

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000

Tonight, our quest for El Dorado continues.

2

00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:07,000

We're now approaching your target coordinates.

3

00:00:07,000 --> 00:00:09,000

There's no place you can land out here.

4

00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:12,000

There's really no way to get down there.

5

00:00:12,000 --> 00:00:14,000

Deep in the Colombian jungle.

6

00:00:14,000 --> 00:00:17,000

All right, so Jaguar, spider, snakes, plants.

7

00:00:17,000 --> 00:00:19,000

Pretty much the whole jungle is trying to kill us.

8

00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:20,000

Yes.

9

00:00:20,000 --> 00:00:24,000

Clues from a mysterious civilization point the way to hidden treasures.

10

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

Oh, come on. Look at this.

11

00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:29,000

Look at this.

12

00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:31,000

Are there other cities out there?

13

00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:32,000

Absolutely. No question.

14

00:00:32,000 --> 00:00:33,000

No question.

15

00:00:33,000 --> 00:00:35,000

Woo!

16

00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:38,000

It's our most dangerous expedition ever.

17

00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:40,000

Whoa, whoa, whoa, Brian! Brian!

18

00:00:43,000 --> 00:00:46,000

I have never been in a jungle environment

19

00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:49,000

that was more challenging than this one.

20

00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:50,000

Ever.

21

00:00:50,000 --> 00:00:51,000

Ah!

22

00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:53,000

Dude!

23

00:00:53,000 --> 00:00:57,000

As we uncover the truth behind the lost city of gold.

24

00:00:57,000 --> 00:01:00,000

Aha! Is it a wall? Look at that!

25

00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:04,000

My name is Josh Gates.

26

00:01:04,000 --> 00:01:05,000

Hello!

27

00:01:05,000 --> 00:01:07,000

Explorer.

28

00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:08,000

Adventurer.

29

00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:09,000

This is sick!

30

00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:10,000

Whoa!

31

00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:13,000

And a guy who ends up in some very strange situations.

32

00:01:13,000 --> 00:01:15,000

Woo! That was exciting.

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00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:19,000

With a degree in archeology and a passion for the unexplained,

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00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:21,000

I travel to the ends of the earth

35

00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:24,000

investigating the greatest legends in history.

36

00:01:24,000 --> 00:01:26,000

Okay, let's punch it.

37

00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:28,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

38

00:01:31,000 --> 00:01:33,000

Okay, here we go. Let's do it.

39

00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:36,000

My team is currently hiking in the mountains of northern Columbia.

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00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:41,000

It is hot, it is humid, and we are miles from civilization.

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00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:44,000

We got here the same way those before us did,

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00:01:44,000 --> 00:01:46,000

by being obsessed with legends.

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00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:50,000

And no legend has sowed more destruction than El Dorado.

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00:01:50,000 --> 00:01:54,000

In the 16th century, Spanish conquistadors mounted expeditions

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00:01:54,000 --> 00:01:58,000

to the new world in search of this fabled city of gold.

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00:01:58,000 --> 00:02:02,000

Their campaigns unleashed suffering and death,

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00:02:02,000 --> 00:02:06,000

and their thirst for treasure drove the extinction of entire civilizations.

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00:02:06,000 --> 00:02:09,000

But where did the story begin?

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00:02:09,000 --> 00:02:13,000

And could there really be gold and lost cities out there to be found?

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00:02:14,000 --> 00:02:18,000

I followed the trail of conquistador Gonzalo Jimenez de Quisada

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00:02:18,000 --> 00:02:21,000

to Lake Guadalupe in Columbia.

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00:02:21,000 --> 00:02:23,000

Welcome to El Dorado.

53

00:02:23,000 --> 00:02:25,000

Oh my God.

54

00:02:25,000 --> 00:02:29,000

It was here that the indigenous Muisca people anointed their new chief

55

00:02:29,000 --> 00:02:33,000

by covering him in gold and depositing offerings in the lake.

56

00:02:33,000 --> 00:02:38,000

In time, the story of the golden man, El Hombre Dorado,

57

00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:42,000

mutated into the legend of a golden city, El Dorado.

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00:02:43,000 --> 00:02:47,000

Imagine hearing stories of people covering themselves in gold.

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00:02:47,000 --> 00:02:51,000

They must be so dripping in gold that they can afford to bathe in it almost.

60

00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:53,000

Their imaginations must have gone wild.

61

00:02:53,000 --> 00:02:54,000

Yeah.

62

00:02:54,000 --> 00:03:00,000

At a Muisca burial site, we discovered real treasures that the Spanish never found.

63

00:03:00,000 --> 00:03:01,000

It's gold.

64

00:03:01,000 --> 00:03:03,000

Yeah, it's a piece of gold.

65

00:03:03,000 --> 00:03:06,000

Unbelievable, look at this.

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00:03:06,000 --> 00:03:09,000

But the El Dorado myth is about more than just treasure.

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00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:12,000

It's about an entire lost city.

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00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:17,000

When the Spanish arrived on Columbia's Caribbean coast,

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00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:21,000

they encountered the gold adorned Tyrone people,

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00:03:21,000 --> 00:03:24,000

who retreated to strongholds deep in the mountains.

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00:03:24,000 --> 00:03:29,000

For the next 400 years, outsiders were unable to reach these mysterious cities.

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00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:35,000

Then, in the 1970s, looters discovered a massive Tyrona settlement deep in the jungle,

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00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:39,000

which they named Ciudad Perdida, or the Lost City.

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00:03:39,000 --> 00:03:43,000

Today, archaeologists at the site are using cutting-edge scanning technology

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00:03:43,000 --> 00:03:46,000

to reveal something extraordinary.

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00:03:46,000 --> 00:03:52,000

There may be more lost cities and priceless treasures even deeper in the interior.

77

00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:58,000

My mission? Reach the team at Ciudad Perdida to find a real El Dorado.

78

00:04:00,000 --> 00:04:02,000

We're carrying all of our filming equipment,

79

00:04:02,000 --> 00:04:05,000

not to mention a week's worth of food and supplies,

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00:04:05,000 --> 00:04:09,000

20 miles up a mountain to Ciudad Perdida.

81

00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:10,000

It's beautiful here.

82

00:04:10,000 --> 00:04:11,000

It's beautiful, isn't it?

83

00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:13,000

Yes, which usually means it's also dangerous.

84

00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:14,000

Yeah.

85

00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:15,000

What should I be worried about in here?

86

00:04:15,000 --> 00:04:16,000

We have jaguars.

87

00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:18,000

We have 80 different kinds of spiders.

88

00:04:18,000 --> 00:04:20,000

80, okay.

89

00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:22,000

That I can handle. Let's talk snakes.

90

00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:24,000

We have some deadly snakes here.

91

00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:25,000

What do you have?

92

00:04:25,000 --> 00:04:26,000

The pop rocks.

93

00:04:26,000 --> 00:04:27,000

We call that the fertilizer lances.

94

00:04:27,000 --> 00:04:28,000

That's very dangerous.

95

00:04:28,000 --> 00:04:29,000

Yeah.

96

00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:30,000

I have a little experience with them.

97

00:04:30,000 --> 00:04:34,000

Packing enough venom in a single bite to kill a man six times over,

98

00:04:34,000 --> 00:04:38,000

a fertilizer lance nearly punched my ticket in the jungles of Guatemala.

99

00:04:38,000 --> 00:04:39,000

John, snake.

100

00:04:39,000 --> 00:04:41,000

Snake right by you.

101

00:04:41,000 --> 00:04:42,000

Where's the snake?

102

00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:44,000

Snake, up above the snake.

103

00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:46,000

And in this part of Columbia,

104

00:04:46,000 --> 00:04:50,000

it's responsible for nearly 70% of all snake bites.

105

00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:51,000

Perfect.

106

00:04:51,000 --> 00:04:54,000

All right, so jaguars, spiders, snakes, plants,

107

00:04:54,000 --> 00:04:56,000

pretty much the whole jungle is trying to kill us.

108

00:04:56,000 --> 00:04:57,000

Yes.

109

00:04:57,000 --> 00:04:58,000

At least we'll die in a beautiful place though.

110

00:04:58,000 --> 00:04:59,000

Yeah.

111

00:05:01,000 --> 00:05:02,000

Okay, guys, come on.

112

00:05:05,000 --> 00:05:10,000

We need to hike more than six miles uphill to reach camp tonight.

113

00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:14,000

Day two is another eight mile trek into the mountains.

114

00:05:14,000 --> 00:05:20,000

And day three will bring us the final leg to meet the archaeologists at Ciudad Perdida.

115

00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:24,000

As the afternoon wears on, the sky opens up.

116

00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:30,000

Not surprising considering this area sees more than 157 inches of rain a year.

117

00:05:30,000 --> 00:05:32,000

Brian and Diego.

118

00:05:32,000 --> 00:05:34,000

Real slippy to careful.

119

00:05:34,000 --> 00:05:36,000

I want to lose that camera.

120

00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:43,000

There's mud, and then there's whatever this is.

121

00:05:47,000 --> 00:05:49,000

The trail turns into a giant slip and slide.

122

00:05:49,000 --> 00:05:53,000

And as my tech supervisor Diego learns, it's not the fun kind.

123

00:05:53,000 --> 00:05:54,000

You okay?

124

00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:55,000

Yeah, I'm good.

125

00:05:57,000 --> 00:05:58,000

We slog on.

126

00:05:58,000 --> 00:06:02,000

Still a few miles out from tonight's camp, our pace slows to a crawl.

127

00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:19,000

And when the sun sets, our situation goes from uncomfortable to unviewable.

128

00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:22,000

All right, well, we have lost the light.

129

00:06:22,000 --> 00:06:26,000

The rain has stopped momentarily, and we are trying to get ourselves to camp.

130

00:06:26,000 --> 00:06:29,000

You really don't want to be hiking here after dark.

131

00:06:29,000 --> 00:06:31,000

It's a pretty dangerous place to be.

132

00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:35,000

Exhausted and caked in mud, we stumble on for another mile,

133

00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:38,000

desperately hoping to find our campsite.

