



# LOCATION SEARCH The ten episodes serie



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## Location search the serie (10 Ep.)

This series shot in the form of a travel diary, is shaped by a variety of colourful languages and rhythms that illustrate the diversity of an ocean at the cross-roads of migrations and civilisations.

Mauritius, Rodriguez, Zanzibar, Cape Town, Pondicherry, Comoros Islands, Madagascar, Macau, Goa and Sri Lanka are the ten stages of this travel. The filmmaker let his camera meet those who wanted to speak about their island and their port, ignoring all

"clichés " or prejudices so as to understand the words of these people living close to the ocean better. There, words and colours have a special exotic flavour you have to taste.

## TRAVEL & DISCOVERY



## Location search the serie (10 Ep.)

A documentary by Marc Mopty

#### Details

Location search: Cap Town Location search: Comores Location search: Goa Location search: Macao Location search: Madagascar Location search: Maurice Islande Location search: Pondichery Location search: Rodrigues Location search: Sri Lanka Location search: Zanzibar





 Runtime
 10 x 52 minutes

 Year
 Fr|En

 Year
 1999

 4:3
 TV / VOD / Cinema / Institutions / Internet / Mobile / DVD

 Territory(ies)
 Worldwide



## Location search: Cape Town - the Cape of Good Hope

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

At the door of the Indian Ocean, the Cape is at the southernmost tip of Africa just above Antarctica. A microcosm of South Africa, which is still learning how to mix its colours even several years after the end of apartheid. Segregation might be ended but the country still bears the pain left by its scars. Anyway, the Cape today appears like a multicultural land, a mosaic of people and landscapes and as Mira Nair, the filmmaker, puts it, it is an ideal place to shoot a movie.



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### Location search: Comoros Islands, the archipelago of the Moon

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

Emerging from the waters of the Indian Ocean, the coral and volcanic Comoros Islands strewn with tropical essence and marked by Islam have been forgotten by colonial France. Above them, the Moon, alone seems to keep watch. African, Muslim and French at the same time, Mayotte is a natural marvel laid in the middle of a wide lagoon. In such an amazing landscape the filmmaker has met up with a both secular and traditional society. From bachelors' houses to women's rituals of seduction, this tiny patch of the French Republic has no cause to be jealous of its neighbours in the canal of Mozambique. Further and bigger, Ngazidja or Grande Comore is most impressive, its crater, one of the largest in the world is watching over the proud and free people living on its slope. It is right here that the most famous perfumers find their most exotic scents as the mysterious tales of Arabia kept being told and told again under the moonlight.





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## Location search: Goa: while waiting for monsoon

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

Goa was a myth for the backpackers some forty years ago. Today, it isn't waiting for anyone but I feel compelled to stop here anyway. Its reputation lives on. Bob Dylan and the "peace and love" crowds have been replaced by the raves and techno music aficionados, to such an extent that it has become world wide famous for its techno parties. Is Goa more spiritual? Cooler? Who knows? Of course, this is India. I can't prevent thinking anything may happen in this paradise-like spot. It is believed that all the guitars have lost their strings to see the sun sink into the ocean. The green flash? Everyone here expects to see it once. However the genuine Goa can only be found inland, where you meet its genuine population between rice fields and Portuguese houses because Goa is not just a beach or even a city as it is usually believed, it is a state, a part of history in itself.



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## Location search: Macau, the purgatory of gambling

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

On 28th December 1999, Macau, the Portuguese peninsula was given back to China. Offspring of a love story between Asia and Portugal, the Macanese are trying to maintain their unique culture that is gradually losing ground confronted to their Chinese neighbour. In Macao, both spiritual and secular cultures are mixed as Fado music meets majong and the roulette spins in wreaths of incense. I am a filmmaker on a location search, who loves China but feels nostalgia for this old fashioned Portuguese counter. I am here to see by myself what this "Gambling Hell and Sex Empire"-as it has been labelled by many writers, adventurers and sailors- looks like. Here Eastern culture, its philosophy, its zen treaties, Buddhism and azulejos have no secrets for this former counter. As I step out of the junk on the landing stage I find a note written by one of my Portuguese colleagues, "I come from the Orientalising of Latin culture but I couldn't tell my oriental side from the Latin." What a programme!



