**Wikipedia Aug 2018**

Ancient Aliens

*This article is about a television program. For hypotheses about extraterrestrial visitations during ancient times, see**Ancient astronaut hypothesis**.*

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| ***Ancient Aliens*** |
|  |
| **Genre** | Entertainment |
| **Narrated by** | Robert Clotworthy |
| **Country of origin** | United States |
| **Original language(s)** | English |
| **No. of seasons** | 13 |
| **No. of episodes** | 136 |
| **Production** |
| **Executive producer(s)** | Kevin Burns |
| **Camera setup** | Multiple |
| **Running time** | 88 minutes (season 1)44 minutes(season 2 – present) |
| **Production company(s)** | Prometheus Entertainment |
| **Distributor** | A&E Television Networks |
| **Release** |
| **Original network** | History |
| **Original release** | March 8, 2009 (Pilot)April 20, 2010 – present |
| **External links** |
| [Website](http://www.history.com/shows/ancient-aliens) |
| [Production website](http://www.prometheusentertainment.com/) |

***Ancient Aliens*** is an American television series that premiered on April 20, 2010, on the History channel.[1] Produced by Prometheus Entertainment in a documentary style, the program presents hypotheses of ancient astronauts and proposes that historical texts, archaeology, and legends contain evidence of past human-extraterrestrial contact.[2][3] The show has been criticized for presenting pseudoscience and pseudohistory.

The series started with a TV special of the same name that aired on March 8, 2009, on the History channel. Seasons 1–3 aired on the same channel until 2011. From season 4 to the middle of season 7, the series aired on H2. On April 10, 2015, episode premieres returned to History.

Season 13 premiered on April 27, 2018 with a two-hour special.[4]

Production

The executive producer of *Ancient Aliens* is Kevin Burns, who also directed and wrote the pilot episode. Giorgio A. Tsoukalos serves as consulting producer and appeared on screen in the pilot.[5] Erich von Däniken appeared in the pilot episode, and UFO researcher C. Scott Littleton served as an expert consultant for the show until his death in 2010.[6]

Radio talk show host George Noory speaks in five episodes, including the pilot. Reverend Barry Downing, known for describing angels in the Bible as ancient astronauts, offered his viewpoints in the pilot episode. Psychologist Jonathan Young, who brings a mythological perspective, appears on screen in every episode but the first pilot. Alternate history author David Hatcher Childressspeaks frequently in most episodes.

Episodes

**Series overview**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Season** | **Episodes** | **Originally aired** |
| **First aired** | **Last aired** |
|  | Pilot | 1 | March 8, 2009 |
|  | 1 | 5 | April 20, 2010 | May 25, 2010 |
|  | 2 | 10 | October 28, 2010 | December 30, 2010 |
|  | 3 | 16 | July 28, 2011 | November 23, 2011 |
|  | 4 | 10 | February 17, 2012 | May 4, 2012 |
|  | 5 | 12 | December 21, 2012 | April 19, 2013 |
|  | 6 | 11 | September 30, 2013 | December 13, 2013 |
|  | 7 | 8 | January 24, 2014 | March 14, 2014 |
|  | 8 | 9 | June 13, 2014 | August 22, 2014 |
|  | 9 | 12 | October 31, 2014 | May 1, 2015 |
|  | 10 | 10 | July 24, 2015 | October 9, 2015 |
|  | 11 | 15 | May 6, 2016 | September 2, 2016 |
|  | 12 | 16 | April 28, 2017 | September 15, 2017 |
|  | 13 | TBA | April 27, 2018 | TBA |

**Pilot (2009)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 0 | 0 | "Chariots, Gods & Beyond" | March 8, 2009 |
| The pilot presents the views of author Erich von Däniken who theorized that advanced beings from another world visited primitive humans, gave them the knowledge of the solar system, concepts of engineering and mathematics, and became the basis for their religions and cultures as he claims are evidenced by ancient monuments such as the Nazca Lines, the Pyramids of Giza and the Moai statues of Easter Island. |

**Season 1 (2010)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 1 | 1 | "The Evidence" | April 20, 2010 |
| This episode suggests that aliens made contact with primitive humans, and cites as evidence, Indian Sanskrit texts that are suggested to describe flying machines called Vimanas; Egyptian megaliths that are said to show precision cutting work thought to be too advanced for the time; and Jewish Zohar writings that are said to describe a "manna machine" similar to chlorella algae processing of today. |
| 2 | 2 | "The Visitors" | April 27, 2010 |
| The episode proposes that alien visitations have occurred around the globe, and cites as evidence, claims that the Dogon people were given galactic knowledge by a star god; the Hopi and Zuni celebrations of Kachinas (or "gods from the sky") that are symbolized with headdress that are said to resemble modern space helmets; and that the Chinese Huangdi was a Han leader who came to Earth on a yellow dragon which is suggested to have been a metaphor for a spaceship. |
| 3 | 3 | "The Mission" | May 4, 2010 |
| This episode proposes that extraterrestrials have a mission plan for Earth and mankind, and cites as evidence, Sumeriantablets that allegedly describe the Anunnaki as a race of creatures that came to Earth to mine gold; the purpose of cattle mutilations; the mile-long "band of holes" near Pisco, Peru; Egyptian hieroglyphs that are said to depict hybrid creatures that are part man/part animal; and crystal skulls and crop circles that are said to contain messages from aliens. |
| 4 | 4 | "Closer Encounters" | May 18, 2010 |
| This episode suggests that alien encounters have been documented in various historical texts, citing as evidence, the 13th-century book *Otia Imperialia* which describes an incident in Bristol, England ascribed to UFOs; the log entries of Christopher Columbus that report lights in the sky; stories of cigar-shaped craft allegedly seen over Europe during the Black Plague; and Medieval art that supposedly depicts disc-shaped objects floating in the heavens. |
| 5 | 5 | "The Return" | May 25, 2010 |
| Perhaps aliens have contacted humans in the 20th century. |

