

# OSCAR'S GUIDE TO VIRTUAL REALITY!

FOR THE OCULUS GO

MORE THAN 100 EXPERIENCES,  
CURATED BY UNCLE DEFENDER!



w e l c o m e t o t h e  
f u t u r e



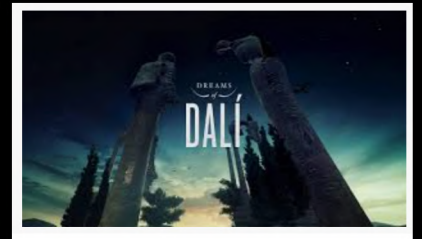
# films



TAKE A TRIP TO THE MOON!

# animations

GO INSIDE A DALI PAINTING!



# interactive



INSIDE ANNE FRANK'S HOUSE!

# games

AMAZING VERTIGO CHALLENGE!



# multiplayer



GO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!

# HINTS, GUIDELINES, TIPS AND TRICKS

**Stand or swivel!** The best way to experience VR is standing or on a swivel chair!

**Headphones!** The Go has built in audio but nothing compares to plugging in headphones for a full immersive experience.

**Warm her up!** To avoid lens fogging when you start a session, stick the goggles on your forehead to warm them up for five minutes!

**Keep it charged!** You get about two hours of use for each charge. 100% charge takes one and a half hours (1% a min). Unless you use it with a standard mobile battery pack plugged in, in which case you can **Go** forever (but you need a long lead to stuff it in your pocket!)

**Covid-19!** Use **VR cover** and wipe with alcohol 70% if you share the headset. Never use alcohol on the lenses!

**Look after the lenses!** Never leave them exposed to sunlight, even for a few seconds! Never clean the lens with anything but a lens cloth (your t-shirt can scratch them). I keep mine turned away from the window and always have a cloth on hand.

**Advanced!** You can bypass the Oculus/Facebook architecture. You need a PC/Mac to download **Sidequest**, and put your Go on **developer mode**. It's an alternative source to free beta and indie games and experiences.