134

00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:39,000

I see lights.

135

00:06:40,000 --> 00:06:41,000

Here we go, guys.

136

00:06:45,000 --> 00:06:46,000

Okay.

137

00:06:47,000 --> 00:06:49,000

Okay, home sweet home.

138

00:06:49,000 --> 00:06:50,000

We're here, guys.

139

00:06:50,000 --> 00:06:51,000

Look at this.

140

00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:52,000

Salvation.

141

00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:57,000

This simple shelter, built for the trek to the lost city, may not look like much.

142

00:06:57,000 --> 00:07:00,000

But after today, it feels like El Dorado.

143

00:07:05,000 --> 00:07:06,000

Great day, everybody.

144

00:07:06,000 --> 00:07:08,000

Let's do it all again tomorrow.

145

00:07:10,000 --> 00:07:12,000

Wonder what time the generator goes out.

146

00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:13,000

Good night.

147

00:07:21,000 --> 00:07:22,000

Good morning.

148

00:07:22,000 --> 00:07:24,000

It was a horrible dream that we were in a...

149

00:07:24,000 --> 00:07:25,000

No, it's all real.

150

00:07:26,000 --> 00:07:27,000

Okay, here we go.

151

00:07:28,000 --> 00:07:31,000

Today, we need to log eight miles to reach camp,

152

00:07:31,000 --> 00:07:34,000

but our spirit and everything else is a bit dampened.

153

00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:37,000

One of the real challenges up here is that everything is in a good place.

154

00:07:37,000 --> 00:07:38,000

We have to be careful.

155

00:07:38,000 --> 00:07:39,000

We have to be careful.

156

00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:42,000

We have to be careful because the water is a bit dampened.

157

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:45,000

One of the real challenges up here is that everything is wet.

158

00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:46,000

It is so humid.

159

00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:47,000

It's raining.

160

00:07:47,000 --> 00:07:48,000

It's misty.

161

00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:49,000

You're sweating.

162

00:07:49,000 --> 00:07:51,000

And then, no matter what you do, even if you hang your clothes up,

163

00:07:51,000 --> 00:07:53,000

they end up like this.

164

00:07:53,000 --> 00:07:54,000

Still soaked.

165

00:07:55,000 --> 00:07:56,000

Okay.

166

00:07:58,000 --> 00:08:01,000

We make our first and easiest river crossing,

167

00:08:01,000 --> 00:08:05,000

marching through verdant pastures as we approach the heart of the jungle.

168

00:08:09,000 --> 00:08:12,000

After hours of hiking in swirling heat and humidity,

169

00:08:12,000 --> 00:08:15,000

we encounter something I never expected to see out here.

170

00:08:15,000 --> 00:08:16,000

People.

171

00:08:17,000 --> 00:08:22,000

Passing us on the ridge is an indigenous family from a culture known as the Kogi,

172

00:08:22,000 --> 00:08:24,000

descendants of the Tyrona.

173

00:08:24,000 --> 00:08:25,000

Hold on.

174

00:08:25,000 --> 00:08:26,000

Hold on.

175

00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:32,000

The shed is bigger than the kid.

176

00:08:32,000 --> 00:08:33,000

Amazing.

177

00:08:34,000 --> 00:08:40,000

A short walk later, we arrive at their village where the Kogi live much as the Tyrona did.

178

00:08:40,000 --> 00:08:44,000

No machines, no electricity, no written language.

179

00:08:44,000 --> 00:08:48,000

Isolation has protected Kogi culture, which, despite appearances,

180

00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:51,000

is actually incredibly advanced.

181

00:08:51,000 --> 00:08:56,000

After all, they're living in harmony with one of the most punishing environments on Earth,

182

00:08:56,000 --> 00:09:01,000

a place where European invaders, for all their might, simply couldn't cut it.

183

00:09:01,000 --> 00:09:05,000

The knowledge and grand construction of their ancestors, the Tyrona,

184

00:09:05,000 --> 00:09:07,000

was a secret to the outside world,

185

00:09:07,000 --> 00:09:12,000

their own private El Dorado, until looters chanced upon the ruins.

186

00:09:14,000 --> 00:09:15,000

Sergio.

187

00:09:15,000 --> 00:09:16,000

Yes, Josh.

188

00:09:16,000 --> 00:09:17,000

So explain this to me.

189

00:09:17,000 --> 00:09:20,000

Looters found this lost city in 75.

190

00:09:20,000 --> 00:09:22,000

These looters, they were farmers,

191

00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:25,000

and they used to go out in the mountains for hunting.

192

00:09:25,000 --> 00:09:26,000

Right.

193

00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:27,000

These weren't like career criminals.

194

00:09:27,000 --> 00:09:28,000

They were local guys.

195

00:09:28,000 --> 00:09:29,000

Yes, they were just locals.

196

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:30,000

Got it.

197

00:09:30,000 --> 00:09:32,000

And what did they find up here?

198

00:09:32,000 --> 00:09:36,000

One of these guys was hunting, and he saw stone steps.

199

00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:37,000

And that was it?

200

00:09:37,000 --> 00:09:38,000

They knew something was here.

201

00:09:38,000 --> 00:09:39,000

Yes.

202

00:09:39,000 --> 00:09:40,000

Wow.

203

00:09:40,000 --> 00:09:43,000

And so soon after that, gold starts showing up on the black market.

204

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:44,000

Yeah.

205

00:09:44,000 --> 00:09:50,000

The farmers unearthed thousands of Tyrone offerings left in burial pits at Ciudad Perdida.

206

00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:54,000

Some of this stunning jewelry is on display at the Museum of Gold in Bogota,

207

00:09:54,000 --> 00:09:59,000

but much of it vanished, lost to the illegal antiquities trade.

208

00:09:59,000 --> 00:10:02,000

And how do archaeologists find this place?

209

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:06,000

The thing is that the looters, they started to fight in and killing each other over the gold.

210

00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:08,000

Treasure of the Sierra Madre.

211

00:10:08,000 --> 00:10:09,000

Have you ever seen that movie?

212

00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:11,000

Humphrey Bogart, great movie.

213

00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:12,000

Similar story.

214

00:10:12,000 --> 00:10:16,000

Greed brought out the worst in the conquistadors and in these farmers.

215

00:10:16,000 --> 00:10:23,000

Fortunately, one of them blew the whistle and led archaeologists to the ruins of a real-life Eldorado,

216

00:10:23,000 --> 00:10:26,000

allowing it to be studied and conserved.

217

00:10:26,000 --> 00:10:33,000

Nearly 40 years later, the team we're trying to reach believes that what's been found so far is just scratching the surface.

218

00:10:33,000 --> 00:10:35,000

Okay, uphill?

219

00:10:35,000 --> 00:10:36,000

Not so planned.

220

00:10:36,000 --> 00:10:37,000

Let's go.

221

00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:38,000

That's rude.

222

00:10:38,000 --> 00:10:41,000

Okay, so Humphrey Bogart is this down on his luck prospector, right?

223

00:10:41,000 --> 00:10:45,000

He's in a bar and this guy comes in and he's got a map.

224

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:49,000

We forge on mile after mile.

225

00:10:49,000 --> 00:10:50,000

Hey, Brian.

226

00:10:50,000 --> 00:10:51,000

What?

227

00:10:51,000 --> 00:10:54,000

Have you ever seen Treasure of the Sierra Madre?

228

00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:55,000

No.

229

00:10:55,000 --> 00:11:01,000

As dusk approaches, we find our shelter and try to get some rest.

230

00:11:01,000 --> 00:11:06,000

We're back at it bright and early.

231

00:11:06,000 --> 00:11:09,000

Just six miles to go becomes my mantra.

232

00:11:09,000 --> 00:11:12,000

The trek is starting to feel like Groundhog Day.

233

00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:14,000

Oh, look, another bridge.

234

00:11:14,000 --> 00:11:17,000

Only this one is more of a bridge to be.

235

00:11:17,000 --> 00:11:21,000

Okay, Josh, here's where we cross.

236

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:22,000

Okay.

237

00:11:22,000 --> 00:11:24,000

All right, let's get wet.

238

00:11:24,000 --> 00:11:25,000

Come on.

239

00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:28,000

Let's do it.

240

00:11:28,000 --> 00:11:33,000

Yeah, that is not warm.

241

00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:35,000

Everybody's across?

242

00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:40,000

Okay, let's do it.

243

00:11:40,000 --> 00:11:43,000

From here, there's nowhere to go but up.

244

00:11:43,000 --> 00:11:50,000

We climb higher and higher into the mountains until we finally get to the top of the mountain.

245

00:11:50,000 --> 00:11:52,000

We're going to cross the mountain.

246

00:11:52,000 --> 00:11:54,000

We're going to cross the mountain.

247

00:11:54,000 --> 00:11:57,000

We're going to cross the mountain.

248

00:11:57,000 --> 00:12:00,000

From here, there's nowhere to go but up.

249

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:07,000

We climb higher and higher into the mountains until we finally reach the first traces of the lost city.

250

00:12:07,000 --> 00:12:09,000

Josh, do you see this?

251

00:12:09,000 --> 00:12:10,000

Yes, stairs.

252

00:12:10,000 --> 00:12:13,000

Yes, this is part of the lost city.

253

00:12:13,000 --> 00:12:14,000

This was built by the Tyrona.

254

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:18,000

This was built by the Tyrone over a thousand years ago.

255

00:12:18,000 --> 00:12:19,000

Unbelievable.

256

00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:21,000

And look, it just goes up, up, up.

257

00:12:21,000 --> 00:12:28,000

The entrance to Ciudad Perdida is a marvel, exactly 1200 steps engineered in dense jungle.

258

00:12:28,000 --> 00:12:31,000

One, two, three, four.

259

00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:35,000

These stairs are the only way in or out of the lost city.

260

00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:39,000

The Spanish noted that Tyrona warriors were incredibly fierce,

261

00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:44,000

using their tactical knowledge of the jungle to carry out lethal ambushes.

