

**NATURE . WILDLIFE**

## PORTUGAL – WILD AND UNTAMED

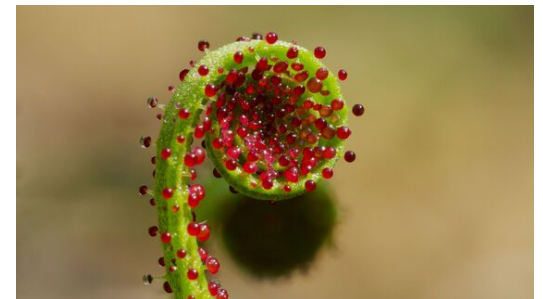
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**This series reveals the amazing wildlife that still thrives in this beautiful but little-known country.**

Come and travel with us from the mountains of North Portugal to the southern beaches of the Algarve, and far out across the Atlantic Ocean to the islands of the Azores and Madeira, home to Europe's last surviving laurel forests. Lying between Europe and Africa, the Iberian Peninsula is home to a wide variety of landscapes and spectacular endemic species, such as the Iberian lynx, Iberian wolf, and Iberian imperial eagle.

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Produced by: RTP, Wildstep Productions



## **1. North**

The snow-covered mountains of the north, clothed in forests, remain the last refuge of the Iberian wolf in Portugal, and extensive oak forests provide the venue for fearsome fights between male stag beetles. Beyond the vineyards of the Douro River, where the world-famous Port wine is grown, lies one of the wildest places in Europe. The impressive River Douro canyon soars 200 metres into the sky where Bonelli's Eagles and Egyptian vultures hover with breathtaking grace.

## **2. Centre**

Central Portugal is a region with a surprising diversity of landscapes and species. In the eastern border with Spain, in the Tagus valley, elusive black storks nest... and in Estrela, the roof of mainland Portugal, small inhabitants fight for survival. The coastal pine forests guard unique secrets of the plant world. And in the Serras, the ways of the Eagle owl and the mysteries of underground worlds are still yet to be fully revealed.

## **3. Lisbon**

The final stretch of the River Tagus is home to a diversity of aquatic and riverside habitats of rare beauty, giving life to a great variety of remarkable species. Overlooking the river Tagus, the limestone mountains of Aire and Candeeiros reveal unique inhabitants. And in the cork oak woods, the Montado, where Man and Nature have cohabited for centuries, there are many fascinating secrets to discover. One of Europe's largest estuaries is a haven for thousands of birds. Come with me on a unique journey through Nature, in the Lisbon and Tagus Valley.

## **4. Alentejo**

From the cereal plains to the Montado cork oak forests, this land sustains extraordinary biodiversity. Spring arrives with displays of rare beauty, and danger lurks in the rockrose bushes. The harsh summer transforms this landscape, and only the best-adapted species can survive. At nightfall, mysterious creatures stir into existence. Let's uncover remarkable stories from Alentejo's wilderness.

## **5. Algarve**

A territory that is much more than tourism and golden beaches. From the interior of the Algarve mountains to the Barrocal, there are hidden corners and unique species to discover. To the rhythm of the tides, the Ria Formosa sustains an oasis of biodiversity. Along Portugal's most famous coast, there is life on the cliffs. And in the face of the wildest sea, the struggle for survival is constant, let's discover the natural secrets of the Algarve.

## **6. Madeira**

The pearl of the Atlantic is home to a surprising variety of landscapes and some remarkable species of fauna and flora. In the dense vegetation of the northern part of the island, secrets of an ancient forest are revealed. 1800 metres over imposing cliffs, life thrives, side by side with the abyss. In the Desertas islands, a deceptive barrenness hides the last refuge of a seal, unique to Portugal. And in the Selvagens islands, tens of thousands of birds find shelter amidst the vastness of the Atlantic Ocean. Let's embark on a journey through the Natural History of Madeira.

## 7. Azores

In the middle of the North Atlantic, rises the largest Portuguese archipelago. The Azores. A place where the volcanic past has left its mark on every nook and cranny, forging this landscape into unusual shapes. Islands and islets are a stopping point for birds from far and wide, who come here to raise a new generation. In the last bastion of the original native forest, nature still thrives. And below the ground, unique creatures inhabit the depths. Let's discover fascinating natural stories of the Azorean archipelago.