**Season 2 (2010)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 6 | 1 | "Mysterious Places" | October 28, 2010 |
| This episode examines locations around the Earth that are proposed "hot spots" of UFO activity, such as the Bermuda Triangle; Mexico's "Zone of Silence", an area of land said to naturally disrupt radio signals; the portal-like structure at Peru's Puerta de Hayu Marca; and the curious rock formations of the Marcahuasi Plateau. |
| 7 | 2 | "Gods and Aliens" | November 4, 2010 |
| This episode looks at legends about powerful gods and fearsome monsters that are said to share similarities even though these legends are found in different cultures separated by vast distances; this episode also suggests that these legends may be eyewitness accounts of alien visitations. Also discussed are tales of gods interacting with humans, imparting wisdom and technology and impregnating women to create demigods, who are supposedly the offspring of human/alien unions. |
| 8 | 3 | "Underwater Worlds" | November 11, 2010 |
| This episode suggests that various underwater structures and ruins said to have been found around the globe may have been used by extraterrestrials, such as the temple ruins found under Lake Titicaca in Peru, the geometric structures of Yonaguni off the coast of Japan, and ancient Indian texts that allegedly describe other sunken cities yet to be discovered. |
| 9 | 4 | "Underground Aliens" | November 18, 2010 |
| This episode hypothesizes that various underground places may have been extraterrestrial lairs, such as a lost cave in Ecuador said to hold metal tablets containing alien knowledge, the underground city of Derinkuyu in Turkey, Native American legends of "inner-earth" beings, and rumors of a secret U.S. military base supposedly built alongside aliens inside the Archuleta Mesa near Dulce, New Mexico. |
| 10 | 5 | "Aliens and the Third Reich" | November 25, 2010 |
| This episode speculates that Nazi Germany had experimented with advanced alien technology and built flying machines, such as the Haunebu and the Die Glocke (The Bell), and rumors that some of this technology may have made its way to the United States and helped jumpstart the Apollo program. |
| 11 | 6 | "Alien Tech" | December 2, 2010 |
| This episode proposes that some advanced weapon technologies currently in development, such as laser and sonic weapons, are rediscovered technologies used by advanced beings in the past. Also discussed are theories that aliens provided gravity manipulation devices to help man construct colossal stone structures around the world. |
| 12 | 7 | "Angels and Aliens" | December 9, 2010 |
| This episode looks at various stories of angelic visitations that to some ancient astronaut theorists read more like alien encounters than divine appearances, and suggests they are not supernatural beings, but visitors from distant planets. |
| 13 | 8 | "Unexplained Structures" | December 16, 2010 |
| This episode suggests that various sites around the world; such as Göbekli Tepe in Turkey; the Incan ruins of Sacsayhuamán in Peru; the Carnac stones of France; and Zorats Karer in Armenia, show construction techniques and mathematical concepts that were not believed to have been known at the time, and that this knowledge was gained from alien visitors. |
| 14 | 9 | "Alien Devastations" | December 23, 2010 |
| This episode surmises that aliens may have caused various disasters, as depicted in the Bible and other texts, or even tried to warn man of them; such as Noah of the Great Flood. Also proposed is that some disasters ushered changes in human evolution and that our leaps in technology over the centuries were achieved with alien help. |
| 15 | 10 | "Alien Contacts" | December 30, 2010 |
| This episode proposes that extraterrestrials may have contacted various humans throughout history, such as Moses and Joan of Arc, to help guide and inspire them to achieve great things; or to pass on important messages for humanity; such as a supposed binary message given to a UFO-contactee during the 1980 Rendlesham Forest incident who believes it is the coordinates to a mythical island called Hy-Brazil. |

