

NEWS



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC RELEASES NEW TRAILER FOR *SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS*, REVEALING BREATHTAKING CINEMATOGRAPHY AND NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN BEHAVIORS

Led by Nat Geo Explorer and Emmy and BAFTA Award-Winning Filmmaker Bertie Gregory, the Series Dives Into the Uncharted World of Penguins, Showcasing Their Most Intimate, Courageous and Downright Charming Moments

Narrated by Blake Lively (“Another Simple Favor”), the Three-part Series Is Executive Produced by National Geographic Explorer-at-Large and Academy Award-Winner

James Cameron and Produced by Multiple Award-Winning Talesmith, and Premieres April 20 at 8/7c on National Geographic; All Episodes Stream April 21 on Disney+ and Hulu

SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS Is Proudly Part of Disney and National Geographic’s Enterprise-Wide Earth Month Campaign To Inspire Audiences To Appreciate the Natural World Using the Power of Storytelling



***SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS* Trailer: <https://youtu.be/QrdVfeHDYvA>**

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EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 AT 7AM PT/ 10AM ET

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(WASHINGTON, D.C. – March 12, 2025) This Earth Day, embark on an unforgettable adventure with Emmy® and BAFTA Award-winning Nat Geo Explorer Bertie Gregory ([@BertieGregory](#)) in **SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS!** Executive produced by National Geographic Explorer-at-Large and Academy Award®-winning filmmaker James Cameron and Emmy and BAFTA winners Ruth Roberts and Martin Williams from Talesmith, this latest installment in National Geographic’s Emmy-winning “Secrets of” franchise takes viewers of all ages to the farthest corners of the world to witness penguin behaviors captured on film for the first time—showcasing the cute and fluffy flightless birds as they brave some of the most extreme environments on Earth. Narrated by Blake Lively (“Another Simple Favor”), the three-part series premieres April 20 at 8/7c on National Geographic, with all episodes streaming April 21 on Disney+ and Hulu. Disney Channel will also celebrate **SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS** by airing the first episode on Earth Day, April 22, at 8/7c.

This year, The Walt Disney Company will celebrate Earth Month with an enterprise-wide campaign led by National Geographic to inspire audiences to appreciate the world around us using the power of storytelling. Throughout April, the ourHOME campaign will feature exciting new content releases, digital and experiential activations, and will showcase global efforts to protect, restore, and celebrate the natural world – allowing viewers, fans, and followers to discover there is even more to love about this place we call home.

While many documentaries have explored penguins, **SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS** takes it to a whole new level. Talesmith’s team, led by Bertie and over 70 world-class scientists and filmmakers, embarked on a two-year, globe-spanning adventure—from the rocky beaches of Cape Town and the icy shores of South Georgia Island to the tropical Galapagos and Namibia’s desert caves—capturing penguins like never before. Pushing the boundaries of wildlife filmmaking, a three-person crew endured an astonishing 274 days filming on the Ekström Ice Shelf in Antarctica, home to a colony of 20,000 emperor penguins. Facing one of the planet’s harshest environments, they captured never-before-seen moments like a bonded pair of emperors practicing egg transfers with a snowball to hone their skills for the moment they would need to transfer a real egg, tenacious chicks navigating brash ice amid climate change, and young penguins using their beaks to hoist themselves out of a crevasse.

With breathtaking, award-winning cinematography and cutting-edge camera technology, the series captures even more never-before-seen and rare moments in the wild. For the first time, witness healthy “rockaroni” chicks—a rare hybrid of rockhopper and macaroni penguins—offering a fascinating glimpse into potential evolution and adaptation. Other remarkable scenes include a brave rockhopper fending off a southern sea lion, the first-ever footage of a hidden cave colony of African penguins, and clever Galapagos penguins teaming up for a daring heist: stealing fish straight from pelican beaks and skillfully herding sardine bait balls.

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In April 2024, Nat Geo unveiled breathtaking [emperor penguin footage](#) captured by Bertie at the Ekström Ice Shelf in Antarctica for the series. A television first, the crew recorded an astonishing sight: hundreds of emperor penguin chicks leaping from a 50-foot cliff into the icy ocean below, emerging unscathed. The series will showcase the full spectacle of this remarkable behavior, along with new footage that was not initially included in the viral video. To date, the clip has garnered 74 million views on Nat Geo’s TikTok account—its best-performing video ever—and has received over 165 million views across all of Nat Geo’s social platforms. Bertie’s natural history filming resonates so much with viewers that he has captured some of the most-viewed videos on Nat Geo’s Instagram account this past year. The [emperor penguins](#) video has nearly 63 million views, while the second highest is [Dzanga-Sangha National Park sweat bees](#) with 34 million views, followed by [B1 Antarctic killer whales](#) with 23 million views, both from his Disney+ Original series from Nat Geo **ANIMALS UP CLOSE WITH BERTIE GREGORY**, currently filming its second season.

