenous community that is in urgent need of medical care and sanitary facilities. The European Union aims to set up its first permanent emergency response center outside of Europe, with a focus on humanitarian aid and disaster preparedness programs.

Famine: SOS Somalia
Somalia is struggling through its worst drought in 40 years. Half the population is dependent on food aid. By mid-2023, as many as half a million children under the age of five could die, says the United Nations. It’s warning of a humanitarian disaster unless an urgently needed one billion U.S. dollars in aid money arrives in time.

SAMPLE EPISODES

Dwarf Bullfighters – Tradition or Spectacle?
Their numbers may be dwindling, but they’re still around: Short-statured people who entertain audiences at bullfights in Spain. They call themselves “dwarf toreros.” Organizations promoting equality for short-statured people want to see dwarf bullfighting shows banned. But the dwarf toreros want to keep performing. They say arena shows are fun and without them, their livelihood is at stake.

Red Gold – Mozambique’s Rubies – A Blessing or a Curse?
Rubies are increasingly prized on the international gemstone market. The world’s largest ruby mine is in northern Mozambique, where thousands of people are fleeing Islamist militias. Can the lucrative business improve the lives of the people there?

Afghanistan under the Taliban – A Land of different Truths
When the Taliban returned to power, life changed dramatically for the people of Afghanistan, and for women first and foremost. Our reporters travelled there to find out what life is like under militant Islamist rule.
Zapovednik
A Political Satire

844956
Animation, 52 x 12 min., 2023, HD; Subtitled English, Russian

Animation for grown-ups!

Renowned Russian spin doctors, Wolf and Hare, are busy discussing the hottest political issues of the day. Every week they rip the political elites to shreds – from Putin to Biden, Erdogan to Scholz. Dissecting political scandals, the big issues and the intrigue.

In their newscast summary, Wolf – biting, cynical, meticulous, and Hare – cowardly, prone to compromise and panic, comment on the current political situation in Russia and its aggression against Ukraine. They are supported by Crow – a reporter, able to get anywhere at all without being noticed, doing the roving reports, and Owl – the editor, putting the stories on air.

The characters’ discussions are illustrated by sketches of 1–5 minutes, involving Russian and foreign politicians. In places where people, animals, money and the last remnants of common sense disappear.

The animation is created using a state-of-the-art game development environment, with the animated characters coming to life through real-life actors and motion capture. An innovative new production technique makes it all possible. This show is politics stripped bare and with no make-up – DW’s animated satire Zapovednik (The Nature Reserve).
Classical Music under the Swastika

The Maestro and the Cellist in Auschwitz

Why was classical music so important to the German dictator Adolf Hitler and his propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels? The stories of the persecuted Jewish cellist Anita Lasker-Wallfisch and the conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler, who cooperated with the Nazis to a certain degree, provide insights into the musical life of the German dictatorship between 1933 and 1945.

The film’s main protagonists are two people who represent musical culture during the Nazi era in very different ways: Celebrity conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler and a cellist in the women’s orchestra at Auschwitz, Anita Lasker-Wallfisch. On the one hand, a world-famous conductor who wielded great influence with Hitler and his cronies. On the other, a young German Jewish woman imprisoned at Auschwitz, who only survived because of her musical talent. Both were affected by the Nazi dictatorship: Furtwängler opted to stay in Germany and was courted by the Nazis. For Lasker-Wallfisch however, her cello was the only thing protecting her from the brutality of everyday life in the concentration camp. Classical music, which they both loved, was performed by the Berlin Philharmonic but could also be heard at Nazi party rallies in Nuremberg and in concentration camps such as Auschwitz. Why did gifted artists like Furtwängler cooperate with the Nazi regime? Why was music played in the death camps? And how did this affect the victims’ view of music?

German music was used to legitimate the supremacy of the Third Reich on the world stage and distract from the Nazis’ wrongdoings. As well as Beethoven, Bach and Bruckner, Richard Wagner enjoyed a particularly high status as Hitler’s favorite composer. Hitler was very conscious of the power of music; his propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels controlled all musical life in Nazi Germany, where Jewish artists no longer had a place. The Berlin Philharmonic was rebranded as the “Reich’s Orchestra”.

