

# RIVERS

with Craig Potton



PRIME

**An insightful and entertaining journey of New Zealand's waterways with acclaimed photographer and passionate land and ocean lover Craig Potton.**

As a mountainous island chain, in a boisterous corner of the world's largest ocean, New Zealand's rainfall can be massive - our rivers turbulent and unpredictable.

Internationally renowned photographer and conservationist, Craig Potton has spent 40 years photographing our landscapes. Making art out of our forests, our coastlines and most of all, out of our rivers. For Craig, rivers are the arteries that bind the land together.

In this new PRIME documentary series, Craig travels five of our most significant waterways – the Clutha, the Waikato, the Mokihinui, the Clarence and the Rangitata - each one with its own story.

During each journey, Craig discovers the creatures which live in and around our rivers - from threatened native fish swimming under the streets of Hamilton – to giant carnivorous land snails and the world's only crooked beaked bird. He meets the people who care for rivers and live or work alongside them.

He journeys between source and sea and tries to understand how rivers have shaped the land and influenced our culture. Maori have a unique and defining relationship with their awa (rivers), and our artists, writers and filmmakers have all been greatly inspired by the nation's waterways. Our rivers tell us much about the progress and evolution of our country, luring generations seeking to make their fortune from greenstone and gold, hydro-power, wine and tourism.

From boat to bicycle, raft to river-powered punt, swimming to sweeping helicopter flights, Craig takes his own personal journey through some of the wildest, most spectacular landscapes on earth. He meets some remarkable people and through them discovers the stories - personal, historical, contemporary, political, cultural and mystical - that flow through our rivers.



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**starts Sunday 12th September • 7.30pm on PRIME**

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