



Sheltered

One man's search for the perfect home.





30 Minute Episodes in HD

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Sheltered is a half-hour television series that spans the globe exploring fascinating homes of indigenous communities and the ways people build them.

Of all the essential needs that human beings have, shelter must surely be the one that opens itself to the widest variety of expression. Every culture has its own ways of designing the homes we live in, using materials as diverse as the people who build them. From the earthen castles of Togo to the yurts of Mongolia, from the Vietnamese stilt houses to the igloos of Nunavut, fascinating examples of human ingenuity in shelter design are everywhere.

Now what happens when an Aboriginal carpenter from Canada delves into the process of building these unique homes?

Our spontaneous and youthful carpenter is ready to take on the world and find out. From the time he was a little boy living on the trap line he has been up for an adventure.

He has a solid education, a thriving career, a loving family but what really gets him moving is his passion for helping the people of his reserve. That's why he wants to learn more about indigenous, sustainable housing. And so he'll travel the globe to investigate ancient home building secrets of the world's Aboriginal cultures.

In each episode, our carpenter will roll up his sleeves to join a crew in erecting a home using local, indigenous construction methods. He's an expert in contemporary North American building techniques so we'll be fascinated and amused to see him try his hand at insulating a home in Africa with elephant dung, or cutting bamboo with a machete.

During his visit, he'll stay in a structure similar to the one he is working on, spending time with a family and seeing how the shelter functions and shapes the lives of its occupants. He'll eat their food, play their games, and learn their culture at the same time that he experiences what it's like to build a home in a completely different way.

As he learns the construction techniques used to build the home, one of the biggest things he's going to have to get used to - aside from communicating in a foreign language - is the lack of power tools. Because in many parts of the world they have none! Whether he's mixing mud and straw by hand or hoisting stones with ropes and pulleys, we'll get to see how our modern western guy adapts to doing things the way locals do it. In some cases it's the way they've been doing it for thousands of years.

Through his exposure to other cultures he will gain insight into his own people and their ways, and possibly have some new ideas about his own community's housing.

Sheltered is one man's search for the perfect home.