262

00:12:44,000 --> 00:12:48,000

By funneling invaders onto narrow staircases like this,

263

00:12:48,000 --> 00:12:53,000

the Tyrona were able to repel attacks and keep the Spanish at bay.

264

00:12:53,000 --> 00:12:57,000

261, 262, 263, 264, 265.

265

00:12:57,000 --> 00:12:59,000

But we will persevere.

266

00:12:59,000 --> 00:13:02,000

Turns out every day was leg day for the Tyrona.

267

00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:11,000

597, 598, 599, 600.

268

00:13:11,000 --> 00:13:12,000

Halfway, guys.

269

00:13:12,000 --> 00:13:13,000

Can we stop?

270

00:13:13,000 --> 00:13:14,000

Thirsty.

271

00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:15,000

I can't hear you.

272

00:13:15,000 --> 00:13:16,000

Keep walking, everybody.

273

00:13:16,000 --> 00:13:17,000

You're doing great.

274

00:13:17,000 --> 00:13:18,000

You're doing great.

275

00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:20,000

Everybody's doing great.

276

00:13:20,000 --> 00:13:22,000

We're gonna die.

277

00:13:22,000 --> 00:13:27,000

We climb on, and the ancient stair master literally takes my breath away.

278

00:13:27,000 --> 00:13:31,000

But what we find at the top truly leaves me speechless.

279

00:13:31,000 --> 00:13:34,000

After three days and more than 20 miles uphill,

280

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:41,000

we are among a small handful of people to reach one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of the last century.

281

00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:43,000

The lost city.

282

00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:48,000

1198, 1199, 1200.

283

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:52,000

Oh, come on.

284

00:13:52,000 --> 00:13:53,000

Look at this.

285

00:14:00,000 --> 00:14:01,000

Woo.

286

00:14:01,000 --> 00:14:03,000

Look at this place.

287

00:14:06,000 --> 00:14:07,000

This is insane.

288

00:14:07,000 --> 00:14:10,000

If you're looking for a lost city, here it is.

289

00:14:11,000 --> 00:14:16,000

I'm searching for the truth behind the legend of El Dorado at Ciudad Perdida,

290

00:14:16,000 --> 00:14:21,000

the ruins of a lost city hidden in the depths of the Colombian jungle.

291

00:14:21,000 --> 00:14:25,000

What lies before us is a marvel of engineering.

292

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:30,000

More than 169 stone terraces spanning 88 acres,

293

00:14:30,000 --> 00:14:36,000

all built on a 4,000-foot peak in the middle of a deeply inhospitable jungle.

294

00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:39,000

Completely overgrown when it was first discovered,

295

00:14:39,000 --> 00:14:45,000

archaeologists Santiago Geraldo and his team have been excavating this site for decades,

296

00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:49,000

living and working out of their own makeshift village near the ruins.

297

00:14:49,000 --> 00:14:51,000

Oh man, so great to meet you.

298

00:14:51,000 --> 00:14:52,000

All right, good meeting you too.

299

00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:53,000

I love your office.

300

00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:55,000

Beats a cubicle any time of day.

301

00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:56,000

Right? I got a lot of questions.

302

00:14:56,000 --> 00:14:57,000

Go, far away.

303

00:14:57,000 --> 00:14:58,000

Let's start with this. When?

304

00:14:58,000 --> 00:15:06,000

The place began to be built by what we think were sort of like pioneers coming into new farming areas around 650 AD.

305

00:15:06,000 --> 00:15:10,000

Spanish called them all Tidona, but we don't know what they called themselves.

306

00:15:10,000 --> 00:15:11,000

Right.

307

00:15:11,000 --> 00:15:13,000

And when does this main section of the city get built?

308

00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:18,000

This was built up sometime between 1100 and 1200 AD in a single push.

309

00:15:18,000 --> 00:15:21,000

Okay. At its height, what do we think the population was here?

310

00:15:21,000 --> 00:15:23,000

Anywhere between 2000 and 3000 people.

311

00:15:23,000 --> 00:15:24,000

Just in this?

312

00:15:24,000 --> 00:15:27,000

Just in this town, in the upper part of the basin, over 10,000 people.

313

00:15:27,000 --> 00:15:30,000

All this forest that you see wasn't here.

314

00:15:30,000 --> 00:15:34,000

So what you'd have seen would have been farmland and patches of forest.

315

00:15:34,000 --> 00:15:35,000

Right.

316

00:15:35,000 --> 00:15:37,000

We see these big rings and these terraces.

317

00:15:37,000 --> 00:15:39,000

Would all of these have a structure on them?

318

00:15:39,000 --> 00:15:41,000

Yeah, all of these had structures on them.

319

00:15:41,000 --> 00:15:42,000

Smaller rings are dwellings.

320

00:15:42,000 --> 00:15:48,000

The really large rings are community spaces, feasting areas, workshops and what have you.

321

00:15:48,000 --> 00:15:50,000

So kind of like the Kogi huts that I saw coming up.

322

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:52,000

It's very similar architecture.

323

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:53,000

It would have been bigger.

324

00:15:53,000 --> 00:15:54,000

Yeah.

325

00:15:54,000 --> 00:15:55,000

But a bit more sophisticated and polished.

326

00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:56,000

Got it.

327

00:15:56,000 --> 00:16:02,000

The terraced platforms we see today are just the foundations of this vanished metropolis.

328

00:16:02,000 --> 00:16:09,000

Radiating out from the city center were hundreds of interconnected plazas stretching far into the jungle.

329

00:16:09,000 --> 00:16:18,000

Each plaza was dotted with round, thatched roof buildings ranging in size from single family dwellings to massive multi-story town halls.

330

00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:23,000

All landscaped with tropical fruit trees and fed by irrigation channels.

331

00:16:23,000 --> 00:16:30,000

Now, after two decades spent exploring these ruins, Santiago is just starting to map its full extent.

332

00:16:30,000 --> 00:16:31,000

That's extraordinary.

333

00:16:31,000 --> 00:16:37,000

You know, that we have this thriving civilization here building absolutely stunning things.

334

00:16:37,000 --> 00:16:42,000

And yet, I think to a lot of the world, Tyrone isn't a name that they know.

335

00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:48,000

When the Tyrone culture built this mega city on a mountain, Europe was in the throes of the Dark Ages.

336

00:16:48,000 --> 00:16:53,000

The Maya were in decline and the Great Inca Empire didn't even exist.

337

00:16:53,000 --> 00:17:00,000

But because the Tyrona didn't have a written language, most of what we know about them comes from their greatest enemy.

338

00:17:00,000 --> 00:17:03,000

How did the Spanish talk about the Tyrona and their chronicles?

339

00:17:03,000 --> 00:17:06,000

They described them as decked out in jewelry and finery.

340

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:10,000

Like most everyone had gold nosepieces, gold ear spools.

341

00:17:10,000 --> 00:17:12,000

That was just daily use.

342

00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:15,000

The Spanish must have really been intrigued by that.

343

00:17:15,000 --> 00:17:20,000

When we talk about El Dorado, the Spanish obsession with this idea that there's a golden city,

344

00:17:20,000 --> 00:17:25,000

is part of it fueled by places like this, spots that the Spanish could not easily get to.

345

00:17:25,000 --> 00:17:29,000

It's always the idea that the indigenous folks are hiding something.

346

00:17:29,000 --> 00:17:30,000

Sure, right.

347

00:17:30,000 --> 00:17:31,000

But they're hiding it away.

348

00:17:31,000 --> 00:17:32,000

Right.

349

00:17:32,000 --> 00:17:40,000

Eager to get their hands on gold, the Spanish founded Santa Marta in 1525 and began raiding coastal Tyrone settlements.

350

00:17:40,000 --> 00:17:44,000

But conquering this jungle citadel was too great a challenge.

351

00:17:44,000 --> 00:17:46,000

This is far away from Santa Marta.

352

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:50,000

Getting here would have been a good eight to ten days.

353

00:17:50,000 --> 00:17:58,000

And when they did venture deeper into Tyrona territory, the Spanish were turned back by the harsh jungle and fierce warriors.

354

00:17:58,000 --> 00:18:00,000

The Spanish had a really hard time with the Tyrona.

355

00:18:00,000 --> 00:18:06,000

Poisoned arrows, big stones tumbling down staircases, taking people down.

356

00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:08,000

This is not a place that you would want to attack.

357

00:18:08,000 --> 00:18:13,000

If you've got the high position, you can defend almost every single foot of the space.

358

00:18:13,000 --> 00:18:19,000

But despite never reaching Ciudad Perdida, the Spanish still sowed the seeds of its destruction.

359

00:18:19,000 --> 00:18:21,000

Why does it collapse up here?

360

00:18:21,000 --> 00:18:22,000

Why does it all go away?

361

00:18:22,000 --> 00:18:26,000

There were a number of epidemic cycles that were diseases brought in by the Spanish.

362

00:18:26,000 --> 00:18:31,000

Smallpox, influenza, typhoid fever, cholera, bubonic plague.

363

00:18:31,000 --> 00:18:35,000

And indigenous populations of the Americas had no immune response to them.

364

00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:38,000

Ninety percent of the population dies.

365

00:18:38,000 --> 00:18:43,000

The Tyrone ceased to exist as a sociocultural entity.

366

00:18:43,000 --> 00:18:44,000

Right.

367

00:18:44,000 --> 00:18:48,000

So from that time period until the 1970s, nobody's up here?

368

00:18:48,000 --> 00:18:49,000

No one's up here.

369

00:18:49,000 --> 00:18:51,000

It is literally lost the time?

370

00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:53,000

Yeah, absolutely.

371

00:18:53,000 --> 00:19:01,000

When looters finally found the lost city, they dug up hundreds of Tyrone graves and stole thousands of golden artifacts.

372

00:19:01,000 --> 00:19:05,000

But Santiago is convinced they barely scratched the surface.

373

00:19:05,000 --> 00:19:13,000

He brings me to a Tyrone monument that may be the key to unlocking more lost cities and their treasures.

374

00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:16,000

Okay, Josh, this is one of Ciudad Perdida's biggest mysteries.

375

00:19:19,000 --> 00:19:20,000

Some people like to call it the Mapstone.