e n j o y





ENJOY MORE THAN  
**50 FILMS**  
AND ANIMATIONS FROM 2015-2020

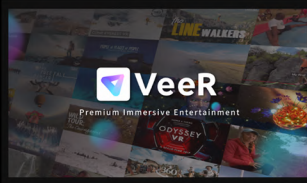
**10 HOURS**  
TOTAL RUNNING TIME

**FREE!**  
\* JUST FIVE ARE PAID-FOR



# films

Download these **free** apps from the Go store



All these films and animations are **free** except those on **amaze vr**



**-22.7°C**  
**youtube vr** | free  
dj Molécule in the Arctic.  
Jan Kounen directs 9m



**1st step**  
**VeeR** | free  
moon trip on Apollo 11 14m



**okavango experience**  
**youtube vr** | free  
astonishing wildlife in the  
Okavango Delta 4 x 6m



**traveling while black**  
**app** | free  
Jim Crow era 20m



**2nd step**  
**amaze vr** | \*see box  
from the moon to mars 11m



**immerse**  
**youtube vr** | free  
best underwater film 9m



**attack on daddy**  
**VeeR** | free  
Korean comedy horror 10m



**polar obsession**  
**youtube vr** | free  
seals in Antarctica 7m



**isle of dogs**  
**youtube vr** | free  
stop motion studio 6m

**amaze vr** has a subscription model for premium films | US\$5.99 for access to all for one month

# films II



## gorillapalooza

**within** | free

hang out with mountain gorillas in Rwanda *6m*



## 700 sharks

**within** | free

the largest gray shark pack in the world *7m*



## dive blue planet vr

**youtube vr** | free

incredible guided dive with octopus *9m*



## space explorers

**amaze vr** | \*see box

incredible nasa docs  
2 x 20m



## cesare's dream

**youtube vr** | free

the cabinet of dr caligare  
- what is reality? *6m*



## the overview effect

**VeeR** | free

astronomical metanoia  
*6m*



## sanctuaries of silence

**within** | free

the last silent wilderness  
*7m*



## free solo

**youtube vr** | free

climbing El Capitan  
solo style *6m*



## the real thing

**within** | free

Chinese fakes of Paris,  
Venice and London *16m*



## nomads

**app** | free

maasai mara, yak herders  
and sea gypsies *3 x 12m*



## save every breath

**youtube vr** | free

WWII dunkirk 1940 *4m*

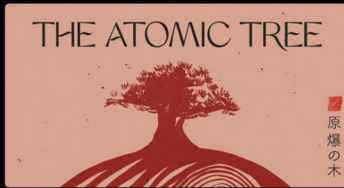


## strangers

**app** | free

just a guy making music  
*8m*

# films |||



**the atomic tree**  
**within** | free  
400-year-old bonsai that survived Hiroshima *10m*



**airpano vr jellyfish bay**  
**youtube vr** | free  
breathtaking underwater film in Indonesia *3m*



**phone of the wind**  
**app** | free  
calling departed loved ones *7m*



**iceland's glaciers**  
**youtube vr** | free  
'what happens to ice, happens to us' *7m*



**marshall from detroit**  
**app** | free  
dark detroit and hiphop with eminem *18m*



**fire in the forest**  
**VeeR** | free  
a day in a village of the Waurá people *6m*

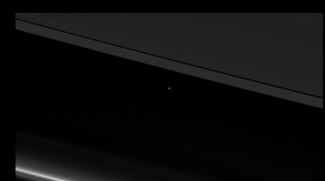
And finally, check out my own creations!



**the before times**  
**VeeR** | free  
did we know where we were going? *7m*



**charlie checkers goes to brazil!**  
**VeeR** | free  
six-year-old Charlotte's imaginary journey *7m*



**my VeeR channel**  
**VeeR** | free  
all my films in one place

\* Youtube vr app limits resolution. Watch on **firefox reality**. Add Firefox Ad blocker extension. Click quality setting (up to 4K) | Turn off subs | Click full-screen, goggles and choose 360 stereo

# animations



## dreams of dali

**VeeR** | free  
inside a Dali painting 6m



## ayahuasca

**amaze vr** | \*see box  
warning: intense! 18m



## black bag

**VeeR** | free  
Chinese heist 13m



## nothing to be written

**app** | free  
haunting WWI story of  
letters home 7m



## le soleil d'edvard munch

**youtube vr** | free  
french language  
warning: intense! 10m



## shennong

**amaze vr** | \*see box  
an encounter with the  
God-king of nature 10m



## saturnism

**VeeR** | free  
Goya's 'saturn devouring  
his son' comes to life 4m



## passenger

**VeeR** | free  
stop-motion about arriving  
to a new foreign home 10m



## transition

**app** | free  
a journey from one world  
into the next 9m



## invasion!

**app** | free  
aliens try to take over the  
Earth! 6m



## a bar at the folies-bergère

**VeeR** | free  
beautiful passage into  
Manet's last major work 6m



## zero days vr

**app** | free  
documentary on the fourth  
dimension of war 21m



# animations II



**gloomy eyes**  
**amaze vr** | \*see box  
the sun gives up on  
humankind 3 x 10m



**the turning forest**  
**app** | free  
bbc animated fairytale 8m



**the butcher**  
**youtube vr** | free  
run, rabbit, run! 2m



**dreams of henri rousseau**  
**youtube vr** | free  
genius rendition in a  
Parisian greenhouse 7m



**crow the legend**  
**app** | free  
from the makers of  
Madagascar! 22m



**las meninas**  
**VeeR** | free  
inside the masterpiece of  
Diego Velázquez 6m



**the dawn of art**  
**youtube vr** | free  
the cave of forgotten  
dreams 10m



**asteroids!**  
**app** | free  
onboard with the aliens!  
7m



**the spacewalker**  
**within** | free  
first human walking in  
space 4m



**the dream collector**  
**VeeR** | free  
an old man and his dog 13m



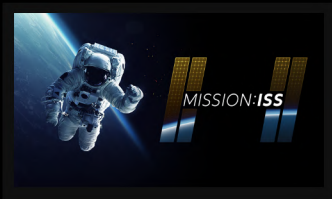
**neurospeculative  
afrofeminism**  
**app** | free  
black hair experience! 13m