**Season 3 (2011)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 16 | 1 | "Aliens and the Old West" | July 28, 2011 |
| Opening with clips from the 2011 film *Cowboys & Aliens*, this episode looks at American Old West legends that may have involved ET contact, such as the Aurora, Texas UFO incident where a local cemetery claims to hold a body from an 1897 UFO crash; Native American legends surrounding the Serpent mound in Adams County, Ohio; reports of a Thunderbird that periodically emerged from California's Elizabeth Lake, and a story of ranchers shooting at "metallic birds" near Tombstone, Arizona. |
| 17 | 2 | "Aliens and Monsters" | August 4, 2011 |
| This episode examines modern-day genetic engineering, cloning and hybridization technology, and suggests that such technology could have been used by ancient aliens in the past to manipulate mankind and the environment. Also theorized are that the legends of creatures, such as the Chimera and Hydra, and humanoids, such as the Minotaur and Medusa, may have been encounters with beings created through alien animal/human hybrid experimentation. |
| 18 | 3 | "Aliens and Sacred Places" | August 11, 2011 |
| This episode suggests that some of mankind's most sacred places were points of contact by alien beings. Examples given are Jerusalem's Temple Mount and Dome of the Rock; the Kaaba stone at the Islam shrine at Mecca; the temples of the Ajanta Caves in India; the churches of Lalibela, Ethiopia that are carved out of rock; and the ancient city of Baalbek in Lebanon which was allegedly built with a "landing pad" of monolithic rock. |
| 19 | 4 | "Aliens and Temples of Gold" | August 18, 2011 |
| This episode contends that aliens came to Earth to mine gold. Examined are the legends of cities of gold such as El Doradoand Paititi; Lake Puray in Peru where UFO sightings may be linked to gold beneath the lake; the gold-creating device called the Philosopher's Stone; the Hall of Records beneath the Great Sphinx of Giza, (suggested to be a repository of ancient knowledge); a Medieval church in the French village of Rennes-le-Château that may hold the secrets of alchemy; and Scotland's Rosslyn Chapel where a helix-shaped pillar, (suggested to represent DNA), may be the hiding place of the Holy Grail. |
| 20 | 5 | "Aliens and Mysterious Rituals" | August 25, 2011 |
| This episode proposes that various ancient sites and the rituals performed there were not to praise mythical gods, but to reenact contact and communication with alien beings. Examples given are the Mayan temple of El Castillo, Chichen Itza; the Celtic Beltane Festival; the ceremonies of the Kayapo people of Brazil that involve a dancer dressed in an outfit that resembles a spacesuit; Medieval coronation ceremonies and the symbolic meanings of thrones, crowns and scepters as communication devices to the heavens; Native American and Shamanistic chants and prayers; and the ritual meanings of the Catholic Mass. |
| 21 | 6 | "Aliens and Ancient Engineers" | September 1, 2011 |
| This episode surmises that several ancient sites were built with help from aliens. Examples given are the ruins of Ollantaytambo in Peru, (an Inca city believed built atop a far older and more advanced-built fortress); the pyramids of Teotihuacan in Mexico, (which use heat and radiation shielding Mica in their engineering); the temples of Vijayanagara in India, (suggested to have been designed to tap into cosmic energy); the temples of Karnak in Egypt, (which show symmetrical and precision sculpting believed unobtainable by primitive hand tools); and the ancient ruins on Malta, (whose designs seems to have incorporated an acoustic energy technology). |
| 22 | 7 | "Aliens, Plagues and Epidemics" | September 8, 2011 |
| This episode suggests that some plagues and diseases were brought on by pathogens of extraterrestrial origin. Examples given are sudden pandemics such as the Spanish Influenza, the Plague of Athens, the Justinian Plague and the Black Plague, which were accompanied by reports of unusual celestial phenomena, and the appearance of strange creatures and objects in the sky; ancient carvings of figures dressed in what are suggested to be hazmat suits; unexplained illnesses that have appeared after meteor impacts, NASA experiments with bacteria and extremophiles that can survive in the extreme conditions of space; and the recent appearance of unusual medical conditions such as Morgellons Disease. |
| 23 | 8 | "Aliens and Lost Worlds" | September 15, 2011 |
| This episode postulates that various past civilizations were ruled by otherworldly beings. Examined are carvings in the Mayan city of Copán that are suggested to depict kings dressed in spacesuits; the Greek and Persian temples of Nemrud Dagi in Turkey, constructed by King Antiochus who some believe had advanced knowledge of astronomy and access to "magical" technology; the Nazca people of Peru who elongated their skulls to possibly mimic beings they encountered; the Moai statues of Easter Island that may have been erected with anti-gravity technology, and the Garden of Eden which may have been an alien laboratory for the creation of mankind. |
| 24 | 9 | "Aliens and Deadly Weapons" | September 22, 2011 |
| This episode suggests that the development of various weapons throughout history may have been guided by aliens. Examined are ancient legends that speak of fire and the secrets of metalworking as gifts from the gods; stories of divine weapons such as Excalibur as possibly powered by an alien source; the mystery of Greek fire as a gift from angels for the Byzantines; the development of the complicated chemistry of gunpowder by the ancient Chinese; the writings of the Hindu Mahabharata describing weapons reminiscent of guided rockets, beam weapons and nuclear devices used by the gods; and the Cambodian tales of Preah Pisnulok who wielded a blazing sword reminiscent of the science-fictional lightsaber. |
| 25 | 10 | "Aliens and Evil Places" | September 28, 2011 |
| This episode examines various places on Earth that are associated with evil and death, and suggests that they may have otherworldly connections, such as being dumping grounds for dangerous alien waste material or containing portals to other realms. Featured are Japan's Aokigahara "Suicide Forest" near Mount Fuji, where countless people have gone to die; Russia's remote Mt. Otorten "Mountain of Death" where in 1959, nine hikers were found burned and mutilated by an undetermined cause; Australia's Black Mountain (Kalkajaka) where people have mysteriously disappeared in the area, and the "Valley of the Dead" at Yakutia, Russia, where unexplained deaths and illnesses are attributed to a possible underground alien base. |
| 26 | 11 | "Aliens and The Founding Fathers" | October 5, 2011 |
| This episode suggests that some of the philosophies, and alleged secret symbolism surrounding the founding of the United States, have connections to extraterrestrials. Examined are Benjamin Franklin's writings on the "plurality of worlds;" stories that George Washington had an alien visitation at Valley Forge; Thomas Jefferson's report of a UFO sighting; the Freemason interest in ancient cultures and astronomy, and the possible influence it all had in the architecture and layout of Washington, D.C.. |
| 27 | 12 | "Aliens and Deadly Cults" | October 12, 2011 |
| This episode examines various cults around the world that have committed horrific acts and suggests that some may have been influenced by aliens with a sinister agenda. Examined are groups who claimed to receive messages from ETs such as the suicidal Heaven's Gate and the Order of the Solar Temple; the Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments of God whose leader murdered 750 followers; the human sacrifice murders of Adolfo Constanzo who claimed worship of the "trickster god" Eshu; the mass-murderous Thuggee cult of India; the Christian Circumcellions suicide-sect; Aztec human sacrifice rituals, and the theory that humans were hard-wired through genetic manipulation to worship alien beings as gods. |
| 28 | 13 | "Aliens and the Secret Code" | October 19, 2011 |
| This episode theorizes that various megalithic structures around the Earth are built upon a "world grid" of electromagnetic energy and that this power may have been tapped for travel and communication. It also suggests that there are hidden messages within these sites that show they have connections to one another. Featured are Teotihuacan and Easter Island, (sites separated by 2000 miles of ocean, but having similar architecture); the Pyramids at Giza, Thornborough Henges, and ancient Hopi cities (all three configured to resemble Orion); the straight line alignments of sites such as Trelleborg, Delphiand Giza; and stone carvings at Gavrinis (from 3500 BC) accurately calculating the circumference of the Earth and Pi. |
| 29 | 14 | "Aliens and the Undead" | October 26, 2011 |
| This episode discusses the possibility of life after death, the beliefs associated with it in various cultures and raises the question of whether certain rituals can be attributed to ancient aliens. |
| 30 | 15 | "Aliens, Gods and Heroes" | November 16, 2011 |
| This episode looks into various legends about gods and heroes and surmises that the existence of such beings was not only possible, but that they were also beings of extraterrestrial origin. |
| 31 | 16 | "Aliens and the Creation of Man" | November 23, 2011 |
| This episode asks why humans are so different from other lifeforms on Earth, and proposes that advances in human evolution were the work of interstellar beings. |

