

8 Top Genealogy TV Shows—and Where to Watch Online

Ancestors in the Attic (Canada)

Available to watch with a subscription at [Gaia.com](https://www.gaia.com)

Show summary: “Canadians looking to unravel their family history and the personal stories that accompany it can turn to this fast-paced series. Whether it's across Canada or around the world, a team of investigators employ a mix of CSI-type genealogy and old-fashioned detective work to help someone unlock the secrets of their past.”

[Faces of America \(US\)](#)

Free video previews and other content. [Watch episodes online](#) with your PBS.org membership.

Show summary: “What made America? What makes us? These two questions are at the heart of the new PBS series Faces of America with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. The Harvard scholar turns to the latest tools of genealogy and genetics to explore the family histories of 12 renowned Americans — professor and poet Elizabeth Alexander, chef Mario Batali, comedian Stephen Colbert, novelist Louise Erdrich, journalist Malcolm Gladwell, actress Eva Longoria, musician Yo-Yo Ma, director Mike Nichols, Her Majesty Queen Noor, television host/heart surgeon Dr. Mehmet Oz, actress Meryl Streep, and figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi.”

[Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. \(US\)](#)

Watch episode highlights and summaries for free; watch previous episodes with your PBS.org membership.

Show summary: “Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. utilizes a team of genealogists to reconstruct the paper trail left behind by our ancestors and the world’s leading geneticists to decode our DNA and help us travel thousands of years into the past to discover the origins of our earliest forebears.”

[The Generations Project \(US\)](#) Watch full episodes for free on website.

Show summary: “What secrets run in your blood? This reality series uncovers the hidden identities in family pasts, proving that the best way to know who you are is to know who you came from.”



[Genealogy Roadshow \(US\)](#)

Find episode highlights, free episodes and more. Many episodes (including [all of Season 1](#)) are on YouTube.

Show summary: “Part detective story, part emotional journey, Genealogy Roadshow combines history and science to uncover the fascinating stories of diverse Americans. Each individual’s past links to a larger community history, revealing the rich cultural tapestry of America.

These experts enlist the help of local historians to add color and context to the investigations, ensuring every artifact and every name becomes a clue in solving the mystery. Many answers will be revealed on camera before a local audience, in a historic building relevant to the cities’ — and the participants’ — histories.”

[Long Lost Family \(US\)](#)

See previews and episode summaries. Stream episodes online with your participating TV subscription (see site).

Show summary: “Having embarked on their own journeys to discover their biological families, TV personalities Chris Jacobs and Lisa Joyner help others try to track down loved ones. Each episode features two emotional stories of people who have suffered a lifetime of separation and are yearning to be reunited with their birthparents and biological families or find children they had to give up for adoption long ago. In addition to providing emotional support and guidance, Chris and Lisa conduct painstaking searches through public records and utilize current DNA technology in their search for answers. The things they discover and who they find are anything but expected.”

[Relative Race \(US\)](#)

[Click here](#) to watch past episodes online for free.

Show summary: “What happens when genealogy meets reality TV? Using their DNA as a guide, contestants embark on the ultimate road trip across America, completing challenges and meeting unknown relatives along the way.”



Who Do You Think You Are (Australia, Canada, UK, US and more)

Many episodes on [YouTube](#), some fee-based to view. (For specific versions, include the name of the country in your YouTube search.)

Show summary: "Celebrities trace their ancestry, discovering secrets and surprises from their past."

[Australia](#) (2007-2016): See episode summaries at website. Subscription appears to be required to watch on SBS.

[UK](#): Watch all episodes on [BBC iPlayer](#) within the UK.

[US](#): See show highlights. TLC subscribers may watch full episodes.