**armonia**  
**youtube vr** | free  
orchestra with wings 7m

# i n t e r a c t i v e

Extraordinary, educational and free



**mission: iss**  
app | free  
zero gravity inside the  
international space station



**anne frank house**  
app | free  
explore the house of  
Nazi diarist Anne Frank



**art plunge**  
app | free demo | US\$1.99  
inside five masterpieces  
from da Vinci to van Gogh



**a thin black line**  
app | free  
wartime Australia from the  
perspective of a young girl



**golden loft**  
app | free  
an attic full of fibonacci,  
phi and the golden ratio



**wonderful you**  
app | free  
meet your unborn self -  
the five senses animated



**breaking boundaries**  
app | free  
scientists Jane Goodall,  
Marie Curie & Grace Hopper



**i was there**  
app | free  
conversations with  
Vietnam witnesses



**looking glass**  
app | free  
stereoscopic 3D photos  
from 1892-1933



**salakapakka**  
app | free | school project  
it's a 1920s Finnish  
speakeasy, of course!



**timelines**  
app | free  
archive film database on the  
cold war, vietnam & 1968



**chornobyl vr**  
app | free  
a Ukrainian view of the  
nuclear fallout

OPTIONAL FAIRY LIGHTS!

5800mAh  
POWERBANK!

3D 360° NOISE  
CANCELLING PHONES!

FAUX LEATHER WASHABLE  
UPHOLSTERY!

pimp your go!



# g a m e s

Look out for flash sales on the Go store



## daedalus

app | US\$4.99

the sensation of flying  
in a Dali-esque universe



## land's end

app | US\$4.99

move rocks with just  
your 'mind'!



## elevator to the moon!

app | US\$1.00

hilarious! the president of  
the world goes mad



## gnog

app | US\$4.99

joyful and unique, trippy  
and stylish puzzler



## annie amber

app | US\$7.99

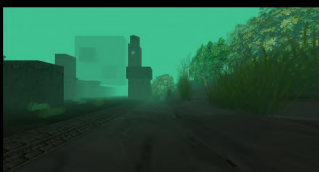
life is but a dream? surreal  
celestial floating adventure



## cueist

app | US\$3.99

precision control, hyper  
realistic snooker & pool!



## wrong voyage ex

app | US\$1.99

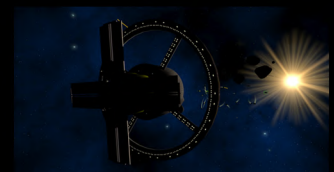
spiders! zombies! retro!



## real vr fishing

app | US\$7.99

let's go fishing - in Korea!



## linewars

app | US\$5.99

stunning star wars!



## drift

app | US\$9.99

crazy time-bending,  
rubber-necking running



## eqq

app | US\$4.99

lovely Ethiopian fable  
about a blind boy



## dark days

app | US\$0.49

psychological thriller  
warning: jump scares!



# pimp your go!

Plenty of Go games can be played with a gamepad, but these *require* one.



**defender**  
**oculus arcade** | US\$1.99  
the greatest arcade game  
ever made!



**pac-man**  
**oculus arcade** | US\$2.99  
the second greatest  
arcade game ever made!



**jump!**  
**app** | US\$4.99  
parkour across nyc, tokyo,  
detroit, seattle & philly!

# g a m e s | |



## bat batty bats

app | US\$0.49

brilliant 80s-style arcade game - with bats!



## dead secret bundle

app | US\$16.99

psycho-thriller, qu'est-ce que c'est?



## république vr

app | US\$9.99

massive dystopian sci-fi stealth adventure



## rangi

app | US\$4.99

made in Africa puzzle



## coaster combat

app | US\$4.99

theme park ride action!



