

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:24,000

What are you thinking about the people who built this?

2

00:00:24,000 --> 00:00:27,120

Are they all the lost in civilization of some kind?

3

00:00:27,120 --> 00:00:28,120

What is that?

4

00:00:28,120 --> 00:00:30,120

Looks like face.

5

00:00:30,120 --> 00:00:42,120

Oh my God, it's a face.

6

00:00:42,120 --> 00:00:46,920

You've all heard the myth of Atlantis, an ancient and technologically advanced civilization

7

00:00:46,920 --> 00:00:48,440

that was swallowed by the sea.

8

00:00:48,440 --> 00:00:58,440

But what if I told you that a place like Atlantis might actually exist?

9

00:00:58,440 --> 00:01:02,960

Hiding beneath the waves of southern Japan is a mystery, a massive and perplexing stone

10

00:01:02,960 --> 00:01:07,960

edifice called the Yanaguni Ruins.

11

00:01:07,960 --> 00:01:12,160

Its detailed structure and precise angles appear to have been man-made.

12

00:01:12,160 --> 00:01:16,680

Yet since the site was discovered by divers decades ago, it has done nothing but divide

13

00:01:16,680 --> 00:01:18,720

the scientific community.

14

00:01:18,720 --> 00:01:23,680

To some, Yanaguni is the last remnant of an advanced culture, thousands of years older

15

00:01:23,680 --> 00:01:27,360

than the pyramids in Egypt.

16

00:01:27,360 --> 00:01:32,560

Skeptics however believe the formations are a natural, albeit strange, geological formation.

17

00:01:32,560 --> 00:01:37,000

But now, evidence collected from the site, including intricate carvings and potentially

18

00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:42,240

man-made objects, could answer the question once and for all.

19

00:01:42,240 --> 00:01:45,160

Now the bad news.

20

00:01:45,160 --> 00:01:46,660

The ruins are remote.

21

00:01:46,660 --> 00:01:50,100

They're located off a volcanic island in the East China Sea.

22

00:01:50,100 --> 00:01:54,660

The waters there are swirling with deadly currents and it's a breeding ground for hammerhead

23

00:01:54,660 --> 00:01:57,160

sharks.

24

00:01:57,160 --> 00:02:01,660

But the only way to know if the Yanaguni ruins are the archaeological find of the century

25

00:02:01,660 --> 00:02:06,900

is to examine the newest evidence and then dive down and study the site firsthand.

26

00:02:06,900 --> 00:02:15,180

So what are we sitting here for?

27

00:02:15,180 --> 00:02:17,060

My name is Josh Gates.

28

00:02:17,060 --> 00:02:24,060

With a degree in archaeology and a passion for exploration, I have a tendency to end

29

00:02:24,060 --> 00:02:26,260

up in some very strange situations.

30

00:02:26,260 --> 00:02:30,220

God lord have!

31

00:02:30,220 --> 00:02:34,940

My travels have taken me to the ends of the earth as I investigate the greatest legends

32

00:02:34,940 --> 00:02:35,940

in history.

33

00:02:35,940 --> 00:02:37,700

We're going to fly, let's go.

34

00:02:37,700 --> 00:02:39,540

This is Expedition Unknown.

35

00:02:45,420 --> 00:02:48,380

Just getting to Yanaguni is a challenge in itself.

36

00:02:48,380 --> 00:02:52,620

From New York I fly to the west coast, then across the Pacific to Tokyo, and then on to

37

00:02:52,620 --> 00:02:56,900

another flight down to the tiny island.

38

00:02:56,900 --> 00:03:01,260

After 22 hours of travel, I touch down.

39

00:03:01,260 --> 00:03:07,180

Delirious and enthusiastic for the adventure ahead.

40

00:03:07,180 --> 00:03:08,940

Small island.

41

00:03:08,940 --> 00:03:12,300

Small ride.

42

00:03:12,420 --> 00:03:14,180

Time to see what this place is all about.

43

00:03:14,180 --> 00:03:19,980

Before I rendezvous with Kihachiro Arutake, the expert who first discovered the ruins.

44

00:03:19,980 --> 00:03:21,980

Welcome to Yanaguni Island.

45

00:03:21,980 --> 00:03:23,480

Not exactly a bustling spot.

46

00:03:23,480 --> 00:03:28,980

It's only about 11 square miles, home to about 1500 people and I have seen exactly

47

00:03:28,980 --> 00:03:29,980

zero of them so far.

48

00:03:29,980 --> 00:03:31,980

I've heard this island referred to as quiet.

49

00:03:31,980 --> 00:03:34,980

I think that's something of an understatement.

50

00:03:34,980 --> 00:03:41,220

Sometime in the walking dead out here.

51

00:03:41,220 --> 00:03:47,580

In fact, it's so laid back that there's just one stoplight on the entire island.

52

00:03:47,580 --> 00:03:50,940

It's a world away from the frenetic Japanese cities to the north.

53

00:03:50,940 --> 00:03:54,500

A place that seems perfectly content to just be.

54

00:03:54,500 --> 00:03:59,100

Fishing dominates the local economy and every facet of daily life seems connected to the

55

00:03:59,100 --> 00:04:01,100

sea.

56

00:04:01,100 --> 00:04:04,300

Yanaguni is quiet because it's so remote.

57

00:04:04,300 --> 00:04:09,380

It's actually Japan's westernmost point, just 70 miles from the shores of Taiwan.

58

00:04:09,540 --> 00:04:13,700

Besides the undersea ruins I've come to investigate, I pull over and walk through the woods to

59

00:04:13,700 --> 00:04:18,540

see Yanaguni's other bizarre local draw.

60

00:04:18,540 --> 00:04:24,580

This appears to be a 200 foot long child's slide made out of scorching hot metal and

61

00:04:24,580 --> 00:04:26,180

rollers from a meat packing factory.

62

00:04:26,180 --> 00:04:30,860

In the United States, this slide would exist for one day before a class action lawsuit shut

63

00:04:30,860 --> 00:04:31,860

it down.

64

00:04:31,860 --> 00:04:36,940

I don't know why this exists in this island, but here it is just waiting for some idiot

65

00:04:36,940 --> 00:04:39,060

to try it out.

66

00:04:39,060 --> 00:04:41,740

Here we go.

67

00:04:41,740 --> 00:04:48,740

Oh my God, people have built this tested.

68

00:04:48,740 --> 00:05:01,340

What a wonderful ride for all the kids.

69

00:05:01,340 --> 00:05:05,300

The real attraction on this island though is submerged just offshore.

70

00:05:06,260 --> 00:05:10,260

So if I had any chance of understanding the Yanaguni ruins, I obviously have to see them

71

00:05:10,260 --> 00:05:11,260

first hand.

72

00:05:11,260 --> 00:05:19,620

And to do that, I'm going to meet with a man who discovered Yanaguni.

73

00:05:19,620 --> 00:05:24,020

I arrive at the docks to meet with legendary diver, Kihachiro Arutake.

74

00:05:24,020 --> 00:05:28,900

Arutake not only found the Yanaguni ruins, but he continues to study the site for evidence

75

00:05:28,900 --> 00:05:29,900

of human construction.

76

00:05:29,900 --> 00:05:30,900

Hi there, I'm Josh.

77

00:05:30,900 --> 00:05:33,180

Thanks for having me aboard.