376

00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:21,000

The Mapstone.

377

00:19:21,000 --> 00:19:26,000

So it is this huge stone that looks like it is completely carved.

378

00:19:26,000 --> 00:19:32,000

It's got all these incisions on it, and it's got it on this face, on the sides, but not on the back.

379

00:19:32,000 --> 00:19:36,000

I haven't seen any other carved stones like this walking around.

380

00:19:36,000 --> 00:19:38,000

There's nothing like this at the site.

381

00:19:38,000 --> 00:19:43,000

Nothing like the Mapstone has been found throughout Colombia or throughout the Caribbean.

382

00:19:43,000 --> 00:19:44,000

Wow.

383

00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:47,000

What are some of the theories as to what this thing is?

384

00:19:47,000 --> 00:19:51,000

Some people think that it's originally the map of Ciudad Perdida.

385

00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:52,000

City map.

386

00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:53,000

Welcome to Ciudad Perdida.

387

00:19:53,000 --> 00:19:54,000

You are here.

388

00:19:54,000 --> 00:19:55,000

Sure.

389

00:19:55,000 --> 00:19:56,000

Okay.

390

00:19:56,000 --> 00:19:59,000

But we've overlaid it on top of actual maps and they don't fit.

391

00:19:59,000 --> 00:20:01,000

Me and my colleagues, we have a number of theories.

392

00:20:01,000 --> 00:20:03,000

Like some sort of constellation map.

393

00:20:03,000 --> 00:20:04,000

Aliens.

394

00:20:04,000 --> 00:20:05,000

Oh, of course.

395

00:20:07,000 --> 00:20:11,000

Okay, so it's probably not a star map made by little green men.

396

00:20:11,000 --> 00:20:18,000

Santiago has a more down-to-earth hypothesis he's eager to test with the help of imaging expert Daniel Rodriguez Osorio.

397

00:20:18,000 --> 00:20:19,000

I'm Josh.

398

00:20:19,000 --> 00:20:20,000

Nice to meet you, man.

399

00:20:20,000 --> 00:20:21,000

Nice to meet you.

400

00:20:21,000 --> 00:20:22,000

Talk to me.

401

00:20:22,000 --> 00:20:23,000

What are we going to do?

402

00:20:23,000 --> 00:20:26,000

We're going to take a bunch of pictures and then we're going to stitch them together.

403

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:31,000

That's going to allow us to see the depth and then to create a tree model.

404

00:20:31,000 --> 00:20:35,000

So kind of help us get rid of the moss and all that and just bring out the line.

405

00:20:35,000 --> 00:20:36,000

Let's get snapping.

406

00:20:36,000 --> 00:20:37,000

Come on.

407

00:20:37,000 --> 00:20:38,000

Go for it.

408

00:20:38,000 --> 00:20:39,000

Let's go.

409

00:20:41,000 --> 00:20:42,000

Work it.

410

00:20:42,000 --> 00:20:43,000

Work it.

411

00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:44,000

Show me sexy.

412

00:20:45,000 --> 00:20:46,000

Okay, now you're a stone.

413

00:20:48,000 --> 00:20:52,000

Daniel snaps hundreds of pictures of the mysterious Mapstone.

414

00:20:52,000 --> 00:20:56,000

A few hours later, the images are rendered into a 3D model.

415

00:20:56,000 --> 00:20:57,000

Whoa!

416

00:20:57,000 --> 00:20:59,000

Look at that!

417

00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:00,000

That is incredible.

418

00:21:00,000 --> 00:21:02,000

That is very cool.

419

00:21:02,000 --> 00:21:04,000

Wow, and you can manipulate it in any direction.

420

00:21:04,000 --> 00:21:11,000

If we want to get rid of all of the noise of the lakens and the moss, we just need to do monochrome.

421

00:21:11,000 --> 00:21:13,000

This is really amazing.

422

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:18,000

One of the things that jumps out, of course, is these long paths that we see right here.

423

00:21:18,000 --> 00:21:22,000

It appears to be representing a much larger territory.

424

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:24,000

Well, that begs a really important question.

425

00:21:24,000 --> 00:21:25,000

Are there other cities out there?

426

00:21:25,000 --> 00:21:26,000

No, absolutely.

427

00:21:26,000 --> 00:21:27,000

Absolutely.

428

00:21:27,000 --> 00:21:28,000

No question?

429

00:21:28,000 --> 00:21:29,000

No question.

430

00:21:29,000 --> 00:21:33,000

So deeper in this jungle, farther up in this basin, there could be other places like Seadodd-Perdida.

431

00:21:33,000 --> 00:21:34,000

Yes, I'm absolutely certain.

432

00:21:34,000 --> 00:21:35,000

How?

433

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:36,000

Let me show you.

434

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:44,000

We retire to the team's mess hall to review new intel that could lead to undiscovered cities and even Tyrone Gold.

435

00:21:45,000 --> 00:21:46,000

Okay.

436

00:21:49,000 --> 00:21:50,000

So?

437

00:21:50,000 --> 00:21:57,000

So very recently, we were able to complete a four square mile LIDAR scan of the area around Seadodd-Perdida.

438

00:21:57,000 --> 00:21:58,000

It's this laser scanning technology.

439

00:21:58,000 --> 00:22:00,000

You did it with a helicopter or a plane?

440

00:22:00,000 --> 00:22:02,000

We did it with a helicopter.

441

00:22:02,000 --> 00:22:15,000

It sends out hundreds of thousands of lasers and they filter through the canopy, hit the ground, bounce back, and give us a very, very precise map of all the terrain.

442

00:22:15,000 --> 00:22:17,000

So it's absolutely crazy.

443

00:22:17,000 --> 00:22:18,000

Did it find anything?

444

00:22:18,000 --> 00:22:21,000

Way more things than what we were expecting.

445

00:22:22,000 --> 00:22:25,000

Everything in orange could be an archaeological site.

446

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:27,000

Wait a minute.

447

00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:30,000

Everything on here that's orange is potentially a Tyrone site?

448

00:22:30,000 --> 00:22:33,000

It's 300 acres of potential sites.

449

00:22:33,000 --> 00:22:35,000

It's the whole basin?

450

00:22:35,000 --> 00:22:38,000

Everything in orange appears to be Tyrone architecture.

451

00:22:38,000 --> 00:22:43,000

Hundreds of round, flat terraces just like those at Seadodd-Perdida.

452

00:22:43,000 --> 00:22:50,000

If these scans are accurate, dozens of lost cities and incalculable treasures lie hidden in the jungle.

453

00:22:50,000 --> 00:22:52,000

This is far from legend.

454

00:22:52,000 --> 00:22:57,000

This could be a real-life Eldorado just waiting to be discovered.

455

00:22:57,000 --> 00:22:59,000

We knew that there were more sites.

456

00:22:59,000 --> 00:23:03,000

But then when we saw this data, it was like, wow.

457

00:23:03,000 --> 00:23:07,000

Okay, we've got a lot of walking to do.

458

00:23:07,000 --> 00:23:08,000

Where are we?

459

00:23:08,000 --> 00:23:09,000

Here.

460

00:23:10,000 --> 00:23:16,000

So you've got this impressive Lidar data, but the question does remain, are these sites?

461

00:23:16,000 --> 00:23:19,000

The only way of knowing it is to go out and verify them.

462

00:23:19,000 --> 00:23:21,000

What on here looks promising to you?

463

00:23:21,000 --> 00:23:22,000

This one right here.

464

00:23:22,000 --> 00:23:24,000

It's located on a ridge line.

465

00:23:24,000 --> 00:23:27,000

Very similar to the pattern that we find at Seadodd-Perdida.

466

00:23:27,000 --> 00:23:28,000

There's no paths out there.

467

00:23:28,000 --> 00:23:29,000

There's no...

468

00:23:29,000 --> 00:23:30,000

No paths.

469

00:23:30,000 --> 00:23:31,000

Nothing.

470

00:23:31,000 --> 00:23:32,000

No. There's nothing upriver. No one lives upriver.

471

00:23:32,000 --> 00:23:35,000

So what would it take to reach that place?

472

00:23:35,000 --> 00:23:38,000

About a day or two, whether permitting.

473

00:23:38,000 --> 00:23:40,000

It'll be a really hard hiding.

474

00:23:40,000 --> 00:23:46,000

But before we bushwhack into the wild jungle, Santiago has arranged for a scout.

475

00:23:46,000 --> 00:23:51,000

A helicopter that supplies the archaeologists here graciously allows me to hitch a ride.

476

00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:57,000

To safely put boots on the ground, we first need to chart a path to the site.

477

00:24:03,000 --> 00:24:05,000

Okay, let's fly.

478

00:24:05,000 --> 00:24:12,000

We take off and fly toward the unknown, and hopefully the location of a truly lost city.

479

00:24:12,000 --> 00:24:39,000

I'm lifting off from the ruins of Seadodd-Perdida, searching for a real El Dorado, a lost Tyrone

480

00:24:39,000 --> 00:24:42,000

city hidden in the depths of the Colombian jungle.

481

00:24:44,000 --> 00:24:49,000

Okay, let's chase these coordinates and get over our target site here in the Lidar.

482

00:24:50,000 --> 00:24:52,000

Crossing over the first ridge.

483

00:24:53,000 --> 00:24:56,000

We can see it dips way down to another valley.

484

00:24:56,000 --> 00:24:58,000

I can see what looks like a creek down there.

485

00:24:58,000 --> 00:25:01,000

We'll have to climb up this second ridge as well, it looks like.

486

00:25:01,000 --> 00:25:04,000

By air, the target is just three miles away.

487

00:25:04,000 --> 00:25:10,000

But with terrain this unforgiving, the question becomes, can we actually hike to it?

488

00:25:12,000 --> 00:25:15,000

So here's the second ridge, and our target should be in here.

489

00:25:18,000 --> 00:25:24,000

Oh, and it drops way down on the other side, looks like into a valley with another river there that we're going to have to cross.

490

00:25:24,000 --> 00:25:28,000

Goes right back up in a vertical to a second ridge, that looks ugly.