## claro

app | US\$2.99

original, gorgeous enigma



## space shuttle vr

app | US\$7.99

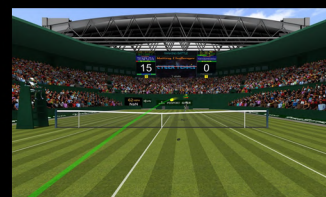
superb flight sim, landing 'a brick without engines'



## nature treks

app | US\$7.99

immersive meditation in vivid wild environments



## cyber tennis

app | US\$2.99

freakishly japanese but the physics are down pat!



## dead and buried

app | free

comedy cartoon zombie cowboys attack!



## thumper

app | US\$9.99

you need insane reactions to beat the boss!



## omega agent

app | US\$2.99

you're a secret agent - with a jetpack!

# g a m e s | | |



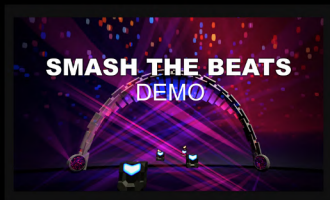
**cosmic flow**  
**app** | free  
fractal meditation



**escape legacy**  
**app** | US\$ 2.99  
cool escape room genre



**bait!**  
**app** | free  
silly hippy fishing!



**smash the beats demo**  
**app** | free  
fitness app smashing  
blocks to the beat



**tailgunner**  
**app** | US\$2.99  
pop art-style aerial battle  
with wingmen!



**rush**  
**app** | US\$5.99  
adrenaline-fueled  
wingsuit racing!



**revolver widow**  
**app** | US\$0.99  
gunslingin' gaffaws!



**twobit odyssey**  
**app** | US\$1.99  
ingenious robot puzzler



**tsuro**  
**app** | US\$4.99  
relaxing strategy game



**ministerio del tiempo**  
**app** | free  
cheesy Spanish TV  
escape room spin-off!



**break a leg**  
**app** | US\$2.99  
take to the stage as a  
magician's apprentice!



**void racer**  
**app** | US\$2.99  
mad fast futuristic  
bike racing!

# m u l t i p l a y e r

Oculus is owned by facebook, so you have to link your account



**wander**  
**app** | US\$4.99  
go on a google street  
view trip with friends!



**racket fury**  
**app** | US\$9.99  
it's AI ping and  
multiplayer pong!



**melody vr**  
**app** | in-app purchases  
join gigs live with mates!



# a u d i o v r

You don't need your Go, just a phone and some headphones!