78

00:05:33,180 --> 00:05:54,620

I'm thrilled that he's agreed to let me tag along on his latest survey.

79

00:05:54,620 --> 00:05:59,220

Once we're clear of the harbor, Mr. Arutake and his son Shorty recount the discovery of

80

00:05:59,220 --> 00:06:00,220

the site.

81

00:06:00,380 --> 00:06:03,380

When did you first find the Yanaguni ruins?

82

00:06:03,380 --> 00:06:04,380

1986.

83

00:06:04,380 --> 00:06:05,380

1986?

84

00:06:05,380 --> 00:06:06,380

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

85

00:06:06,380 --> 00:06:07,380

Driving research.

86

00:06:07,380 --> 00:06:08,380

Driving research?

87

00:06:08,380 --> 00:06:09,380

Yeah.

88

00:06:09,380 --> 00:06:11,380

When you saw it, what did you think?

89

00:06:11,380 --> 00:06:13,300

Underwater Machu Picchu.

90

00:06:13,300 --> 00:06:14,300

Looks like Machu Picchu.

91

00:06:14,300 --> 00:06:15,660

Yeah, he got goose bumps.

92

00:06:15,660 --> 00:06:18,140

Did you immediately think that it was man-made?

93

00:06:18,140 --> 00:06:21,700

It's unlike anything you've ever seen before.

94

00:06:21,700 --> 00:06:25,740

Once I saw the site, there was no doubt in my mind it must be man-made.

95

00:06:25,740 --> 00:06:27,740

Who do you think made the site?

96

00:06:27,740 --> 00:06:32,740

Only God knows.

97

00:06:32,740 --> 00:06:36,220

Only God knows.

98

00:06:36,220 --> 00:06:37,220

Here's the rub.

99

00:06:37,220 --> 00:06:42,380

The discovery of the Yanaguni ruins could be a groundbreaking find, but only if someone

100

00:06:42,380 --> 00:06:44,340

can prove that it's man-made.

101

00:06:44,340 --> 00:06:47,700

And so far, that's been surprisingly difficult.

102

00:06:47,700 --> 00:06:52,500

Supporters like Arutake believe the ruins date back more than 4,000 years.

103

00:06:52,500 --> 00:06:57,100

They claim that it was once a coastal city, a towering structure of rock-cut temples and

104

00:06:57,100 --> 00:07:03,140

massive stone architecture that was swallowed by an earthquake like the legendary Atlantis.

105

00:07:03,140 --> 00:07:13,580

As we approach the dive site, a looming rock formation comes into view.

106

00:07:13,580 --> 00:07:20,820

Tachigami Iwa, which means standing godrock, towers above the submerged ruins like a sentinel.

107

00:07:20,820 --> 00:07:26,420

It's a jaw-dropping wonder that some believe also has signs of ancient human construction.

108

00:07:26,420 --> 00:07:27,420

Are you ready?

109

00:07:27,420 --> 00:07:28,420

Yeah.

110

00:07:28,420 --> 00:07:31,420

Man, do people tell you that you look like Bruno Mars?

111

00:07:31,420 --> 00:07:32,420

Bruno Mars?

112

00:07:32,420 --> 00:07:33,420

Yeah.

113

00:07:33,420 --> 00:07:34,420

Sometimes.

114

00:07:34,420 --> 00:07:35,420

That's a compliment.

115

00:07:35,420 --> 00:07:38,420

I'm telling you, if we get some rollers in your hair, it's full uptown fog on this boat

116

00:07:38,420 --> 00:07:44,060

right now.

117

00:07:44,060 --> 00:07:48,740

Mr. Arutake's boat has a glass bottom, and I head below decks for my first look at just

118

00:07:48,740 --> 00:07:52,500

how difficult this dive can be.

119

00:07:52,500 --> 00:07:56,500

Really hard to maneuver in here, especially with these huge underwater rock formations.

120

00:07:56,500 --> 00:08:00,860

This can be one of the most challenging dives in the world because there's incredible rip

121

00:08:00,860 --> 00:08:01,860

currents here.

122

00:08:01,860 --> 00:08:05,220

The boat is going to get to the best position it can, we're going to exit, and then the

123

00:08:05,220 --> 00:08:08,620

curve is going to take us to a different position where the boat will pick us up.

124

00:08:08,620 --> 00:08:12,740

Okay, let's get suited up.

125

00:08:12,740 --> 00:08:15,420

I head topside and get geared up for the dive.

126

00:08:15,420 --> 00:08:17,420

Overhead is a deep current.

127

00:08:17,420 --> 00:08:21,660

The way that I understand it from him, you don't really get a second pass at it because

128

00:08:21,660 --> 00:08:23,660

the current just pulls you along the side.

129

00:08:23,660 --> 00:08:27,660

So I think we drop down deep and then we just follow Erotaki and drop him as we go.

130

00:08:27,660 --> 00:08:28,660

Look back once in a while, bro.

131

00:08:28,660 --> 00:08:29,660

All right, don't lose me.

132

00:08:29,660 --> 00:08:30,660

Yeah.

133

00:08:30,660 --> 00:08:35,620

I don't know what to expect, but honestly, I'm skeptical that whatever I'm about to

134

00:08:35,620 --> 00:08:37,620

see is really a man-made Atlantis.

135

00:08:37,620 --> 00:08:38,620

Let's go.

136

00:08:38,620 --> 00:08:39,620

Yeah, I'm ready.

137

00:08:39,620 --> 00:08:40,620

Let's do it.

138

00:08:40,620 --> 00:08:52,460

We are descending down toward the ruins.

139

00:08:52,460 --> 00:08:56,580

We've entered the water just west of the dive site, so the powerful current will drag

140

00:08:56,580 --> 00:08:57,580

us toward it.

141

00:08:57,580 --> 00:09:02,580

We are off the bottom now, making our way to some sort of passage.

142

00:09:02,580 --> 00:09:06,300

Looks like a narrow tunnel of some sort.

143

00:09:06,300 --> 00:09:11,140

I follow Erotaki through the tunnel, and once we emerge on the other side, I get my first

144

00:09:11,140 --> 00:09:14,740

look at the mystery that is the Yanaguni ruins.

145

00:09:14,740 --> 00:09:26,220

Oh my God.

146

00:09:26,220 --> 00:09:31,740

I'm off the coast of a remote island, exploring what's known as the Japanese Atlantis, a massive

147

00:09:31,740 --> 00:09:35,260

underwater rock formation called the Yanaguni ruins.

148

00:09:35,300 --> 00:09:40,540

I follow my guide through a strange tunnel, and once we emerge on the other side, I'm stunned

149

00:09:40,540 --> 00:09:41,540

by what I see.

150

00:09:41,540 --> 00:09:42,540

Oh my God.

151

00:09:42,540 --> 00:09:45,540

The tunnel opens up to a huge rock structure just off the Norvus.

152

00:09:45,540 --> 00:09:51,540

To these gigantic rocks that look like armalests, they must be 20 feet tall.

153

00:09:51,540 --> 00:09:58,540

There are some sort of holes with slits on the side that cover them.

154

00:09:58,540 --> 00:10:11,140

They look like markings of some kind.

155

00:10:11,140 --> 00:10:16,140

After a short swim around the point, the full scope of Yanaguni comes into view.

156

00:10:16,140 --> 00:10:19,140

Oh my God.

