




AMERICAN REFERENCE CENTER

Video/DVD Catalog

Spring 2014



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Cover photo credits:

From left to right, 1st row: Liz Noffsinger, xedos4, Michael Elliott; 2nd row: renjit krishnan, the photoholic, nuttakit; 3rd row: Paul Martin Eldridge, vitasamb 2001; 4th row: Suat Eman, nuttakit; 5th row: Idea go, Idea go, Salvatore Vuono; 6th row: Free.Digital.Photos.net, dan, renjit Krishnan.



U.S. HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

ABRAHAM LINCOLN: PRESERVING THE UNION

100 minutes, 1996, *The Biography Channel*, DVD (PAL)

This DVD tells the complete story of the 16th president, from the rough and rustic childhood that forged his beliefs to the tough political campaign that won him the presidency. Historians examine the difficult leadership choices of his turbulent first term, as well as his bouts with depression and his troubled marriage to Mary Todd. Finally, experts untangle a web of murder and kidnapping plots to reveal the truth behind the complex conspiracy that ended in Lincoln's assassination

ALL THE PRESIDENTS' WIVES

100 minutes, 2004, A & E, DVD (Region 1)

Take an in-depth look at America's First Ladies, the women who have held one of the most enigmatic, yet high-profile, jobs in the country. Wielding power far beyond what the public realizes, some First Ladies have been philanthropists and socialites, some have acted as advisors to the President, and some have stayed behind the scenes. This program offers a glimpse into the more personal side of a very public position.

THE ASCENT OF MAN

5 DVDs, 676 minutes total, 1974, by *Adrian Malone and Dick Gilling*, DVD (Region 1)

The series peels back layers of history, invention, science, and archaeology to investigate the great paradox of human species. Although quite old, this documentation is still up to date and worth watching.

1. Lower than Angels (Disc 1)

A multitude of evolutionary changes gives rise to humankind's superiority among the animals.

2. Harvest of the Seasons (Disc 1)

Humankind domesticates plant and animal life. With the Neolithic cultivators come the nomads and the roots of warfare.

3. Grain in the Stone (Disc 2)

Humankind splits stone and reassembles the pieces to build a wall, a cathedral, a city. From the Greek temples of Paestum and the cathedrals of medieval France to modern Los Angeles, this film expresses humanity's faith and fancy as architect and builder.

4. The Hidden Structure (Disc 2)

The Shang bronze craftsmen of China and the Samurai sword smith of Japan are the starting point for this journey from the beginning of chemistry to our actual knowledge of elements.

5. Music of the Spheres (Disc 2)

Traces the evolution of mathematics and explores the relationship of numbers to musical harmony, early astronomy and perspective in painting. It follows the spread of Greek ideas through the courts and bazaars of the Islamic Empire to Moorish Spain and Renaissance Europe.

6. Starry Messenger (Disc 3)

Here is the story of early attempts to map the forces that move the planets. The film traces the origins of the scientific revolution through the conflict between fact and religious dogma, culminating in the trial of Galileo.

7. Majestic Clockwork (Disc 3)

In the evolution of physics, the contributions of Newton and Einstein occupy center stage. This film explores the revolution that ensued when Einstein's theory of relativity upset Newton's elegant description of the universe.

8. Drive for Power (Disc 3)

Industrial and political revolutions altered concepts of power during the 18th century. The film shows why these developments were as significant as the Renaissance in our progress.

9. Ladder of Creation (Disc 4)

Journey from the valleys and waterfalls of Wales to the jungles of the Amazon to explore the controversy swirling around a startling new theory of evolution developed simultaneously by Alfred Wallace and Charles Darwin.

10. World within World (Disc 4)

Commencing with a visit to an ancient Polish salt mine, the film looks at the world inside the atom, tracing the history of ideas that have made 20th century physics the "greatest achievement of the human imagination".

11. Knowledge or Certainty (Disc 4)

This film offers a personal view of the moral dilemma that confronts today's scientists, contrasting humanist traditions with the inhumanities of the Nazis, the harnessing of nuclear energy with the development of the atomic bomb.

12. Generation upon Generation (Disc 5)

This program examines the complex code of human inheritance – from the experiments of pioneer geneticist Gregor Mendel to the discoveries of today's sophisticated laboratories.

13. Long Childhood (Disc 5)

This closing film draws together the many threads of the series as it takes stock of humanity's complex and sometimes precarious ascent.

