

NEWS

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SAY IT AIN'T SO ... THE END OF THE WORLD?

National Geographic Channel Reveals Three End-of-the-World Specials:
How Humans Would Evacuate Earth, the Maya Phenomenon Spawning Survival
Communities and an Underwater Look at Maya Tombs for Clues on
Apocalypse Prediction

Two-Night Television Event on National Geographic Channel Includes:
Evacuate Earth, Premieres Sun., Dec. 2, 2012, at 9 PM ET/PT
The Mayan Apocalypse 2012, Premieres Mon., Dec. 3, 2012, at 9 PM ET/PT
Maya Underworld: The Real Doomsday, Premieres Mon., Dec. 3, 2012, at 10 PM ET/PT

(Washington, D.C. – November 5, 2012) What if the end of the world really happened? Imagine if Dec. 21, 2012, were actually "doomsday"? How would we cope and who would survive? Could we build a super device that could carry us all to another planet? And could the Maya have left clues to their predicted apocalypse in their underwater tombs? Now, National Geographic Channel is on a mission to get to the bottom of these raging questions.

In a two-night television event, National Geographic Channel premieres three "end of the world" specials: **Evacuate Earth** on Sunday, December 2, 2012, at 9 p.m. ET/PT; **The Mayan Apocalypse 2012** on Monday, December 3, 2012, at 9 p.m. ET/PT; and **Maya Underworld: The Real Doomsday** on Monday, December 3, 2012, at 10 p.m. ET/PT. This event follows the November 13 premiere of the network's top-rated series, **Doomsday Preppers**.

Each special explores the possibilities and theories focusing on the "end" as we know it. In **The Mayan Apocalypse**, historian and filmmaker Paul Murton reveals how this Mayan terror has spawned survival communities in which people hoard food and supplies, build bunkers and practice defending themselves with weapons. **Evacuate Earth** examines how humankind could cope if we had to start over again. How could we determine where to go? How could we get there? Then in **Maya Underworld**, journalist Diego Buñuel searches through underwater Maya tombs and literally lights the abyss to unearth new revelations about the upcoming Maya calendar date.

Premiere episodes include:

Evacuate Earth

Premieres Sunday, December 2, 2012, at 9 p.m. ET/PT

If we faced a countdown to destruction, could we build a spacecraft to take us to new and habitable worlds? Can we **Evacuate Earth**? NGC's two-hour special examines this terrifying but scientifically plausible scenario by exploring how we could unite to ensure the survival of the human race. Imagine a neutron star—tiny and incredibly dense, like a wandering black hole—flying straight toward our solar system. When it arrives, it threatens to pull planets out of their orbits and shred the planet we live on. Our only choice is to band together, create a vast vessel and escape to a new planet in the closest possible solar system. Engineers discuss the idea of designing a nuclear bomb-powered rocket to accelerate to very high velocities. After a journey of almost a century, the vessel will deliver mankind's remnants to our new home and the human story will begin again.

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The Mayan Apocalypse 2012

Premieres Monday, December 3, 2012, at 9 PM ET/PT

The countdown to the predicted Mayan apocalypse began several thousand years ago, and time is running out. In this one-hour special, historian and filmmaker Paul Murton travels to America to explore how the phenomenon now better known as "2012" has swept across the Internet, with hundreds of websites featuring frightening predictions. Murton examines how this terror has spawned survival communities in which people hoard food and supplies, build bunkers and practice defending themselves with weapons to see them through the impending apocalypse. To discover who the Maya really were, he'll also visit the ruins of the ancient Maya city of El Mirador in Central America. We'll see where the civilization was founded and gain an insight into what they believed would happen at midnight on December 21, 2012.

Maya Underworld: The Real Doomsday

Premieres Monday, December 3, 2012, at 10 PM ET/PT

Venturing into vast underwater graveyards of Mayan human sacrifices in Mexico, journalist Diego Buñuel searches for new revelations about the infamous upcoming doomsday. Using groundbreaking National Geographic technology, Diego and a team of archaeologists will literally light up the abyss to explore these underwater tombs and gain key insight into why some believe the Maya may have predicted an impending apocalypse. In a secret location, Diego views a rare replica of one Mayan codex whose last page is filled with illustrations of what has been interpreted as floods and ominous-looking gods that first sparked the apocalyptic prediction some 100 years ago. In remote Guatemala, NGC follows Diego and an elite team of researchers who descend through dangerous underground tunnels and, using modern techniques, make a revelatory discovery that may alter our perception of the "end." And Diego meets up with archeologist John Hoopes to learn more about the Mayan prediction—will the world end on December 21, 2012?

Evacuate Earth, The Mayan Apocalypse, and Maya Underworld: The Real Doomsday are produced by National Geographic Television. Executive producer for **Evacuate Earth** is Bruce David Klein; executive producers for **The Mayan Apocalypse** are Hamish Mykura and Kathryn Ross; executive producer for **Maya Underworld: The Real Doomsday** is Pamela Caragol Wells. For National Geographic Channel, executive producer is Michael Welsh.

For more information, please visit www.natgeotv.com.

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National Geographic Channels

Based at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C., the National Geographic Channels US are a joint venture between National Geographic and Fox Cable Networks. The Channels contribute to the National Geographic Society's commitment to exploration, conservation and education with smart, innovative programming and profits that directly support its mission. Launched in January 2001, National Geographic Channel (NGC) celebrated its fifth anniversary with the debut of NGC HD. In 2010, the wildlife and natural history cable channel Nat Geo WILD was launched, and in 2011, the Spanish-language network Nat Geo Mundo was unveiled. The Channels have carriage with all of the nation's major cable, telco and satellite television providers, with NGC currently available in 84 million U.S. homes. Globally, National Geographic Channel is available in 440 million homes in 171 countries and 38 languages. For more information, visit www.natgeotv.com.

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