I joined National Geographic's Genographic Project to map the human journey and its scientists ran a cutting-edge test of my DNA.

Here is what I learned about my ancient ancestry:

I AM
2.1% NEANDERTHAL

As humans were first migrating out of Africa more than 60,000 years ago, Neanderthals were still living in Eurasia. It seems our ancestors hit it off, leaving a small trace of these ancient relatives in my DNA.

I AM
1 of 592,848 PARTICIPANTS

MY MAP

MY MATERNAL LINEAGE BEGAN
My maternal ancestors left Africa and settled around southeastern Europe. They then expanded north into the rest of Europe. They survived by hunting and finding wild food sources. In Europe, they met with those who were already there and formed new cultures that are reflected in the archaeological record. Thus, my cousins played an important role in the history of Europe.

My maternal branch is U5b1a2b1.

MY PATERNAL LINEAGE BEGAN
My paternal ancestors left Africa and moved north through western and Central Asia. They then turned west and crossed the grasslands of southern Russia into Europe. There, they eventually drove the Neanderthals to extinction, though they did interbreed with them. Living a hunter-gatherer lifestyle, my early ancestors set the stage for later European history.

My paternal branch is R-Z198.

That's my story. What's your story?

Join this real-time scientific project now and help us tell the human story, while discovering more about yourself than you ever thought possible.

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