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JULY | AUGUST 2022

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Matahi Whakataka-Brightwell's  
Maori rock carving, Lake Taupo, New Zealand.



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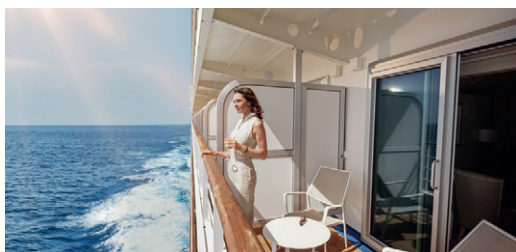
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\*All necessary COVID-19 protocols are in place to ensure that our guests can sail with confidence. Terms and conditions apply.



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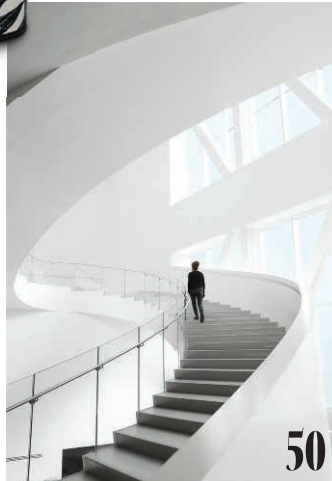
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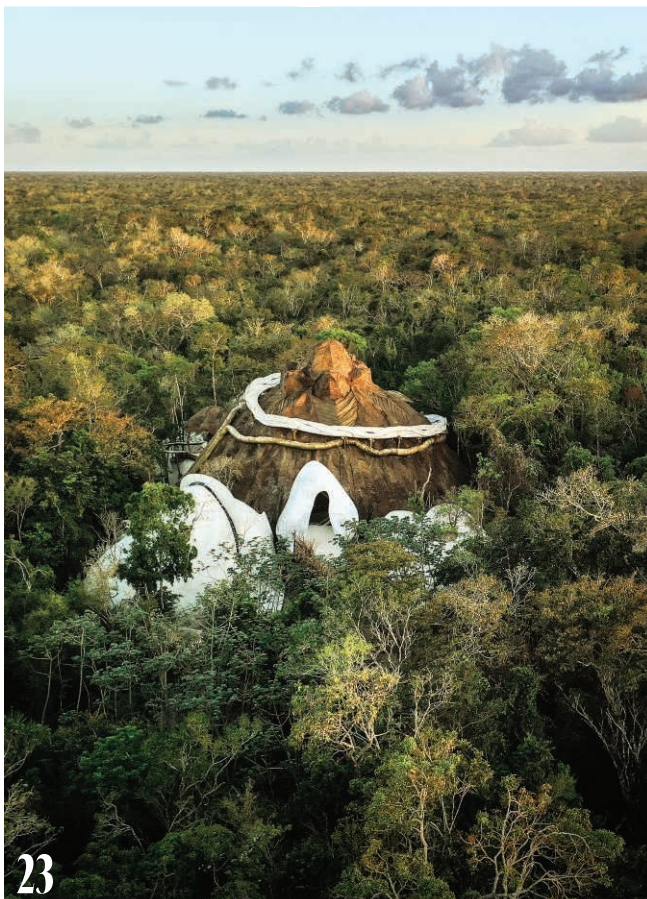
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# Summer Love

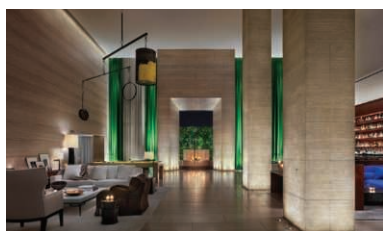
**O**BJECTIVELY SPEAKING, SUMMER IS THE BEST season. We wear less, go out more, linger on the patio for another glass of rosé, and take vacations. We go to the beach with our kids, to the mountains with our partners, to Saint-Tropez with the girls. We check our quotidian concerns, maybe *stop* checking our Twitter feeds, throw a cover-up over a new bikini, and head to the pool. After the past two years, who among us wouldn't want a few days dedicated to letting go?

This issue celebrates my favorite time of year with a guide to the soulful side of Spain's Balearic Islands, a destination that's provided a sunny escape for generations of Europeans (who knew party poster-child Ibiza is actually a great hiking destination?). Senior editor Amy Cassell has rounded up hotels around the world where the summer-camp vibes come with a side of sophistication. We have family beach breaks, an ode to the seafood smorgasbord that is Chesapeake Bay's dining scene, and a dreamy dive into the western Pacific country of Palau. And of course the magazine is packed with insight from Virtuoso travel advisors on when, where, and how to make the most of every trip. Here's to finding your spot in the sun.



A handwritten signature of Marika Cain in black ink.

MARIKA CAIN  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR



## Where I've Been

A quick but extremely fun trip to L.A. (maybe the world's endless-summer capital) was made even better by two nights at **The West Hollywood Edition**, where the signature Le Labo Edition scent drifts through the lobby, the rooftop-pool views stretch all the way to Catalina Island on a clear day, and the underground nightclub's 400 disco balls never stop spinning.





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“What’s your  
favorite childhood  
travel memory?”

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“A weeklong, self-supported canoe trip in the U.S.-Canadian Boundary Waters with my dad.”

“Witnessing the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.” – A.H.

“Watching a thunderstorm roll over the Grand Canyon at sunset.”

“A sunny beach day with my mom, jumping waves in the Atlantic Ocean.” – D.T.

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**Illustrator**  
**Cookie Moon**

**Tel Aviv**  
"Beach Bound,"  
page 56

**THE REPORT:** "The beach and sea are my favorite visuals to illustrate. I spend at least an hour in the water every day and visit the Aegean Sea in Greece once a year. For this assignment, I was fascinated to learn about other places in the world and illustrate them – water always makes me feel strong, inspired, and motivated."

**BEACH READ:** "Writers & Lovers by Lily King – an easy and fun read about finding your path."

@@thecookiemoon



**Writer and  
Photographer**  
**Jen Judge**  
**Santa Fe**

"Free Floating,"  
page 90

**THE REPORT:** "Swimming with Palau's jellyfish was one of the coolest experiences of my life, and the country has countless places it could open to tourists to encounter these invertebrates. But rather than risk ruining the resource, it's wisely holding most of them back. That approach is part of what keeps Palau so stunning. It offers a lot of hope for ways that tourism can bolster conservation – and vice versa."

**BEACH READ:** "Ordinary Wolves by Seth Kantner. As a photographer I'm often moved visually – I sometimes overlook sounds, smells, and touch. Kantner's descriptive writing is a good reminder for me to use all my senses while traveling."

@@jenjudgephoto



**Photographer**  
**Dana Dorobantu**  
**Montréal**

"New France Now,"  
page 50

**THE REPORT:** "Québec winters are quite long. While I was shooting this story, you could still see snow in some shadowy corners, even on an 86-degree mid-May day. I adored meeting some of the city's chefs and brewers. They bring Québec's vibrant culture to life and make it a great food destination. It was difficult to resist the on-shoot tastings."

**BEACH READ:** "I love My Brilliant Friend, Elena Ferrante's moving story about friendship, set against the harshness of life in 1950s Naples."

@@danadorobantu\_



**Writer**  
**Jeff Koehler**  
**Barcelona and  
Menorca**

"Postcards from the Med," page 66

**THE REPORT:** "I'm continually surprised by how rural the Balearic Islands remain. On this trip to Ibiza, I found a lush, unspoiled valley still being watered by a tenth-century irrigation system."

**BEACH READ:** "Recently, I've been reading lots of biographies on the beach in Menorca, where I spend my summers. This year I'll kick off with Anna: The Biography by Amy Odell, about Anna Wintour."

@@jeff\_koehler



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# Love Letter to Israel

From the cities to the desert, a destination that delivers.