**Season 4 (2012)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 32 | 1 | "The Mayan Conspiracy" | February 17, 2012 |
| This episode suggests that the ancient Maya were given their knowledge of mathematics and astronomy by extraterrestrials. It alleges advanced city engineering despite the use of metal tools and the wheel; knowledge of celestial events (such as pole shifts) thousands of years before the culture began; and a complex writing system only understood by the rulers and clerics among them. Featured artifacts include the sarcophagus lid of Palenque's King Pakal, who is said to be piloting a rocket ship; the La Venta Olmec heads suggested to represent African people in flight helmets; and the feathered serpent god Kukulkan possibly depicted elsewhere in the world as the Naga and Chinese dragon. |
| 33 | 2 | "The Doomsday Prophecies" | February 17, 2012 |
| This episode looks at the Maya civilization and their advanced knowledge of mathematics and timekeeping. It presents theories as to why the Maya backdated the 5125-year long-count calendar to 3114 BC (over 3,000 years before their civilization began) and what could happen after it ends December 21, 2012. Discussed are two artifacts, Tortugueromonument six and a Comalcalco mud brick, that may suggest the return of a star god Bolon Yokte; the Popol Vuh creation myths; the Chilam Balam manuscripts; and the monuments of Tikal (which is suggested to have been built to mimic the Pleiades cluster); and Chichen Itza, dedicated to the return of the Maya god Kukulkan. |
| 34 | 3 | "The Greys" | February 24, 2012 |
| This episode focuses upon the so-called Greys, alleged alien beings characterized as having pale skin and big round heads with large black eyes, and connected within the last century to supposed alien abductions and UFO-related cases such as the Roswell incident. It also proposes that the Greys may have contacted human cultures in the distant past, such as the Hopi Indians and the Sumerians, and these events have been preserved in various ancient writings, sculptures and cave paintings. |
| 35 | 4 | "Aliens and Mega-Disasters" | March 2, 2012 |
| This episode looks at various accounts of ancient civilizations that were destroyed by natural disasters such as volcanoes, earthquakes, and floods and proposes that otherworldly beings may have had a hand in these catastrophic events. |
| 36 | 5 | "The NASA Connection" | March 9, 2012 |
| This episode delves into various reports by former NASA scientists and astronauts, as well as classified government files that purportedly suggest the space agency had alien contact in both the recent and ancient past. |
| 37 | 6 | "The Mystery of Puma Punku" | March 16, 2012 |
| This episode investigates the ruins of Puma Punku in Bolivia, where an ancient civilization constructed sophisticated and intricately carved blocks that interlock. Ancient alien theorists suggest the site was not built and inhabited by humans, but by advanced extraterrestrials. |
| 38 | 7 | "Aliens and Bigfoot" | March 23, 2012 |
| This episode examines the legends of Bigfoot, a creature described as half-man/half-ape that allegedly stalks remote woodlands around the world, and suggests the creature may have connections to an alien species that may have visited Earth. Also suggested are that the legends of supernatural giants such as the Bible's Goliath, the hybrid Nephilim, the Sumerian Enkidu, are tales of human interaction with such creatures. |
| 39 | 8 | "The Da Vinci Conspiracy" | April 6, 2012 |
| This episode examines some of the paintings, sketches and journals of legendary artist and engineer Leonardo da Vinci, and alleges that some of his work may have been inspired by alien technology he may have encountered. Discussed are the possibility of hidden messages within his work such as parts of his paintings that disappear under x-ray scans; his use of mirror writing to make his notes illegible to prying eyes; his sketches of inhuman and monstrous creatures, and what Da Vinci might have been doing when he seemingly disappeared for two years after finding a mysterious cave. |
| 40 | 9 | "The Time Travelers" | April 27, 2012 |
| This episode suggests that some alleged alien encounters may be of beings from Earth's future traveling in time machinesand that these beings visited Earth's distant past. Examined are the rumors of the Nazi "Die Glocke" time travel machine; the advanced cosmic knowledge of the Anasazi and their similarities to the ancient Sumerians; stories of time travel in the Bible and other ancient texts; and actual space/time experiments that could one day open the door for possible time travel technology. |
| 41 | 10 | "Aliens and Dinosaurs" | May 4, 2012 |
| This episode suggests that man and dinosaurs may have coexisted in ancient times and past cultures had knowledge of prehistoric animals long before the study of paleontology. Examined is a carving found in Angkor Wat that is suggested to be a depiction of a stegosaurus; the thousands of Ica Stones of Peru that depict alleged human/dinosaur interaction; and fossils from Dinosaur Valley State Park suggested to contain both dinosaur and human footprints. Also suggested is the idea that dinosaurs may have been wiped out, not by an asteroid impact, but by alien extermination so that humans could become the dominant species on Earth. |