157

00:10:19,140 --> 00:10:22,140

It's really amazing.

158

00:10:22,140 --> 00:10:24,140

It's enormous.

159

00:10:24,140 --> 00:10:27,940

No much bigger than I expected.

160

00:10:27,940 --> 00:10:32,180

The western side of the site opens up to what's called the main terrace, and what appear to

161

00:10:32,180 --> 00:10:35,180

be steps cut at 90 degree angles.

162

00:10:35,180 --> 00:10:38,180

Looks like one of the same stairs.

163

00:10:38,180 --> 00:10:41,180

I wasn't expecting something this architectural.

164

00:10:41,180 --> 00:10:48,580

Everywhere you look, there seems to be some sort of white angle straight line.

165

00:10:49,020 --> 00:10:52,340

There's a fierce debate as to whether these are the remains of a civilization older than

166

00:10:52,340 --> 00:10:57,060

the pyramids, or simply a bizarre natural formation.

167

00:10:57,060 --> 00:11:03,540

We get swept along by the current, which pulls us from one bizarre site to the next.

168

00:11:03,540 --> 00:11:06,300

The steps lead to what's called the upper terrace.

169

00:11:06,300 --> 00:11:11,700

This is the top of the monument, and it's covered in what certainly looks like cut channels,

170

00:11:11,700 --> 00:11:13,700

which some believe were used for drainage.

171

00:11:14,700 --> 00:11:20,700

None of this looks excited to at all feels very designed.

172

00:11:20,700 --> 00:11:26,700

As the current continues to push us east, we come to a place called the pool.

173

00:11:28,700 --> 00:11:31,700

Some sort of triangular depression here.

174

00:11:31,700 --> 00:11:34,700

It's absolutely huge.

175

00:11:34,700 --> 00:11:38,700

This wedge-shaped depression could have stored water for ceremonies.

176

00:11:38,700 --> 00:11:41,700

Some sort of holes on the side.

177

00:11:41,700 --> 00:11:47,700

Several perfectly round holes around the perimeter look to be drilled down into the rock.

178

00:11:48,700 --> 00:11:51,700

I'm coming upon a large trench.

179

00:11:52,700 --> 00:11:54,700

Holy s***!

180

00:11:56,700 --> 00:12:02,700

It looks like a kind of hole, almost like a temple.

181

00:12:03,700 --> 00:12:06,700

I'm going to pull up a loose rock stand here.

182

00:12:06,700 --> 00:12:09,700

I'm going to collect these for lead analysis.

183

00:12:09,700 --> 00:12:14,700

Analysis of the rock sample could determine how old the site is, and just as importantly,

184

00:12:14,700 --> 00:12:16,700

how it came to be.

185

00:12:16,700 --> 00:12:22,700

Floating upwards out of the trench, I met with an undeniably artistic-looking formation.

186

00:12:23,700 --> 00:12:25,700

This is known as the turtle.

187

00:12:25,700 --> 00:12:31,700

It almost looks like a carved structure with this triangular point.

188

00:12:31,700 --> 00:12:37,700

The lines and angles look, well, they look perfect, and to be honest, my skepticism is suddenly fading.

189

00:12:37,700 --> 00:12:39,700

That is wild.

190

00:12:40,700 --> 00:12:43,700

There's one more part of the ruins that Arataki wants me to see.

191

00:12:43,700 --> 00:12:49,700

We swim around to the east, and I'm shocked to see something that appears to be looking back at me.

192

00:12:50,700 --> 00:12:52,700

Oh, this is incredible!

193

00:12:54,700 --> 00:12:56,700

Looks like a face!

194

00:12:56,700 --> 00:12:59,700

They are compared to me two eye sockets.

195

00:12:59,700 --> 00:13:04,700

This particle cut could be the nose, and it's seen in defined growth.

196

00:13:04,700 --> 00:13:08,700

Also, weirdly symmetrical clearly straight.

197

00:13:09,700 --> 00:13:15,700

My head is spinning with everything that I've just seen, but the current is picking up and our air is getting low.

198

00:13:25,700 --> 00:13:31,700

As we get pulled by the swirling water, Arataki releases an emergency buoy to let his team know where to collect us.

199

00:13:32,700 --> 00:13:37,700

The boat adjusts course toward our beacon and carefully navigates into position.

200

00:13:41,700 --> 00:13:47,700

Since the vessel is unable to anchor in these conditions, getting back on the boat is like climbing onto a moving train.

201

00:13:47,700 --> 00:13:51,700

Miss the ladder, and you've got a decent chance of getting diced up in the propeller.

202

00:14:02,700 --> 00:14:07,700

Once we're safely aboard, I'm left to figure out exactly what it is I just saw.

203

00:14:25,700 --> 00:14:27,700

Easier said than done.

204

00:14:27,700 --> 00:14:31,700

To get to the bottom of the mystery, I'll have to meet with experts in both camps.

205

00:14:31,700 --> 00:14:36,700

I'm going to start with the latest evidence that the site is, in fact, a sunken ruin.

206

00:14:37,700 --> 00:14:43,700

Okay, first order of business is to take a closer look at the island above the water.

207

00:14:43,700 --> 00:14:50,700

Figure out if there's anything up here that could really give us any clues as to whether or not the Yanaguni ruins were made by man.

208

00:14:52,700 --> 00:14:57,700

Before it was part of Japan, Yanaguni and other volcanic islands were part of the Ryukyu Kingdom.

209

00:14:57,700 --> 00:15:02,700

The Ryukus were an independent civilization that spent 400 years torn between China and Japan.

210

00:15:02,700 --> 00:15:07,700

Before being annexed by Japan in 1879, and there's still evidence of their culture today.

211

00:15:07,700 --> 00:15:12,700

I pass by hundreds of strange tombs in Yanaguni's lonely graveyard.

212

00:15:12,700 --> 00:15:18,700

They resemble curved turtle shells, and there are terraced steps that resemble the shape of the underwater formation.

213

00:15:20,700 --> 00:15:24,700

I've heard that locals here have discovered a stone carving in the jungle,

214

00:15:24,700 --> 00:15:27,700

said to be almost a stone-cutting rock.

215

00:15:27,700 --> 00:15:31,700

I've heard that locals here have discovered a stone carving in the jungle,

216

00:15:31,700 --> 00:15:35,700

said to be almost identical to the face found underwater at Yanaguni.

217

00:15:37,700 --> 00:15:41,700

Masahiro Tanaka is a researcher here who's volunteered to share the findings with me.

218

00:15:41,700 --> 00:15:42,700

Nice to meet you.

219

00:15:42,700 --> 00:15:43,700

Nice to meet you too.

220

00:15:44,700 --> 00:15:49,700

I've read that there's this rock structure high up on the island that may be related to the

Yanaguni ruins.

221

00:15:49,700 --> 00:15:51,700

I've heard you're the guy to talk to about it.

222

00:15:52,700 --> 00:15:56,700

Yes, it's a formation that we think is carved.

223

00:15:56,700 --> 00:15:58,700

It appears to be an alien face.

224

00:15:58,700 --> 00:15:59,700

Like an alien face?

225

00:15:59,700 --> 00:16:01,700

I... really.

226

00:16:01,700 --> 00:16:03,700

Okay, well, let's saddle up.

227

00:16:09,700 --> 00:16:15,700

The carving is hard to reach, located high atop a steep cliff that overlooks the Yanaguni coast.