Interview partners in this music documentary by Christian Berger include the conductors Daniel Barenboim and Christian Thielemann, Wilhelm Furtwängler’s children and of course the cellist Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, now almost 100 years old. Her recollections are the most poignant and moving. Archive footage restored and colorized especially for the film brings these stories to life and bears witness to a dramatic period in history.
The Art of Space

Green oases in the desert sands. Cool high-rise blocks and mythical gardens. Floating cities and underwater settlements. Skyscrapers and towers. Architecture in a category of its own, employing the most up-to-the-minute construction designs and traditional composition in natural spaces. From the breathtaking to the bizarre, the series The Art of Space shows the incredible variety of spatial experimentation being conducted today. It shines the spotlight on the risks and opportunities presented by the ever-changing face of our world.

564704 108
Inspired by Bauhaus – Tel Aviv's "White City"
More than 4,000 structures in what’s known as the International Style were built in Tel Aviv between the 1930s and the 1950s. Many of the architects were Jewish Europeans who had emigrated to what was then the British Mandate of Palestine; some had fled the Nazis. They adapted their idea of modern architecture to the hot climate of their new home – and created a unique architectural ensemble that’s been awarded UNESCO World Cultural Heritage status.

564704 109
From Derelict Ruin to Dream Home – Tough Renovation Projects
What do an old townhouse with a sandstone façade and a small Baroque castle have in common? Both ooze charm and both require a great deal of creativity and determination if they are to be transformed into dream homes. A married couple and a young family each embark on the challenge that is property renovation.

564704 110
Attractive and Affordable? – Rooftop Homes
The cities of the world are getting ever more crowded. That’s why urban planners are looking for new places to build. For example, famous architects such as Zaha Hadid und Norman Foster have built upwards, designing spectacular roof extensions. As well as small-scale projects involving the addition of one or two storeys, city rooftops could also potentially host larger construction ventures such as social housing.

564704 111
Living in Hamburg – New Life for Old Buildings
Many of the most sought-after properties in the northern German port city of Hamburg look out onto the water. One that doesn’t is a World War Two bunker that has been converted into a 15-unit apartment building with a communal roof garden. Outside the city, the Hasselburg Estate has been restored and turned into a centre for performing arts and music where visitors can rent lovely holiday apartments.

564704 112
Reclaiming the City – New Urban Spaces
Decommissioned roads and railway tracks are being turned into parks all over the world. The High Line in New York is a great example. Where cars or trains once roared past, people can now stroll or cycle at a leisurely pace. The aim is to make cities more liveable, to make better use of urban space. Where railway lines go underground, there is more room above ground for parks and homes.

564704 113
Cable Cars – Alleviating Public Transport Pressure
Urban transport experts consider cable cars an excellent way to enhance mobility, especially where the terrain is hilly or a river slices through a city. Where cars, buses and trains have to follow steep and winding paths, cable cars often go straight to their destinations. Cities in South America are leading the way in adopting the technology. It’s relatively quick and cheap to build the infrastructure, and modern cable cars are fast and stable – even in high winds.
Urban Re-Densification – Sustainable and Sparing with Resources
There are ways to expand existing buildings in sustainable fashion, without using massive amounts of construction material. The quality of life can be enhanced and open spaces retained. For example, rooftops can serve as building plots. Downward expansion can also yield very liveable homes. Examples from London, Berlin and Singapore show how cities can grow with the help of clever and creative ideas.

Modern and Charming – Re-Boot Old Buildings
Two buildings that could hardly be more different: an old farmhouse and a 1930s flat-roofed city bungalow. But when it comes to their renovation, the challenges are similar: to retain as much of the old structure as possible and to create a modern and pleasurable place to live.

The Palaces of Chettinad – India’s Cultural Legacy
The Chettinad region is a treasure trove of Indian architecture, with thousands of palaces spread across 73 villages. These imposing mansions were built in the 19th and early 20th centuries by the Chettiars, a caste of merchants. The mansions embody architectural influences from East and West and were made of the finest materials. While the owners are doing all they can to preserve this cultural legacy, many of the structures are falling into disrepair.

Complex and Multi-Layered – New Building Landscapes
Large structures that respect and enhance their surroundings while also creating new urban spaces are among the most interesting and innovative architectural statements of our time. The two main buildings of Ewha Womans University in Seoul are mostly below ground level; between them is a long ‘valley’ open to the sky, allowing natural light into the rooms. Both the valley and the rooftop parks are open to the public.