BARACK OBAMA

47 minutes, 2008, A & E, DVD (PAL)

Get the full story behind the 2008 Democratic nominee for President of the United States. One of the most successful series in Cable TV history. Probing interviews and unforgettable footage illuminate the great stories behind great lives.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: THE FOUNDING OF A NATION

1 hour 40 minutes, 2005, DVD (PAL)

Benjamin Franklin – writer, scientist, politician, ruthless competitor, diplomat and a founding father of the United States of America. This documentary is a factual, unvarnished account of a spirited man of many talents and one of the most pivotal men in American history. Franklin was a man of genius that transcended the centuries and this profile does a remarkable job of showing us the true man behind the odd haircut and round glasses. Franklin, the exemplification of an American Renaissance man, helped to build a nation and shape the modern world. Here we finally have a documentary film about his life that Franklin himself would have approved of.

BOYCOTT

112 minutes, 2001, HBO, DVD (NTSC)

When mild-mannered seamstress Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955, events were set in motion that would change history and lead to the birth of the modern Civil Rights Movement. *Boycott* stars Jeffrey Wright as King, Iris Little-Thomas as Rosa Parks, Carmen Ejogo as Coretta.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS: EXPLORER OF THE NEW WORLD

50 minutes, 2005, DVD (PAL)

Christopher Columbus was determined to find a western route to Asia. After years of trying, he convinced King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella to fund his journey. Although evidence now proves that the Vikings and perhaps other Europeans were in the Americas long before he came, Columbus is credited as the first European to see the Americas because of the profound impact his first contact with the Americas had on history.

CITIZEN KING (American Experience)

120 minutes, 2004, VHS (PAL)

Citizen King explores the last five years in King's life by drawing on the personal recollections and eyewitness accounts of friends, movement associates, journalists, law enforcement officers, and historians. The video traces King's effort to recast himself by embracing causes beyond the civil rights movement – to "transform and re-structure the whole of American society" as he put it. In this brief, five-year span, his decision would alienate many of his closest friends and further inflame his enemies.

DREAMS OF OBAMA

56 minutes, 2009, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

Frontline tells the story of how a little known state senator rose from obscurity to the White House in just over four years. *Dreams of Obama* draws on interviews with those closest to Obama to provide insight into how he might lead the country. A personal and political biography, the film examines the key moments that shaped Obama, and asks what his election says about America.

ECHOES FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

60 minutes, 2001, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

Hosted by Martin Sheen, this documentary celebrates the 200th anniversary of the White House with a look at the stories, both public and private, that have unfolded within its walls. The program reincarnates two centuries of power-plays, tragedies, crises, celebrations and victories through the letters, memoirs and diary entries of presidents, first ladies, servants and other eyewitnesses.

ELLIS ISLAND: THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE

150 minutes, 1997, History Channel, DVD (Region 1)

Mandy Patinkin hosts this documentary tribute to the Isle of Hope which welcomed millions of America's immigrants for half a century. For most, Ellis Island was once America's Golden Door. Interviews from the Ellis Island Oral History Project recount the trials, joys, and sadness of immigration experiences, including the possible rejection on entry, while historians explore the island's history, symbolism, and sometimes insensitive policies.

EYES ON THE PRIZE; AMERICA'S CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

7 DVDs, 840 minutes, 2006, DVD (NTSC)

Eyes on the Prize tells the definitive story of the Civil Rights era from the point of view of the ordinary men and women whose extraordinary actions launched a movement that changed the fabric of American life, and embodied a struggle whose reverberations continue to be felt today.

FOR LOVE OF LIBERTY: THE STORY OF AMERICA'S BLACK PATRIOTS

2 part series, 45 minutes and 35 minutes, 2010, produced by Frank Martin, DVD (PAL)

For Love of Liberty chronicles African-Americans who risked their lives in American military skirmishes to create and preserve freedom for their country, while attempting to acquire freedom for themselves. *For Love of Liberty* uses letters, diaries, speeches, journalistic accounts, historical text and military records to document the accomplishments of African-American men and women whose lives make up the fabric of this inspiring and often heart-breaking story.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS

50 minutes, 2005, A & E, DVD (PAL)

Frederick Douglass, the self-taught orator, writer, and abolitionist who was born a slave in the South and made a brave escape to the North, was in the words of one historian: "A major figure in the coming of the Civil War, and the way the Civil War was fought."