From left: A view of the Sea Mosque in Jaffa's Old City, and Holtz (left) and companions during a Six Senses Shaharut experience.

**M**ICHAEL HOLTZ, AN NYC-BASED Virtuoso agency founder and CEO, has visited Israel 14 times. He returned from his first post-pandemic trip to the country with insight about new hotels and even more enthusiasm for the destination.

**WHY GO NOW** There's never been a better time to visit Israel. With restrictions loosened,

entry is simple, although precautions are certainly still in place – keep in mind that Israel was the first country in the world to fully vaccinate a majority of its citizens against Covid-19. Pandemic gains aside, Israel has always been a hub of history and culture. That, combined with incredible cuisine, makes it a destination that anyone should have on their list.

**CITY STAYS** At **The David Kempinski** in Tel Aviv, The David Penthouse Suite is one of the best in the entire country, spanning three floors with its own private pool, dry sauna, private gym, and two bedrooms. In Jerusalem, **David Citadel Hotel** and **Mamilla Hotel** – part of The Set Collection – take fantastic care of guests.

(JAFFA) GDFILIP/GETTY IMAGES,  
(SIX SENSES) MICHAEL HOLTZ



“Whether it’s your first time or your tenth, take a food tour. A handful of fantastic companies specialize in these, which often begin at the Carmel Market.”

**FULL PLATE** Tel Aviv is all about the food scene. We dined at **Pop & Pope** and **HaSalon**. If you’re familiar with the lively atmosphere at HaSalon’s New York and Miami outposts, you can expect a similarly jubilant vibe in Israel. Other favorites in the city include **Cantina**, **Montefiore**, **Pastel**, and **Turkiz**.

Whether it’s your first time or your tenth, take a food tour. A handful of fantastic companies specialize in these, which often begin at the Carmel Market, weaving through its spice stacks and fresh produce stalls. After sampling your way through, you’ll gather the day’s best on offer before returning to a local’s home kitchen by foot. Your guide will walk you through a menu based on Israeli cuisine’s diverse ethnic influences.

**DESERT BREAK** The Negev was a true highlight and the perfect addition to any Israeli itinerary. **Six Senses Shaharut** has raised the bar for resorts in the country, with thoughtfully designed accommodations, many of which have a private pool. Don’t miss the amphitheater created from the terrain’s natural contours.

The activities – including an e-mountain-bike tour through the rock formations on the Israel National Trail – and knowledgeable guides allow guests to really connect to this powerful place. One of my favorite moments was watching the sun setting over the desert after a full day of activities – a display of light and color that’s truly out of this world.

**TIME IT RIGHT** Work with your travel advisor to arrange on-the-ground logistics in the Negev (one option: a camel trek along the path of an original caravan journey on the Incense Route). Based on driving distances (it’s three and a half hours from the Ben Gurion Airport), I’d recommend doing this portion either at the front or back end of your itinerary. And plan to stay for at least three nights. **VI**

From top: The David Kempinski’s Penthouse and a selection of spices at the Carmel Market in Tel Aviv.





# Travel at Every Age

Virtuoso's Symposium event in Portugal highlights how generations explore.

BY JOHN O'CEALLAIGH



Golden hour in Porto, a stop on this year's Symposium sailing, and (above) Virtuoso chairman and CEO Matthew D. Upchurch at the event's opening session in Lisbon.

**T**ELL US WHEN YOU WERE BORN AND WE'LL TELL you about your travel style: Generational travel habits – boomer, Gen X, and millennial – were front and center at Virtuoso's recent Symposium event in Portugal. The annual meeting of top Virtuoso travel-agency executives and the world's most prestigious hospitality brands (more than 300 from 35 countries this year) to discuss trends and share intel on developments in travel took place aboard Silversea's new *Silver Dawn*,

where the conversation flowed as generously as the Champagne at the Dolce Vita bar. As Jean-Luc Naret, executive director of The Set Collection, said: "It was a brilliant idea to gather everyone on a luxury ship with no way to escape! It was the perfect way to get to know people."

The event kicked off at the Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon, which recently emerged from a renovation that reinstated focus on its striking original features, such as a looping grand staircase and the colossal citrus-colored



tapestries that have for decades decorated its sunburst lobby. They were the backdrop for an opening-session discussion of how different generations travel, gleaned from a two-plus-year study: Boomers, the original backpackers, continue to love exploring and have the time and money to do it, gravitating to private, small-group, often multi-generational trips. Generation X travelers prioritize work-life balance and tend to travel less than other generations in the study – but when they do hop a plane, they’re bound to spend more. Gen Xers let their kids drive travel decisions and value “smart luxury” and authenticity. Millennials view travel as a crucial part of their lives, leaning away from the word “luxury” and into immersive, enriching experiences that align with their values.

At the nexus of these generations: Virtuoso travel advisors, whose own makeup spans the three groups, an ideal scenario for fostering collaboration and catering to travelers of all ages. “We don’t just sell experiences,” said Virtuoso chairman and CEO Matthew D. Upchurch. “We offer the experience of dealing with us, where travelers benefit from relationships of trust.”

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, *Silver Dawn* made leisurely progress north to Porto, with its centuries-old, tile-embellished housing blocks and shopfronts. On board, attendees held forth on travel trends. London-based Virtuoso agency founder Rebecca Masri noted that her clients have become notably more health conscious: “And not just because of the pandemic. Now my clients don’t simply look for hotels with nice spas and pools; they want to participate in targeted wellness programs for specific purposes – they’re more likely to travel solo for health breaks too.”

Fittingly, *Silver Dawn*’s Otium spa plays to this desire. A new concept for Silversea, its offerings take direction from an ancient Roman-inspired fusion of wellness and pleasure: Expect to find Champagne on ice in the relaxation room, alongside a decadent snack menu that includes pillowy lobster brioche.

The spa’s innovative direction didn’t surprise Michael Voigt, general manager of London’s Goring hotel. His guests increasingly assume every stay will incorporate

some exciting new experience. “A good bed and a nice breakfast just don’t cut it,” he said. “People want to be entertained.” At The Goring, for instance, that insight recently took the form of a special afternoon tea in the hotel’s Veranda and adjacent Garden – “co-hosted” by a visiting Shetland pony named Teddy.

Culinary entertainment reigned at S.A.L.T. Kitchen, one of *Silver Dawn*’s eight

dining options, where changing menus and complementary wines provided culinary immersions into Portuguese traditions. On the event’s last night, as the ship began its voyage back to Lisbon, attendees savored local flavors one final time before leaving the country. Almost everyone on board had reported business was booming, and friends were looking forward to catching up again at next year’s Symposium in Montréal. VI



**Clockwise from top:  
The Four Seasons  
Hotel Ritz Lisbon,  
*Silver Dawn*’s Otium  
spa, S.A.L.T. Kitchen,  
and the ship at sea.**



SPOTLIGHT ON: **CELEBRITY CRUISES**

# SEASIDE RETREAT

Set sail with a private sundeck, Daniel Boulud cuisine, and the fleet's largest suites on the new *Celebrity Beyond*.

**T**HE RETREAT – CELEBRITY CRUISES' SHIP-WITHIN-A-SHIP RESORT exclusively for suite guests – creates an intimate space on the new *Celebrity Beyond*. The 3,260-passenger ship sails the Italian and French Riviera from Rome this summer before venturing to Aruba, Curaçao, the Cayman Islands, and the Caribbean in the fall.