228

00:16:16,700 --> 00:16:18,700

Feels like another world in here.

229

00:16:18,700 --> 00:16:19,700

Yeah, arigato.

230

00:16:20,700 --> 00:16:24,700

Really, really dense, a coral path.

231

00:16:24,700 --> 00:16:25,700

Definitely.

232

00:16:25,700 --> 00:16:28,700

This would not have been a fun ride on a motorbike.

233

00:16:28,700 --> 00:16:29,700

That's a tree.

234

00:16:30,700 --> 00:16:31,700

Fine, don't worry about it.

235

00:16:31,700 --> 00:16:32,700

I got it.

236

00:16:32,700 --> 00:16:34,700

Okay, whoa, whoa, whoa.

237

00:16:34,700 --> 00:16:35,700

Koki, come on.

238

00:16:35,700 --> 00:16:37,700

This horse is like dying to run.

239

00:16:38,700 --> 00:16:40,700

Okay, go, go, go.

240

00:16:41,700 --> 00:16:47,700

Yanaguni has this very small breed of horse, but they're very powerful and very fast.

241

00:16:47,700 --> 00:16:48,700

What's his name?

242

00:16:48,700 --> 00:16:49,700

Daruta.

243

00:16:49,700 --> 00:16:50,700

Daruta?

244

00:16:50,700 --> 00:16:52,700

Is that Japanese for sea biscuit?

245

00:16:52,700 --> 00:16:53,700

Sea biscuit?

246

00:16:54,700 --> 00:16:59,700

I'm doing everything in my power to keep this horse from just breaking out into a full gallop.

247

00:17:00,700 --> 00:17:01,700

This horse wants to move.

248

00:17:01,700 --> 00:17:03,700

This is crazy!

249

00:17:04,700 --> 00:17:06,700

Slow it down there, girl.

250

00:17:07,700 --> 00:17:08,700

Good lord!

251

00:17:16,700 --> 00:17:23,700

In the jungle of a Japanese island, I'm searching for an ancient rock carving that could help prove that the sunken Yanaguni ruins are from a lost city.

252

00:17:24,700 --> 00:17:26,700

It's called the Yanaguni civilization.

253

00:17:27,700 --> 00:17:29,700

Okay, whoa, whoa, whoa.

254

00:17:29,700 --> 00:17:31,700

This horse wants to move.

255

00:17:31,700 --> 00:17:33,700

This is crazy!

256

00:17:34,700 --> 00:17:36,700

Slow it down there, girl.

257

00:17:37,700 --> 00:17:38,700

Good lord!

258

00:17:46,700 --> 00:17:48,700

This horse is like a fucking rocket.

259

00:17:48,700 --> 00:17:50,700

My horse wants to race.

260

00:17:51,700 --> 00:17:57,700

After placing in the inaugural Yanaguni derby, my horse finally slows his pace.

261

00:17:58,700 --> 00:18:00,700

We dismount and walk into the jungle on foot.

262

00:18:01,700 --> 00:18:02,700

Wow.

263

00:18:03,700 --> 00:18:05,700

Oh, whoa.

264

00:18:06,700 --> 00:18:07,700

That looks like face.

265

00:18:07,700 --> 00:18:08,700

Big time.

266

00:18:08,700 --> 00:18:09,700

This is the bell.

267

00:18:09,700 --> 00:18:10,700

Oh, a tongue.

268

00:18:10,700 --> 00:18:12,700

It's like a tongue coming out of the mouth.

269

00:18:12,700 --> 00:18:14,700

There are some really compelling elements here.

270

00:18:14,700 --> 00:18:16,700

This especially looks really sculpted here.

271

00:18:16,700 --> 00:18:21,700

We have this almond-shaped socket and you can see the same kind of arc over here on this side.

272

00:18:21,700 --> 00:18:24,700

And it looks like a brow and it has the general shape of a face.

273

00:18:24,700 --> 00:18:26,700

And as you said, a tongue sticking out.

274

00:18:26,700 --> 00:18:27,700

It's really compelling.

275

00:18:28,700 --> 00:18:32,700

There's no missing it and no mistaking it for anything other than a human face.

276

00:18:32,700 --> 00:18:36,700

Much like the ruins, though, its origins are a complete unknown.

277

00:18:36,700 --> 00:18:38,700

This looks like something from the Goonies.

278

00:18:38,700 --> 00:18:40,700

You know the Goonies?

279

00:18:41,700 --> 00:18:42,700

Yanagunies?

280

00:18:43,700 --> 00:18:44,700

No?

281

00:18:44,700 --> 00:18:50,700

This case, Masuhiro may not be up on his 80s American pop movie references, but that is a solid joke, people.

282

00:18:52,700 --> 00:18:56,700

And you think this could be related to Yanaguni, to the ruins?

283

00:18:57,700 --> 00:18:59,700

This mountain overlooks the ruins.

284

00:19:00,700 --> 00:19:05,700

Many believe that this face is a totem, a guardian for underwater ruins.

285

00:19:05,700 --> 00:19:07,700

This is sort of watching over the ruins then?

286

00:19:08,700 --> 00:19:10,700

Yes, this is considered a holy site.

287

00:19:10,700 --> 00:19:13,700

Remove your shoes. Let me show you something else.

288

00:19:13,700 --> 00:19:15,700

Okay, I'm behind you. Shoes off. Here we go.

289

00:19:23,700 --> 00:19:24,700

Wow!

290

00:19:25,700 --> 00:19:27,700

This is amazing up here.

291

00:19:28,700 --> 00:19:30,700

This is the best view on the island.

292

00:19:33,700 --> 00:19:34,700

What is this?

293

00:19:35,700 --> 00:19:38,700

It's believed that this was used for rituals.

294

00:19:38,700 --> 00:19:41,700

A place for an offering. It's a perfectly circular depression.

295

00:19:41,700 --> 00:19:43,700

This is a very strange site.

296

00:19:43,700 --> 00:19:49,700

I'd love to photograph the entire rock so that we can get a better look at its exact shape.

297

00:19:51,700 --> 00:19:54,700

I photographed the rock to create a detailed three-dimensional model.

298

00:19:54,700 --> 00:20:01,700

By comparing this to the supposed underwater face, we should be able to tell if these were deliberately constructed.

299

00:20:02,700 --> 00:20:07,700

Everything I've seen so far has been incredible, but also circumstantial.

300

00:20:07,700 --> 00:20:13,700

To get hard facts about Yanaguni, I need to consult with the leading scientist who's thoroughly studied the ruins.

301

00:20:16,700 --> 00:20:18,700

Hahaha! Okay.

302

00:20:24,700 --> 00:20:28,700

I catch a quick flight from Yanaguni to the largest of the Ryukyu Islands. Ok, now.

303

00:20:32,700 --> 00:20:38,700

Okinawa is sort of the other Japan. When we think of Japan, we tend to think of technology and neon lights.

304

00:20:38,700 --> 00:20:44,700

And here, it's tropical. It feels like you're in Hawaii and the locals are really laid back.

305

00:20:44,700 --> 00:20:48,700

It's just kind of a looking-glass version of the Japan we think we know.

306

00:20:50,700 --> 00:20:59,700

My meeting with the professor isn't for another hour, so I take a moment to explore Okinawa's culture, its people, and its creepy toys.