491

00:25:28,000 --> 00:25:34,000

There's no place you could land out here, there's really no way to get down there at this point.

492

00:25:35,000 --> 00:25:38,000

We're now approaching our target coordinates.

493

00:25:38,000 --> 00:25:41,000

The site should be somewhere right beneath us.

494

00:25:42,000 --> 00:25:45,000

But all I can see is green.

495

00:25:45,000 --> 00:25:50,000

There is just no break and there can't be not a clearing, nothing.

496

00:25:51,000 --> 00:25:55,000

If something's down there, and I don't know that it is, we're going to have to find it the hard way.

497

00:25:56,000 --> 00:25:59,000

We turn around and fly back to Ciudad Perdida.

498

00:25:59,000 --> 00:26:04,000

The road ahead, or lack thereof, will be beyond challenging.

499

00:26:05,000 --> 00:26:08,000

Tomorrow, we blaze a trail.

500

00:26:14,000 --> 00:26:21,000

Brutally early the next morning, my crew and Santiago's team gather in the clouds to begin our next incursion into the jungle,

501

00:26:21,000 --> 00:26:25,000

and towards what we hope is another lost city.

502

00:26:25,000 --> 00:26:30,000

We go on this side of the mountain, cross a creek, and then head up that ridge line.

503

00:26:30,000 --> 00:26:32,000

It looked a lot easier on the light arm map.

504

00:26:32,000 --> 00:26:35,000

Yes, maps do lie quite a bit.

505

00:26:35,000 --> 00:26:37,000

Yeah, this is a lot more vertical looking.

506

00:26:37,000 --> 00:26:40,000

As the crow flies, it's really not that far.

507

00:26:40,000 --> 00:26:41,000

Sure, but we're not crows.

508

00:26:41,000 --> 00:26:44,000

As the snail crawls, it's a whole different ball game.

509

00:26:44,000 --> 00:26:45,000

Okay, should we get into it?

510

00:26:45,000 --> 00:26:46,000

Let's go.

511

00:26:46,000 --> 00:26:47,000

You ready, everybody?

512

00:26:47,000 --> 00:26:49,000

Let's do it.

513

00:26:51,000 --> 00:26:56,000

We're hiking into territory that is so uncharted, it might as well be on another planet.

514

00:26:56,000 --> 00:27:04,000

In fact, everything you're seeing from here on out, you may be the first people to see it, since the Tyrono were here 400 years ago.

515

00:27:04,000 --> 00:27:06,000

Just remember, follow Santiago and Daniel.

516

00:27:06,000 --> 00:27:08,000

If you're following me, you're in trouble.

517

00:27:08,000 --> 00:27:11,000

These steps are real slick.

518

00:27:11,000 --> 00:27:15,000

The stone steps are treacherous, but at least there's a path.

519

00:27:15,000 --> 00:27:20,000

That doesn't last for long though, and soon we're completely on our own in the jungle,

520

00:27:20,000 --> 00:27:25,000

surrounded only by nature and totally exposed to the elements.

521

00:27:25,000 --> 00:27:29,000

We're basically off trail from this point onwards.

522

00:27:29,000 --> 00:27:30,000

Stay.

523

00:27:37,000 --> 00:27:39,000

Watch out.

524

00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:40,000

You okay?

525

00:27:40,000 --> 00:27:44,000

Yeah.

526

00:27:44,000 --> 00:27:46,000

It's a challenge.

527

00:27:46,000 --> 00:27:49,000

It's a real challenge.

528

00:27:51,000 --> 00:27:56,000

Hey guys, let's get rain covers with the ready.

529

00:27:56,000 --> 00:27:58,000

I think it's going to dump.

530

00:28:00,000 --> 00:28:03,000

We're going to get wet.

531

00:28:03,000 --> 00:28:06,000

It's like a slide, it's like a mud slide.

532

00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:11,000

The rain pushes the needle on this hike from challenging to miserable.

533

00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:15,000

This is where things get fun.

534

00:28:15,000 --> 00:28:19,000

We're slogging down a steep ravine with zero traction.

535

00:28:19,000 --> 00:28:22,000

It's a little like descending a mountain made of warm butter.

536

00:28:22,000 --> 00:28:26,000

It's going to get slipperier and slipperier and slipperier.

537

00:28:26,000 --> 00:28:27,000

Oh, f\*\*\*.

538

00:28:27,000 --> 00:28:31,000

It's just going to get way, way worse.

539

00:28:31,000 --> 00:28:32,000

Than this?

540

00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:34,000

Than this, yeah.

541

00:28:34,000 --> 00:28:36,000

Time to go.

542

00:28:36,000 --> 00:28:37,000

Let's go.

543

00:28:37,000 --> 00:28:40,000

And if the ground sliding under our feet isn't enough,

544

00:28:40,000 --> 00:28:45,000

we find out quickly that the rainforest itself is capable of leaving a mark.

545

00:28:45,000 --> 00:28:48,000

Ah, God, I put myself.

546

00:28:48,000 --> 00:28:49,000

You okay?

547

00:28:49,000 --> 00:28:50,000

I don't know.

548

00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:52,000

Ah, f\*\*\*.

549

00:28:52,000 --> 00:28:53,000

Let me see.

550

00:28:53,000 --> 00:28:56,000

Fell down in the branch right into me.

551

00:28:56,000 --> 00:29:00,000

I just got to clean out and look at it, but I don't think it's that deep.

552

00:29:00,000 --> 00:29:02,000

One of those spiny palms.

553

00:29:02,000 --> 00:29:04,000

Spiny palms, don't touch.

554

00:29:04,000 --> 00:29:09,000

Everything in this jungle has evolved to play defense, even the trees,

555

00:29:09,000 --> 00:29:13,000

many of which are covered in painful needles.

556

00:29:13,000 --> 00:29:17,000

It's astounding that the Tyrone built cities in this environment

557

00:29:17,000 --> 00:29:22,000

and easy to see why so many of the Spanish who searched for them never returned.

558

00:29:22,000 --> 00:29:25,000

Whoa, whoa, whoa, Brian!

559

00:29:25,000 --> 00:29:26,000

Brian!

560

00:29:26,000 --> 00:29:27,000

Brian!

561

00:29:27,000 --> 00:29:28,000

Yeah.

562

00:29:28,000 --> 00:29:29,000

Are you okay?

563

00:29:29,000 --> 00:29:30,000

Okay.

564

00:29:30,000 --> 00:29:35,000

After sliding off the ridge, my director of photography, Brian, was saved from a far more dangerous fall

565

00:29:35,000 --> 00:29:37,000

by a tangle of vines.

566

00:29:37,000 --> 00:29:38,000

Okay.

567

00:29:38,000 --> 00:29:42,000

Our local guides raced to the rescue, cutting away the vegetation.

568

00:29:42,000 --> 00:29:46,000

Now, Rob, your first outing on Expedition Unknown.

569

00:29:46,000 --> 00:29:49,000

Easier or harder than you were told?

570

00:29:49,000 --> 00:29:55,000

I just want to survive the one, then we'll worry about the second one.

571

00:29:55,000 --> 00:29:59,000

Welcome to the team, man!

572

00:29:59,000 --> 00:30:05,000

Freed from the vines, we tossed Brian a rope and hauled him back up to somewhat safer ground.

573

00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:08,000

Yeah, Brian!

574

00:30:08,000 --> 00:30:09,000

Woo!

575

00:30:09,000 --> 00:30:13,000

Crisis averted, we forge ahead.

576

00:30:13,000 --> 00:30:14,000

Again.

577

00:30:14,000 --> 00:30:16,000

Okay, right behind you.

578

00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:23,000

I gotta say, I have made a career out of going to very remote, difficult places.

579

00:30:23,000 --> 00:30:30,000

I have never been in a jungle environment that was more challenging than this one ever.

580

00:30:30,000 --> 00:30:36,000

This...this is madness.

581

00:30:36,000 --> 00:30:40,000

Woo!

582

00:30:40,000 --> 00:30:44,000

We finally find some relatively level ground.

583

00:30:44,000 --> 00:30:49,000

I'd be thrilled except for the river running through the middle of it.

584

00:30:49,000 --> 00:30:52,000

You could almost do it here, but it's a little too spicy.

585

00:30:52,000 --> 00:30:56,000

Yeah, I mean, if you take a tumble right here, you're going down.

586

00:30:56,000 --> 00:30:58,000

You're going down all the way to the river.

587

00:30:58,000 --> 00:31:00,000

And it's raining, so does that mean this thing's going to get fatter?

588

00:31:00,000 --> 00:31:01,000

Yeah, this is going to slow up.

589

00:31:01,000 --> 00:31:02,000

Okay, let's get moving, guys.

590

00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:04,000

We're just too heavy.

591

00:31:04,000 --> 00:31:07,000

The recent rain is going to make this river impassable.

592

00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:11,000

We cross now, or we don't cross at all.

593

00:31:11,000 --> 00:31:14,000

All right, here we go. Nice and slow, everybody.

594

00:31:14,000 --> 00:31:18,000

The rushing water nearly pulls me off my feet.

595

00:31:18,000 --> 00:31:23,000

Nice and easy. A little deeper here.

596

00:31:23,000 --> 00:31:28,000

If someone gets swept up in this current, they'll be in Brazil by sunset.

597

00:31:28,000 --> 00:31:30,000

Almost there!

598

00:31:30,000 --> 00:31:36,000

Something my field producer, Dave Deuce, learns the hard way.

599

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:43,000

Dave! Grab him! Grab his arm!

600

00:31:48,000 --> 00:31:51,000

All right, here we go. Nice and slow, everybody.

601

00:31:51,000 --> 00:31:56,000

Deeper here. Almost there!

602

00:31:57,000 --> 00:32:03,000

Dave! Grab him! Grab his arm!

603

00:32:04,000 --> 00:32:06,000

Give me a hand! Give me a hand!

604

00:32:06,000 --> 00:32:09,000

Ah! Ah! F\*\*\*! Come on!

605

00:32:09,000 --> 00:32:11,000

Got this!