FREE AT LAST: CIVIL RIGHTS HEROES

95 minutes, 2004, Image Entertainment, DVD (NTSC)

The civil rights movement in the United States is usually understood in terms of its leadership such

as Martin Luther King, Jr. or its dramatic events such as the march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. But often the catalysts for progress were people who fought from within a larger group or performed individual, seemingly small acts of heroism - some even victims who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Now see the stories of those whose fates stirred the nation and forged an amazing new path.

GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL: SOLDIER AND STATESMAN

50 minutes, 1996, DVD (PAL)

George C. Marshall is the only career soldier ever to win the Nobel Peace Prize. His military genius helped lead the Allied countries to victory in World War II, and his far-flung vision for helping nations get back on their feet after the war helped engineer the peace that followed. Through extensive expert interviews, rare archival footage and contemporary accounts, the life and career of this monumental figure comes to life.

THE GOLD RUSH

approx. 120 minutes, 2006, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

At the end of 1853, San Francisco was a city on the fast track. A few years earlier, the seaside town had been a sleepy village of just 800 people. But the sight of gold in the waters of the American River set the stage for an event that would forever change a city, a fledgling state, and the nation. Incorporating rare and exquisite daguerreotypes and original recreations, this film offers a vivid portrait of a seminal event in America's history.

GREAT HEARTS OF COURAGE: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

25 minutes, 2009, produced by Questar, DVD (PAL)

This is a relatively short but comprehensive documentary film spotlighting human rights icon Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., one of the greatest speakers in American history.

GREAT NATIVE AMERICAN NATIONS

6 DVDs (Region 1), 10 minutes each, with teacher's guide, 2006

Six of America's representative Indian nations, from five major geographic areas of Native American cultures, are portrayed here by historic photographs and graphics, dramatic reenactments, maps, haunting music, and the people's own words. This revision focuses at the primary - middle school level, where Native Americans are most widely studied, through more age appropriate scripting and narration.

- **Lakota Sioux: Indians of the Plains**
- **Iroquois: Indians of the Northeast**
- **Cheyenne: Indians of the Plains**
- **Navajo: Indians of the Southwest**
- **Seminole: Indians of the Southeast**
- **Shawnee: Indians of the Midwest**

HORATIO'S DRIVE - AMERICA'S FIRST ROAD TRIP

approx. 146 minutes, 2004, DVD (NTSC)

Film-maker Ken Burns presents the hilarious 1903 saga of the first transcontinental automobile trip. On a visionary whim and a \$50 bet, Dr. Horatio Nelson Jackson became the first person to drive an automobile across the continent. His arrival in New York City, after every imaginable breakdown and delay, proved that the "horseless carriage" really did have a future.

THE KENNEDYS (American Experience)

240 minutes, 2003, DVD (NTSC)

The legendary Kennedys seemed to have it all - money, power, charm, ambition. From Joe Kennedy's rise on Wall Street to the collapse of his last son's presidential hopes in 1980, the compelling tale of the Kennedy dynasty still fascinates Americans. American Experience presents the first comprehensive look at one man's elusive dream for his family and his nation, beginning in triumph and ending in tragedy.

LEWIS & CLARK: THE JOURNEY OF THE CORPS OF DISCOVERY

240 minutes (2 parts), 1997, DVD (NTSC)

This extraordinary film, directed by Ken Burns, tells the remarkable story of the entire Corps of Discovery - not just the two famous Captains.

THE MARCH

32 minutes, 1963, by James Blue, DVD (PAL)

The March covers the August 31, 1963 march on Washington, involving hundreds of thousands of civil rights marchers who gathered on the Mall near the Lincoln Memorial.

MARCH ON! THE DAY MY BROTHER MARTIN CHANGED THE WORLD

20 minutes, 2008, DVD (PAL)

In celebration of the 45th anniversary of the March on Washington, Martin Luther King Jr.'s sister, Dr. Christine King Farris, presents a personal, stirring account of the man who went on to inspire a nation.

THE MARSHALL PLAN: AGAINST THE ODDS

60 minutes, 1997, VHS (PAL)

Gaze back across 50 years to measure the success of the Marshall Plan, history's most controversial rescue effort. With hunger, poverty and devastation stalking postwar Europe, retired general and war hero George C. Marshall called for a U.S. financed reconstruction of the battered continent. For the first time, hear European witnesses reflect on the legacy and consequences of Marshall's remarkable vision.

NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE - The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony

approx. 180 minutes, 1999, DVD (NTSC)

Two women, one allegiance. Together Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony fought for women everywhere, and their strong willpower and sheer determination still ripple through

contemporary society. Ken Burns's documentary recounts the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of two pioneers striving to give birth to the women's movement. Not until after their deaths was their shared vision of women's suffrage realized.

OBAMA: ALL ACCESS – BARACK OBAMA'S ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE

240 minutes, 2009, Paramount, DVD (Region 1)

This documentary is the result of two years of exclusive access granted only to 60 Minutes. It contains material from six separate segments broadcast on 60 Minutes, including excerpts from the Obama's first post-election interview. Other never-before-seen informal and intimate moments are included in this all-encompassing presentation. The documentary reveals the personal and public sides of the president-elect and his family, through the big media events as well as the quiet moments recorded only by America's number-one news program. It is reported by 60 Minutes correspondent Steve Kroft who has followed Obama since early 2007.

THE PRESIDENTS (American Experience)

2255 minutes on 15 DVDs (NTSC), 2008

This collection of 20th century presidential biographies from the acclaimed American Experience President's Collection includes TR, Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909), Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921), Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1933-1945), Harry S. Truman (1945-1953), Kennedys (1961- 1963), Lyndon B. Johnson (1963-1969), Richard Nixon (1969-1974), Jimmy Carter (1977-1981), Ronald Reagan (1981-1989) and George H.W. Bush (1989-1993).

SCOTTSBORO: AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY

90 minutes, 2001, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

In March 1931, two white women stepped off a box car in Paint Rock, Alabama, with a shocking accusation of gang rape, by nine black teenagers on the train. So began the Scottsboro case, one of the 20th century's fieriest legal battles. The youths' trial generated the sharpest regional conflict since the Civil War, led to momentous Supreme Court decisions, and helped give birth to the civil rights movement.

THE SUPREME COURT

240 minutes on 4 DVDs (PAL), 2007

This illuminating series features some of the key cases defining the vision of the Court and the often explosive collisions between the Court and the presidency.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

approx. 180 minutes, 1997, DVD (NTSC)

Returning from France, Jefferson strives to preserve the fragile new U.S. government and helps create the first political party, in bitter struggles with the Federalists. He becomes vice president in 1797, and the third U.S. president in 1801. His Louisiana Purchase doubles the nation's size, but he faces controversy and scandal, finally

retiring to his beloved Monticello in 1809. His last years are spent founding the University of Virginia.

UNFORGIVABLE BLACKNESS – THE RISE AND FALL OF JACK JOHNSON

approx. 3 hours and 40 minutes, 2004, DVD (NTSC)

This PBS documentary by acclaimed filmmaker Ken Burns tells the story of the first African-American boxer to win the most coveted title in all of sports and his struggle, in and out of the ring, to live his life as a free man.

THE UNTOLD STORY OF EMMETT LOUIS TILL

70 minutes, 2005, DVD (Region 1)

Keith Beauchamp's groundbreaking film is the result of a 10-year journey to uncover the truth behind the nightmarish murder of an innocent African-American teenager. Emmett's brutal murder - and his family's brave actions in the horrifying aftermath- served as a major impetus for America's civil rights movement and led to Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to make decisions that changed the course of history.

VOICES OF CIVIL RIGHTS

240 minutes, 2005, History Channel, 2 DVDs (Region 1)

This collection of personal narratives was created by a group of journalists, photographers and videographers as they embarked on a bus trip around the country to create the largest archive of oral histories of the Civil Rights Movement.

THE WAY WEST (American Experience)

360 minutes on 2 DVDs (NTSC), 1995

Written and directed by Ric Burns and narrated by Russell Baker, The Way West chronicles the extraordinary story of how the American West was lost and won from the time of the Gold Rush until the final major battle of the Indian Wars at Wounded Knee.



U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES

AFRICAN-AMERICAN LIVES

240 minutes, 2006, 2 DVDs (NTSC)

African-American Lives is hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., chair of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. The documentary takes Alex Haley's *Roots* saga to a new level through stories of personal discovery.