307

00:21:00,700 --> 00:21:05,700

This is a vending machine that dispenses toys in the shape of horribly depressed Japanese businessmen.

308

00:21:05,700 --> 00:21:10,700

Collect the whole set. I'm just hoping for this guy who lost it all in the stock market.

309

00:21:12,700 --> 00:21:16,700

Yes, here we go. This is literally a sad guy just staring at his smartphone.

310

00:21:18,700 --> 00:21:19,700

Why?

311

00:21:19,700 --> 00:21:22,700

Sir! No! Don't do it! Don't jump!

312

00:21:22,700 --> 00:21:25,700

Another vending machine dispenses, well...

313

00:21:26,700 --> 00:21:32,700

Japan, let's have a conversation here. I understand cultural differences, but you gotta cool it with this. This is weird.

314

00:21:33,700 --> 00:21:39,700

Next door, the market has several local delicacies on display. Among them, umibudo, savory sea grapes.

315

00:21:40,700 --> 00:21:44,700

And from this, you can make a tiny bottle of wine. It's this big.

316

00:21:44,700 --> 00:21:48,700

Like all of Southern Japan, life in Okinawa is dependent on the ocean.

317

00:21:48,700 --> 00:21:49,700

Can I see what you're cutting?

318

00:21:49,700 --> 00:21:50,700

Yeah, right there.

319

00:21:50,700 --> 00:21:51,700

Yeah?

320

00:21:51,700 --> 00:21:53,700

And that means really fresh sushi.

321

00:21:53,700 --> 00:21:55,700

Dude, this could be a sushi chef.

322

00:21:55,700 --> 00:21:56,700

Go ahead.

323

00:21:56,700 --> 00:21:57,700

I'm good?

324

00:21:57,700 --> 00:21:58,700

Yeah.

325

00:21:58,700 --> 00:21:59,700

Well, alright. Can I have a job here? Yes?

326

00:21:59,700 --> 00:22:00,700

Yeah.

327

00:22:00,700 --> 00:22:01,700

I can?

328

00:22:01,700 --> 00:22:02,700

Yeah.

329

00:22:02,700 --> 00:22:03,700

Excuse me.

330

00:22:03,700 --> 00:22:04,700

Hello.

331

00:22:04,700 --> 00:22:05,700

Can I have a seat?

332

00:22:05,700 --> 00:22:08,700

We are closed right now because I'm eating all of the food.

333

00:22:09,700 --> 00:22:10,700

Apologies.

334

00:22:12,700 --> 00:22:16,700

After quickly losing my job as a sushi chef, I'm back on the road.

335

00:22:16,700 --> 00:22:20,700

I'm headed to meet with a professor, Kimura, from the University of the Ryukyus.

336

00:22:20,700 --> 00:22:25,700

This is really the guy who has been at the forefront of advocating for the Yanaguni ruins

337

00:22:25,700 --> 00:22:27,700

being a man-made structure.

338

00:22:27,700 --> 00:22:31,700

Nobody has done more research or work on the monument than this guy.

339

00:22:32,700 --> 00:22:40,700

Building the Yanaguni monument would have required advanced tools and techniques that weren't believed to exist in Japan thousands of years ago.

340

00:22:40,700 --> 00:22:47,700

If Professor Kimura's groundbreaking theory is correct, it would totally alter our understanding of human history.

341

00:22:47,700 --> 00:22:49,700

How old do you think this structure is?

342

00:22:49,700 --> 00:22:51,700

When do you think this was carved?

343

00:22:51,700 --> 00:22:59,700

We found coral samples on some of the rocks at the ruins and carbon tested them to determine that they are more than 3,000 years old.

344

00:22:59,700 --> 00:23:00,700

What do you think happened?

345

00:23:00,700 --> 00:23:03,700

Do you think that it sank into the ocean?

346

00:23:04,700 --> 00:23:08,700

I believe the monument was a religious site that was built on the shore.

347

00:23:09,700 --> 00:23:13,700

But shifting of the earth from plate tectonics and earthquakes caused it to sink.

348

00:23:14,700 --> 00:23:23,700

And what do you think about the people who built this? Are they a lost civilization of some kind or are these the people that became the Ryuku Islanders?

349

00:23:23,700 --> 00:23:32,700

The Ryuku people lacked the metal tools needed to carve the monument. It would have to have been built by ancient people who came from the mainland.

350

00:23:32,700 --> 00:23:37,700

When you first saw the site, what were the things that led you to believe that it's man-made?

351

00:23:38,700 --> 00:23:49,700

There are strange marks across the ruins that indicate the monument was cut using tools. We also recovered something amazing that may prove that the ruins were built by hand.

352

00:23:50,700 --> 00:23:51,700

Ho ho ho!

353

00:23:58,700 --> 00:24:07,700

In Okinawa, Japan, a meeting with a professor who believes he has evidence that the Atlantis-like structure known as the Yanaguni ruins is in fact man-made.

354

00:24:09,700 --> 00:24:10,700

That's a cross or an X.

355

00:24:10,700 --> 00:24:15,700

The professor reveals a rock fragment with an unmistakable cross carved into it.

356

00:24:15,700 --> 00:24:24,700

That looks 100% like it was carved there. That's very compelling. Are there other structures like this in the area or is this totally unique?

357

00:24:24,700 --> 00:24:32,700

You have to look at other ruins from the culture that followed Yanaguni. You'll find there are some very striking similarities.

358

00:24:32,700 --> 00:24:37,700

Before I go, I have to ask one last question for all the Yanaguni truthers out there.

359

00:24:38,700 --> 00:24:40,700

The number one question was this made by aliens?

360

00:24:41,700 --> 00:24:44,700

Wink if you believe it is and they're listening.

361

00:24:50,700 --> 00:24:57,700

Ok, so while there's no evidence here of alien construction, Kimura directs me to a place that might have a real link to Yanaguni.

362

00:24:57,700 --> 00:25:04,700

These are the remains of the Katsuren Castle built about 600 years ago in the 15th century by the Ryukyu Kingdom.

363

00:25:04,700 --> 00:25:07,700

You find castles like this all throughout these southern islands.

364

00:25:07,700 --> 00:25:14,700

Now, if the Yanaguni ruins are man-made, they would have been built thousands of years before castles like this.

365

00:25:14,700 --> 00:25:20,700

There is a kind of eerie similarity between the shape of the Yanaguni ruins and the design of these ruins.

366

00:25:21,700 --> 00:25:26,700

The dark stone, the tightly fitted angular blocks, the terrace like architecture.

367

00:25:26,700 --> 00:25:29,700

It all feels evocative of the underwater formation.

368

00:25:29,700 --> 00:25:36,700

Professor Kimura and others believe the advanced civilization that built Yanaguni didn't completely disappear after all.

369

00:25:36,700 --> 00:25:43,700

But others have a different view and one scientist has discovered something that might refute what I've learned from this.

370

00:25:44,700 --> 00:25:47,700

To reach him, I'm headed for yet another island.

371

00:25:50,700 --> 00:25:55,700

I fly north to Japan's main island and its second largest city of Osaka.

372

00:25:59,700 --> 00:26:05,700

It's a drizzly, blade runner kind of morning as some of the city's 2.7 million residents make their way to work.

373

00:26:05,700 --> 00:26:08,700

Like much of Japan, it's a very different country.

374

00:26:08,700 --> 00:26:10,700

The Japanese also love rules.