## The Suite Life

Pop the complimentary bottle of bubbly to celebrate cruising in style on arrival. Clean lines, warm tones, and potted plants lend a residential feel to The Retreat's suites and spaces. Accommodations range from Sky Suites with king beds to split-level Edge Villas (with a private terrace and hot tub) and the two-bedroom Penthouse Suites. *Beyond's* top spots: the two 2,500-square-foot **Iconic Suites** – the largest in the fleet – with two bedrooms, two bathrooms, an expansive terrace, and front-facing views from their perch above the bridge. Peloton devotees can request a bike delivered to the Iconic Suites to challenge the leaderboard while at sea.

## Pool Cool

Boldly striped lounge chairs and peaceful cabanas surround a plunge pool and two hot tubs on The Retreat's **exclusive sundeck** – designed with privacy in mind for reading or daydreaming in the sun. Duck into the **24/7 lounge** for complimentary cocktails and bites and floor-to-ceiling views from plush loveseats. Feel free to book a Retreat suite for the whole family: Kids, cousins, and couples are all welcome.

## Sweet and Spicy

Among the ship's eight specialty restaurants, **Luminae** is reserved exclusively for Retreat guests to enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner. "It's a journey around the Mediterranean," says chef Daniel Boulud, whose Manhattan restaurant Boulud Sud inspired dishes such as prawn fettuccini with green peas; roasted, caramelized rib eye over glazed seasonal vegetables in Bordelaise sauce; and savory saffron-spiced Moroccan chicken tagine. *Beyond* is big on Boulud: It also introduced the chef's first signature restaurant at sea, **Le Voyage**, with highlights such as flaky, five-spice duck *pithivier* (a puff pastry pie) and slow-baked *loup de mer* (branzino) with za'atar, available to all guests.



From left: An Edge Villa suite, The Retreat's exclusive sundeck, and a peek inside Luminae.



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2021

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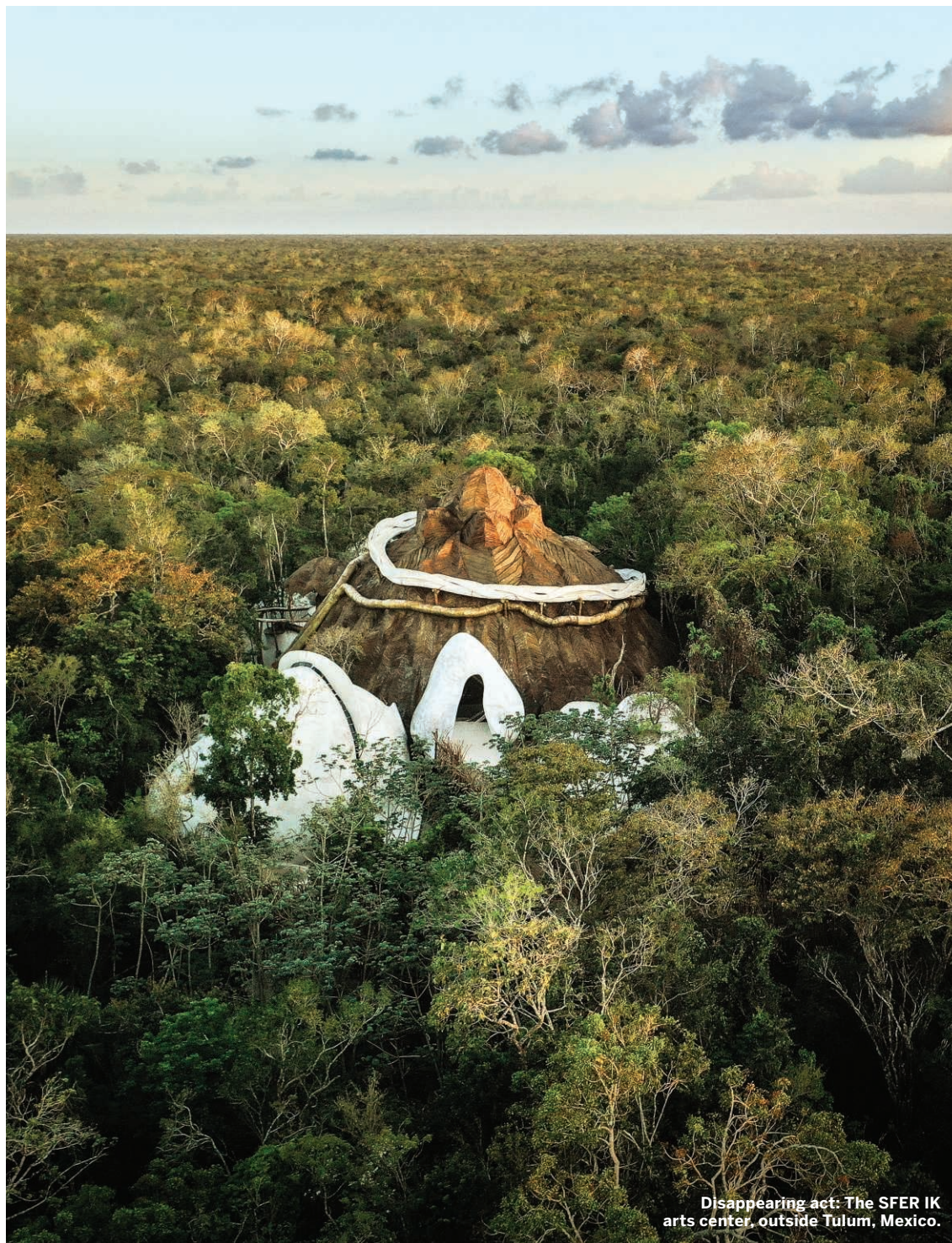
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# Passport

PLACES  
TRENDS  
CULTURE  
STYLE



Disappearing act: The SFER IK arts center, outside Tulum, Mexico.

## Garden Party

Summer kicks off a series of nature-inspired events and exhibits around the world.

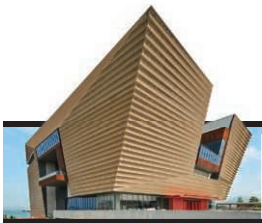
Thirty miles from Tulum, Japanese botanical sculptor Azuma Makoto celebrates the biodiversity of Mexico in **Mexx** – a living sculpture of woody vines, bromeliads, spiky cactus, and lush palms. Through September 7, the planting will grow in the natural art museum SFER IK – itself an eco-spectacle intertwined with the surrounding Mayan jungle. →

**PASSPORT IS REPORTED BY:**  
Joel Centano, Elaine Glusac,  
Janice Wald Henderson,  
and Bethanne Patrick.



North America's largest garden event, the annual **International Garden Festival** in Québec's Grand-Métis region features some 20 plots created by architects, landscape specialists, and designers addressing the climate-imperative theme of adaptation through October 2.

In France's castle-filled Loire Valley, the **Chaumont-sur-Loire International Garden Festival** celebrates its 30th anniversary with a focus on climate change, urbanization, food security, efficiency, and well-being in 25 gardens at the fifteenth-century Domaine Chaumont-sur-Loire through November 6.



**MADE IN CHINA:** The West Kowloon Cultural District's latest attraction, **Hong Kong Palace Museum**, opens this summer, housing more than 900 imperial treasures on loan from the Forbidden City in Beijing.



Sunrise in Australia's newest national park and (above) Chaumont-sur-Loire's 2021 festival.

## DESERT BEAUTY

South Australia now lays claim to Australia's largest national park, the new 8.9-million-acre **Munga-Thirri-Simpson Desert National Park** (more than 4 million acres bigger than Kakadu). Home to vast sand dunes and seasonal lakes, the park attracts more than 150 species of birds – along with dingoes and marsupials such as dunnarts and mulgaras (a smaller relative of Tasmanian devils).





DISCOVER MEXICO'S COASTAL RAINFOREST

A hidden retreat in Riviera Nayarit, with palm-fringed sands and swimmable shores.