606

00:32:12,000 --> 00:32:14,000

He's okay! F\*\*\*!

607

00:32:16,000 --> 00:32:18,000

He's okay!

608

00:32:19,000 --> 00:32:21,000

Another close call.

609

00:32:21,000 --> 00:32:24,000

After a cheating disaster, my producer Dave Deuce catches his breath,

610

00:32:24,000 --> 00:32:30,000

and we soldier on in search of a lost Tyrone city deep in the Colombian jungle.

611

00:32:34,000 --> 00:32:40,000

Over the river. Okay, what's the move?

612

00:32:40,000 --> 00:32:44,000

So, everyone, the going is very steep, very slippery.

613

00:32:44,000 --> 00:32:47,000

If you're going to grab anything, look before you grab,

614

00:32:47,000 --> 00:32:49,000

because there's a lot of spiny, thorny stuff.

615

00:32:49,000 --> 00:32:51,000

Okay, this is as bad as it's going to get, right?

616

00:32:51,000 --> 00:32:53,000

Yeah, for the time being, yeah.

617

00:32:53,000 --> 00:32:56,000

Tomorrow, it'll get worse.

618

00:32:56,000 --> 00:32:58,000

Me, no happy.

619

00:32:59,000 --> 00:33:03,000

We resume our trek into the mountains, as the rain resumes with a vengeance.

620

00:33:03,000 --> 00:33:07,000

Fortunately, Santiago's team is equipped with the latest rain gear.

621

00:33:07,000 --> 00:33:09,000

Nice hat!

622

00:33:11,000 --> 00:33:13,000

This is truly insane.

623

00:33:13,000 --> 00:33:15,000

It's basically no trail at all.

624

00:33:15,000 --> 00:33:21,000

Just pulling yourselves up this super muddy incline, deeper into the jungle.

625

00:33:21,000 --> 00:33:24,000

It goes on like this for hours.

626

00:33:24,000 --> 00:33:26,000

A lot of loose rocks. Be very careful.

627

00:33:26,000 --> 00:33:29,000

You don't dislodge something and send it down.

628

00:33:43,000 --> 00:33:45,000

Hey, guys.

629

00:33:45,000 --> 00:33:48,000

I just remembered I left my iPhone charger back at camp.

630

00:33:48,000 --> 00:33:50,000

Go back down.

631

00:33:50,000 --> 00:33:52,000

Hey, probably still I'm up here.

632

00:33:52,000 --> 00:33:54,000

It's okay.

633

00:33:56,000 --> 00:34:01,000

Here we are, equipped with the latest gear, struggling to trek just a few miles.

634

00:34:01,000 --> 00:34:04,000

And yet, somehow, more than a thousand years ago,

635

00:34:04,000 --> 00:34:10,000

the Tyrona were able to build sprawling cities and craft elaborate gold jewelry.

636

00:34:10,000 --> 00:34:15,000

Seeing where they did it makes their accomplishments that much more impressive.

637

00:34:15,000 --> 00:34:17,000

That was insane.

638

00:34:17,000 --> 00:34:19,000

Everybody good?

639

00:34:19,000 --> 00:34:21,000

Yep.

640

00:34:21,000 --> 00:34:24,000

Okay, we're up the hill and it stopped raining.

641

00:34:24,000 --> 00:34:26,000

So you got, what, two hours of daylight?

642

00:34:26,000 --> 00:34:27,000

About the most.

643

00:34:27,000 --> 00:34:29,000

You don't think we're going to make it up to location X here?

644

00:34:29,000 --> 00:34:31,000

No, no, no. Too late now.

645

00:34:31,000 --> 00:34:32,000

Okay.

646

00:34:32,000 --> 00:34:33,000

We've got to make camp here.

647

00:34:33,000 --> 00:34:34,000

When you say here?

648

00:34:34,000 --> 00:34:35,000

Here is here.

649

00:34:35,000 --> 00:34:36,000

Like here?

650

00:34:36,000 --> 00:34:38,000

You know, this is the flattest area we're going to find.

651

00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:39,000

Off we go.

652

00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:40,000

All right, let's get into it, everybody.

653

00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:42,000

We're making camp.

654

00:34:42,000 --> 00:34:46,000

I see why the Tyrona built their massive terrorist platforms.

655

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:50,000

In these mountains, flat ground is a rare commodity.

656

00:34:50,000 --> 00:34:55,000

Our first step in setting up camp is to clear an area large enough for our canopy.

657

00:34:55,000 --> 00:35:00,000

That would normally take hours, but thankfully, Santiago has brought along Beto,

658

00:35:00,000 --> 00:35:03,000

who he calls a machete ninja.

659

00:35:03,000 --> 00:35:06,000

It's cheaper than therapy.

660

00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:13,000

Next, we construct a roof with rope, branches and tarp.

661

00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:14,000

Good.

662

00:35:14,000 --> 00:35:16,000

Okay, here we go.

663

00:35:16,000 --> 00:35:18,000

Stretch it out.

664

00:35:18,000 --> 00:35:19,000

Go.

665

00:35:19,000 --> 00:35:21,000

Okay, here we go.

666

00:35:21,000 --> 00:35:22,000

Stretch it out.

667

00:35:22,000 --> 00:35:23,000

Okay.

668

00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:24,000

Okay.

669

00:35:24,000 --> 00:35:25,000

Okay.

670

00:35:25,000 --> 00:35:26,000

Okay.

671

00:35:26,000 --> 00:35:27,000

Okay.

672

00:35:27,000 --> 00:35:28,000

Okay.

673

00:35:28,000 --> 00:35:29,000

Okay.

674

00:35:29,000 --> 00:35:30,000

Okay.

675

00:35:30,000 --> 00:35:31,000

Okay.

676

00:35:31,000 --> 00:35:32,000

Okay.

677

00:35:32,000 --> 00:35:33,000

Okay.

678

00:35:33,000 --> 00:35:34,000

Okay.

679

00:35:34,000 --> 00:35:35,000

Okay.

680

00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:40,000

Just in time.

681

00:35:40,000 --> 00:35:41,000

Rain's back.

682

00:35:43,000 --> 00:35:47,000

After a few finishing touches, I'd almost call it cozy.

683

00:35:51,000 --> 00:35:53,000

And it's just that simple.

684

00:35:53,000 --> 00:35:55,000

We built a hotel.

685

00:35:55,000 --> 00:35:56,000

Amazing.

686

00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:04,000

With shelter taken care of, we set to work on humanity's other basic need.

687

00:36:06,000 --> 00:36:08,000

There we go.

688

00:36:08,000 --> 00:36:10,000

Hey, we got fire.

689

00:36:10,000 --> 00:36:12,000

We made fire.

690

00:36:12,000 --> 00:36:18,000

Our little outpost is a far cry from a Tyrone city, but it'll do.

691

00:36:18,000 --> 00:36:21,000

And once the sun goes down, we can at least rest for the night.

692

00:36:21,000 --> 00:36:23,000

Sort of.

693

00:36:28,000 --> 00:36:29,000

Okay.

694

00:36:29,000 --> 00:36:30,000

Great day, everybody.

695

00:36:30,000 --> 00:36:32,000

Sweet dreams.

696

00:36:35,000 --> 00:36:36,000

All right.

697

00:36:36,000 --> 00:36:38,000

On the move.

698

00:36:38,000 --> 00:36:43,000

The next morning, we pack up the camp and faster than you can say, what the hell am I still doing here?

699

00:36:43,000 --> 00:36:45,000

We're back on the hike.

700

00:36:45,000 --> 00:36:48,000

Let's watch your footing and watch where you touch.

701

00:36:48,000 --> 00:36:51,000

Super sketchy up here.

702

00:36:51,000 --> 00:36:57,000

We trek all morning until we arrive at the last ridge we need to scale to reach our target.

703

00:36:57,000 --> 00:37:00,000

We're going to reach the top of the mountain.

704

00:37:00,000 --> 00:37:03,000

We're going to continue at the top of the mountain.

705

00:37:03,000 --> 00:37:04,000

All right.

706

00:37:04,000 --> 00:37:11,000

We're going to cut into the rock and start our morning until we arrive at the last ridge we need to scale to reach our target.

707

00:37:11,000 --> 00:37:12,000

Okay.

708

00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:14,000

So, how we doing GPS-wise?

709

00:37:14,000 --> 00:37:16,000

Let me check.

710

00:37:16,000 --> 00:37:18,000

Take a look at where we're at here.

711

00:37:18,000 --> 00:37:19,000

Here we go.

712

00:37:19,000 --> 00:37:22,000

Okay, so.

713

00:37:22,000 --> 00:37:25,000

According to the GPS, we're sort of halfway up.

714

00:37:25,000 --> 00:37:28,000

We still have a ways to go.

715

00:37:28,000 --> 00:37:30,920

why one research is so difficult,

716

00:37:30,920 --> 00:37:32,560

even why looting was so difficult,

717

00:37:32,560 --> 00:37:35,760

and why the Spanish had such a hard time with these folks.

718

00:37:35,760 --> 00:37:37,480

One of the things I keep thinking about

719

00:37:37,480 --> 00:37:40,200

as I slip and fall and treach up this thing

720

00:37:40,200 --> 00:37:42,560

is there might be nothing here.

721

00:37:42,560 --> 00:37:43,400

Oh, for sure.

722

00:37:43,400 --> 00:37:45,720

You know, that's one of the risks of exploration.

723

00:37:45,720 --> 00:37:47,520

One of the benefits with the LiDAR data

724

00:37:47,520 --> 00:37:50,240

is that we're moving towards a target.

725

00:37:50,240 --> 00:37:52,280

Whereas before we had the LiDAR data,

726

00:37:52,280 --> 00:37:55,440

we were just like moving around in the forest.

727

00:37:55,440 --> 00:37:57,320

Right, at least we've got a guide now.

728

00:37:57,320 --> 00:37:58,640

At least we've got a target.

729

00:38:00,640 --> 00:38:02,840

For the Tyrone who connected all these sites

730

00:38:02,840 --> 00:38:04,960

with paths and stone stairs,

731

00:38:04,960 --> 00:38:08,120

reaching other cities was an afternoon stroll.