A Life Less Ordinary – Spaces with Character
When non-residential buildings are converted into homes, the interior spaces often need remodelling. In an old factory in Berlin, the architect made the cavernous space feel cosy with the addition of wooden cubes to serve as bedrooms, assembling them like a small village.

Awaji Yumebutai – Tadao Ando’s “Stage of Dreams”
Cascades, ponds and flower beds framed in a grid of stone and bounded by flights of concrete steps: Awaji Yumebutai is a work of art combining architecture and gardens. The Japanese architect Tadao Ando designed it as a memorial to the thousands of people killed in the earthquake that struck the small island of Awaji and the nearby city of Kobe in 1995. Located on a steep hillside, the 28-hectare site is a marvelous synthesis of sea, sky, nature and architecture.
It’s Christmas!

**304958 001**
**The Real Story of Santa**
The Father Christmas story is a blend of pagan rituals and the legend of Saint Nicholas of Myra, born around 270 A.D. in Anatolia. Nicholas was said to have performed many miracles. After his death, his remains were taken to Italy and France. He became known as a protector of children and the patron saint of several European cities. As legend would have it, every year on December 6 he would take to the streets and give out presents and sweets to well-behaved children. The Dutch called him Sinter Klaas, and emigrants from The Netherlands took his story with them to America. In the 19th century, a group of writers and artists in New York City created the modern Father Christmas: a jolly, rotund old man with a white beard and a red coat who comes down the chimney with a bag of gifts. And this is how most of the world knows him today: An icon of pop culture and hero of consumerism.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; English, Spanish**

**304958 002**
**The Taste of Christmas: Traditional Viennese Baking**
Christmas is a time to forget the waistline for a bit and indulge in a few sweet treats. Homes are filled with the smells of baked goods flavored with dried fruits and warming spices. European Christmas baking traditions have a long history with origins in pagan customs. But in the early days, sugar was a luxury and only the wealthy could afford to eat such delicacies. Today, Viennese confectioners’ windows at Christmas time are a veritable showcase of Austrian baking culture: from stollen to vanilla crescent cookies, Linzer cookies to merengues, gingerbread to Tyrolean fruit bread. Some pastry chefs still use recipes handed down through generations of bakers—secrets they will never divulge.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; English, Spanish**
Silent Night, Holy Night: The Story of a World-Famous Song

More than 200 years ago, a song was written to bring comfort and hope at Christmastime. Over the years, “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht” (Silent Night, Holy Night) has become a hymn for peace sung in 300 languages and dialects worldwide. Few other songs can claim such immense global fame – although hardly anyone knows the names of its creators, Franz Xaver Gruber and Joseph Mohr! What’s so special about this simple melody and the six verses? “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht” was written in the 19th century at a time of great hardship and hunger in the Salzburg region. After the Napoleonic wars and several bitter winters, people were struggling to survive. Historians explain how the song reached the U.S. via Russia and Germany and eventually captivated the world. In 2011, “Silent Night” was even included on UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage List.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; English, Spanish

Additional Christmas content:

Life and Style | Euromaxx
Clips, 03 – 05 min., HD; English

Christmas Tradition: Nuremberg Gingerbread
Greccio: Where the Nativity Scene Originated
The Taste of Christmas!
Traditional Christmas Fare: Germany
Master Chocolatier Sarah Gierig
Traditional Christmas Fare from Sweden
Huge Nativity-Scene Sand Sculptures, Canary Islands
Traditional Christmas Fare: France
The Toy Village of Seiffen in the German Ore Mountains
The Viennese Snow Globe – Souvenir from Another Time
From Glögg to Turkey: Christmas Dinners Around Europe
Europe’s Biggest Gingerbread Town
Panettone from Prison
What Makes German Christmas Markets so Special?
Herrnhut Stars: An Export Hit from Saxony
Rent-a-Tree
The World’s Largest Hand-Carved Nativity Scene?