*To make a reservation, please contact your Virtuoso travel advisor.*

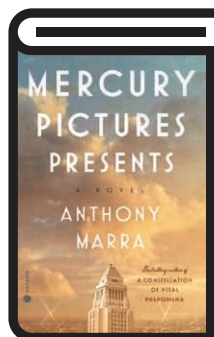
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MANDARINA

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# Carry-On Companions



## ● MERCURY PICTURES PRESENTS

BY ANTHONY MARRA (*Hogarth*)

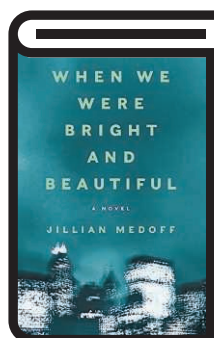
L.A.'s movie industry is a world unto itself. Marra, who thrilled readers with his 2013 *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena*, about war in Chechnya, now takes them on a journey that shows how 1940s wartime L.A. encompassed worlds within worlds. From protagonist Maria Lagana's fight to keep her titular studio open to a model-maker's race to remember her home city of Berlin as it was and a Sicilian émigré's past of crime and vengeance, the novel is a beautifully constructed and engrossing take on America as a tapestry of immigrants.



## ● STORIES FROM THE TENANTS DOWNSTAIRS

BY SIDIK FOFANA (*Scribner*)

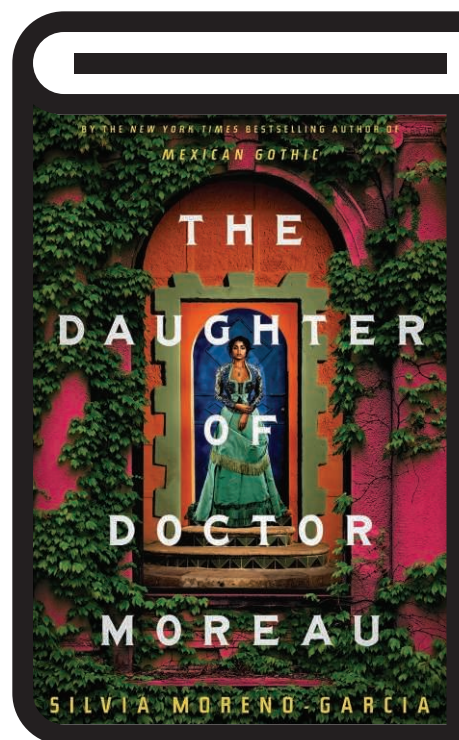
The residents of Harlem high-rise Banneker Homes sometimes interact and sometimes suffer alone – but each person who plays the lead in one of the eight tales included in Fofana's first short-story collection is leavened with quiet wit and a sense of possibility. Even those the world pays least attention to have stories to tell, like a once-promising athlete who finds she can't leave life at Banneker behind, or an elderly man who lives for sidewalk chess matches. The distinct individual voices form a kind of chorus that heralds both neighborhood change and neighborhood stasis. There's no easy happiness for Banneker residents, but there is a reckoning.



## ● WHEN WE WERE BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

BY JILLIAN MEDOFF (*Harper*)

Siblings Cassie and Billy Quinn grew up privileged on Manhattan's Upper East Side, but as a junior at Princeton, Billy is accused of rape, and their family is thrown into a whirlwind of legal and media chaos. Cassie believes her brother is innocent, but to prove it she might have to confess to her own wrongdoing. Medoff specializes in taking the dark view of institutions and social class; her latest proves her expertise and also delivers a pitiless perspective on whom we choose to protect and why.



## ● THE DAUGHTER OF DOCTOR MOREAU

BY SILVIA MORENO-GARCIA (*Del Rey*)

Moreno-Garcia has recently taken on the genres of gothic horror, noir, and suspense, so it makes sense that her new novel moves on to classic science fiction, in a retelling and expansion of H. G. Wells' *The Island of Dr. Moreau*. Here, Carlota Moreau must determine whether her father is a genius or a madman – and whether his part-human, part-animal “hybrids” will revolt when the son of his patron arrives.





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**Book the latest offers from Viking by contacting your Virtuoso Travel Advisor.**







## DUST UP

Pass on the greasy lotions: **Larkly's reef-safe SPF 30 powder sunscreen** brushes on for a smooth finish. Antioxidant ingredients green tea, licorice extract, and resveratrol add secondary protection against damaging rays. \$32 (refills, \$17), [larkly.com](http://larkly.com).



## Cat's Meow

Channeling breezy 1950s Monaco, **Desmond & Dempsey's** retro-glam printed pajamas feature fashion's favorite wildcats on their own or mingled with tropical foliage. Mix-and-match cotton separates – shirts, trousers, shorts, camis, robes, and sleep masks – pack more style per portable ounce than most intimates. \$25 to \$385, [desmondanddempsey.com](http://desmondanddempsey.com).



## FOOD & SPIRITS

**CHOO-CHEW:** French celebrity chef Jean Imbert, who helms his eponymous restaurant at Paris' Plaza Athénée, was recently tapped to oversee the culinary program for the 156-passenger **Venice Simplon-Orient-Express**, designing seasonal menus served in the 1920s-vintage train cars, canapés in the 3674 bar car, and buyout fetes aboard the 17-carriage train.



## SPOTLIGHT ON: SINGAPORE

# SMALL BUT MIGHTY

Step outside Singapore's airport and into open-air food markets, waterfront gardens, and a thriving bar scene.



## Islands Galore

Travelers often picture Singapore as a small, 31-mile-wide island, but the city-state actually stretches across a **64-island archipelago**. Yacht around the Southern Islands to laze on Lazarus Island's pristine beaches or pray for prosperity at the tiny shrine on Kusu Island. Feeling adventurous? Head northeast to spot geckos and cuckoos while cycling across Coney Island (yep, there's one in Singapore, too) or spend the day kayaking through Pulau Ubin's mangrove forests.

## Gorgeous Greenery

Take a walk on the wild side in Singapore's many nature parks and attractions near the downtown core. Instagram-ready **Gardens by the Bay** houses flowers and rain-forest foliage within the world's largest glass greenhouses, and futuristic, baobab-like "Supertrees" stretch more than 160 feet into the sky. WWII relics dot the shoreline at Labrador Nature Reserve on the city's western shore. Even Sentosa – a resort island known for theme parks and luxury hotels – has numerous nature trails.



## Global Tastemaker

Eat like the locals at **hawker centers** such as the Chinatown Complex, Newton Food Centre, or Lau Pa Sat. Sample a Singaporean twist on fine dining at Labyrinth, Candlenut, and other **Michelin-starred restaurants**, and satisfy late-night cravings with delicate cakes and vegan treats at 2am:dessertbar. Singapore's cuisine also incorporates a history of cultural influences, from Indian curries to British sandwiches. The Roti John (mutton, onion, and egg on fried French bread) pairs a Hindi and Malay term for bread with a common English name – try one at Springleaf Prata Place.

## All the Buzz

Live it up at some of **Asia's top bars**, including Jigger & Pony and Atlas. Beer lovers will find Asian brews at the 1925 Brewing Co. taproom and Little Island Brewing Co. Customize a bespoke gin recipe to your tastes at the **Brass Lion Distillery**, or kick back with pints and views over Marina Bay at the world's highest urban microbrewery, LeVel 33, before raising a glass and toasting this vibrant and diverse destination on the Malay Peninsula.



From top: Gardens by the Bay, Candlenut's lofty interior, and cocktail bar Atlas.



*That moment*  
when it all falls into place.