AMERICA BEYOND THE COLOR LINE

approx. 55 minutes each episode, 2002, 2 DVDs (PAL)

One hundred years ago, the celebrated African-American intellectual, W.E.B. DuBois, famously identified the problem of the 20th century as "the problem of the color line."

South: The Black Belt

Gates travels to Memphis, Birmingham and Atlanta - once the battlegrounds on which civil rights were won for black southerners in the 1950s and 60s. The very cities from which African Americans fled during the era of legal segregation are today drawing them back by the tens of thousands.

Chicago: Streets of Heaven

Gates goes inside the notorious housing projects in Chicago's South Side - the Robert Taylor and the Ida B. Wells - to find out from the people who live there what life is like for America's "underclass."

East Coast: Ebony Towers

Beginning at Harvard, Gates travels to Washington, DC, and New York to ask if this new black power elite represents genuine progress for black America as a whole. Interviewees include Colin Powell, Russell Simmons, Vernon Jordan, Franklin Raines and the first African-American chess grandmaster in history, Maurice Ashley.

Los Angeles: Black Hollywood

In the final episode, Gates asks whether Hollywood is institutionally racist or whether it is becoming increasingly color-blind in pursuit of the box office dollar. Interviewees include Chris Tucker, Samuel L. Jackson, Alicia Keys, Quincy Jones, Nia Long, Don Cheadle and John Singleton.

BASEBALL

approx. 23 hours on 10 DVDs, 1994, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

This award-winning documentary from renowned filmmaker Ken Burns is overflowing with heroes and hopefuls, scoundrels and screwballs, it is a saga spanning the quest for racial justice, the clash of labor and management, the transformation of popular culture, and the unfolding of the national pastime. It is history as witnessed from the fields of small-town America and the makeshift diamonds of urban sandlots.

DESTINATION AMERICA – The People and Cultures that Created a Nation

220 minutes, 2005, DVD (NTSC)

From award-winning filmmaker David Grubin, *Destination America* focuses on the world the immigrants left behind, the roots that defined them, and the frustrations, hardships, discontents and ambitions that made and continues to make America their destination.

NEW YORK (American Experience)

1050 minutes on 7 DVDs (NTSC), 2004

After fourteen years of construction, the Brooklyn Bridge was finished. Al Smith grew up under the Manhattan span of the bridge. New York's transformation into a great metropolis was

accomplished by the 1898 annexation of Brooklyn, parts of Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island. As the 20th century dawned, more immigrants from new homelands arrived.

ROBERTO CLEMENTE (American Experience)

60 minutes, 2008, PBS, DVD (PAL)

Baseball great Roberto Clemente's talent and inimitable style drew legions of fans, but as this *American Experience* production reveals, he was more than an exceptional baseball player. He was also a committed humanitarian who challenged racial discrimination and worked for social justice.

WORLD TRADE CENTER – IN MEMORIAM

50 minutes each, 2002, History Channel, DVD (PAL)

The World Trade Center – In Memoriam examines the monument as both architectural achievement and cultural icon. What emerges is not only a tribute to a building, but an inspiring and intimate story of the birth and growth of an American symbol. Filled with extraordinary photos and archival footage of the construction of America's beloved twin towers, this is a comprehensive and unforgettable celebration of a vanished landmark.



U.S. ART AND CULTURE

DO YOU SPEAK AMERICAN?

3 parts – 60 minutes each, 2005, WNET, DVD (PAL)

Do You Speak American? is a celebration of Americans as seen – and heard – through the way American's speak.

1. Do You Speak American? Down South

This program follows Robert MacNeil down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Appalachia, Louisiana Cajun country, and the Tex-Mex border to examine Southern dialects and accents and the influences of French and Spanish on American English.

2. Do You Speak American? Out West

In this program, Robert MacNeil heads to California to take part in meaningful dialogues on Spanglish, Chicano, Ebonics, and "Surfer Dude" before going to Seattle to consider the implications of voice-activation technology.

3. Do You Speak American? Up North

In this program, Robert MacNeil canvasses the North to learn firsthand about linguistic dialect zones, the tension between prescriptivism and descriptivism, the northern cities vowel shift, the roots of African-American English, minority dialects and linguistic profiling, biases against nonstandard

speech, and the general perception of the U.S. Midland dialect as “normal American.”