O Christmas Tree!
World Issues | Full Report Zoom:
For many families, fetching their own Christmas tree from the forest is a key part of the festive season.
Report, 12 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish

Dance! – Semyon wants to take the stage
World Issues | Full Report Zoom:
The Nutcracker is a well-loved Christmas ballet – among aspiring young dancers too
Report, 12 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish
Unlocking the Past

Wherever people live, they leave traces behind them. Some of these are temporary, others survive the test of time. What we know about the history of humanity we owe to such traces: impressive buildings; magnificent works of art, music and literature; great achievements in the fields of science and technology – but also everyday objects, transit routes, the remains of settlements or ritual sites. All over the world, scientists are investigating the often hidden traces of past eras and cultures. They preserve the remains of the past for the future, and explore the wide range of human activity over many millennia.

364763 043 Narbo Martius: Rome’s Eldest Daughter
Narbonne, a quiet provincial town in southern France, was once one of the most powerful cities in the Roman Empire. In the first century B.C., it was known by the name of Narbo Martius and was the first Roman colony in Gaul, described as exquisitely beautiful by the writers of the day. Today, a necropolis and the remains of a large port complex testify to the huge wealth of what was once a key Mediterranean trading hub. Archeologists are putting Rome’s eldest daughter Narbo Martius back on the map.

364763 044 The Queens of Saqqara
Saqqara, on the western bank of the Nile, is home to the largest group of ancient Egyptian tombs. Two of the pyramids were for queens who lived more than four thousand years ago, Behenu and Ankhhesenpepi II. The walls of their burial chambers are filled with columns of hieroglyphic texts. Such texts, intended to help the dead secure eternal life in the sky with the gods, were usually reserved for male rulers. Why were these women deemed worthy of the honor? Archeologists are working to piece together details of their lives and reveal their secrets.

364763 045 The Stone Age Village of Ba’ja – A Child’s Grave

364763 046 The Moment of Death – The Plaster Casts of Pompeii

364763 047 The Inca and Their Empire: Reconstructing an Advanced Civilization

364763 048 Golden Treasure from the Rhône – The Enigmatic Barge of Arles

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Euromaxx

Europe to the max – Euromaxx. The name says it all. Europe is always on the move. A source of new ideas and a motor for change.

But Europe's traditions are also flourishing and being updated for life in the 21st century. Europe's values of tolerance and its diversity make it an exciting mix of cultures and temperaments. Arts and entertainment, fashion and glamour, design and architecture. Europe is all this and much more. And so is Euromaxx.

Vibrant and alive – Euromaxx gets up close to the action and captures the fast pace of modern Europe. Come and discover the Europe of today. Stay right up to date with the latest fashion and be the first to know about tomorrow's trends. We’ll keep you informed about all the latest news from the worlds of fashion, food, travel, art and architecture to name but a few.

Euromaxx, unique clips packed full of Europe for your show reflecting the continent's constantly changing cultural landscape. Euromaxx – Europe to the max!
Euromaxx Design

Design is the process by which nearly all objects – from cars to paper clips, from clothing to chairs – acquire a certain form and function. But design involves more than just shaping and styling: good design is a complex process in which different and often contradictory requirements have to be met to ensure that objects function in the desired way. Design is only good when aesthetic, ergonomic and ecological aspects, durability, function and comfort harmonize and complement one another.

Euromaxx Design presents the most important and exciting creations on the European design scene. It portrays star designers, shows emerging trends and pays tribute to traditional design. The individual reports of our successful series Euromaxx Design introduce the latest creations from the automotive industry, from furniture designers, glassworks and material and jewelry studios and visit trade fairs, exhibitions and presentations.

Alexander Steffen Documents the Vanishing Berlin
Like many major cities, Berlin is undergoing a construction boom. Photographer Alexander Steffen photo-documents its special corners, vestiges and relics of another time, preserving them for future generations.

Saint-Claude, Capital of Tobacco Pipes
The small French town of Saint-Claude is considered the pipe capital of Europe. It’s also home to the pipe maker Sébastien Beaud. He continues that town’s centuries-old craft tradition.

Bespoke Shoemaker Adele Williamson
Tradition plays a major role at the oldest shoe manufacturer in Britain. Even the British royal family wear their bespoke shoes. Now, for the first time, the master custom shoemaker is a woman: Adele Williamson.

SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

The Last Traditional Fan-Maker in Paris
French fan-maker Anne Hoguet supplies Hollywood and luxury fashion labels with traditional fans. And even Karl Lagerfeld turned to her skilled craftsmanship. But this special profession is on the verge of disappearing.