**Season 5 (2012–13)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 42 | 1 | "Secrets of the Pyramids" | December 21, 2012 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss ancient pyramidal structures; in Bosnia, Egypt, Russia & throughout Mesoamerica. |
| 43 | 2 | "Aliens and Cover Ups"[7] | December 28, 2012 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss how extraterrestrials might have hidden evidence of their visits. |
| 44 | 3 | "Alien Power Plants"[8] | January 4, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists question the accomplishments of ancient man without modern technology. |
| 45 | 4 | "Destination Orion"[9] | January 11, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists speculate about why ancient civilizations focused on the Orion constellation. |
| 46 | 5 | "The Einstein Factor"[10] | January 18, 2013 |
| Theorists talk about potential extraterrestrial connections to famous historical figures committed to science such as Albert Einstein, Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, Nikola Tesla and Srinivasa Ramanujan. |
| 47 | 6 | "Secrets of the Tombs"[11] | January 25, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists suggest that an extraterrestrial connection links tombs in Egypt, China, and other locations. |
| 48 | 7 | "Prophets and Prophecies"[12] | February 8, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss extraterrestrial-based prophecies and prophets, including some of the world's deadliest cults. |
| 49 | 8 | "Beyond Nazca"[13] | February 15, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss extraterrestrial matter possibly contributing to Nazca. |
| 50 | 9 | "Strange Abductions"[14] | February 22, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss extraterrestrial-linked disappearances. |
| 51 | 10 | "The Von Daniken Legacy" | April 5, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the legacy of Erich von Däniken's *Chariots of the Gods?*. |
| 52 | 11 | "The Viking Gods" | April 12, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility of alien contact with the Vikings. |
| 53 | 12 | "The Monoliths" | April 19, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss Sigiriya, Easter Island and various monoliths. |

**Season 6 (2013)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 54 | 1 | "The Power of Three" | September 30, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the Trimurti, Trinity and the common occurrence of the number three in ancient texts. |
| 55 | 2 | "The Crystal Skulls"[15] | October 7, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the worldwide phenomena of the crystal skull. |
| 56 | 3 | "The Anunnaki Connection"[15] | October 14, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss a possible connection between extraterrestrials and the Mesopotamian deities known as the Anunnaki. |
| 57 | 4 | "Magic of the Gods"[15] | October 21, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss magic, Merlin, and extraterrestrials. |
| 58 | 5 | "The Satan Conspiracy"[15] | October 28, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss Satan and the worldwide concept of a devil figure. |
| 59 | 6 | "Alien Operations"[15] | November 1, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss medicine, surgery, miracles and alien technology. |
| 60 | 7 | "Emperors, Kings and Pharaohs"[15] | November 8, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss historical dynasties possible relationship to extraterrestrials. |
| 61 | 8 | "Mysterious Relics"[15] | November 15, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss mythic powers attributed to worldwide religious relics. |
| 62 | 9 | "Aliens and Forbidden Islands"[15] | November 29, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss mysterious occurrences, including reported alien visitation, on remote islands. |
| 63 | 10 | "Aliens and The Lost Ark"[15] | December 6, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the Ark of the Covenant as misunderstood technology. |
| 64 | 11 | "Aliens and Mysterious Mountains"[15] | December 13, 2013 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss Mt. Olympus, the Inca of Peru, the Japanese Apu and aliens. |

**Season 7 (2014)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 65 | 1 | "Aliens and Stargates"[15] | January 24, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss aliens traveling through wormholes and space travel. |
| 66 | 2 | "Aliens in America"[15] | January 31, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss alien influence in the United States. |
| 67 | 3 | "The Star Children"[15] | February 7, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the Starchild skull, Star people and the reported Black Eyed Kids. |
| 68 | 4 | "Treasures of the Gods"[16] | February 14, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss mythic ancient treasure and curses including King Solomon's Ring, lost Aztec treasure, and the Omphalos. |
| 69 | 5 | "Aliens and the Red Planet"[16] | February 21, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that ancient alien civilizations existed on the planet Mars, and speculate that features photographed by probes may be ruins of ancient structures built by these aliens. |
| 70 | 6 | "The Shamans"[16] | February 28, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that beings contacted by shamans in altered states of consciousness are actually extraterrestrials. |
| 71 | 7 | "Aliens and Insects"[16] | March 7, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that some aliens may be insect-like, and argue that such beings serve as inspirations for many cultures' gods and legendary figures. |
| 72 | 8 | "Alien Breeders"[16][17] | March 14, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that aliens influenced the course of human evolution, and argue that genetic manipulation of humans by aliens allowed for civilization to arise. |

**Season 8 (2014)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 73 | 1 | "Alien Transports"[16][18] | June 13, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that modern transportation systems are influenced by aliens who visited Earth in the remote, and not-so-remote past. |
| 74 | 2 | "Mysterious Structures"[16][18] | June 20, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that some of Earth's mysterious structures and monoliths are the work of aliens in the remote past. |
| 75 | 3 | "Mysterious Devices"[16][18] | June 27, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the mysterious objects which may have been the technology of, or have been influenced by the technology of, alien gods who visited us in the past. |
| 76 | 4 | "Faces of the Gods"[16] | July 25, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that many tales of angels and giants in the ancient world were inspired by extraterrestrial visits and experimentation on human DNA.**Note**: This was a special episode that was aired immediately after a short hiatus. |
| 77 | 5 | "The Reptilians"[16] | July 25, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that many mythological figures in ancient cultures were inspired by actual reptile-like aliens, some of which may have bred with humans. |
| 78 | 6 | "The Tesla Experiment"[16] | August 1, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that the great technological developments made by inventor Nikola Tesla were inspired by extraterrestrials. |
| 79 | 7 | "The God Particle"[16] | August 8, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that the creation of the Large Hadron Collider was foretold in ancient sources that were inspired by aliens. |
| 80 | 8 | "Alien Encounters"[16] | August 15, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that aliens set into motion some of the most significant turning points in human history and have ultimate control over our destiny. |
| 81 | 9 | "Aliens and Superheroes"[16] | August 22, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that legends of super-powered beings in ancient mythologies, as well as stories of modern superheroes, originate from retellings of people's encounters with aliens in the distant past. |