375

00:26:10,700 --> 00:26:14,700

No smoking, no bicycles, and no dancing.

376

00:26:14,700 --> 00:26:16,700

Ah, what the hell.

377

00:26:20,700 --> 00:26:23,700

The city is also famous for its eclectic food.

378

00:26:23,700 --> 00:26:24,700

I think that's it.

379

00:26:24,700 --> 00:26:26,700

I'm going to go and get some food.

380

00:26:26,700 --> 00:26:28,700

I'm going to get some food.

381

00:26:28,700 --> 00:26:30,700

I'm going to get some food.

382

00:26:30,700 --> 00:26:32,700

I'm going to get some food.

383

00:26:32,700 --> 00:26:34,700

I'm going to get some food.

384

00:26:34,700 --> 00:26:36,700

I'm going to get some food.

385

00:26:36,700 --> 00:26:38,700

I'm going to get some eclectic food.

386

00:26:38,700 --> 00:26:40,700

Okay, let's see what we got here.

387

00:26:40,700 --> 00:26:45,700

I opt for the omakase, which means chef's choice, as in, not yours.

388

00:26:47,700 --> 00:26:49,700

Yes, that is an octopus.

389

00:26:49,700 --> 00:26:50,700

Oh boy.

390

00:26:50,700 --> 00:26:54,700

The guy at the bar manages to kill my lunch before I have a chance to give him a name.

391

00:26:54,700 --> 00:26:56,700

This is crazy.

392

00:26:58,700 --> 00:27:01,700

I've never seen anything like that in my life.

393

00:27:02,700 --> 00:27:04,700

Alright, this looks great.

394

00:27:04,700 --> 00:27:05,700

Here we go.

395

00:27:07,700 --> 00:27:08,700

Mmm.

396

00:27:09,700 --> 00:27:10,700

It's fresh.

397

00:27:10,700 --> 00:27:11,700

Yes.

398

00:27:12,700 --> 00:27:15,700

It's pretty chewy, very alive.

399

00:27:15,700 --> 00:27:18,700

The suckers are sticking to my tongue.

400

00:27:18,700 --> 00:27:21,700

Oh, he's still got some fight left in him there.

401

00:27:21,700 --> 00:27:22,700

Oh my god.

402

00:27:22,700 --> 00:27:24,700

I feel like Captain Nemo right now.

403

00:27:24,700 --> 00:27:29,700

This is the first and only time that I've had a meal that sucked and didn't suck at the same time.

404

00:27:30,700 --> 00:27:36,700

After lunch, I head to a rural hillside just east of the city, where I meet with archaeologist

405

00:27:36,700 --> 00:27:41,700

Professor Michio Maisano, who has something incredible to show me.

406

00:27:41,700 --> 00:27:46,700

Together, we head into the soggy jungle and slog our way up a steep embankment.

407

00:27:46,700 --> 00:27:50,700

At the top is something totally otherworldly.

408

00:27:50,700 --> 00:27:52,700

What is that?

409

00:28:00,700 --> 00:28:02,700

That's the weirdest thing I've ever seen.

410

00:28:02,700 --> 00:28:04,700

What am I looking at here? What is this?

411

00:28:08,700 --> 00:28:10,700

It's called the rock ship.

412

00:28:11,700 --> 00:28:18,700

He thinks that the people were building a tomb with this rock, but abandoned.

413

00:28:18,700 --> 00:28:23,700

Maisano believes the tomb was carved nearly 1500 years ago as a burial.

414

00:28:23,700 --> 00:28:24,700

But who are we kidding?

415

00:28:24,700 --> 00:28:27,700

This thing looks like a crazy alien spaceship.

416

00:28:27,700 --> 00:28:28,700

What is it made of? Is it granite?

417

00:28:28,700 --> 00:28:29,700

Granite?

418

00:28:29,700 --> 00:28:31,700

Yes, this is granite.

419

00:28:31,700 --> 00:28:35,700

Granite is really hard. How did they cut so cleanly through the granite?

420

00:28:35,700 --> 00:28:38,700

It was cut by iron tools.

421

00:28:38,700 --> 00:28:40,700

Iron tools?

422

00:28:40,700 --> 00:28:42,700

Iron tools.

423

00:28:43,700 --> 00:28:52,700

The rock ship is truly bizarre, and it shows that people in this region could craft even hard stone into very angular shapes.

424

00:28:53,700 --> 00:28:55,700

This thing is strange.

425

00:28:55,700 --> 00:29:02,700

Two huge carved square indentations that go down into the structure and all sorts of other carved features.

426

00:29:02,700 --> 00:29:07,700

But it really doesn't look like anything else you see in terms of tombs in Japan.

427

00:29:07,700 --> 00:29:08,700

It's totally unique.

428

00:29:08,700 --> 00:29:16,700

But even if this does kind of look like Yanaguni, like the castle, it was made thousands of years later when iron tools had been invented.

429

00:29:16,700 --> 00:29:19,700

So how did the stone at Yanaguni get shaped?

430

00:29:23,700 --> 00:29:31,700

I take the rock sample I collected from the underwater ruins and go to meet with geologist Masahide

Furukawa to learn more.

431

00:29:31,700 --> 00:29:32,700

Professor, nice to meet you.

432

00:29:32,700 --> 00:29:33,700

Nice to meet you.

433

00:29:33,700 --> 00:29:35,700

Well, I brought you a present. I brought you some rocks.

434

00:29:35,700 --> 00:29:36,700

These are from Yanaguni.

435

00:29:36,700 --> 00:29:43,700

I want to understand if you think that what's at Yanaguni could be man-made or if you're convinced that it's natural.

436

00:29:43,700 --> 00:29:46,700

I think that it's natural.

437

00:30:00,700 --> 00:30:03,700

So you can see these thin, straight cracks in it.

438

00:30:03,700 --> 00:30:07,700

And so that's why sandstone comes off in thin pieces.

439

00:30:07,700 --> 00:30:08,700

I see.

440

00:30:09,700 --> 00:30:17,700

According to the professor, the Yanaguni ruins are the result of the Pacific Ocean's powerful current relentlessly smashing into the brittle sandstone.

441

00:30:17,700 --> 00:30:21,700

To demonstrate, he's going to put my rock samples to the test.

442

00:30:27,700 --> 00:30:31,700

And I will say this, it did crack off in a perfectly straight line.

443

00:30:31,700 --> 00:30:37,700

And it did create the beginning of what looks like a step down and a flat step down.

444

00:30:37,700 --> 00:30:39,700

That's very compelling.

445

00:30:39,700 --> 00:30:47,700

My little sample is one thing, but professor Furukawa offers to let me strike an even larger slab to see if the results can be repeated.

446

00:30:47,700 --> 00:30:50,700

I don't know what's going to happen here, sir. I'm not authorized to do this.

447

00:30:51,700 --> 00:30:58,700

So, flat pieces. We have these 90 degree angles here. It looks very squared off. I think you might be onto something here.

448

00:30:58,700 --> 00:31:08,700

Thanks to the professor, I've seen that ocean currents can act as a hammer against sandstone and carve strangely angular looking structures.

449

00:31:08,700 --> 00:31:12,700

And there are other geological forces at work here too.

450

00:31:13,700 --> 00:31:19,700

To learn about them, I need to meet volcanologist Dr. Akihiko Yoku of Kyoto University.