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

approx. 153 minutes, 2004, DVD (NTSC)

A documentary by Ken Burns about the greatest of all American architects. He was an authentic American genius, a man who believed he was destined to redesign the world, creating everything new.

INSPIRING FIGURES: DUKE ELLINGTON AND ELLA FITZGERALD

25 minutes, 2006, Scholastic, DVD (PAL)

This is the most fitting tribute to a great man who proudly celebrated the history of African-Americans, from slavery to civil rights struggles. Narrated by Forest Whitaker, with original recordings. Told in the voice of a cool cat named Scat, this dramatic story tells how Ella got her sound on the way to a most remarkable and inspiring career. Narrated by Billy Dee Williams, with original recordings.

LEGENDS OF JAZZ – SEASON ONE

3 DVDs, each 25 minutes, 2006, LRSmedia, DVD (PAL)

Legends of Jazz brings to life America's most masterful musical art form. Season One Collection includes twelve complete half-hour episodes of the critically acclaimed jazz TV series. This dynamic 3 DVD set features riveting conversations and performances by some of the great artists in jazz.

MARK TWAIN

approx. 225 minutes, 2002, DVD (NTSC)

Director Ken Burns digs beneath the legend to discover the true Twain and reveals his extraordinary life, filled with adventure and literary pursuit, incredible success and defeat, comedy, and tragedy.

OUR TOWN

120 minutes, 2003, Co-production between Showtime Networks and WGBH Boston, DVD (PAL)

Set at the turn of the 20th century, *Our Town* reveals the ordinary lives of the people in the small town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, U.S.A. First produced in 1938, the Pulitzer-Prize winning *Our Town* has become an American stage treasure and is Thornton Wilder's most renowned and frequently performed play.

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

60 minutes, 2004, DVD (NTSC)

Ken Burns presents the definitive portrait of America's great lady, in a program nominated for an Oscar and an Emmy. Follow the American icon's life, from creation by French sculptor Auguste Bartholdi through painstaking construction and accident-prone 1886 dedication. Interviews with ordinary Americans reveal the unique place the statue holds in our hearts.

WALT WHITMAN

120 minutes, 2008, PBS, DVD (PAL)

This film tells Whitman's life story, from his working-class childhood, to his years as a newspaper reporter in Brooklyn, to his reckless pursuit of the attention he craved for his work.



U.S. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

LIFE BEYOND EARTH

110 minutes, 2007, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

Does life exist beyond Earth? The unanswered question has transfixed stargazers for centuries. *Life Beyond Earth*, tells the story of humanity's search for life beyond our own planet.

ON BOARD AIR FORCE ONE

50 minutes, 2009, National Geographic, DVD (Region 1)

A marvel of top-secret technology and security, Air Force One has flown U.S. presidents more than 7 million miles around the world. With exclusive access, National Geographic joined the crew of Air Force One to document everything from the presidents' suite and kitchen galley to Secret Service travel preparation and flight strategy. For a very special mission, we also joined President George W. Bush's January 2008 Middle East trip to witness the commanding presence of the most iconic plane in the world.



SCENIC AMERICA

BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA'S WILD COAST – LIVING EDENS

60 minutes, 2001, by Devillier Donegan Enterprise, DVD (PAL)

Living Edens: Big Sur is a documentary about California's wild coastline region. Photographed by Bruce Reitherman, this program features the wild animals and plant life that lives in Big Sur, constituting the 100 miles of coastland beneath the Monterey Peninsula.

DENALI, ALASKA'S GREAT WILDERNESS – LIVING EDENS

60 minutes, 1997, by Reader's Digest, DVD (PAL)

Beneath the Northern Lights on Mt. Denali, the highest mountain in North America, Bruce Reitherman, producer and some-times cameraman, braces himself against minus 18 degrees centigrade weather that cracks the face as well as the camera lens to capture Denali, Alaska's great wilderness on film.

DESTINATION USA

60 minutes each, produced 2003 by Escapi New Media, DVD (NTSC)

Destination USA highlights 8 regions and cities in the USA.

1. Deep South USA

Otherwise known as the 'Bible Belt'; it's home to the American Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement, the birthplace of blues, jazz and rock and roll, but its greatest boast is that good old Southern hospitality, only found in the Deep South & Southern USA.