**double**  
**darkfield app** | US\$15  
a loved one is replaced  
by an evil replica 20m



**visitors**  
**darkfield app** | US\$15  
the dead find no comfort  
in the living world 20m



# more stuff!

## films



**alteration**  
**app** | free  
disturbing experimental  
AI sci-fi film 17m



**whispers**  
**oculus video** | free  
slow-paced life on the  
Ukrainian-Polish border 21m



**dolphin man - the dive within** | free  
world record holder in  
free diving 6m



**uaxuctum**  
**youtube vr** | free  
orchestral interpretation  
of a Mayan legend 7m



**tales from the edge**  
**VeeR** | free  
wingsuit base jumping  
with Jeb Corliss 9m



**pompeii**  
**youtube vr** | free  
the heart of the eruption  
*french language* 8m

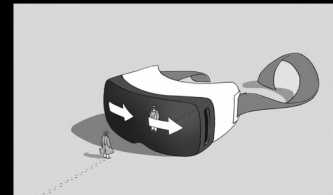
## animations



**pearl**  
**youtube vr** | free  
Oscar-nominated tale of  
father and daughter 6m



**ex\static**  
**youtube vr** | free  
the crisis of modern  
life 3m



**s.e.n.s.**  
**app** | US\$2.99  
monochrome meander  
in a graphic novel 30m

## games



**ghosts in the toybox**  
**app** | US\$3.99  
daft wave shooter with  
poltergeist toys!



**schwein mmu**  
**app** | free demo | US\$1.99  
manned maneuvering unit  
**gamepad required**

## multiplayer



**alcove**  
**app** | free  
family social vr, decorate  
with photos, play chess!

# more stuff !!

## film



### the people's lawn

**app** | free  
wacky composite of 45  
activists 3m

## animations



### jurassic world

**app** | free  
apatosaurus 3m



### gauguin

**youtube vr** | free  
a journey to tahiti 4m

## games



### viral quarantine

**app** | US\$4.99  
addictive action by  
fierce kaiju



### flight 74

**app** | US\$9.99  
flight sim missions with  
drug cartel



### zombie gunship raptor

**app** | US\$3.99  
don't let them break in!



### gunjack eve

**app** | US\$4.99  
galaga-style wave shooter



### ultrawings

**app** | US\$9.99  
relaxing arcade flight sim



### teoc

**app** | US\$4.99  
absorbing jellyfish!



### end space

**app** | US\$7.99  
classic space battles!

## interactive



### edinburgh 70

**app** | free  
fun festival arts tour!



### wonders of the world

**app** | free  
machu picchu, taj mahal,  
colossus of rhodes

# film festivals

In 2020, VR film festivals moved online, with content on the Go available for the duration on platforms like **VeeR**. More in 2021, dates known in **red**.



**hyper**  
**brazil** | nov 28  
5th edition



**360**  
**france** | nov 23-27  
5th edition



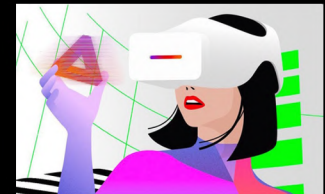
**sandbox**  
**china** | nov 8-20  
3rd edition



**electric africa**  
**south africa** | nov 5-11  
1st edition



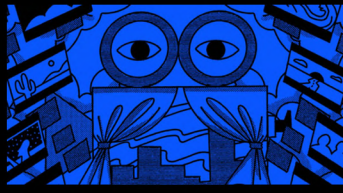
**vr days**  
**netherlands** | nov 4-6  
6th edition



**vre**  
**italy** | oct 16-18  
2nd edition



**fivars**  
**canada** | oct 7- nov 2  
6th edition



**viff immersed**  
**canada** | sept 24 - oct 9  
7th edition



**venice vr expanded**  
**italy** | sept 2-12  
aug 28-sept 5, 2021



**cannes xr**  
**france** | june 24-26  
may 11-20, 2021



**sxsw**  
**usa** | may 22-31  
march 16-20, 2021



**tribeca**  
**usa** | april 17-26  
june 9-20, 2021

# recording vr

Want to make your own films? A decent kit now costs under US\$1,000 ...



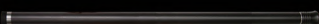
**insta360 one x 2**  
**camera** | US\$430  
5.7K 30fps



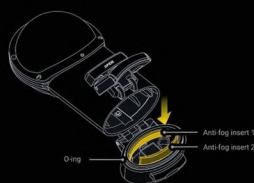
**zoom h3-vr**  
**audio** | US\$250  
spacial audio



**manfrotto tripod**  
**accessory** | US\$180  
reliability



**extended selfie stick**  
**accessory** | US\$40  
10ft telescopic stick  
for drone effect



**dive case**  
**accessory** | US\$80  
underwater to 45 meters

Or go pro ...



**insta360 pro 2**  
**camera** | US\$4,599  
8K 30fps



# editing vr

You can do it on a phone, I use a mac



**mac book pro**  
**laptop** | varies  
OSX 10.14+



**insta360 studio 2020**  
**app** | free  
stitching | v3.5.4



**final cut pro X**  
**app** | varies  
editing | v10.4.9

# 'OCULUS GO IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE.'

## e p i l o g u e

This guide was conceived as an introduction to VR for Oscar, who got a Go for his 16th birthday. Oculus had announced exactly one month earlier that it would be discontinued. Too late. Sorry, Oscar. (But it's fine, it all works, the app store is open and there's support 'til 2022!)

I bought the Go in July 2019 - over a year after it was released as a budget all-in-one headset - mainly to watch back my own efforts at making VR films and to get feedback from other people.

But it was only during one day in lockdown 2020 that I pulled it from a dusty shelf and began a journey into an unimaginable universe.