451

00:31:19,700 --> 00:31:26,700

He's a busy man, so I'm meeting him in his office, which today happens to be a helicopter headed straight for an active volcano.

452

00:31:26,700 --> 00:31:30,700

Is this your personal helicopter? You're like a champ's bond villain.

453

00:31:31,700 --> 00:31:36,700

He explains to me the incredible volatility going on beneath the surface of Japan.

454

00:31:36,700 --> 00:31:42,700

How many active volcanoes in Japan? 118 volcanoes in Japan.

455

00:31:42,700 --> 00:31:44,700

118 that are active? Exactly.

456

00:31:44,700 --> 00:31:46,700

Actively erupting? Yes.

457

00:31:46,700 --> 00:31:48,700

And what's the difference between the two?

458

00:31:48,700 --> 00:31:50,700

The two are the same.

459

00:31:50,700 --> 00:31:52,700

The two are the same.

460

00:31:52,700 --> 00:31:54,700

The two are the same.

461

00:31:54,700 --> 00:31:56,700

The two are the same.

462

00:31:56,700 --> 00:31:58,700

118 that are active? Exactly.

463

00:31:58,700 --> 00:32:00,700

Actively erupting? Yes.

464

00:32:00,700 --> 00:32:02,700

More than 5000 per year.

465

00:32:10,700 --> 00:32:12,700

That is the aso volcano.

466

00:32:12,700 --> 00:32:14,700

That's not aso?

467

00:32:14,700 --> 00:32:16,700

That is very active.

468

00:32:16,700 --> 00:32:20,700

Great. We should definitely go right towards that. She looks like she's smoking.

469

00:32:20,700 --> 00:32:28,700

This is a very sketchy place to be hanging out. The heat and steam from the volcano create dangerous thermal conditions for the helicopter.

470

00:32:28,700 --> 00:32:35,700

It's bumpy, difficult flying conditions up here, very low ceiling and surrounded by these peaks, so we're catching a lot of wind shear.

471

00:32:35,700 --> 00:32:39,700

Oh my god, look at that.

472

00:32:40,700 --> 00:32:46,700

300 miles southwest of Osaka, I'm hovering over the very active Mount Aso volcano.

473

00:32:46,700 --> 00:32:51,700

Oh my god, look at that.

474

00:32:51,700 --> 00:32:58,700

With a caldera 12 miles in diameter and 80 miles in circumference, it is one of the largest volcanoes in the world.

475

00:32:58,700 --> 00:33:02,700

And an eruption now would certainly be my last day on the job.

476

00:33:02,700 --> 00:33:05,700

The volcano looks like it's going to be a big hit.

477

00:33:05,700 --> 00:33:10,700

It looks like the old road to the peak is totally destroyed. Here's the old gift shop.

478

00:33:10,700 --> 00:33:15,700

Volcanoes and earthquakes are a part of the fabric of Japan.

479

00:33:15,700 --> 00:33:21,700

The country sits on four tectonic plates that are constantly shifting as they're forced together.

480

00:33:21,700 --> 00:33:25,700

Some believe the impact helped create the Yanaguni ruins naturally.

481

00:33:25,700 --> 00:33:32,700

In fact, just recently, tectonic activity created a whole new island off the coast of Japan.

482

00:33:33,700 --> 00:33:36,700

How much land has it created?

483

00:33:36,700 --> 00:33:39,700

250 hectares.

484

00:33:39,700 --> 00:33:46,700

Do you think that something like the Yanaguni ruins are man-made or do you think they're natural from volcanoes and earthquakes?

485

00:33:46,700 --> 00:33:53,700

I think that entire island has been shaped by tectonic activity. I think it's entirely natural.

486

00:33:53,700 --> 00:33:57,700

Think of the ocean floor near Yanaguni as the rock in the geology lab.

487

00:33:57,700 --> 00:34:00,700

And the earthquakes and the ocean currents as the hammer.

488

00:34:00,700 --> 00:34:05,700

I can now see how so many perfect right angles might suddenly appear down there.

489

00:34:07,700 --> 00:34:10,700

When was the last time that Mount Osso erupted?

490

00:34:10,700 --> 00:34:11,700

Three days ago.

491

00:34:11,700 --> 00:34:12,700

Three days ago?

492

00:34:12,700 --> 00:34:13,700

Yeah.

493

00:34:13,700 --> 00:34:15,700

And when is it going to erupt again? Today?

494

00:34:15,700 --> 00:34:16,700

Yes.

495

00:34:16,700 --> 00:34:17,700

No.

496

00:34:17,700 --> 00:34:18,700

I'm not sure.

497

00:34:18,700 --> 00:34:20,700

No. Let's go home before it explodes.

498

00:34:20,700 --> 00:34:22,700

I want to go home. I want my mommy.

499

00:34:23,700 --> 00:34:27,700

Speaking with the scientist Sinozaka has left me conflicted.

500

00:34:27,700 --> 00:34:34,700

There is compelling visual evidence that Yanaguni is man-made, but there's also natural explanations for the formation.

501

00:34:34,700 --> 00:34:41,700

Armed with so much new information, I need to see the ruins again to make a final determination for myself.

502

00:34:44,700 --> 00:34:49,700

Flying back to the Ryukyu Islands, I return to where my investigation is.

503

00:34:49,700 --> 00:34:54,700

It's time for me to determine once and for all if the Yanaguni ruins are man-made.

504

00:34:59,700 --> 00:35:05,700

I rejoin Mr. Arutake, the discoverer of the ruins and his son Shorty, who are taking me back to the site.

505

00:35:10,700 --> 00:35:13,700

Today's dive is particularly dangerous.

506

00:35:13,700 --> 00:35:17,700

An incoming storm has made the currents even worse than usual.

507

00:35:17,700 --> 00:35:24,700

And so a really large rock stand here looks like in accents just wasting a plushness of people and kids.

508

00:35:26,700 --> 00:35:29,700

The whole base of the system is galactic.

509

00:35:29,700 --> 00:35:35,700

Not like most else is, but they absorb this water tank in several ways...

510

00:35:35,700 --> 00:35:39,700

Including just how it turns out and opens and closes.

511

00:35:39,700 --> 00:35:44,700

Let's find out how far we'll go with the development design of thevu obstacle.

512

00:35:44,700 --> 00:35:46,700

There's a vehicle, just right beside it.

513

00:35:46,700 --> 00:35:48,700

Last thing on the bottom.

514

00:35:50,140 --> 00:35:53,760

It doesn't take long to get to one of Yanaguni's perfect right angles.

515

00:35:53,760 --> 00:35:57,340

Up close, the edges show the same kinds of ridging and shearing

516

00:35:57,340 --> 00:35:59,840

that my samples did in the geology lab.

517

00:35:59,840 --> 00:36:02,840

Chalk one up for the natural phenomenon crowd.

518

00:36:05,240 --> 00:36:07,240

So, the heat is in the rock here.

519

00:36:07,240 --> 00:36:10,740

Looks like there might be some caverns here. Let's check them out.

520

00:36:11,740 --> 00:36:16,740

These cracks looked like a submerged version of what I saw at the Mount Asso volcano.

521

00:36:16,740 --> 00:36:18,740

We head inside to investigate.

522

00:36:28,740 --> 00:36:34,740

The caverns get tighter and tighter and we're on the verge of turning around.

