Press Contact:

Chelsey Saatkamp, The WNET Group, 212.560.4905, [saatkampc@wnet.org](mailto:saatkampc@wnet.org)

Press Materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](http://thirteen.org/pressroom)

*Nature - Portugal: Wild Land on the Edge*

Season finale premieres Wednesday, April 27 at 8 p.m. ET on PBS ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/)), [pbs.org/nature](https://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/) and the [PBS Video app](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/)

**Synopsis:**

Once a great power linking the Old and New Worlds, Portugal has a history that is deeply tied to its landscapes and wildlife. A unique breed of wild horses roams Portugal’s only national park, horses small and hardy enough to have accompanied Portuguese explorers on ocean voyages around the globe. Today, the seas off the west coast of Nazaré have become a mecca for surfers seeking the biggest waves in the world. Yet, beneath the surface, delicate seahorses cling to kelp beds, and endangered monk seals shelter in the protected bays of Portugal’s far-flung islands. On the red Mars-like landscapes of the Desertas Islands, the world’s largest wolf spider hunts lizards and sometimes, even its own kind. But the greatest wildlife spectacle here is the migration of millions of birds that stopover on their way from Scandinavia to Africa. Black-tailed godwits, pied avocets, vultures and brightly colored flamingos rest and even stay the winter in this land at the very edge of Europe – a crossroads between north and south, land and sea.

**Featured Creatures:**

* Garrano horses
* Seahorses
* Mediterranean monk seals
* Greater flamingos
* Mediterranean chameleons
* Fiddler crabs
* Blue whales
* White storks
* Vultures
* Lizards
* Wolf spiders
* Cory’s shearwaters
* Black-tailed godwits
* Pied avocets

**Short TV Listing**: Discover the wildlife and landscapes of Portugal, from its forests to coasts.

**Long TV Listing:** Discover the wildlife and landscapes of Portugal, shaped by its history as a global trading hub. From forest to coast, witness the majesty of the country’s wild horses, storks, monk seals, flamingos and more.

**Buzzworthy Moments:**

* Tourists on boats drop their anchors and drag them across the ocean floor, destroying the seahorses’ habitats and separating their colonies. One seahorse holds on to the only thing left – a single piece of seaweed. The coasts of Portugal host one of the largest seahorse colonies in the world, but it is becoming endangered from their biggest threat: humans.
* Harsh winds blow the leaves off eucalyptus trees, which produce flammable oils. Each summer as moisture lessens, the trees ignite and produce massive forest fires. The first form of life that grows across the charcoal landscape is moss, followed by the eucalyptus trees growing leaves again.
* The female wolf spider carries her egg sack, about twice the size of her body, for 40 days across dry, rocky land. More than 100 baby spiders crawl out of their eggs and cover the mother’s entire back before she shakes them off.

**Noteworthy Facts:**

* Portugal’s Atlantic coast is one of the roughest marine environments in the world. An undersea canyon three miles deep runs through Portugal’s west coast, and powerful winds and currents run through it to create giant waves that reach up to 100 feet tall, making them the highest waves on Earth.
* A chameleon’s skin color changes in reaction to temperature, light and emotion. Their swiveling eyes can spot danger in any direction, and their sticky tongue can extend out to grab insects.
* Male seahorses give birth, holding the fertilized eggs from the females for the last twelve days. Only 20 of 200 of these newborn seahorses will survive their first few days because of their tiny, vulnerable size.

**Series Overview:**

For 40 years,***Nature*** has brought the natural world to millions of viewers, pioneering a television genre that is now widely emulated in the broadcast industry. The series has won more than 700 honors from the television industry, the international wildlife film communities and environmental organizations, including 20 Emmys and three Peabodys. Consistently among the most-watched primetime series on PBS, ***Nature*** continues to innovate through original digital programming, such as the new podcast ***Going Wild with Dr. Rae Wynn-Grant*** and digital series ***Animal IQ*** and ***Crash Course: Zoology***. ***Nature***’s award-winning website, [pbs.org/nature](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/), features full episodes, short films, digital series, behind-the-scenes content, news articles, educational resources and more.

***Nature*** is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on all station-branded PBS platforms, including [PBS.org](http://pbs.org/) and the [PBS Video App](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/), available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. PBS station members can view many series, documentaries and specials via [PBS Passport](https://www.pbs.org/passport/videos/). For more information about PBS Passport, visit the [PBS Passport FAQ](https://help.pbs.org/support/solutions/5000121793) website.

**Production Credits:**

***Nature – Portugal: Wild Land on the Edge*** is a co-production of Skyland Productions and Pröll Film for ORF Universum, ARTE G.E.I.E. and BR in association with ORF-Enterprise and The WNET Group. The documentary is written and directed by Gernot Lercher. James Lurie is Narrator. Roman Landauer is Executive Producer. ***Nature*** is a production of The WNET Group. Fred Kaufman is Executive Producer. Bill Murphy is Series Producer and Janet Hess is Series Editor.

**Underwriters:**

Series funding for ***Nature*** is made possible in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The Arnhold Foundation, The Fairweather Foundation, Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III, Kathy Chiao and Ken Hao, Charles Rosenblum, Filomen M. D’Agostino Foundation, Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust, Leonard and Norma Klorfine, Sandra Atlas Bass, Colin S. Edwards, Gregg Peters Monsees Foundation, Koo and Patricia Yuen, and public television viewers.

**Websites:**[pbs.org/nature](http://pbs.org/nature); [facebook.com/PBSNature](http://www.facebook.com/PBSNature); [twitter.com/PBSNature](https://twitter.com/PBSNature); [instagram.com/pbsnature](http://www.instagram.com/pbsnature); [youtube.com/naturepbs](https://www.youtube.com/naturepbs), [tiktok.com/@pbsnature](https://www.tiktok.com/@pbsnature?lang=en), #NaturePBS

**About The WNET Group**[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/) – America’s flagship PBS station – [WLIW21](http://wliw.org/), THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](https://www.mynjpbs.org/), New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](http://allarts.org/), the arts and culture media provider; and newsroom [NJ Spotlight News](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/). Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group’s award-winning productions include signature PBS series ***Nature***, ***Great Performances***, ***American Masters***, ***PBS NewsHour Weekend*** and ***Amanpour and Company*** and trusted local news programs ***MetroFocus*** and ***NJ Spotlight News******with Briana Vannozzi***. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group’s award-winning Kids’ Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series ***Cyberchase***, interactive ***Mission US*** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for nearly 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

###