A Gigantic Picnic Cloth: An Art Installation in Switzerland
Once a year locals meet up for a gigantic picnic in the Swiss canton of St. Gallen. The art installation goes by the name of BIGNIK.

The Art of Crafting Gilt Leather
Two Polish sisters are keeping the tradition of crafting gilt leather alive. They also create exquisite wall coverings following a 400-year-old tradition.
Euromaxx à la Carte

We travel around Europe to trace the manifold roots of European cuisine and to show how Europe's culinary heritage is reworked and refined by the continent’s top chefs. They give us an insight into their skills as they turn regional specialties into gourmet delights. For Euromaxx à la Carte they demonstrate European gastronomy at its finest in their award-winning restaurants.

It’s all here – from new Scandinavian cuisine to hearty Bavarian dishes. For dessert, each program focuses on a special subject, such as the delicate craft of the chocolatier or top wines from France. Euromaxx à la Carte takes your taste buds on a European tour.

SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

Milk Chocolate from Switzerland
Swiss chocolate is a hot export item and popular the world over, we try to find the recipe for its success. What makes this sweet Epicurean experience so special?

The Blind Chef Antonio Ciotola
Italian chef Antonio Ciotola lost his eyesight in an accident. But he still manages perfectly well in the kitchen of his restaurant, which is known for its excellent dishes.

In Search of Truffles in Provence
France is one of the largest truffle producers in the world. Most black truffles are found in Provence. There, visitors can also go in search of the valuable mushrooms with specially trained dogs.

Glowing Algae Tarts
Algae are rich in protein, available worldwide and easy to grow. A pastry chef in Munich came up with the idea of creating glowing blue algae tarts. Not only do they taste yummy, they’re good for the global climate.

Haggis: Scotland’s National Dish
This dish might take quite some getting used to for non-Scots, but in its land of origin, it’s attained cult status. Haggis is made with cooked innards, oatmeal and spices.

The Pizza-Baking Robot
In one Parisian restaurant, machines are running the show! The pizza recipe comes from Thierry Graffagnino, a three-time World Pizza Champion.
Europe's Longest Place Name
A Welsh village draws tourists mainly due to its unusual, and unusually long, name: Llanfairpwll-gwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch. At 58 letters, it’s the longest single-word place name in Europe.

The Renaissance Festival in Tortosa
It’s July, 2022, in Spain – or is it 1522? At the Tortosa Renaissance Festival it’s hard to tell! We take a trip to the east coast and look back at a golden age of art and culture.

Euromaxx on Vacation
Euromaxx on Vacation invites you to spend your vacation with us. Let us be your guide on a tour of the most beautiful destinations, glamorous locations and tranquil regions Europe has to offer. You will be enchanted by these diverse and fascinating places.

We provide all kinds of information and insider tips about the places we visit. Euromaxx on Vacation is guaranteed to infect you with the travel bug.

SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

Europe by Train: A Ride on the Glacier Express
There’s no nicer way to travel through the Alps than in the panoramic train cars of the Glacier Express. The ride from St. Moritz to Zermatt on the “world’s slowest express train” takes around eight hours.

Finding Our Way Around Amsterdam
The Dutch capital evokes images of picturesque canals and world-famous museums. But what can be found there off the beaten tourist paths? Euromaxx asked local residents for their best tips.

Through the Ages in Sofia
Bulgaria’s capital is one of Europe’s oldest cities. But the architecture of this city of 1.2 million people is still shaped very much by its recent socialist past. Travel blogger Veneta Nikolova reveals some of her favorite spots.

A Tip for Nature Fans: Iceland’s West Fjords
Secluded beaches, towering waterfalls and spectacular landscapes are all found in the West Fjords, Iceland’s remote natural splendor. The Lonely Planet travel guide lists the peninsula among its ‘Best in Travel’ areas for 2022.
Global Snack

Food can break down boundaries and connect people all over the globe. It also tells stories about the world’s diverse cultures. An omnipresent phenomenon in our globalized world is fast food, or light bites on the go. When it comes to snacks, every region has its own specialties. The snack is a reliable barometer of a nation and its people.

