

# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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## FEATURES

### 32 Feather Evolution

Who had them first, why did they spring up (hint: sex may have had a lot to do with it), and when did they take flight?

By Carl Zimmer  
Photographs by Robert Clark  
Art by Xing Lida

### 58 Opium Wars

A key step toward peace in Afghanistan is to wipe out poppies—one of the country's most profitable crops.

By Robert Draper  
Photographs by David Guttenfelder

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Fish can't resist a sunken subway car, tank, or ship.

By Stephen Harrigan  
Photographs by David Doubilet

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You'll find bones, stones, miles of tunnels, and legal—and illegal—tourism.

By Neil Shea  
Photographs by Stephen Alvarez

### 126 The Monkey Who Went Into the Cold

Its quirky face may help China's snub-nosed monkey cope in a brutal clime.

By Jennifer S. Holland  
Photographs by Cyril Ruoso



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**On the Cover** A rainy sidewalk suggests the Eiffel Tower goes down as well as up. *Impossible!* (But what does lie beneath Paris is pretty fantastic.)

Photo by Fernand Ivaldi, Getty Images

## DEPARTMENTS

### Editor's Note

### Tune In

### Letters

### Your Shot

### Visions of Earth

## GEOGRAPHY

### What's in a Surname?

America is a nation of Smiths and Johnsons—as well as Garcias and Nguyens.

## CONSERVATION

**Bush Meat** Wild animals like the ant-eating pangolin shouldn't be for dinner.

## SCIENCE

**Bye-Bye, Helium** The gas comes mainly from beneath the Great Plains. And it's running out.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

**Gold Rush Relics** Boots, bottles, and a phonograph are among a sunken ship's artifacts.


## THE BIG IDEA

### Your Brain on Football

Even small hits to the head can lead to brain deterioration. The NFL is seeking solutions.

## Inside Geographic

### Flashback

 **ngm.com** Cameras aboard the *General Hoyt S. Vandenberg* show its two-minute-plus voyage to the bottom of the sea, where it will become an artificial reef.

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