**Season 9 (2014–15)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 82 | 1 | "Forbidden Caves"[15] | October 31, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that caves have served as portals for contact with extraterrestrial beings, becoming the inspiration for various mythological traditions. |
| 83 | 2 | "Mysteries of the Sphinx"[16] | November 7, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that the Great Sphinx of Giza originally represented an otherworldly being that came to Earth some 10,000 years ago. |
| 84 | 3 | "Aliens Among Us"[16] | November 14, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that the evolution of technology is not entirely of our own making and that we are being watched by entities from beyond our world. |
| 85 | 4 | "The Genius Factor"[16] | November 21, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that many of history’s greatest scientists were inspired by extraterrestrial sources. |
| 86 | 5 | "Secrets of the Mummies"[16] | November 28, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that the global practice of mummification is proof that extraterrestrials visited Earth in the past. |
| 87 | 6 | "Alien Resurrections"[16] | December 5, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that incredible stories about the dead rising from their graves, mummies journeying into the afterlife, and people on the brink of death mingling with deceased relatives in a celestial netherworld are proof that extraterrestrials visited Earth in the distant past. |
| 88 | 7 | "Alien Messages"[16] | December 19, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that some strange and cryptic communications can help us unlock the mysteries of the universe and contact extraterrestrial beings. |
| 89 | 8 | "The Great Flood"[16] | December 23, 2014 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that extraterrestrial beings were responsible for causing the Great Flood. |
| 90 | 9 | "Aliens and the Civil War"[15] | April 10, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that aliens influenced the course of events in the American Civil War. |
| 91 | 10 | "Hidden Pyramids"[16] | April 17, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that aliens inspired long-buried megalitic pyramids which are only now being rediscovered. |
| 92 | 11 | "The Vanishings"[16] | April 24, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that history's mysterious disappearances were caused by extraterrestrials transporting people to other planets. |
| 93 | 12 | "The Alien Agenda"[16] | May 1, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the theory that aliens have been secretly influencing human history for thousands of years. Several things are discussed, among them: the Tower of Babel story, the destruction of Lanka from Hindu mythology, Mohenjo-daro and the Library of Alexandria, Paul Hellyer's extraterrestrial claims, the Annunaki and the Nazi's supposed advanced technology. |

**Season 10 (2015)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 94 | 1 | "Aliens B.C."[15] | July 24, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the idea that an alien civilization inhabited Earth in the distant past. |
| 95 | 2 | "NASA's Secret Agenda"[15] | July 31, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss that rocket technology pioneered by NASA and Wernher von Braun may have extraterrestrial origins. |
| 96 | 3 | "Aliens and Robots"[15] | August 7, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss that sophisticated robots existed in the ancient world and that figures such as Osiris may have in fact been robots. |
| 97 | 4 | "Dark Forces"[15] | August 14, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss if Grigori Rasputin, the Nazi SS, and Aleister Crowley were in league with sinister otherworldly entities. |
| 98 | 5 | "The Alien Evolution"[15] | August 21, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss if prehistoric remains point to numerous extraterrestrial species inhabiting Earth. |
| 99 | 6 | "The Other Earth"[15] | August 28, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility of humans finding life on Earth-like planets, the colonization of other planets by humans and the potential colonization of our planet by extraterrestrials. |
| 100 | 7 | "Creatures of the Deep"[15] | September 4, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss if legendary aquatic monsters such as Kappa, Champ, and the Kraken may be alien creatures that originate from underwater wormholes to other dimensions. |
| 101 | 8 | "Circles from the Sky"[15] | September 18, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss if crop circles are messages from extraterrestrials. |
| 102 | 9 | "The Alien Wars"[15] | October 2, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that there are numerous factions of alien races with competing agendas visiting Earth, that there is evidence they have been in conflict with each other for thousands of years, and that there is evidence that these wars actually took place here on Earth in the distant past—not between gods, but between extraterrestrial visitors. |
| 103 | 10 | "The Forbidden Zones"[15] | October 9, 2015 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the idea of aliens visiting us in the past is being censored from us today. Knowledge of extraterrestrial visitation might be found in places forbidden from outsiders. |

