

# UNUSUAL CULTURES

There are places in the world, cities, islands, whole civilisations, where life remains unchanged by industry, economics, religion or even science.

Places where food is still hunted and gathered without modern influence, where different religions live in harmony.

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explores culture from the earliest civilisations to the present day. It's a fascinating look at people, their practises and the significance they play in day to day life.

**13×26 min. HD**



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## EPISODE 1

Crete - its' ancient culture traces back through long forgotten civilizations. Crete is renowned also for its excellent olive oil which is considered to be among the best in the world. In our first stopover, we will discover the secrets of this mystical island; wherein lies both an admirable history and a boisterous life-force.



We'll examine in great detail, life in Lamalera - a quaint village on an Indonesian island; where the culture of life is orbited by traditional whale hunting and "spiritual" rituals.



## EPISODE 2

Jerusalem - a city of three religions. Come with us to witness living rituals, and be dazzled by ancient wisdom. We will visit the enchanting cities of Safed, and the port of Jaffa where wonderful history and cuisine are the order of the day..



From Jerusalem, The Kingdom of Bahrain lies on the opposite side of the Arabian Peninsula. What Bahrain may lack in size, it more than makes up with its' rich history, sought-after pearls, traditional crafts, and its' oil industry.



## EPISODE 3

We begin today's journey in Crimea on the boundaries of Russia and Ukraina. A visit to the unique culture of the Crimean Tartars awaits us. Today, we will also sojourn to the area of the Bay of Plenty in New Zealand, where we will experience the ancient and mysterious Maori culture. One of the more famous aspects of Maori culture is their distinctive "Haka" dance; which came to prominence by way of the national Rugby team of New Zealand.



## EPISODE 4

To the east of the Czech Republic lies the picturesque Moravia. Its individual regions are very diverse. The flatlands of Hana give way to hillsides and vineyards, which in turn make room for the steep slopes of Kopanice on the HYPERLINK, <http://slovník.seznam.cz/en-cz/?q=Moravian-Silesian> Moravian-Silesian boundary. The whole region has one thing in common: - the people. They are all hard working, they love to sing; and they appreciate a bottle of wine. In today's episode we will visit several such lovely nooks along the Moravia River.



## EPISODE 5

The Indonesian island of Bali is synonymous with luxurious vacations. We will unveil the ancient Hindu culture of Bali, which somehow continues to survive the constant influx of thousands of tourists.



Lombok lies only 35 kilometers from Bali. Unlike Bali, it is yet to be discovered by the masses of tourists. As such, it is easy to observe the culture, the traditional artisans, and the unique Wektu telu religion.



## EPISODE 6

A land of endless spring lies just past the waves of the Atlantic Ocean, and some 400 kilometers from the Canary Islands - the Portuguese Island of Madeira. Madeira is well known around the world for its quality wines, wild nature, and traditional artistic crafts.



We will travel from the European island of Madeira to the "theatre of miracles" that is Java.



Madeira - the pearl of the Atlantic; and Java - the gem of Indonesia. We bring you both, on today's edition of Unusual Cultures.



## EPISODE 7

British writer Aldous Huxley once wrote, "If the world had any ends, British Honduras would certainly be one of them." It lies between Mexico



and Guatemala on the northeastern coast of Central America. Its' now know as, Belize; the name of an unforgettable place.

In the second half of this episode we will head south from the Caribbean, to Argentina and Mendoza. Mendoza is well known by those that love red wine.



## EPISODE 8

Taiwan lies to the north of the Philippines, and 160 kilometers south-east off the coast of the People's Democratic Republic of China. The island, now populated by more than 23 million inhabitants, has a long and very dramatic history. Jersey, is the largest of the seven islands known as the Channel Islands. It lies in the English Channel between France and Great Britain.



## EPISODE 9

In this episode we will get to know two entirely different sides of today's Africa. First, we will visit the ancient Moroccan city of Fes. Fes has been closely linked to Islam for over 1000 years. It has retained its medieval character of winding narrow streets with artisanal workshops, bakeries and coffee houses. After that, we will traverse the African continent south - to Zimbabwe. It is a country that abounds in great natural wealth with a rich history dating back to prehistory. But, at the same, Zimbabwe has struggled mightily, for decades, in its' quest for political stability. Without this essential political stability, the country of Zimbabwe remains incapable of maximizing the natural resources and wealth of its' great land, to the detriment of its' people.



## EPISODE 10

Today we will visit two places geographically far from each other, yet bound by a communist past. The province of Guantanamo, on the island of Cuba, still suffers under a communist regime.



And Latvia's Courland, which is slowing recovering from the damage caused by decades of Soviet Russia's communist terror.



## EPISODE 11

Mauritius lies in the Indian Ocean, 2 000 kilometers south-east off the African coast and some 900 kilometers east of Madagascar. It is an island that is lush all year round. It is also endowed with breathtaking nature and boasts some of the world's loveliest beaches which sit in front of crystal-clear waters. It is often referred to as "the land of burnt faces", a name derived from ancient Greek words from which its name stems - Ethiopia. Its capital has a name no less poetic - Addis Ababa - which translates to a "new bloom". Sadly though, this African country never blooms. Even so, it has genuine appeal as well as a rich and mysterious history.



## EPISODE 12

It is said that whomever has been to India for less than three months might as well have not been there. Let us then explore at least two of India's long list of remarkable places. First, we will go to Bombay - the past and current gateway to India. It is both the wealthiest and most expensive city in India. After that, we will travel to the state of West Bengal which stretches from the shores of the Indian Ocean all the way to the foothills of the Himalayas.



## EPISODE 13

Today we will venture to Transylvania - a country that has forever been associated with the terrible Count Dracula. Bram Stoker's novel about the blood thirsty count made this country world renowned. We, however, are more interested in this country's unusual culture than a fantasy tale. Unlimited speed for all vehicles outside urban areas; ubiquitous powerful motorcycles; a horse drawn tram; and a parliament established back in 979 AD - this is the Isle of Man. It is an island in the middle of the Irish sea, the kingdom of herring fishing. . .