My first incredible moment was in **art**. I flew into a painting in **dreams of dali**. Masterpieces came to life in **art plunge**, and in the brilliant Arte Trips series featuring **a bar at the foiles-bergère**, **las meninas**, **dreams of henri rousseau** and **le soleil d'edvard munch**. I could even travel back 36,000 years to **the dawn of art**.

French director Jan Kounen's mix of film with **animation** in **ayahuasca: kosmic journey** and **-22.7 °C** left my jaw on the floor. There was the exceptional **black bag** and **shennong**, both by Chinese indies. Boabab studio, dubbed the Pixar of VR, threw up **invasion!**, **asteroids!** and **crow**.

I soon discovered the gold standard of **360 film** in Canada's Félix Lajeunesse and Paul Raphaël of felix and paul studios. From humble beginnings with the one-take classic **strangers**, they went on to produce, among others, **nomads**, **travelling while black**, **isle of dogs** and **space explorers**. Their next dream? **Livestream** from the moon.

VR lends itself to epic themes, and **space** is no exception. I could feel zero gravity in **mission: iss**, be **the spacewalker**, experience the **overview effect**, go on Apollo 11 in **1st step** and on to Mars in **2nd step**. I could fly the **space shuttle vr** or do battle in the stars in **linewars**.

Another classic motif is **war**, from WWI with **nothing to be written** to WWII in **anne frank house**, **the atomic tree** and **save every breath**. From Vietnam in **i was there** to Australia with **a thin black line** and cyber conflicts in **zero days vr**.

Then there's full immersion in **nature**, travelling across the **okavango delta**, Antarctica in **polar obsession**, the Congo in **gorillapalooza**, and deep sea diving in **immerse**, **blue planet**, **700 sharks** and **jellyfish bay**.

And the ultimate topic - **life and death** - from the womb in **wonderful you** to calling departed loved ones in **phone of the wind**. Meanwhile I published a lockdown film, **the before times**.

I'm not interested in games, I thought. Then I'm flying through **daedalus**, a peerless **puzzle** game by Spanish indie Vertical Robot. And getting lost in the genre's unique worlds of **gnog**, **claro**, **land's end**, **rangi** and Parallel studio's beautiful **eqqo**.

Soon I was happily killing **zombies** in **dead & buried** and **wrong voyage ex** and getting my **adrenaline** kicks in **rush**, **void racer**, **thumper**, **smash the beats**, **cyber tennis**, **jump!** and **coaster combat**.

To **relax** I could go with Dmitri Medvedev's **cosmic flow**, John Carline's **nature treks** or Catalan artist Carlos Coronado's sublime **annie amber**. Then knock out a frame of snooker in **cueist**. And I would never, ever, have believed I would go **real vr fishing**.

I got my first 'jump scare' in **dark days**, and laughed out loud at programmer Marc Barnes voice acting - a real indie production quirk - in **elevator to the moon!** I learnt a whole new gamers' lexicon with 'escape room' in **escape legacy** and 'stealth-action' in **république vr**. 'Bullet-perspective'? Try **drift**. I even bought a gamepad and re-lived my teenage arcade joy with **defender** and **pac-man**.

To play real-time multiplayer transatlantic table tennis in **racket fury** and travel the world with my family in **wander** felt like pivotal moments - but I gave social network vr apps a miss. Each to their own.

To get to the 100+ recommended experiences in this guide, I must've rejected another 1,000. I began to mine the nether regions. A student project on a 1920s Finnish speakeasy? Yep, **salakapakka**. A cheesy Spanish TV escape room spinoff? That'll be **ministerio del tiempo**. And how about some **neurospeculative afrofeminism**?

It's hard to find the hidden gems - reviews on the official site are either outdated or seem to be written by tech nerds or drunken spiders. And there's no one-stop shop for quality VR film.

I decided to only highlight the good. Some omissions are personal choices. I'm not going to strap a brick to my face to watch netflix in 2D and I don't see the point of the black void of VR180. And no, I don't want to be a soldier.

VR hardware has moved on, but the Go will go down as a classic. It's given me an incredible introduction to the medium of the 21st century. And for the hundreds of people who I cajoled into putting on a headset for the first time, always with the words '**welcome to the future**'.