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# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

MYSTERIES  
OF A

# VIRUS

They kill us by the millions.  
But without them, life is impossible.

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## On the Cover

*Mimivirus* is one of the largest and most complex viruses known. Scientists hope that studying it will shed light on viruses' origins and proliferation.

ILLUSTRATION BY MARKOS KAY

Madhym  
 केन्द्रीय पुस्तकालय / Central Library  
 सिक्किम विश्वविद्यालय  
 Sikkim University

## EXPLORE

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### THE BIG IDEA

#### Born to Wander

After months pinned down by the pandemic, the author is even more certain: Exploring the planet is an essential activity for humans.

BY ERIC WEINER

### INNOVATOR

#### Attention to Turtles

The reptiles originated in Africa but now are neglected there, says a conservationist who aims to remedy that.

BY ANNIE ROTH

### ALSO

Rain on the Wing  
 Eyes Deter Attacks  
 New Space Toilet



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#### Volcanic Voltage

How do volcanic eruptions spark lightning?

BY JASON TREAT AND  
 IRENE BERMAN-VAPORIS

### BEING THERE

#### Norwegian Cool

Have wet suit, will winter surf in 41° water.

BY LOLA AKINMADE  
 ÅKERSTRÖM; PHOTO BY  
 ANDREA FRAZZETTA

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Life by Zip Line  
 Portugal's Tiles





FEATURES

**A World of Viruses**

Yes, the coronavirus is a killer. But viruses can be beneficial too.

BY DAVID QUAMMEN  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
CRAIG CUTLER

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**Women on the Move**

In 2019, 130 million women were living in countries not of their birth, migration data show. And in that year alone, tens of millions of them were forced—by disease, natural disaster, violence, or poverty—to move either within their countries or abroad.

BY AURORA ALMENDRAL  
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EVERYDAY PROJECTS

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**Reclaiming History**

Anti-racism protests spur removal of Confederate monuments.

BY PHILLIP MORRIS  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
KRIS GRAVES

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**▲ Preserving Paradise**

In Costa Rica an oasis of biodiversity feels COVID-19's effects.

BY JAMIE SHREEVE  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
CHARLIE HAMILTON JAMES

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