732

00:38:08,120 --> 00:38:11,680

400 years later, the jungle has swallowed everything.

733

00:38:11,680 --> 00:38:14,440

Now, just seeing if something is out here

734

00:38:14,440 --> 00:38:16,840

takes decades of archaeological research,

735

00:38:16,840 --> 00:38:19,320

a cutting-edge helicopter LiDAR scan,

736

00:38:19,320 --> 00:38:22,920

and a group of people nuts enough to trek out here.

737

00:38:22,920 --> 00:38:23,960

Well, you know, maybe we find just

738

00:38:23,960 --> 00:38:25,360

a perfectly preserved staircase

739

00:38:25,360 --> 00:38:26,600

that just walked right up.

740

00:38:28,000 --> 00:38:29,760

Don't think so.

741

00:38:29,760 --> 00:38:32,400

Be positive, Santiago, it could happen.

742

00:38:32,400 --> 00:38:34,280

OK, well, I guess we keep climbing, yeah?

743

00:38:34,280 --> 00:38:34,760

Yeah.

744

00:38:34,760 --> 00:38:35,520

All right, let's keep climbing.

745

00:38:35,520 --> 00:38:36,640

Come on.

746

00:38:36,640 --> 00:38:39,480

Don't fall and die, everybody.

747

00:38:39,480 --> 00:38:41,920

The break's over, and the hike starts again.

748

00:38:54,880 --> 00:38:57,200

OK.

749

00:38:57,200 --> 00:38:59,800

The final push-up of the mountain is punishing.

750

00:38:59,800 --> 00:39:01,920

In the rain, it would be impossible.

751

00:39:01,920 --> 00:39:05,400

Thankfully, the weather holds, and we keep going higher.

752

00:39:05,400 --> 00:39:09,320

It seems to go forever, until it doesn't.

753

00:39:09,320 --> 00:39:11,000

We're on level ground.

754

00:39:11,000 --> 00:39:11,720

Woo!

755

00:39:11,720 --> 00:39:14,520

OK, coordinates wise, how we doing?

756

00:39:14,520 --> 00:39:15,760

We are where we should be.

757

00:39:15,760 --> 00:39:16,160

We're here.

758

00:39:16,160 --> 00:39:16,760

We are here.

759

00:39:16,760 --> 00:39:17,320

This is it.

760

00:39:17,320 --> 00:39:18,280

This is it.

761

00:39:18,280 --> 00:39:18,920

Nice work.

762

00:39:18,920 --> 00:39:19,600

All right, man.

763

00:39:19,600 --> 00:39:20,920

Nice job, everybody.

764

00:39:20,920 --> 00:39:23,320

Yeah, we are on the coordinates.

765

00:39:23,320 --> 00:39:26,240

OK, Santiago, I don't know how to break this to you.

766

00:39:26,280 --> 00:39:28,160

I do not see a lost city.

767

00:39:28,160 --> 00:39:29,080

Of course not.

768

00:39:29,080 --> 00:39:33,120

We still need to verify that something is actually out here.

769

00:39:33,120 --> 00:39:33,600

Right.

770

00:39:33,600 --> 00:39:35,840

First thing to look for, flagstones.

771

00:39:35,840 --> 00:39:36,520

Flagstones.

772

00:39:36,520 --> 00:39:37,000

Yeah.

773

00:39:37,000 --> 00:39:37,960

Those flat stones, right?

774

00:39:37,960 --> 00:39:41,440

Flagstones, grinding stones, walls, anything

775

00:39:41,440 --> 00:39:43,560

that looks made by humans.

776

00:39:43,560 --> 00:39:44,000

OK.

777

00:39:44,000 --> 00:39:45,680

That's where verification comes in.

778

00:39:45,680 --> 00:39:47,200

Places are lost for a reason.

779

00:39:47,200 --> 00:39:47,760

Absolutely.

780

00:39:47,760 --> 00:39:48,320

Machete's out?

781

00:39:48,320 --> 00:39:48,880

Absolutely.

782

00:39:48,880 --> 00:39:49,600

Machete's out.

783

00:39:52,760 --> 00:39:55,600

We get to work clearing centuries of growth

784

00:39:55,640 --> 00:39:58,120

while keeping a sharp eye out for any evidence

785

00:39:58,120 --> 00:40:00,000

of human construction underneath.

786

00:40:09,600 --> 00:40:12,040

Josh, hear that?

787

00:40:12,040 --> 00:40:12,960

Is that stone?

788

00:40:12,960 --> 00:40:13,680

It's stone.

789

00:40:13,680 --> 00:40:14,480

Are you sure?

790

00:40:20,200 --> 00:40:21,080

Hear that?

791

00:40:21,080 --> 00:40:22,200

That does sound like stone.

792

00:40:22,200 --> 00:40:22,920

Heal his tear back.

793

00:40:22,920 --> 00:40:23,720

Come on.

794

00:40:25,600 --> 00:40:26,600

OK.

795

00:40:29,000 --> 00:40:30,000

Healy cuts a little bit.

796

00:40:30,000 --> 00:40:30,800

Watch out.

797

00:40:30,800 --> 00:40:31,600

Yeah.

798

00:40:34,160 --> 00:40:35,560

OK.

799

00:40:35,560 --> 00:40:37,800

Lots of roots.

800

00:40:37,800 --> 00:40:38,680

Oh, yeah.

801

00:40:38,680 --> 00:40:39,560

Oh, there we go.

802

00:40:39,560 --> 00:40:42,520

Look, look, look, look, look, look, look, look.

803

00:40:42,520 --> 00:40:43,520

Ha ha!

804

00:40:43,520 --> 00:40:44,560

Look at that!

805

00:40:44,560 --> 00:40:45,800

Is it a wall?

806

00:40:45,800 --> 00:40:46,680

Oh, my word.

807

00:40:46,680 --> 00:40:48,320

Look at that!

808

00:40:48,320 --> 00:40:49,320

This is a wall!

809

00:40:49,320 --> 00:40:50,560

Unbelievable!

810

00:40:50,560 --> 00:40:51,560

Ha!

811

00:40:55,960 --> 00:40:59,120

While climbing the 1,200 steps to see you, Dodd Perdida,

812

00:40:59,120 --> 00:41:02,720

my producer, Rob, thought of something so important, so

813

00:41:02,720 --> 00:41:06,960

profound, so, well, you just have to see it to understand.

814

00:41:06,960 --> 00:41:07,880

Wait, wait, wait.

815

00:41:07,880 --> 00:41:10,200

Don't go all the way top.

816

00:41:10,200 --> 00:41:11,640

We got a gift for you.

817

00:41:11,640 --> 00:41:12,680

What?

818

00:41:12,680 --> 00:41:16,760

We got you something to celebrate the top of the steps.

819

00:41:16,760 --> 00:41:19,800

Oh, my word.

820

00:41:19,800 --> 00:41:22,480

This is genius.

821

00:41:22,480 --> 00:41:24,720

Who wants to break a world record?

822

00:41:24,760 --> 00:41:25,800

Back up, everybody.

823

00:41:31,800 --> 00:41:33,800

There the well, brave slinky.

824

00:41:33,800 --> 00:41:34,520

There the well.

825

00:41:50,680 --> 00:41:52,600

OK, now who's going to hike down to get it?

826

00:41:55,720 --> 00:41:56,720

Is it a wall?

827

00:41:56,720 --> 00:41:57,720

Yeah, definitely a wall.

828

00:41:57,720 --> 00:41:58,720

Unbelievable!

829

00:41:58,720 --> 00:41:59,720

All right.

830

00:41:59,720 --> 00:42:00,720

It's a wall.

831

00:42:00,720 --> 00:42:01,720

We got pottery.

832

00:42:01,720 --> 00:42:02,720

What's that?

833

00:42:02,720 --> 00:42:03,720

Pottery.

834

00:42:03,720 --> 00:42:04,720

Hey!

835

00:42:04,720 --> 00:42:05,720

Pottery, look at that.

836

00:42:05,720 --> 00:42:07,720

So it's dark in the center, sort of reddish on the outside?

837

00:42:07,720 --> 00:42:08,720

Yeah, yeah.

838

00:42:08,720 --> 00:42:10,720

Yeah, it's a fine red type, tight on up here.

839

00:42:10,720 --> 00:42:13,720

You got a wall, we got pottery, we got a site.

840

00:42:13,720 --> 00:42:14,720

This is crazy.

841

00:42:14,720 --> 00:42:18,720

The Spanish spent centuries searching for El Dorado,

842

00:42:18,720 --> 00:42:21,720

and we just found traces of a city that may have fueled the

843

00:42:21,720 --> 00:42:22,720

legend.

844

00:42:22,720 --> 00:42:25,720

After clearing a portion of the wall, we scour the area,

845

00:42:25,720 --> 00:42:28,720

uncovering more evidence of habitation.

846

00:42:28,720 --> 00:42:30,720

Oh, we got more stone.

847

00:42:30,720 --> 00:42:31,720

Come here.

848

00:42:31,720 --> 00:42:32,720

Come here, check us out.

849

00:42:32,720 --> 00:42:33,720

Yeah, check, check.

850

00:42:33,720 --> 00:42:34,720

Look at this.

851

00:42:34,720 --> 00:42:36,720

There is stonework everywhere.

852

00:42:36,720 --> 00:42:37,720

Oh, yeah.

853

00:42:39,720 --> 00:42:42,720

There's more over here at the edge of a ring right here.

854

00:42:42,720 --> 00:42:43,720

Look at that.

855

00:42:43,720 --> 00:42:44,720

Right here.

856

00:42:44,720 --> 00:42:45,720

Look up here, there's a ring.

857

00:42:45,720 --> 00:42:47,720

We've got the edge of a ring right here,

858

00:42:47,720 --> 00:42:49,720

and we've got another edge of a ring right there.

859

00:42:49,720 --> 00:42:50,720

All this is a terrace.

860

00:42:50,720 --> 00:42:51,720

Just like see that, Perdita.

861

00:42:51,720 --> 00:42:52,720

Big open terrace.