Whether it’s tapioca in Brazil, gyros in Greece, dal baati in India or alloco in Côte d’Ivoire, ... whether it’s a mobile cookshop, a hawker’s tray or a hotdog stand: Global Snack guides the hungry through the maze of light-bite possibilities, wherever you happen to be.

524856 079
Nairobi, Kenya – Chapati

524856 080
Moscow, Russia – Shuba

524856 081
Bangkok, Thailand – Khanom Bueang

524856 082
Accra, Ghana – Corn on the Cob

524856 083
Villaflores, Mexico – Garnachas

524856 084
Jakarta, Indonesia – Kerak Telor

524856 085
Brasilia, Brazil – Pastel e caldo de cana

524856 086
Cape Town, South Africa – Koesister

524856 087
Belén, Costa Rica – Sugarcane Juice

524856 088
Voronezh, Russia – Olivier Salad

524856 089
Laamu, Maldives – Golha Riha

524856 090
Bizerte, Tunisia – Lablabi

524856 091
Sal, Cape Verde – Cachupa

524856 092
Semarang, Indonesia – Lumpia
Faith Matters

Faith provides many people with a framework for life and a moral code. This series offers insights into matters of faith, with reports on contemporary Catholic and Protestant communities around the world. The main focus is on the purpose of existence, Christian values and social responsibility, as well as contributions Christians make to society, culture and the arts. Faith Matters portrays the everyday life of Christians; it reports on the latest events in the Christian community and on the work of churches in Germany and worldwide.

564675 148
Church Bells – Chiming between Heaven and Earth
Often hidden from view, but impossible to ignore, church bells ring out from towering belfries. For centuries they have given a rhythm to human activity. Even today their unmistakable tolling summons people to prayer and to worship. More than any other artefact the church bell has become associated with the voice of Christianity. Dr. Kurt Kramer is a world-renowned campanologist. Affectionately known as “Monsieur Bimbam” he has examined and restored countless bells in the Archdiocese of Freiburg and far beyond its boundaries for more than 40 years.

564675 150
Oberammergau – A Village and its Passion
Two thousand residents of a village in the Bavarian Alps are currently performing almost every day a pageant depicting the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. Even the cancellation of the Oberammergau Passion Play due to the Covid pandemic could not stop the villagers from fulfilling the pledge their forefathers made in 1633 to perform the play every ten years if they were spared the plague. The well-known German theatre personality Christian Stückl has directed this year’s production. Overcoming some resistance, Stückl has included Muslims and unbaptised people in the cast. Married women have also only been allowed to play the female roles since 1990.

564675 149
Caring for Creation – Climate Protection in Rwanda
Rwanda: A poor, landlocked country of 13 million people. In terms of climate protection this East African nation is a role model for the whole region, a powerful example of how a country that is only minimally responsible for polluting the atmosphere is doing an impressive amount to reduce its CO₂ emissions. One striking example is a pilot project promoting high efficiency kitchen stoves amongst Rwandan families. These eco-friendly stoves reduce wood consumption by 60 percent compared to traditional cooking fires. Rwanda’s kitchen stove initiative is highly relevant, since 80 percent of all Rwandan families currently cook on an open fire.

564675 151
Prayer and Action – The Church and the War
Christians have a duty to welcome strangers. The gospels record Jesus as saying, “I was a stranger and you invited me in.” In response to the refugee crisis precipitated by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Christians in Germany are helping in a number of ways. In our report we investigate the Church’s response to the refugees’ plight. Parish centres have been turned into shelters; in the Café Ukraine in downtown Berlin the new arrivals are invited to discuss ways of making the best of their situation; concerts and prayer services offer them support and encouragement.
The sporting ages.

In Ulm Minster – The Tallest Church in the World

564675 154

Cologne’s Holy Women
In the Catholic Church only the Pope can declare somebody a saint, but the process always starts with a popular movement – local people revering a person for their holy way of life. Christianity arrived in Cologne in the 4th century. Since then, a number of remarkable Christian women have left their mark on this western German city. Who are they? And how did they influence Church and Society? What inspiration do modern women draw from these role models? And what role are women today seeking in the Catholic Church?