Les Films du Village Voyage

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## **D** Location search: Madagascar, Salana, Antakarana country

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

In Diego, on one of the most beautiful bays in the world, the filmmaker is trying to follow the track of the colonial past of this island. Everyone he meets, feels nostalgia as they recount what the history and the traditions of this land lying along the coast were. An old sailor speaks about Libertalia, a Utopian republic and a peasant woman explains how deeply attached she is to this island. The wild nights of the harbour can be followed by a venerable ancestor worship ceremony at the bottom of a sacred mountain. Further away, the discovery of sapphire mines have created pioneers-like ghost villages. Bretons, love or pirogue adventurers are taking the travellers to the edge of paradise. It is through its Prince, its ruins, its fady and its interdictions that Nosy Be, an islet, whose only activity could very well be idleness, reveals an idyllic world where its eventful history is mixing with the simplest pleasures.





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## Location search: Mauritius Island: a multicultural island

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

The travel brochures don't lie, everything is true: the crystal clear water, the white sand and the coconut trees. However, this is not what our traveller has come here for. He doesn't look for tourists or stars but for the real Mauritians, whether they are from Chinese, Madagascan, Indian or European origins. They will tell the filmmaker all about their own vision of such a miraculous mixing of population.



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## TRAVEL & DISCOVERY



## Location search: Pondicherry, the Indian

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

Pondicherry a French enclave on Indian territory? Between colonial architecture and multi-coloured crowds, this former French counter doesn't look like any other cities.



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## **D** Location search: Rodrigues, the nostalgia of paradise

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

How could I describe Rodrigues? Is it a realm of silence and nonchalance, a stone floating in the middle of the Indian Ocean, swept by hurricanes or a paradise though overshadowed by its neighbour, Mauritius that has taken all the white sand? Even if its inhabitants seem to live in a kind of timeless haze, its history can't be overlooked. European by adoption the island can't forget its African origins. In their religious ceremonies, witchcraft reminds of African ancestral beliefs. Everywhere in the island, drums and accordions have learnt to play together in the image of this strange mixing of cultures.





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## Location search: Sri Lanka, the good omen

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

Whenever I talk about this magical island, a multitude of images immediately come to our minds: beaches, elephants, jungle, smiles, rice fields, temples, lizards, cinnamon, bright lights, warm rains among many. On my arrival at the airport, they all get mixed up into my head. Are they myths or reality? I decide to go ahead without giving them a second thought.

Do you know the Gale Face Hotel, where Lord and Lady Mountbatten stayed, Thomas Lipton and his "green" gold from 2,000 metres high Hatton, Kitulgala and the River Kwaï bridge, Kandy and the Buddha's tooth, the one thousand elephants from Pinnawela, the sacred mountain from Sigirya, the shadow and light play of the Sri-Lankan puppet theatre, Galle and its Dutch past and last but not least Colombo both secret and sprawling?

In this pearl-shaped island peace and struggles have ruled over its valleys and shores for centuries.

A day will come, maybe. But for the past 2,000 years, it is around the sacred elephant that its people have got reconciled.





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## **FRAVEL & DISCOVERY**



## Location search: Zanzibar, Karibu Zanzibar

A documentary film by Marc Mopty

#### Synopsis

Many travellers have dreamt about Zanzibar. It represented an impossible quest for Rimbaud, who, by the way, never went there. Even today, many Westerners are seduced by the so particular atmosphere of this island off the Tanzanian coast. A maze of narrow alleys, mosques, cathedrals and stairs spiralling up take the travellers back to the time of sultans, slaves and merchants. In Stonetown, UNESCO world heritage city, Indians, Arabs and Massais are strolling together around the same port as if Africa, India, Arabia and Europe had decided to meet up here.





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