

Wild Colombia With Nigel Marven

4 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Highlands and Hummingbirds

The Andes is the longest mountain range in the world, stretching the length South America, and Bogota, Colombia's capital, lies high in the eastern peaks. Nigel begins his journey here, enjoying a garden with a blizzard of hummingbirds, before heading west to the Magdalena valley, where he encounters unique frogs, giant creepy-crawlies, cute capuchin monkeys and birds that live like bats. Heading high again, into the central Andes, he meets some very strange birds and searches the moonlike landscape of the paramo for one of the world's highest-altitude hummingbirds.

2. Lands of the Anaconda

Anacondas are the biggest snakes in Colombia, and one of the largest on Earth. Nigel begins this episode searching for these awe-inspiring serpents in the flooded forests of the mighty Amazon, at the southernmost tip of the country. Along the way he finds giant frogs, mischievous monkeys and dazzling tropical fish. Further north, in the Llanos, Colombia's vast swathes of savannah, Nigel meets up with cowboys who show him the wealth of wildlife on their ranch, from a cranky caiman to a tree-dwelling tamandua. His search for an anaconda here in the grasslands ends with a very unexpected encounter!

3. Creatures of the Caribbean

Santa Marta is the world's tallest coastal mountain, rising up from the warm water beaches of the Caribbean Sea to high forested slopes, home to many species found nowhere else on Earth. After enjoying the festivities of the Barranquilla Carnival, Nigel heads uphill to find unique parakeets and hummingbirds, and shines his torch into the tree branches at night to see adorable owl monkeys staring right back. Further north along the coast the lush forest turns to desert scrubland - here Nigel dances with a deadly rattlesnake and takes a boat into the lagoon for spectacular views of a flock of flamingoes. He finishes his Caribbean adventure near the beautiful ancient city of Cartagena, where scientists are working to protect one of the world's rarest monkeys.

4. Pacific Paradise

The Pacific coast of Colombia is the country's wild west, an area of few roads and little human activity, as well as one of the wettest regions on the planet - ideal for amphibians. Nigel searches the forest to find some of the most amazingly colourful poison frogs. As darkness falls the jungle comes alive and he finds giant geckos, snakes and glowing beetles by torchlight. On the sandy

beaches the presenter visits a fantastic project protecting marine turtle eggs as they hatch, and takes a boat out to sea to get up close to humpback whales on their annual migration. And on Colombia's 'Snake Island' he finds giants both on the land and beneath the waves.