

Discovery and Knowledge

Editorial guidelines

Human adventure

Human adventure features epics that retrace the history of mankind across the ages, continents and civilizations.

Whether they are archaeological documentaries, historical documentaries focusing on key periods or important figures in history, or documentaries devoted to the great works of humanity's world heritage, these films offer audiences unprecedented investigations based on the latest historical or archaeological research, and on new discoveries, new archives and new narratives seeing the light of day.

Documentaries in which sound investigation, combined with powerful and aesthetic images, upholds a narrative replete with knowledge at the crossroads of culture, history, the arts and science. It is precisely the systematic demand for a wealth of new and constantly renewed knowledge that contributes to the strength and originality of documentaries offered.

Catering to a family-friendly audience, Human Adventure also offers 90' segments of great adventures and epics led by outstanding scientists, such as unprecedented and spectacular naturalistic exploratory missions. The wealth and inventiveness of the visual angle in these productions ensure that the narrative flows smoothly and the viewer is kept in suspense throughout the program. The content in all these documentaries is backed by the expertise and guarantee of recognized specialists, who play an essential role in confirming the programs' historical and scientific integrity.

First part of Saturday evenings (90' or 52' series)

Science

Scientific reality that enlightens our world and shapes us. Keys to understanding today's and tomorrow's reality.

Science documentaries offer viewers dynamic access to scientific themes while immediately arousing curiosity and providing the scientific knowledge needed to understand today's world. These films cater to a wide audience, not field experts. They keep in tune with scientific news, show science in action in laboratories and on the field, decipher the latest discoveries and research, and discuss societal and ethical issues. They explore the human condition and progress made thanks to new knowledge and major breakthroughs in technology. These Science documentaries can also include scientific investigations into current issues that affect the general public, such as the environment and health. The subjects dealt with cover all scientific fields, while avoiding a purely theoretical approach to hard science. A particularly visual and attractive film-like angle allows the most complex content to be conveyed in layman terms. Specialists guarantee the scientific credibility of our content. They have a flair for communication and are able to explain complex content with ease. The ambitious visual layout meets stringent international quality standards.

Second part of Saturday evenings (52')

Afternoon documentaries

Catering to a family-friendly audience, these living, breathing documentaries filmed around the globe follow individuals on the field, driven by a personal quest or adventure tied to the natural world and/or human societies.

These wandering stories, which invite us to explore and discover the world, have their own challenges, every journey being the personal (or collective) project of the characters whose adventures we follow. Whether they are experts in their field or simply self-taught enthusiasts,

their charisma counts as much as the object of their quest and adventure. Each documentary therefore begins with a presentation of the characters and the object of their quest, through which they explicitly express the promise made to the viewer along the way.

Beyond these challenges, these documentaries always invite the viewer along on a trip to meet and discover sites with a striking visual impact.

The themes relating to these challenges vary as widely as the environment, natural history, geography, populations and today's civilizations.

Monday to Friday afternoons (individual or 52' series)

ARTE Découverte

ARTE Découverte offers a curious exploration of the natural world, through documentary series that reflect high production values.

The aim is to amaze the viewer as much as to awaken and enable understanding, through strong and original narrative angles and a slightly scientific lens, of the challenges facing our planet, living beings and the environment. Wildlife films are also welcome in this slot, as are stories that resonate with field correspondents, or which navigate between several disciplines or locations to follow the thread of a captivating story. Subjects relating to science and knowledge must be framed to make them accessible to the general public, setting them apart by their particularly ambitious narrative quality.

Subjects and themes may range from animal behavior, the way ecosystems function, or conservation issues, to the evolution and history of the Earth and our relationship with living things.

Monday to Friday afternoons (43' series)

Digital productions

Our digital productions are intended mainly for the Arte.tv and YouTube platforms.

These original and singular creations may deal with all the themes dear to the unit (science, environment, health, ancient history, archaeology, discovery of the natural world and cultures, etc.), but subjects and the way they are portrayed must be in line with contemporary forms of creation and narration, taking into account the concerns and habits of the target audiences according to the distribution channel (bearing in mind the feasibility of multilingual versions). The leitmotiv of our productions is finding the right balance between content and form in the constantly changing worlds of digital creation.

Variable format adapted to usage

Thema

Our documentaries give pause to misconceptions surrounding health, the environment, science in general and society, and are based on conscientious, rigorous journalistic research.

Films shed light on the contemporary world from a European and global perspective. Films must provide audiences with the keys to understand, think deeper and decipher information that would enable them to form their own opinions.

First part of Tuesday evenings (90')