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## **Foxtel commissions second season of *Coast Australia***

Foxtel today announced the commissioning of a second season of *Coast Australia*, to be produced by Great Southern Television and presented by internationally renowned British archaeologist and television presenter, Neil Oliver.

**The hugely successful first season achieved record ratings for HISTORY, with the launch episode on Monday, December 2 at 4.30pm WST attracting the highest ratings to date on the channel.**

Each episode of season two will again showcase a different strip of Australia's spectacular coastline over eight x 1 hour episodes, as Neil and a group of expert Australian co-presenters gather stories about the history, the people, the archaeology, the geography and the marine life, investigating interesting and little-known facts along the way.

Foxtel's General Manager of Factual Channels Jim Buchan said "I'm delighted to see how well *Coast Australia* has resonated with Australian and New Zealand audiences. The first series was nothing short of epic and is a fine example of the type of world-class local production viewers can watch on the History channel.

“We’re looking forward to welcoming back Neil Oliver and his wonderful passion for history and storytelling to a second season of this great franchise. He complements our local presenters beautifully.”

Neil Oliver said “The making of *Coast Australia* series one was a life-enhancing experience for me. The scale of the country, the grandeur of the landscapes, the dazzling colours, the people I had the privilege of meeting. All of it captured my imagination and whetted my appetite for more.

“Now I have the prospect of season two to look forward to and I can't wait. More journeys, more colours, more people and more stories.

“*Coast* is a juggernaut. Once it starts rolling, it seems to generate an unstoppable momentum. Each story told leads to 10 more, or 100. Let’s get going!”

*Coast Australia* is based on the BAFTA Award-winning BBC series *Coast*, which has been broadcast in the UK and internationally for the past nine years. It is commissioned by Foxtel and produced by Great Southern Film and Television, with the format licensed from BBC Worldwide ANZ.

The first season of *Coast Australia* will air on BBC Two in the UK in early 2014.

The second season of *Coast Australia* will commence production in March and air on HISTORY in the second half of 2014.

**About HISTORY**

HISTORY is Australia’s only television channel dedicated to history 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is part of a global, award-winning network with access to a vast library of

the world's best historical programming. The HISTORY brand is licensed exclusively by Foxtel Management Pty Ltd from A&E Television Networks International and 100% produced, programmed, broadcast and controlled locally.

### **About Foxtel**

Foxtel is one of Australia's most progressive and dynamic media companies, directly employing around 2,500 people, and delivering a diverse subscription television service over cable, satellite and broadband distribution. We offer a better entertainment experience every day to each one of our 2.5 million subscribing homes through delivery of new and inspiring programming across all genres, the world's most popular channel brands, and investment in high quality local content. As constant champions of innovation we have brought customers the iQ personal digital recorder, Australia's largest HD offering, the Foxtel Go App for tablets and mobile devices, and our new internet TV service, Foxtel Play. Foxtel is owned by Telstra Corporation Limited ACN 051 775 556 (50%) and News Corporation (50%). [foxtel.com.au](http://foxtel.com.au)

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