523

00:36:41,740 --> 00:36:46,740

You see this? This is essentially a stalactite.

524

00:36:46,740 --> 00:36:49,740

Please get only form on dry land.

525

00:36:49,740 --> 00:36:53,740

Have this kid form underwater.

526

00:36:55,740 --> 00:37:00,740

Finding this stalactite is proof that this cave was once above sea level.

527

00:37:00,740 --> 00:37:03,740

It doesn't settle the question of whether Yanaguni is man-made,

528

00:37:03,740 --> 00:37:07,740

but it does mean that it's likely that it did slide into the sea.

529

00:37:07,740 --> 00:37:12,740

My last order of business is to return to the formation resembling a human face

530

00:37:12,740 --> 00:37:16,740

to see how it compares to the face I scanned on land.

531

00:37:20,740 --> 00:37:24,740

I take as many photos as I can to juxtapose the two faces

532

00:37:24,740 --> 00:37:27,740

and determine if they really are carved.

533

00:37:29,740 --> 00:37:32,740

The wall of the cavern is getting very short up here.

534

00:37:38,740 --> 00:37:41,740

With nothing but ocean on one side

535

00:37:41,740 --> 00:37:45,740

and powerful waves crashing into the rocky shores on the other,

536

00:37:45,740 --> 00:37:48,740

we need to hold on tight and ride it out.

537

00:38:00,740 --> 00:38:05,740

We swim to open water, but as it turns out, we're not alone.

538

00:38:07,740 --> 00:38:09,740

Seek, seek, seek.

539

00:38:18,740 --> 00:38:20,740

Want even more Expedition Unknown?

540

00:38:20,740 --> 00:38:25,740

You can check out my personal photos, deleted scenes, and more at TravelChannel.com.

541

00:38:31,740 --> 00:38:34,740

I'm diving off the coast of Yanaguni Island,

542

00:38:34,740 --> 00:38:37,740

known for its powerful and deadly currents.

543

00:38:46,740 --> 00:38:50,740

And I've just come face to face with something even more deadly.

544

00:38:51,740 --> 00:38:52,740

A sea snake.

545

00:38:57,740 --> 00:39:02,740

Black banded sea crates possess venom ten times more powerful than a cobra.

546

00:39:02,740 --> 00:39:07,740

The really bad news is it can swim faster and maneuver better than I ever could.

547

00:39:07,740 --> 00:39:10,740

So Shorty pulls the cord on the beacon,

548

00:39:10,740 --> 00:39:12,740

and we make our way back to the boat.

549

00:39:19,740 --> 00:39:21,740

Wanna dive? Really bad currents.

550

00:39:22,740 --> 00:39:25,740

You okay? Really intense.

551

00:39:26,740 --> 00:39:30,740

Now that I've photographed the two mysterious rock faces found on Yanaguni,

552

00:39:30,740 --> 00:39:32,740

I can compare them side by side.

553

00:39:32,740 --> 00:39:35,740

Time to see what's really going on here.

554

00:39:36,740 --> 00:39:40,740

Okay, so we've stitched together the photos that we took underwater,

555

00:39:40,740 --> 00:39:44,740

and now we're gonna compare those with the photos of the supposed face

556

00:39:44,740 --> 00:39:47,740

that we took photos of on land, high up on the cliffs.

557

00:39:48,740 --> 00:39:51,740

So here's a rendering of the underwater photos stitched together,

558

00:39:51,740 --> 00:39:54,740

and you can see it does look like a face.

559

00:39:54,740 --> 00:39:58,740

The nose isn't quite as convincing once you see the full texture mapping on it,

560

00:39:58,740 --> 00:40:02,740

but there is an outline there that certainly could be the remains of what was a nose.

561

00:40:02,740 --> 00:40:04,740

No real clear chisel marks, though.

562

00:40:04,740 --> 00:40:07,740

And when we look at the photos that we took on land,

563

00:40:07,740 --> 00:40:09,740

something really interesting emerges.

564

00:40:10,740 --> 00:40:13,740

The face, which looked really compelling up on the cliffs,

565

00:40:13,740 --> 00:40:16,740

when we see it fully mapped with 3D texture,

566

00:40:16,740 --> 00:40:19,740

it actually doesn't look as much as the face itself.

567

00:40:19,740 --> 00:40:22,740

It doesn't really have a mouth or any solid features down there.

568

00:40:22,740 --> 00:40:24,740

That rock that's supposed to be a tongue

569

00:40:24,740 --> 00:40:28,740

is sort of blocking what really is the whole missing bottom half of this.

570

00:40:29,740 --> 00:40:32,740

Now, let's take the two images and overlap them.

571

00:40:33,740 --> 00:40:35,740

When we map the two over each other,

572

00:40:35,740 --> 00:40:39,740

we see that in fact they don't really bear very much resemblance to one another.

573

00:40:39,740 --> 00:40:41,740

And I think more than anything, what we're looking at here

574

00:40:41,740 --> 00:40:44,740

might be a couple of round indentations and rocks

575

00:40:44,740 --> 00:40:47,740

that happen to take on the look of a face.

576

00:40:48,740 --> 00:40:51,740

To get to the bottom of the mystery that is the Yanaguni ruins,

577

00:40:51,740 --> 00:40:54,740

I've hopped my way across the islands of southern Japan,

578

00:40:54,740 --> 00:40:56,740

and I've had the adventure of a lifetime.

579

00:40:57,740 --> 00:41:00,740

Ultimately, everything I've learned about the ruins

580

00:41:00,740 --> 00:41:04,740

brings me full circle to the belief that they aren't man-made at all,

581

00:41:04,740 --> 00:41:07,740

but a natural formation of astounding uniqueness.

582

00:41:07,740 --> 00:41:10,740

Likely, they are a product of tectonic shifting

583

00:41:10,740 --> 00:41:13,740

and the ability to move around in a natural way.

584

00:41:13,740 --> 00:41:15,740

And the symbol found on the loose rock?

585

00:41:15,740 --> 00:41:18,740

Very compelling, but not attached to anything,

586

00:41:18,740 --> 00:41:20,740

so who knows how it got there.

587

00:41:20,740 --> 00:41:23,740

But the ship at Masuda is man-made,

588

00:41:23,740 --> 00:41:26,740

as are the strange tombs and castles across southern Japan.

589

00:41:26,740 --> 00:41:28,740

And there's so much we don't know,

590

00:41:28,740 --> 00:41:30,740

that it's not a very clear picture.

591

00:41:30,740 --> 00:41:33,740

But the ship at Masuda is man-made,

592

00:41:33,740 --> 00:41:35,740

and it's not a very clear picture.

593

00:41:35,740 --> 00:41:37,740

It's a very clear picture,

594

00:41:37,740 --> 00:41:39,740

and it's not a very clear picture.

595

00:41:39,740 --> 00:41:41,740

And I think that's the reason why

596

00:41:41,740 --> 00:41:45,740

and there's so much we don't know about these later cultures.

597

00:41:46,740 --> 00:41:50,740

As for Yanaguni, half of it is still buried in sand.

598

00:41:50,740 --> 00:41:53,740

To the faithful, I say keep looking.

599

00:41:53,740 --> 00:41:55,740

I don't think it's the Japanese Atlantis,

600

00:41:56,740 --> 00:41:59,740

but that doesn't make it any less of a wonder.