**Season 11 (2016)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 104 | 1 | "Pyramids of Antarctica"[15] | May 6, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss mysterious ice-covered structures found in Antarctica that could be evidence of extraterrestrials. |
| 105 | 2 | "Destination Mars"[15] | May 13, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss how manned missions to Mars could reveal the existence of extraterrestrial intervention. |
| 106 | 3 | "The Next Humans"[15] | May 20, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss cybernetics, Transhumanism, and how robots could be the final step in human evolution. |
| 107 | 4 | "The New Evidence"[15] | May 27, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss possible new evidence of extraterrestrials through the use of satellite, radar, and thermal scanning. |
| 108 | 5 | "The Visionaries"[15] | June 10, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss if visionaries such as Steve Jobs and Srinivasa Ramanujan could have been subconsciously influenced by extraterrestrials. |
| 109 | 6 | "Decoding the Cosmic Egg"[15] | June 17, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the symbolic use of the egg as a symbol throughout cultures worldwide. |
| 110 | 7 | "The Wisdom Keepers"[15] | June 24, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss if the Aboriginal Australians might have had contact with extraterrestrials in the remote past by way of the Dreamtime. |
| 111 | 8 | "The Mysterious Nine"[15] | July 8, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss that the recurrence of the number nine in religious, cultural, philosophical and occult materials may, like the number three, be connected to extraterrestrials. |
| 112 | 9 | "The Hidden Empire"[15] | July 15, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that the mysterious country of China could contain extraterrestrial civilizations and materials. |
| 113 | 10 | "The Prototypes"[15] | July 22, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the possibility that extraterrestrials influenced and altered the development of Neanderthals, Denisovans and Homo floresiensis. |
| 114 | 11 | "Space Station Moon"[15] | July 29, 2016 |
| Experts and non-experts speculate that the Moon may not be a natural celestial object. |
| 115 | 12 | "Russia's Secret Files"[15] | August 12, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists suggest that otherworldly visitations predate the establishment of the Russian nation, and point to the ancient settlement at Arkaim as evidence. |
| 116 | 13 | "Beyond Roswell"[15] | August 19, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss possible evidence that the FBI hid evidence of extraterrestrials after the Roswell UFO incident. |
| 117 | 14 | "The Returned"[15] | August 26, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the alien abduction phenomenon including those who claim to have been abducted and returned such as Betty and Barney Hill. |
| 118 | 15 | "Shiva the Destroyer"[15] | September 2, 2016 |
| Ancient astronaut theorists discuss the Hindu deity Shiva and his possible link to extraterrestrials and atomic energy. |

**Season 12 (2017)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 119 | 1 | "The Alien Hunters" | April 28, 2017 |
| Ancient alien astronaut theorists are intrigued by the amount of spending by developed countries into researching the existence of extraterrestrials and ET intelligence and are discussing the matter on the basis of de-classified documents. |
| 120 | 2 | "Forged by the Gods" | May 5, 2017 |
| 121 | 3 | "The Mystery of Rudloe Manor" | May 12, 2017 |
| 122 | 4 | "The Alien Architects" | May 19, 2017 |
| 123 | 5 | "The Pharaohs' Curse" | May 26, 2017 |
| 124 | 6 | "The Science Wars" | June 2, 2017 |
| 125 | 7 | "City of the Gods" | June 9, 2017 |
| 126 | 8 | "The Alien Frequency" | June 16, 2017 |
| 127 | 9 | "The Majestic Twelve" | July 7, 2017 |
| 128 | 10 | "The Akashic Record" | July 14, 2017 |
| 129 | 11 | "Voices of the Gods" | July 21, 2017 |
| This episodes examines the evidence found in India that the Indian civilization held advanced knowledge of medicine and flight technology. |
| 130 | 12 | "The Animal Agenda" | July 28, 2017 |
| 131 | 13 | "The Replicants" | August 4, 2017 |
| Rebirth is an eastern philosophy which suggests that all human and animal bodies have souls. These souls passes on onto the next new born body in a continuously process death after death. This is called reincarnation. Ancient astronaut theorists suggests that the soul is necessary for a body to function and this is an intelligent design by aliens, and that rebirth is not only confined to within Earth itself but also interplanatery throughout the universe. |
| 132 | 14 | "A Spaceship Made of Stone" | August 11, 2017 |
| For thousands of years, the Japanese people believed that the Emperor has direct lineage with the heavens and dieties. Ancient astronauts suggests that ancient Japanese people saw aliens who guided their civilization and that either the Emperior is the direct connection to the "gods" or of alien origin. It is also suggested that aliens came to and traveled throughout Japan in a gigantic spaceship which is replicated at an ancient temple. This episode examines that ancient sites and artifacts to suggest Japanese civilzation was seeded by aliens. |
| 133 | 15 | "The Alien Disks" | September 8, 2017 |
| 134 | 16 | "Return to Gobekli Tepe" | September 15, 2017 |

**Season 13 (2018)**

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| **No.overall** | **No. inseason** | **Title** | **Original air date** |
| 135 | 1 | "The UFO Conspiracy" | April 27, 2018 |
| It's been revealed that the Department of Defense has spent millions of dollars studying reports of UFOs |
| 136 | 2 | "Da Vinci's Forbidden Codes"[19] | May 4, 2018 |
| 137 | 3 | "The Alien Protocols"[19] | May 11, 2018 |
| 138 | 4 | "Earth's Black Holes" | May 18, 2018 |
| 139 | 5 | "The Desert Codes" | May 25, 2018 |
| 140 | 6 | "Area 52" | June 1, 2018 |

Reception

The program had 1.676 million viewers in late October 2010,[20] 2.034 million viewers in mid-December (for the "Unexplained Structures" episode)[21] and in late January 2011 it had 1.309 million viewers.[22][23]

**Critical reception**

Reviewers have characterized the show as "far-fetched",[24] "hugely speculative",[25] and "...expound[ing] wildly on theories suggesting that astronauts wandered the Earth freely in ancient times."[26] Most of the ideas presented in the show are not accepted by the scientific community, and have been criticized as pseudoscience and pseudohistory.[27] History professor Ronald H. Fritze observed that pseudoscience as offered by von Däniken and the *Ancient Aliens* program has a periodic popularity in the US: "In a pop culture with a short memory and a voracious appetite, aliens and pyramids and lost civilizations are recycled like fashions."[27][28]