564675 155

Successful Evangelizing – Revisiting Africa
We accompany a 92-year-old woman on a journey from Germany to Tanzania – a pilgrimage to the country of her birth and a revisiting of German Protestant missionary work in East Africa. Both Ruth Köhne’s father and her grandfather were sent out by the Berlin-based Protestant missionary society “Bethel” to Bukoba on Lake Victoria in what is now Tanzania. Following the story of Ruth’s father, Otto Hagena, through the memories of his now elderly daughter, our report focuses on German Protestant missionary activity in East Africa both past and present.

564675 152

Cheers, and Amen! – Spirits and spirituality in Scotland
Father Wolfgang F. Rothe is no run-of-the-mill priest... and not only because he goes on whisky pilgrimages. While exploring Scotland’s wild beauty this rebellious Catholic cleric also addresses the controversial issues facing his Church. Wolfgang F. Rothe tells us of an attempted rape by his bishop and that he was forced into silence by the Church authorities. However, instead of holding his tongue he is fighting for change in the Catholic Church: the ordination of women to the priesthood, gay marriage and a more honest approach to human dilemmas.

564675 153

Ulm Minster – The Tallest Church in the World
In the very center of Ulm, a city in southern Germany on the River Danube, stands the tallest church in the world. Its 161.53-metre-high steeple bears witness to the city’s glorious past as one of the most powerful and prosperous German cities in the Middle Ages. Begun in the late 14th century the church is a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and Ulm’s most famous landmark. A backdrop for international sporting events, a popular tourist attraction, a training site for height rescues, a place for spiritual renewal: Ulm Minster is much more than simply “the tallest church in the world”.

564675 156

Phoenix from the Ashes – An Old Church in a New Role
Two artists and a young Lutheran pastor had to use chainsaws and axes to uncover the ruins of an old church in former Communist East Germany. The site had been reclaimed by nature and trees were growing through the gaping roof. In the undergrowth they discovered the tombstone of Friedrich Nietzsche’s grandfather, who died in 1850. Moritz Götz and Rüdiger Giebler grew up in East Germany, where faith and religion were discouraged by the Communist dictatorship. However, the two artists developed a strong interest in the pre-Communist history of their homeland. With their own money, donations and subsidies, they have saved the old church from final decay.
Meet women across Asia who are breaking stereotypes and voicing their opinions loud and clear. Get ready for HER – great stories about education, health, depression, dating, beauty and marriage filled with twists, turns, highs and lows.

In recent years, the position of women in south and southeast Asian societies has been strengthened – in conjunction with economic developments. Reforms of basic rights and legal systems, demographic changes and more dynamic civil societies have made this transformation possible. But despite all the progress, enormous challenges still lie ahead in various parts of Asia, especially concerning gender equality. HER shines a light on the lives of women from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand. Each episode focuses on one topic featuring three women from different countries and backgrounds. The topics are as universal as they are controversial.

**544944 007  Motherhood**

While the nuclear family of mother, father and children is still widespread in many Asian countries, it’s changing. More and more children are growing up with single moms. Meet three mothers from different Asian countries and hear their stories. Farheen Ishfaq Naqvi in Pakistan leads the life of a man in order to provide for her daughter. Young mother Queenie and her husband struggle with the work culture of Hong Kong, which is not very family-friendly. And Dewi Candraningrum from Indonesia fights hard to give her disabled son the help he deserves.

**544944 008  The Art of Freedom**

Get to know three women from three different Asian countries who have found their own form of expression. How do themes such as femininity, gender roles, women’s rights and violence feature in the works of these female artists? Malaysian artist Yante Ismail paints nude women, challenging the norms of patriarchal society. Uzma Ashraf is a Kathak dancer. Through dance, she learned to relate to her body, which is not easy for a woman in Pakistan. Kartika Jahja, better known as Tika, is an Indonesian musician, a cultural activist and sexual assault survivor. Music helped her through tough times and is now the medium of her activism.

**544944 009  Being My Own Boss**

Around the world, women play important roles in business. Either as bosses and high-ranking managers of international corporations, or as self-employed owners and operators of small kiosks, and even founders of start-ups. This edition portrays three women from three different worlds, but they all have one thing in common: passion for their business. They include Louise Mabulo, founder of the Cacao Project in the Philippines, and entrepreneur Uma Hapsari from Indonesia, who created the community Mendaki Kembali, meaning ‘climbing back’, to speak openly about failures. And then there is Wandeep, who manages a popular street food stall in Bangkok.