862

00:42:52,720 --> 00:42:53,720

Yeah, yeah.

863

00:42:53,720 --> 00:42:54,720

60 feet across.

864

00:42:54,720 --> 00:42:55,720

Yeah.

865

00:42:55,720 --> 00:42:56,720

Come on.

866

00:42:57,720 --> 00:43:00,720

These terraced platforms would have been connected by stone paths

867

00:43:00,720 --> 00:43:04,720

and covered in round, thatched roof buildings.

868

00:43:04,720 --> 00:43:06,720

The wood structures may be gone,

869

00:43:06,720 --> 00:43:10,720

but we still find traces of what life was like inside.

870

00:43:11,720 --> 00:43:13,720

We've got a grinding stone over here.

871

00:43:13,720 --> 00:43:15,720

Oh, look at that.

872

00:43:15,720 --> 00:43:16,720

Grinding stone means people.

873

00:43:16,720 --> 00:43:18,720

This is kitchen, this is eating, this is family,

874

00:43:18,720 --> 00:43:19,720

this is everything.

875

00:43:20,720 --> 00:43:21,720

That's what it is.

876

00:43:21,720 --> 00:43:23,720

And it's just been sitting here waiting to be found.

877

00:43:23,720 --> 00:43:25,720

Think about the last person who touched this.

878

00:43:25,720 --> 00:43:27,720

That was 400 years ago.

879

00:43:27,720 --> 00:43:28,720

It's absolutely crazy.

880

00:43:28,720 --> 00:43:29,720

It's awesome.

881

00:43:29,720 --> 00:43:31,720

That's one of the things that I love about this job.

882

00:43:31,720 --> 00:43:32,720

This is so cool.

883

00:43:32,720 --> 00:43:33,720

I mean, that's history right there.

884

00:43:33,720 --> 00:43:34,720

All right.

885

00:43:34,720 --> 00:43:35,720

Awesome.

886

00:43:35,720 --> 00:43:36,720

All right, let's keep looking.

887

00:43:36,720 --> 00:43:37,720

I don't know what to do.

888

00:43:37,720 --> 00:43:38,720

I'm going to go get a knife.

889

00:43:38,720 --> 00:43:39,720

I'm going to get a knife.

890

00:43:39,720 --> 00:43:40,720

I'm going to get a knife.

891

00:43:40,720 --> 00:43:41,720

I'm going to get a knife.

892

00:43:41,720 --> 00:43:42,720

I'm going to get a knife.

893

00:43:42,720 --> 00:43:43,720

I'm going to get a knife.

894

00:43:43,720 --> 00:43:44,720

Let's keep looking.

895

00:43:45,720 --> 00:43:48,720

Unfortunately, we soon discovered that although this lost city

896

00:43:48,720 --> 00:43:51,720

is a major find, we aren't the first to reach it.

897

00:43:52,720 --> 00:43:54,720

There's a looters trench over here.

898

00:43:54,720 --> 00:43:56,720

Yeah, these guys got into it really bad.

899

00:43:56,720 --> 00:43:58,720

More looter pits here.

900

00:44:01,720 --> 00:44:03,720

The looters were targeting Tyrone graves

901

00:44:03,720 --> 00:44:05,720

and the precious offerings left inside.

902

00:44:06,720 --> 00:44:08,720

But it's not just gold that was lost.

903

00:44:09,720 --> 00:44:10,720

Look at this.

904

00:44:10,720 --> 00:44:13,720

Here's another one of these looter pits.

905

00:44:13,720 --> 00:44:15,720

You can see this big depression down here

906

00:44:15,720 --> 00:44:17,720

under this fallen tree.

907

00:44:17,720 --> 00:44:20,720

This is so sad because this would have been

908

00:44:20,720 --> 00:44:23,720

the grave of a Tyrone person.

909

00:44:23,720 --> 00:44:25,720

It would have had pottery.

910

00:44:25,720 --> 00:44:26,720

It would have had their bones.

911

00:44:26,720 --> 00:44:30,720

It would have had perhaps gold ornaments and things like that.

912

00:44:30,720 --> 00:44:33,720

It sort of robs us of knowing more about the Tyrone, right?

913

00:44:33,720 --> 00:44:35,720

Because they didn't have a written language.

914

00:44:35,720 --> 00:44:39,720

And so their art, their gold, the things they made,

915

00:44:39,720 --> 00:44:41,720

this is how we know about them.

916

00:44:41,720 --> 00:44:44,720

And so every time a looter comes up here and takes something,

917

00:44:44,720 --> 00:44:47,720

it's something that we will never, ever get to understand.

918

00:44:51,720 --> 00:44:53,720

But thanks to cutting-edge technology,

919

00:44:53,720 --> 00:44:56,720

archaeologists like Daniel and Santiago are finding a way

920

00:44:56,720 --> 00:44:58,720

to fill in some of the blank pages

921

00:44:58,720 --> 00:45:01,720

in the lost story of the Tyrone.

922

00:45:01,720 --> 00:45:03,720

What are the beach balls all about?

923

00:45:03,720 --> 00:45:06,720

There are reference targets up for laser scanning that we're doing.

924

00:45:06,720 --> 00:45:08,720

So we're going to do a laser scan down here.

925

00:45:08,720 --> 00:45:09,720

That's what this is?

926

00:45:09,720 --> 00:45:10,720

Yes.

927

00:45:10,720 --> 00:45:13,720

While Arreolaidr allows you to identify the sites,

928

00:45:13,720 --> 00:45:17,720

Thereseleida allows you to document the structures.

929

00:45:17,720 --> 00:45:18,720

It brings out the architecture.

930

00:45:18,720 --> 00:45:19,720

Got it. Okay.

931

00:45:19,720 --> 00:45:23,720

And even more importantly, digitizing these structures

932

00:45:23,720 --> 00:45:26,720

gives the archaeological community around the world

933

00:45:26,720 --> 00:45:28,720

virtual access to the site,

934

00:45:28,720 --> 00:45:33,720

from humble stone tools to massive landscape engineering.

935

00:45:33,720 --> 00:45:37,720

We are just beginning to unlock the secrets of the Tyrone.

936

00:45:37,720 --> 00:45:40,720

I feel privileged to help discover a new lost city,

937

00:45:40,720 --> 00:45:42,720

but for the archaeologists out here,

938

00:45:42,720 --> 00:45:44,720

the real work has just begun.

939

00:45:44,720 --> 00:45:46,720

How big is the site?

940

00:45:46,720 --> 00:45:48,720

How many people lived here?

941

00:45:48,720 --> 00:45:50,720

Do any unlooted artifacts remain?

942

00:45:50,720 --> 00:45:53,720

And what will they tell us about the culture?

943

00:45:53,720 --> 00:45:55,720

You have a lifetime's worth of work and then some.

944

00:45:55,720 --> 00:45:57,720

Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. Absolutely.

945

00:45:57,720 --> 00:45:59,720

More like four or five lifetimes worth of work.

946

00:45:59,720 --> 00:46:02,720

We really are just almost literally scratching the surface here.

947

00:46:02,720 --> 00:46:05,720

We're just peeling away the thinnest part of what's here.

948

00:46:05,720 --> 00:46:08,720

With Aerial Lidar and with Teresele Lidar,

949

00:46:08,720 --> 00:46:11,720

we're actually beginning to tease out how it all fits together.

950

00:46:11,720 --> 00:46:15,720

I have to say, just the experience of being here is pretty amazing.

951

00:46:15,720 --> 00:46:19,720

It's not every day you get to go to some place that is off the map.

952

00:46:19,720 --> 00:46:20,720

Absolutely.

953

00:46:20,720 --> 00:46:22,720

You know, a city out in the middle of the jungle

954

00:46:22,720 --> 00:46:24,720

that other than few enterprising looters,

955

00:46:24,720 --> 00:46:25,720

Absolutely.

956

00:46:25,720 --> 00:46:27,720

Nobody's stood here in hundreds of years.

957

00:46:27,720 --> 00:46:28,720

No. No.

958

00:46:28,720 --> 00:46:29,720

Another pin on the map.

959

00:46:29,720 --> 00:46:30,720

Another piece of the puzzle.

960

00:46:30,720 --> 00:46:31,720

All right, let's keep putting it together.

961

00:46:31,720 --> 00:46:32,720

All right.

962

00:46:35,720 --> 00:46:40,720

The Spanish came to the New World for gold, glory and God.

963

00:46:40,720 --> 00:46:43,720

They encountered cultures who prized gold,

964

00:46:43,720 --> 00:46:47,720

not for its material worth, but for its spiritual value.

965

00:46:49,720 --> 00:46:54,720

This fundamental disconnect is at the heart of the El Dorado myth.

966

00:46:57,720 --> 00:47:00,720

Hiding offerings was seen as hoarding wealth.

967

00:47:00,720 --> 00:47:04,720

The Golden Man ceremony was misunderstood as a golden city.

968

00:47:04,720 --> 00:47:08,720

The conquistadors dreamed El Dorado into existence

969

00:47:08,720 --> 00:47:12,720

and saw inaccessible sites like Ciudad Perdida

970

00:47:12,720 --> 00:47:15,720

as proof that it was real, but just out of reach.

971

00:47:17,720 --> 00:47:22,720

For centuries, their quest justified theft and outright genocide.

972

00:47:22,720 --> 00:47:27,720

Even today, gold lust lures desperate looters to steal clues

973

00:47:27,720 --> 00:47:32,720

that could help us understand the pre-Columbian cultures of the Americas.

974

00:47:33,720 --> 00:47:36,720

Thankfully, archaeologists are working tirelessly

975

00:47:36,720 --> 00:47:40,720

to unearth the secrets of these mysterious civilizations.

976

00:47:40,720 --> 00:47:43,720

Because the real El Dorado isn't some golden city,

977

00:47:43,720 --> 00:47:47,720

it's the places, peoples and stories that we've lost.

978

00:47:49,720 --> 00:47:51,720

And while they may not always glitter,

979

00:47:54,720 --> 00:47:58,720

those discoveries are worth far more than gold.