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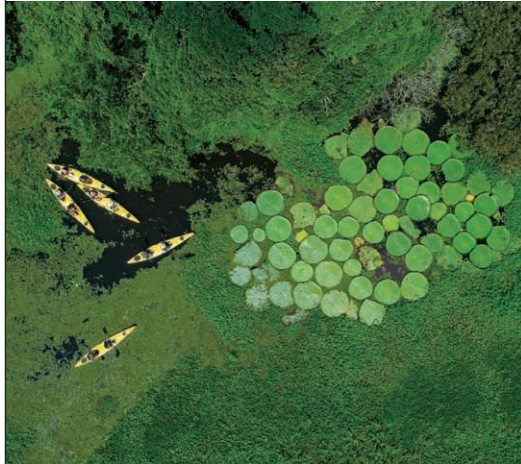
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## SPOTLIGHT ON: SEABOURN

# SUBMARINES, SCIENTISTS, AND SUITES

Explore the Amazon, Antarctica, and underwater wildlife on the new *Seabourn Venture*.



**S** EABOURN'S FIRST PURPOSE-BUILT EXPEDITION SHIP – designed to reach smaller, more remote ports inaccessible to larger ships – the 264-passenger *Seabourn Venture* hits the seas in July (sister ship *Seabourn Pursuit* will launch in 2023). Polar-class designs make for smooth sailing from the Arctic and northern Europe to South America and Antarctica, while suites with walk-in closets and plush robes wrap cruisers in luxe comfort throughout the journey.

## Under the Sea

Picture comfortably exploring the ocean depths – more than 900 feet below! – with an expert guide at hand. *Seabourn Venture*'s two custom, **six-passenger subs** let guests focus on marine life while a pilot handles navigation. Clear acrylic spheres maximize views of sunken shipwrecks, vivid reefs, and towering ice cliffs beneath the ocean's surface.

## Go in the Know

A 26-person expedition team of scientists, historians, photographers, academics, and naturalists bring destinations to life. **Visits to Inca ruins**, zipping around icebergs by Zodiac, touring Amazonian markets, or spotting a wandering albatross (with its ten-foot wingspan) are just a glimpse of what's in store.

## Into the Amazon

This fall, the ship heads to South America for expeditions from Rio de Janeiro that range from ten days to **three weeks** along Brazil's coast and on the mighty Amazon River. A few highlights: visiting the Teatro Amazonas opera house in the port of Manaus, learning about the riverside life and customs of *caboclo* communities (Brazilians of mixed Indigenous and European ancestry), and kayaking jungle tributaries amid sloths and howler monkeys. Animal lovers can get up close with local wildlife, bottle-feeding baby manatees at a rescue center in Iquitos, Peru – a onetime rubber-producing capital and the largest city on earth (population 1 million) that remains unreachable by road.

## The Seventh Continent

Crackling icebergs and glacier-topped mountain ranges, breaching whales and teeming penguin colonies await in **Antarctica**. Bundle up and grab your camera to capture the expansive landscapes (and adorable penguins) on daily Zodiac landings. Digital-photo workshops and expert guidance from the expedition team – many of whom have made the region their life's work – help guests get the best shots. *Seabourn Venture* will be cruising near the South Pole in late 2022 and early 2023.

From left: Kayaking on the Amazon, a Panorama Veranda suite, and one of *Seabourn Venture*'s custom submarines.



## Tiny and Terrific

New small-group expeditions bring excitement to the Galápagos.



Isabela Island's Tagus Cove and, in the foreground, Darwin Lake.



● In August, **Lindblad Expeditions** debuts the 48-passenger *National Geographic Islander II* for Galápagos voyages year-round. Passengers on the six-night itineraries will discover teak decks encircling the ship, Ecuadorian artwork and textiles, indoor and outdoor dining, and a marina launch for kayaking, snorkeling among sea lions, and stand-up paddleboarding. The all-suite vessel includes accommodations for solo travelers, and its larger suites have king beds and double-sink bathrooms. *Inaugural departure: August 18; from \$9,390.*



● **Aqua Expeditions** announces its arrival in the archipelago with a seven-suite, 16-passenger superyacht that would be just as at home moored in Saint-Tropez or Hvar. Expect luxe spaces paneled in teak and walnut, plush wraparound couches, a water-level beach club and swimming platform, and large windows for ocean and island views. When they're not snorkeling with hammerhead sharks, guests on the *Aqua Mare's* seven-night voyages can dine on *galapagueño* lobster lettuce wraps, tuna crudo, and sustainable-seafood dishes at the aft deck's 16-seat semicircular table. *Departures: Year-round through 2023; from \$9,450.*

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**INDIAN OCEAN ODYSSEY Abercrombie & Kent** expands its expedition cruising to all seven continents with four new itineraries in 2023. Of note: a 14-day voyage from Zanzibar to the Seychelles aboard Ponant's 148-passenger *Le Jacques-Cartier*. Excursions off Tanzania's coast include exploring thirteenth-century ruins at UNESCO World Heritage site Kilwa Kisiwani. *Departure: March 11, 2023; from \$14,995.*

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# DELANO

## LAS VEGAS

Catering to the discerning traveler, Delano Las Vegas is an understated, all-suite retreat just steps away from the action and amenities of Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. With its boutique offerings, Delano brings the effortless style and unparalleled service of the original Delano South Beach to the vibrant energy of the Las Vegas Strip. Delano ushers in a fresh sense of discovery and sophistication that delivers all the comforts you expect in a world-class hotel.



## VIKING EXPEDITIONS SETS SAIL

The 378-passenger *Octantis* embodies quiet comfort and eco-cred.



From top:  
A suite's living  
room, *Octantis*  
at sea, and the  
ship's spa.



Viking ventures into the expedition waters with two new polar-class sister ships this year, *Viking Octantis* and *Viking Polar*. Assistant editor **Auburn Scallon** joined a pre-christening voyage of the former en route to its summer season in the Great Lakes to report on its comforts and industry innovations.

### SWEET DREAMS

King beds, heated bathroom floors, and drying closets for expedition gear come standard on the **adults-only ship**. Splurge on the Owner's Suite for a private terrace garden, hot tub, and in-suite dining room.

### COOL FACTOR

An industry-first, indoor hangar shields passengers and makes for easy, waveless boarding of special operations boats for excursions (the ship also sails with two six-person **yellow submarines** – appropriately named John and Paul). If the weather turns while you're wildlife-watching on the bow, duck into the adjoining indoor-outdoor Shelter for hot chocolate or mulled wine.

### AT EASE

"Silence is a luxury," says Viking chairman Torstein Hagen, who has made a policy of minimizing intercom announcements across the fleet (staff will helpfully pipe up for don't-miss wildlife sightings). For Nordic-style wellness, hit Deck 2's heated indoor pool, hot tub, saunas, cold shower, and **Snow Grotto**. Three additional pools connect the Aquavit Terrace to outdoor lounging on Deck 5.

### NATURE FIRST

Bird-safe lighting and quiet-engine technology prioritize creatures' safety. Push a button to lower Nordic balcony windows in every binocular-equipped stateroom. **Onboard scientists** engage passengers in their research projects, such as spotting microplastics in collected ocean water, through lectures and an interactive lab.

### SEAFOOD AT SUNSET

Sushi, crab legs, and surf and turf stand out among the World Café's plentiful options. Specialty dining venues Manfredi's (Italian) and The Restaurant (Continental classics) have an "elegant casual" dress code that brings a bit of style to the expedition scene. At night, snuggle into heated seats around **lava rock firepits** for stargazing at Finse Terrace.

### NIGHTCAP NOOK

After dinner, head to the bow on Deck 1 to sip whiskey, Baileys, and brandy in leather armchairs at **The Hide speakeasy**. Work by Norwegian artist Hanne Lydia Opøien Figenschou lines the walls opposite glass-encased gear from *Octantis* godmother Liv Arnesen – the first woman to ski solo and unsupported to the South Pole.