2. American Rockies

The American Rockies cover over 1000 square miles of the United States of America from Canada to New Mexico. The region is official called the Rocky Mountain States and comprises of the states of Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

3. Southwest USA

The classic image of the Southwest has been shaped, for many, by countless spaghetti westerns: arid deserts full of rattlesnakes, prickly cactus, howling coyotes and a solo Man with No Name. Also synonymous with this corner of the world is the epic beauty of the Grand Canyon, a world famous 'wish list' tourist destination of awesome dimensions and dazzling variation.

4. New York

New York has always been a city of superlatives: biggest, brashiest, best - at least that's the opinions of its proud inhabitants - and with over 30 million visitors a year it seems that there are plenty of others who agree! After the events of 9/11 it's now a city known as much for its resilience in the face of tragedy as its economic power, cultural dominance and ethnic diversity.

5. New Orleans

Built below sea-level on reclaimed swamp land New Orleans's complex and multi-cultural history dates from its foundation on the crescent-shaped bend of the Mississippi River to a multi ethnical, vibrant city full of temperament.

6. San Francisco

San Francisco sits in the northern part of California and is generally recognized as one of the most liberal and attractive cities in the United States. Home to the flower power generation, the Cable Car and a thriving cultural mix, San Francisco has something to offer everyone.

7. California

Rattled by earthquakes, populated by film stars, surfers, techies and hippies, home to Silicon Valley

and that American Dream factory, Hollywood, California is America's Promised Land, a place where you can be whatever you want, however and whenever you choose.

8. Hawaii

The Hawai'ian islands are the most isolated archipelago on the planet, yet through the development of modern tourism have become one of the most heavily visited places on earth. In its isolation, a unique biodiversity has developed in which 90% of the Hawai'ian islands flora and fauna is found nowhere else in the world.

GRAND CANYON: AMERICA'S SCENIC TREASURE

20 minutes, 2009, distributed by New Dimensions Media, DVD (PAL)

Grand Canyon National Park in the state of Arizona is one of the world's premier natural attractions, drawing about five million visitors per year. Most visitors who first view the one mile deep canyon (2,100 m) as they walk to its edge report that they've had one of the most overpowering and memorable experiences of their lives.

MOUNT RUSHMORE (American Experience)

60 minutes, 2002, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

High on a granite cliff in South Dakota's Black Hills tower four huge carved faces of American presidents. But is Mount Rushmore a monstrosity, or a masterpiece? A temperamental artist, Gutzon Borglum, propelled the project by sheer talent and guts, even as his ego and obsession threatened to tear it apart.

NATIONAL PARKS

7 DVDs, 330 minutes, 2009, National Geographic, (NTSC)

This collection showcases the hidden beauty of our national parks. From the Grand Canyon's unexplored backcountry to Hawaii's hidden coral reefs, this breathtaking anthology takes you beyond the tourist hot spots to explore these amazing places as never before. Trek to the high-altitude summit of Denali Park's Mount McKinley, kayak through the hidden secrets of the Everglades, and face the wild extremes of life in Death Valley. With stunning cinematography, the National Parks Collection travels off-road to reveal the real Yosemite and Yellowstone. It's an awe-inspiring collection you'll want to journey to again and again.

THE NATIONAL PARKS – AMERICA'S BEST IDEA

12.5 hours on 6 DVDs, 2009, PBS, DVD (NTSC)

The National Parks, by Ken Burns, is the story of an idea as uniquely American as the Declaration of Independence: that the most special places in the nation should be preserved for everyone. The series traces the birth of the national park idea in the mid-1800s and follows its evolution for nearly 150 years, chronicling the addition of new parks through the stories of the people who helped create them.

YELLOWSTONE, AMERICA'S SACRED WILDERNESS – LIVING EDENS

60 minutes, 2000, ABC/Kane Productions International, DVD (PAL)

High in the wild heart of the American Rockies, the Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming is a place of extraordinary landscapes and geysers. Created by the largest volcanic explosions in the planet's history, Yellowstone became the world's first national park in the late 1870s.

YOSEMITE: INSPIRATION FOR CONSERVATION

20 minutes, 2009, distributed by New Dimensions Media, DVD (PAL)

Yosemite is a United States National Park in California that covers an area of more than 3,000 km. Almost 95% of the park is designated wilderness. It is internationally recognized for its spectacular granite cliffs, waterfalls, clear streams, Giant Sequoia trees and biological diversity, and in 1984 was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO for its outstanding natural importance.

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