The family-friendly series taps into the passion and expertise of world-renowned scientists and conservationists, including National Geographic Explorer and marine biologist Dr. Pablo Borboroglu, conservation biologist Dr. Michelle LaRue, African penguin expert Dr. Andrea Thiebault, doctor of veterinary medicine Dr. Gustavo Jiménez Uzcátegui, penguin expert Dr. Jessica Kemper, and marine biologist Dr. Katta Ludynia.

Episodes include the following:

- **“Heart of the Emperors”**
Premieres April 20 at 8/7c on Nat Geo; Streams April 21 on Disney+ and Hulu
The emperors are the largest and strongest penguins, living in the coldest and most extreme environment on Earth. Embedded with an Antarctic colony, National Geographic Explorer Bertie Gregory encounters social skills never filmed before, discovering bonds forged from birth between family, friends and strangers are the difference between life and death.
- **“Survival of the Smartest”**
Premieres April 20 at 9/8c on Nat Geo; Streams April 21 on Disney+ and Hulu
Millions of years ago, a group of penguins left the ice, riding powerful currents and arriving in strange new lands. They reshaped traditions for deserts and tropics—and even to live among humans. Tested to the extreme, they became perhaps the smartest of all penguins. National Geographic Explorer Bertie Gregory discovers the penguins’ problem-solving, “talking” and enduring search for new worlds.

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- **“Rebels with a Cause”**

Premieres April 20 at 10/9c on Nat Geo; Streams April 21 on Disney+ and Hulu

It takes a special type of courageous penguin to survive the fierce Southern Ocean, but 40 million crowd its isolated, rocky outposts, and they are some of the most successful penguins on Earth. National Geographic Explorer Bertie Gregory follows the rockhoppers, gentoos and macaronis to discover a world of risk-takers, rebels and unconventional parents.

Previous “Secrets of” seasons include **SECRETS OF THE OCTOPUS**, narrated by Paul Rudd; **SECRETS OF THE ELEPHANTS**, narrated by Natalie Portman; and Emmy-winning **SECRETS OF THE WHALES**, narrated by Sigourney Weaver. All installments are currently streaming on Disney+ and Hulu.

SECRETS OF THE PENGUINS is produced by Talesmith for National Geographic. Emmy Award-winners James Cameron and Maria Wilhelm for Lightstorm Earth are executive producers. BAFTA and Emmy Award-winner Bertie Gregory serves as lead storyteller, cinematographer and producer. For Talesmith, Emmy and BAFTA-winning executive producers are Ruth Roberts and Martin Williams. Series producer is Serena Davies. Pam Caragol is executive producer for National Geographic.

#NatGeo | #SecretsofthePenguins | #DisneyPlus

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About National Geographic Content

Representing the largest brand on social media with over 780 million followers and 1.1 billion impressions each month, National Geographic Content's award-winning and critically acclaimed storytelling inspires fans of all ages to connect with, explore and care about the world through factual storytelling. National Geographic Content, part of a joint venture between The Walt Disney Company and the National Geographic Society, reaches over 532 million people worldwide in 172 countries and 33 languages as a digital, social and print publisher and across the global National Geographic channels (National Geographic Channel, Nat Geo WILD, Nat Geo MUNDO), National Geographic Documentary Films, and direct-to-consumer platforms Disney+ and Hulu.

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Its diverse content includes Oscar®- and BAFTA award-winning film *Free Solo*, Oscar-nominated films *Sugarcane*, *Fire of Love* and *Bobi Wine: The People's President*, Emmy® Award-winning franchise *9/11: One Day in America* and *JFK: One Day in America*, Emmy® Award-winning series *Animals Up Close*, series *Trafficked with Mariana van Zeller*, *Life Below Zero*, and *Secrets of the Whales*, in addition to multiple National Magazine Awards, Pulitzer Prize Finalists and Webby wins. Visit nationalgeographic.com and natgeotv.com or explore [Instagram](#), [Threads](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#), [TikTok](#), and [Reddit](#).

About Talesmith

Talesmith is a leading creative force in global television, film and immersive production, led by Bafta and Emmy-winning film-makers Martin Williams, Ruth Roberts and Mark Wright. With decades of award-winning experience, the British company crafts world-class content and embraces new technologies to push storytelling boundaries. Talesmith's acclaimed cross-platform output includes high-end factual series, unscripted series, landmark specials, and immersive content.

www.talesmith.tv

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