National Geographic 125 Years: Legendary Photographs, Adventures, And Discoveries That Changed The World
Synopsis

Featuring show-stopping imagery and thrilling behind-the-scenes tales, National Geographic 125 Years captures the heart of National Geographic's fascinating history, from its earliest days as a scientific club to its growth into one of the world's largest geographic organizations. The book reveals how much we've come to know about our fascinating world through the pages and unforgettable imagery of National Geographic, and taps key voices from the forefront of ocean and space exploration, climate science, archaeology, mountaineering, and many other disciplines to peer with us over the horizon and see where we are heading in the future.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I really thought for 125 years of national Geographic would have pages and pages and unbelievable photography. While there are some great photos- the magazine itself has offered more great photos than this book.

Perfect as a special gift or beautiful coffee table book. I gave this to my mother-in-law and she loved it. She flipped it open right away and had a hard time tearing herself away. It's a heavy and big book, and makes that much more of an impact.

While most people who have spent hours leisurely going through their grandparents collection of old copies of National Geographic Magazine may not have realized it, they were enjoying some of the most important historical adaptations of photography, photojournalism and magazine
reproduction. And while this book about the first 125 years of National Geographic may not have the most spectacular and beautiful photographs that have appeared in the journal over its first century and a quarter, it has a bunch of them. It also has a selection of many of the trail breaking examples of photographs to appear in magazine format. The purpose of the National Geographic Society was to disperse Geographic Information to the world. The National Geographic Magazine is technically the Society’s Journal. It was Gilbert H. Grosvenor who "built the National Geographic Society into an extraordinarily successful institution. And he did so by emphasizing too things. One, he made pictures the language of the National Geographic magazine...And two, he stressed quality." The magazine editor wanted to see pictures and plenty of them. Within this book the reader will see pictures of the photographers at work with the latest cameras of the period, including the digital cameras they mostly use today. There is a 1909 photo of photographer O.D. Von Engeh during a Society Sponsored-expedition to Alaska. He is washing his freshly developed film negatives in the iceberg-choked seawater of the bay. On page 77, there is a wonderful 1910 hand colored black and white photo of a young, would-be rock star Japanese girl in traditional dress singing at the top of her lungs and playing a three-stringed samisen. The picture looks like it could have been taken yesterday as far as typifying a young musician’s dream. Those images and the Autochrome (self-coloring) ones began appearing in National Geographic in July 1914. The era of color magazine photography had arrived. The paper that National Geographic is printed on is guaranteed to last for at least 200 years. How’s that for quality printing? This is a fascinating book about how the National Geographic Society and its Journal and other publications came about. It’s a fun read and illustrated history of history. While this joke isn’t included in this book, in the 1950s and 1960s there was a joke about the photographers of LIFE Magazine and the National Geographic. The Geographic photographer would climb to the top of a pile of trash and garbage in order to take his beautiful color photos from the higher perch. The LIFE photographer would stand back and photograph the garbage. This book deals with the beautiful pictures and people of the planet, and it’s only recently that Geographic has been photographing pollution and trash and even then the pictures are often beautiful.

My sister recommended I get this for my 16-year-old history and adventure-loving nephew for Christmas. I did and he loved it. It’s packed with so many fantastic pictures and exciting stories that he will be reading it for many more months to come. I would definitely recommend this to a friend.

As a casual reader of National Geographic (in the waiting room of my chiro each month) I saw this
advertised in one of the issues. This is a great collection of iconic photos and stories from throughout the 125 year history of this publication and a perfect coffee table book.

Although I wish there were even more photos in this book, it's still full of many beautiful and special photos. The huge page size makes the photos’ impact quite significant and some of the photos are truly breathtaking.

This book is awesome. One of my best friends is like the greenest person you will ever meet and someone who loves nature. This was right up his ally. He has made lists of where he wants to go, things he wants to do etc.

National Geographic has introduced many people to the photographic world - this issue traces the history and impact of these wonderful images over a 125 year timeframe and evolving and changing photographic image capture

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