**544944 010  Tech Power**

Digitization is changing the world dramatically. What does that mean for Women in Asia? What role do they play in that process? In this edition, HER portrays three women whose lives have been significantly shaped by technology. Take hip-hopper Niana Guerrero. Aged just 15, she is the most followed TikTokker in her country, the Philippines, and one of the biggest YouTube stars in Southeast Asia. Or Aulia Halimatussadijah, one of Indonesia’s most influential serial start-up entrepreneurs and founder of ‘Girls in Tech’. And then there is Molly Hunag from Taiwan, whose startup Velodah has developed an app for cyclists.

**544944 011  Talking Money**

More and more women are becoming financially independent. What does money mean to them? How do they earn their cash? And how do they spend it? What setbacks have they experienced? Three women from three Asian countries tell us about their relationship to money – such as Filipina actress and philanthropist Angél Locsin. Tutiana Jusat from Malaysia works in the male-dominated banking world with Islamic bonds. And Shikha Mittal from India helps educate women in savings, insurance and investment methods.

**544944 012  My Roots**

What role do traditions play in women’s lives? Is it important to move away from one’s roots to lead an independent, self-determined life? Or is it more that the roots themselves provide a secure basis to move ahead? Three women from different Asian countries share their stories on what roots and tradition mean to them. HER sheds a light on how traditions and roots can have such different meanings. For example, for Lauren Sevilla Faustino who decided to leave her modern life in Manila. And from Thailand there’s the story of Andrew’s journey, leaving his roots and transitioning to Anne.
Railway Stories

Railways connect places and people. A train journey is a great way to get to know a country and its inhabitants. Our Railway Stories are set on legendary routes and lesser-known lines, in old rolling stock, luxury carriages and high-speed trains. The stories from around the world present people for whom the railway can be many things: an employer, a means of transport or a tourist attraction. The routes lead through landscapes that are of spectacular beauty and rich in history.

564872 014
Wild Animals and Dramatic Landscapes – On the Tazara from Dar es Salaam to Kapiri Mposhi
The Tanzania-Zambia Railway – or Tazara for short – covers a distance of almost 2,000 kilometers from the Indian Ocean to the heart of Zambia. Its train drivers often have to persuade elephants, lions or giraffes to get off the tracks so the journey can resume. The route passes through dense forests, uninhabited savanna and high mountains.

564872 015
A Mediterranean Adventure – By Train Along the Côte Bleue
The best way to explore the diverse beauty of the Côte Bleue in France is by train. The Ligne de la Côte Bleue travels alongside stunning sandy beaches, secluded rocky bays and crystal-clear streams. For more breathtaking views, you can hike along the coastal path: many of these hidden places are only accessible on foot or by train.

564872 016
From Ulaanbaatar to the Gobi Desert – The Trans-Mongolian Railway
Summer is the best time to travel by train across Mongolia. The raw and rugged steppe landscape is then often bathed in golden light. Alongside the tracks are Buddhist monasteries and villages where people hold fast to the traditions and customs of their ancestors.

564872 017
Breathaking Gorges and Snowy Peaks – Through the Alps on the Bernina Express
The journey on the Bernina Express between Switzerland and Italy takes about four hours. The train travels across 196 bridges and through 55 tunnels. Its drivers need to be vigilant: high in the Alps, heavy snowfall, rockfalls and landslides can occur at any time. Construction of this extraordinary route began in 1890, with the workers risking life and limb. Today the line has UNESCO World Cultural Heritage status.

564872 018
Through Sabah on Borneo – A Train Adventure on the World’s Third Largest Island
Passengers on the Sabah State Railway can expect to see orangutans and proboscis monkeys, lush rainforests and white sandy beaches. In the east of the Malaysian state of Sabah, the track skirts the coastline before heading further south through the Padas River valley to the island’s interior. Depending on the leg of the journey, you could be in a carriage pulled by an old steam engine, on a regional train or on the bare boards of a freight car.

564872 019
Sudan’s Railways – Moving to Modernize
With more than 4,000 kilometers of tracks, Sudan has one of the largest rail networks in Africa. The British built much of it more than a century ago during the colonial era. Many sections of track are now broken, covered in sand or submerged by the waters of the Nile. But train travel is experiencing a gradual renaissance in Sudan.