# Family fun in the Hawaii Sun

Celebrate the Aloha Spirit with Marriott on the magical islands of Oahu & Maui



## OAHU

### THE ROYAL HAWAIIAN, A LUXURY COLLECTION RESORT

The Pink Palace of the Pacific, delight in refined luxury, adults only and family pools, exclusive beach experiences and cultural programs.

#### **Virtuoso Amenities<sup>1</sup>:**

Complimentary room upgrade, daily breakfast for two, welcome amenity and early/late check-in/out.



## MAUI

### THE RITZ-CARLTON MAUI, KAPALUA

Surrounded by hiking trails and natural sanctuaries on the north shore, discover island sophistication, adults and kids pools, championship golf, cultural experiences and Ritz Kids programs.

#### **Virtuoso Amenity<sup>1</sup>:**

Complimentary room upgrade and welcome amenity.



## MAUI

### WAILEA BEACH RESORT – MARRIOTT, MAUI

Located near shopping and 3 championship golf courses, families will enjoy modern resort living, 3 pools, waterslides, Keiki Kids Club, and beach and ocean activities.

#### **Virtuoso Amenity<sup>1</sup>:**

Welcome amenity.

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# NORWEGIAN PRIMA CLASS

*Norwegian Prima inaugural season starts  
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Experiences beyond expectations and wide-open spaces with sweeping ocean views give this new generation of ships a truly distinct and luxurious feel. Norwegian Prima and Viva are the first two in a new class of ships designed to elevate every experience, including an unwavering dedication to food and beverage. Take in the stunning 270-degree views and mouthwatering menu of our complimentary restaurant, Hudson's, and begin or end your evening with a sustainable cocktail at the new Metropolitan bar. No matter what you choose, we are sure our new Prima Class ships will become a destination on their own.

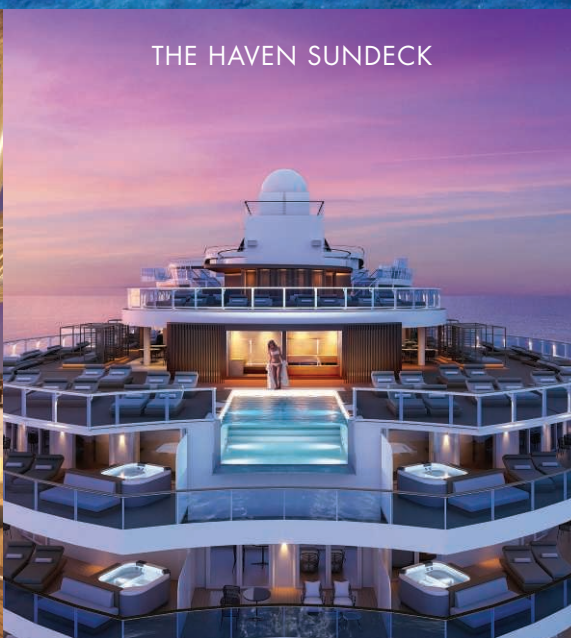
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VIBE BEACH CLUB



THE HAVEN SUNDECK



THE HAVEN  
DELUXE OWNER'S SUITE





*Norwegian Viva joins us in  
2023 sailing The Mediterranean  
and the Caribbean*



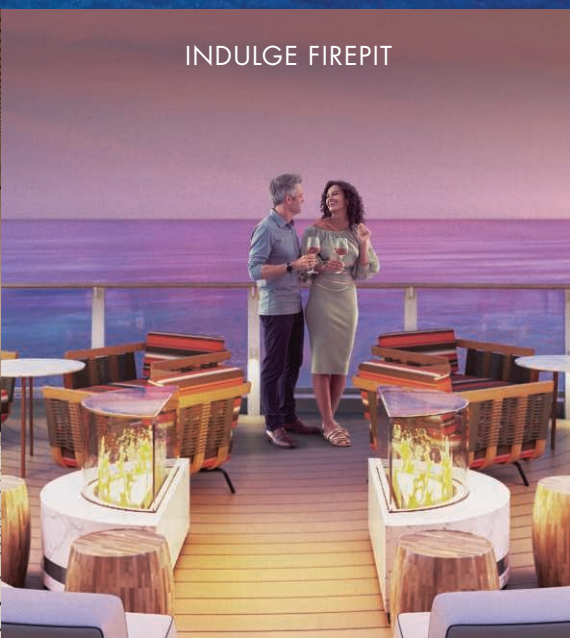
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INDULGE FIREPIT



THE HAVEN OUTDOOR LOUNGE



HUDSON'S







Clockwise from left: Queenstown's Matakauri Lodge and its cured kingfish with coastal greens, and heli-fishing on the South Island.

## CASTING CALL

During New Zealand's two-year pandemic pause, fish spawned unpressured in Kiwi streams. With the country's reopening, the 23-suite **Farm at Cape Kidnappers** in Hawke's Bay on the North Island and its Robertson Lodges' sibling, the South Island's 16-room **Matakauri Lodge** in Queenstown, have introduced heli-fishing. Anglers are whisked over mountains to remote riverbanks to cast for abundant brown and rainbow trout. *Doubles from \$510 per person at The Farm at Cape Kidnappers and from \$755 per person at Matakauri, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit. Heli-fishing from \$2,500.*



Pool time at Palazzo Fiuggi and (below) summer in the San Juans.



## ITALIAN TUNE-UP

California's Ranch Malibu has introduced new eight-day, 25-person programs in hot-springs-famed Fiuggi, 50 minutes from Rome. Powered by vegan meals, days at **The Ranch Italy at Palazzo Fiuggi Medical Retreat** begin with four-hour hikes in the Apennines, followed by strength classes, yoga, and massages. Diagnostic and blood tests with resident doctors at the fresco-filled art nouveau wellness resort are optional. But it's a dolce vita mandate to visit the ancient Roman spa in the old quarter, where centuries of popes, royals, and Renaissance masters, including Michelangelo, bathed in the healing waters. *Retreats from \$9,100 per person, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*



## Rocky Mountain Reset

Telluride's 83-room **Madeline Hotel & Residences** recently launched a series of six-day health retreats with daily half-day treks in the San Juan Mountains, five in-room massages, oxygen boosts in the meditation room, and plant-based meals. Beyond the wellness program, which runs through October, guests can choose to focus on hard-core fitness, relaxation, or adventure with guided rock climbing, paragliding, fly-fishing, and via ferrata trekking. *Retreats from \$10,000 per person, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*





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## Story Time in Canada

Listening to traditional stories and weaving cedar at an Indigenous-owned wilderness resort in British Columbia. Gazing at galaxies on a torchlit canoe ride in remote Québec. Meeting a gold miner in the Yukon, a cattle and white-bison rancher in Alberta, and cod fishers in Newfoundland. These quintessentially Canadian experiences are part of Virtuoso on-site tour connection **Entrée Canada**'s new Stories of Canada collection, 20 journeys that will eventually span all 13 of the country's provinces and territories. Six-day tours connect visitors with Canada's people and land in some off-the-tourist-radar destinations while also providing access to its First Nations communities, so

that guides, elders, and knowledge keepers can share their history and heritage.