Forbes.com contributor Brad Lockwood criticized *Ancient Aliens* as an example of the History Channel's addition of "programs devoted to monsters, aliens, and conspiracies", commenting that, "*Ancient Aliens* defies all ability to suspend disbelief for the sake of entertainment."[29] Forbes.com staff writer Alex Knapp also criticized the series and cited archaeologist Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews' rebuke of the History Channel for "treating (*Ancient Aliens*) nonsense as though it were fact."[30]

Smithsonian.com science writer Brian Switek was extremely critical of the series, particularly an episode that suggested "aliens exterminated dinosaurs to make way for our species." He characterized the show as "some of the most noxious sludge in television’s bottomless chum bucket."[31]

Others have called attention to a paucity of opposing viewpoints. Kenneth Feder, Professor of Archaeology at Central Connecticut State University and author of *Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries: Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology*,[32] has said that he was approached by *Ancient Aliens* producers regarding his potential participation. "My response was, I’d be happy to be on your show, but you should know that I think that the ancient astronaut hypothesis is execrable bullshit," he said, in an interview. "I haven’t heard back from them, rather remarkably. So, I guess maybe they’re not interested in the other point of view."[33]

**Appearances in popular culture**

*South Park* parodied the show in an episode entitled "A History Channel Thanksgiving" (November 11, 2011, episode 15.13). Reviewer Ramsey Isler commented, "The aim is placed squarely on *Ancient Aliens* specifically," and described the animation as "a perfect satire of all the ridiculousness of this series, including the black and white art with aliens photoshopped in, and interviews with people of dubious authority."[34]

Viceland premiered *Traveling the Stars: Action Bronson and Friends Watch ‘Ancient Aliens’* (also known as *Action Bronson Watches Ancient Aliens*) with a special on April 20, 2016 followed by a ten-episode series beginning in July. The series features rapper Action Bronson, who praises *Ancient Aliens* as "the best thing that was ever created by man," commenting over the History series while smoking cannabis with celebrity guests.[35] According to producers Jordan Kinley and Hannah Gregg, the show was conceived as a way to address disgruntled viewers of H2, the network that formerly aired *Ancient Aliens*before being replaced by Viceland on cable carriers in the United States.[36]

See also

* List of topics characterized as pseudoscience
* Pseudoarchaeology
* Unsealed Alien Files

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| **History****original programming** |
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* *American Pickers*
* *American Restoration*
* *Ancient Aliens*
* *Counting Cars*
* *The Curse of Oak Island*
* *Forged in Fire*
* *Hunting Hitler*
* *Ice Road Truckers*
* *Knife or Death*
* *Knightfall*
* *Mountain Men*
* *Ozzy & Jack's World Detour*
* *Pawn Stars*
* *Six*
* *Swamp People*
* *Vikings*
 |
| **Former** | * *20th Century with Mike Wallace*
* *Appalachian Outlaws*
* *Alaska Off-Road Warriors*
* *America Unearthed*
* *American Eats*
* *Ancient Discoveries*
* *Ancients Behaving Badly*
* *Around the World in 80 Ways*
* *Ax Men*
* *Barbarians*
* *Battle 360°*
* *Battlefield Detectives*
* *Battles BC*
* *Big Easy Motors*
* *Big Rig Bounty Hunters*
* *Big Shrimpin'*
* *Billion Dollar Wreck*
* *Boneyard*
* *Brad Meltzer's Decoded*
* *Breaking Vegas*
* *Cajun Pawn Stars*
* *Cities of the Underworld*
* *Civil War Combat*
* *Clash of the Gods*
* *The Conquerors*
* *Conquest*
* *The Crusades: Crescent and the Cross*
* *Decisive Battles*
* *Declassified*
* *Decoding the Past*
* *Deep Sea Detectives*
* *Digging for the Truth*
* *Dogfights*
* *Down East Dickering*
* *Engineering an Empire*
* *Evolve*
* *Expedition Africa*
* *Extreme Trains*
* *Food Tech*
* *Full Metal Jousting*
* *Gangland*
* *Gangland Undercover*
* *Great Minds with Dan Harmon*
* *Greatest Tank Battles*
* *God, Guns & Automobiles*
* *Great Lake Warriors*
* *Hairy Bikers*
* *Haunted History*
* *The History of Sex*
* *History's Business*
* *History's Lost & Found*
* *History's Mysteries*
* *How the Earth Was Made*
* *How the States Got Their Shapes*
* *Human Weapon*
* *Ice Pilots NWT*
* *Join or Die with Craig Ferguson*
* *Jurassic Fight Club*
* *Last Stand of the 300*
* *Life After People*
* *The Lost Evidence*
* *Lost in Transmission*
* *Lost Worlds*
* *MadHouse*
* *Mail Call*
* *Man, Moment, Machine*
* *Mega Disasters*
* *Mega Movers*
* *Military Blunders*
* *Modern Marvels* (episodes)
* *MonsterQuest*
* *Monumental Challenge*
* *The Most*
* *Mounted in Alaska*
* *MysteryQuest*
* *Nostradamus Effect*
* *Only in America with Larry the Cable Guy*
* *Patton 360°*
* *Pawnography*
* *Prehistoric Megastorms*
* *The Presidents*
* *Reel to Real*
* *Rome: Rise and Fall of an Empire*
* *Save Our History*
* *Shark Wranglers*
* *Shootout*
* *Shockwave*
* *Sliced*
* *The States*
* *Stan Lee's Superhumans*
* *Surviving History*
* *Tactical to Practical*
* *Tales of the Gun*
* *That's Impossible*
* *Top Gear*
* *Top Guns*
* *Top Shot*
* *Tougher In Alaska*
* *UFO Files*
* *UFO Hunters*
* *United Stats of America*
* *The Universe*
* *Warriors*
* *Weird U.S.*
* *Wild West Tech*
* *The XY Factor*
 |
| **Upcoming** | * *Blue Book*
* *The Commanders*
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