

Digging for the Past

Who hasn't got excited about finding an artifact while exploring a new place? How would we know about our long history and the nature of human development if not through archaeology? Revealing significant, mysterious and controversial discoveries has sparked the human imagination and provided amazing insights into the history of humanity from 4 million years ago to the present. Join us for a exploration of the people, methods and revelations that tell us where we have been and who we are as a species.

Some Possible Topics

Specific Topics:

Olduvai Gorge
Pompeii (1748)
Rosetta Stone (1799)
The Cave of Altamira (1880)
Antikythera Mechanism (1901)
Machu Picchu (1911)
Tomb of Tutankhamen (1922)
The cemetery at Ur (1927)
Peking Man (1929)
Sterkfontein Caves, South Africa (1930's)
Cave of Lascaux (1940)
Dead Sea scrolls (1947)
Workshop of Phidias (1954)
The Pilate Stone (1961)
Terracotta Army (1974)
Uluburun Shipwreck (1982)
Sea of Galilee Boat (1986)
The frozen corpse in the Alps (Otzi the Iceman) (1991)
Rapa Nui (Easter Island)
Nazca Lines
Stone Henge
Great Pyramids
Atlantis?
Neanderthal Man
Java Man
Valley of the Kings, Egypt

Themes and Areas of Investigation

Looking for proof of religious tenants
The methods of archaeology:
 Remote sensing
 Field survey
 Excavation
 Analysis
 Virtual archaeology
 Drones
The close relationship with anthropology
The special case of marine archaeology
Looking for language and writing
Conflict of new discoveries and history
Digging for treasure (profit vs science)
Historic sites preservation versus development
The cost benefit of archaeology to society
Archaeology as a career
Famous archaeologists:
 Louis Leakey
 Thor Heyerdahl
 Gertrude Bell
 Howard Carter
 John Lloyd Stephens
 Kathleen Kenyon
 Arthur Evans
 Robert Ballard
 Indiana Jones
The search for our origins
Archaeology on our culture
Verifying mythology