In Alberta's boreal forests, for instance, a Cree guide leads a plant-medicine journey, and in the Northwest Territories, a Dene elder hosts a traditional land- and fire-feeding ceremony. "Along with economic boosts to Indigenous communities, core benefits for these guides and hosts revolve around the sharing of their stories," says Marc Telio, Entrée Canada's founder and president. "Indigenous culture is typically shared through storytelling by knowledge keepers and elders, and when it happens, it's both captivating and connective." *From \$3,370.*

**Canadian cool: A Newfoundland vista.**





## LIVING BLACK HISTORY

Long isolated on barrier islands and in coastal communities of the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida, the Gullah Geechee people – descendants of enslaved West and Central Africans – developed a distinct culture that still thrives in their music, arts, foodways, and African creole language. A new six-day **Intrepid Travel** tour homes in on Gullah Geechee traditions while traveling from Charleston to Beaufort, South Carolina, before concluding in Savannah. Visitors learn from locals – and help support local economies – while weaving sweetgrass baskets, digging in at a seafood boil, joining an interactive music and dance performance, and exploring Savannah’s Gullah Geechee-focused Pin Point Heritage Museum. Black history also comes alive at Charleston’s new International African American Museum and Beaufort’s Penn Center (the site of one of the first schools in the U.S. for the formerly enslaved), and on a guided tour of Savannah that examines the city’s history of slavery. *Departures: Multiple dates, October 4, 2022, through March 21, 2023; from \$3,295.*



Sweetgrass  
basket weaving.



Sicilian seaside: Villa  
Sant'Andrea.

## Sailor's Delight

In Sicily's seaside village of Aci Trezza, the Rodolico family has crafted traditional wooden fishing boats since 1908. Guests of Taormina Mare's 71-room **Villa Sant'Andrea, a Belmond Hotel** can sail to the village to meet Giovanni Rodolico – the family's fourth-generation boatbuilder and the last of his kind in the region – to learn how he's helping preserve Sicily's maritime heritage. Also worth its salt water: the eight-hour sailing excursion's visit to Catania's fish market and lunch with Rosalba Cutore, former neighbor to the Trewhella family, who built Villa Sant'Andrea in 1919.

*Doubles from \$610, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit. Excursion, \$1,300 for two.*





**2.**

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Nautic Course swimsuit, \$515,  
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**3.**

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**1.**

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**4.**

**LINUS x BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL**

Banana-leaf bicycle, \$1,200,  
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## The Beverly Hills Hotel Pool

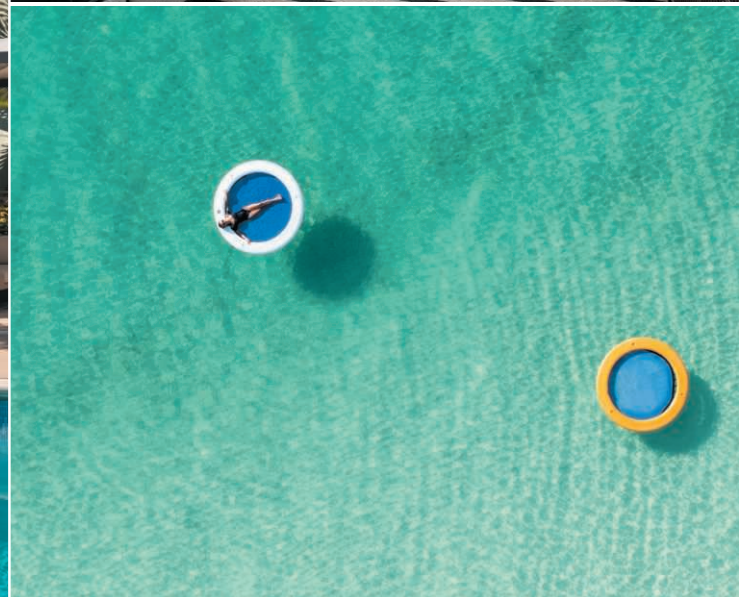
In the pink (and green) at a legendary spot.

Yes, a glass of rosé costs \$18, but the view and the vibes are worth every penny. Lounging poolside on a green-and-white-striped chaise at the 210-room **Beverly Hills Hotel**, which turns 110 this year, is a chance to drink in not only spendy cocktails but also a steady stream of grade-A (and yes, sometimes A-list) people-watching. Pool attendants make the rounds in pink polos and white shorts; vaguely famous-looking sunbathers loll in the cabanas – newly updated with BHH signature banana-leaf wallpaper rendered in pink. For an hour or four, you can flip from front to back, gaze up at the palm trees against the hazy blue Southern California sky, and surrender to an endless summer daydream. *Doubles from \$1,695, including a \$75 daily breakfast credit and a \$100 dining or spa credit.*



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GRAND CAYMAN



# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

PARIS, FRANCE

## Shangri-La Paris



Experience ultimate Parisian elegance with fantastic views in the former palace of Prince Roland Bonaparte.

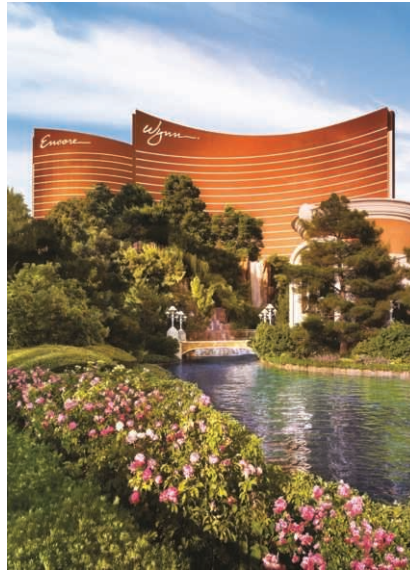
Try legendary Shangri-La treatments at CHI, The Spa. Toast history in Le Bar Botaniste and Les Lounges. Dine at La Bauhinia or sample fare from Shang Palace, France's only Michelin-starred Chinese restaurant. Stay two or more nights through September 30, 2022, and receive complimentary round-trip transfers.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 hotel credit per stay.



LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

## Wynn Las Vegas and Encore



Enjoy thrilling nightlife and live entertainment, including the surreal, multimedia Lake of Dreams water attraction.

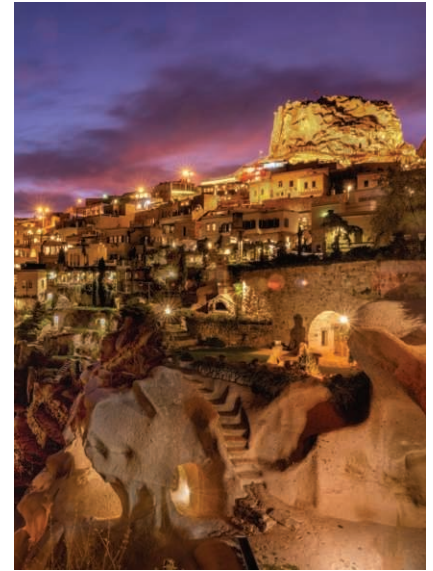
Retreat to your luxurious room or suite and its serene, stylish decor. Sip craft cocktails, indulge your palate at multiple award-winning restaurants, and participate in a chef-led Master Class. Relax with a spa treatment, shop at designer boutiques, and tee off at the on-site 18-hole championship golf course.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 spa services credit per stay.



CAPPADOCIA, TURKEY

## Argos in Cappadocia



Escape to one of the world's largest monastic settlements at this eco-friendly, pet-friendly, family-friendly hotel.

Swim in the outdoor pool overlooking mountain vistas. Sample a treasure trove of flavors paired with fine wines from the award-winning wine cellar at Seki Restaurant. Salute the sun with an outdoor yoga session and get a holistic massage in the mystic caves of Cappadocia.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 food and beverage credit per stay.



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NEW YORK, NEW YORK

## The Towers at Lotte New York Palace



Bespoke guest rooms and spacious suites offer stunning skyline panoramas at this hotel within a hotel.

Let your butler unpack while you unwind with a curated spa treatment. Five delectable dining options serve up an array of tempting selections, from farmhouse breakfasts with Billionaire's Bacon, to sweet treats and imaginative cocktails. Enjoy a complimentary third night when you stay by December 31, 2022.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 hotel credit per stay.

LOTTE NEW YORK PALACE  
**THE TOWERS**

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

## Pendry West Hollywood



This sophisticated retreat lies in the heart of the renowned Sunset Strip and offers a fresh take on modern luxury.

Satisfy your creative side at the on-site music venue, The Sun Rose, and with art curated by Tiffany Lendrum. Dine at two new concepts from chef Wolfgang Puck, Merois and Ospero, which embody his vision for the future of food, drinks, and the art of gathering. Spa Pendry offers restorative and hydration treatments.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 hotel credit per stay.

**PENDRY**  
WEST HOLLYWOOD

ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA

## Alila Napa Valley



Tucked into the heart of Napa, this adults-only sanctuary offers unparalleled access to wine country and St. Helena.

Savor vineyard strolls, expert-led winetastings, and fireside nightcaps. Dine on fresh farm-to-table fare at Acacia House, swim in the outdoor pool, and enjoy relaxing spa treatments. Book by August 31 and receive a complimentary fourth night plus a 25 percent discount on spa services for stays in 2022.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 resort credit per stay.

**Alila** NAPA VALLEY

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# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

BANGKOK, THAILAND

## Sindhorn Kempinski Hotel Bangkok



Tranquility fills this quiet enclave situated amidst the energy and attractions of one of Asia's greatest cities.

Five culinary venues offer cool, classic drinks and organic, locally sourced dishes. Uplift your spirit with a visit to the spa. Book two nights in an Executive Club Room by November 30 and stay by December 22, 2022, to enjoy an extra \$100 wellness credit plus Thermal Experience access for two.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITIES:** 50-minute massage for two and \$100 hotel credit per stay.



LOS CABOS, MEXICO

## Waldorf Astoria Los Cabos Pedregal



A secluded haven awaits, offering a bespoke stay between towering cliffs and the brilliant blue Pacific Ocean.

Sample fresh seafood, authentic Mexican fare, and handcrafted cocktails in seven venues. Set aside time for a wellness treatment. Through December 16, 2022, receive a complimentary night when you stay four or more nights, plus enjoy round-trip airport transfers in a private luxury vehicle.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$150 resort credit per stay.



LACCO AMENO, ISCHIA, ITALY

## San Montano Resort & Spa



Discover hidden coves and the rustic charm of the natural world in the heart of a Mediterranean garden.

Relax in the resort's thermal and saltwater pools. Treat yourself to signature spa services designed to refresh body and spirit. Enjoy the bounty of the sea and multisensory tasting experiences in the three restaurants. Sip a cool Lemontano and watch the sunset blaze over the Pontine Islands.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 food and beverage credit per stay.



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PARIS, FRANCE

## Ritz Paris



Restored to its original 19th-century splendor, this legendary Parisian hotel helps bring dreams to life.

Stay in exquisitely appointed accommodations and experience holistic, custom-tailored spa treatments. Take a journey through high gastronomy in three restaurants, including two with Michelin stars. Enjoy a quiet teatime interlude in Salon Proust and sip on rare spirits in the Bar Hemingway.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITIES:** Room upgrade at time of booking and round-trip private airport transfers.



LOS CABOS, MEXICO

## One&Only Palmilla



Transport yourself to the legacy and exhilaration of this award-winning coastal icon in Baja California, Mexico.

Play on one of the only swimmable beaches in Los Cabos. Grab your surfboard and join a master class with a surfing pro. Enjoy a poolside Palmilla margarita in the afternoon. Evening dining options include two restaurants curated by chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten and another with stunning cliff-top views.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$150 resort credit per stay.



PHOENIX, ARIZONA

## Arizona Biltmore, A Waldorf Astoria Resort



Step into a new era of sophistication at this resort inspired by the vision of the legendary Frank Lloyd Wright.

Take a dip in seven swimming pools, including one with a 65-foot waterslide, and tee off at two golf courses. Dining options range from casual to chic in seven venues. Tierra Luna Spa's healing rituals incorporate local oils and fresh herbs. Virtuoso guests enjoy a bonus \$100 resort credit for stays through September 5, 2022.

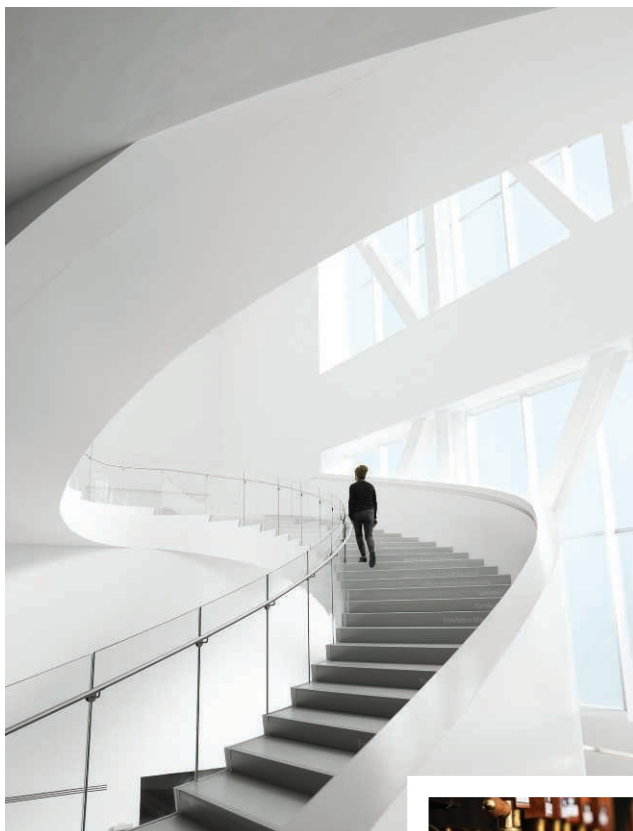
**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 food and beverage credit per stay.



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Clockwise from top left: Le Musée national des beaux-arts, Cidrerie et Vergers Pedneault, La Barberie, and Le Clan.

## New France Now

Inuit artisans, poutine, and a modern outlook in Québec City.

BY JEN ROSE SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANA DOROBANTU

**GO FOR** For a cobblestoned aerie at the wilderness cusp, Québec City wears its centuries of history with a distinctly modern sensibility. Founded by explorer Samuel de Champlain in 1608, it was to be New France's riverside heart. Though gabled roofs within the **UNESCO-listed ramparts** retain a soupçon of Paris, a closer look reveals Northwoods avant-garde. Chic restaurants craft cutting-edge *boréal* cuisine sourced from nearby forests; Inuit sculpture in **Le Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec** showcases Indigenous innovators work in bone and rock. Upper-latitude luxuries abound: Boutiques brim with lush woolens, while thermal pools at **Strøm Nordic Spa** are steamy vantage points from which to watch tides pulling at the Saint Lawrence River. Over time, the city has swelled to just over half a million residents, but

most historic sites cozy into the walkable hilltop Upper Town and riverside Lower Town, with a vintage funicular to link the two.

**EAT** Refined tasting menus at **Le Clan** nod to producers with deep ties to the Québec landscape, but the new restaurant transcends the usual farm-to-table fare. Portraits of fishermen and farmers line the moodily hip dining room. One angler even harvests barrels of seawater for use in the restaurant's sour-dough loaves.

A sugar shack is no place for restraint: Re-creating the woody conviviality of maple season, **Restaurant La Bûche** is a syrup-drenched entrée to Québécois comfort food. Try hearty poutine, *tourtière* meat pie, or pork *cretons* on toast, followed by a gooey dollop of maple taffy on snow.





**DRINK** Exuberant summertime energy feels like a season-long party at **La Cour arrière du Festibière**, where revelers split sangria pitchers in a riverfront, ankle-deep wading pool from June through September.

In the stylish Saint-Roch neighborhood, a gardenlike terrace wraps cooperative microbrewery **La Barberie**. Beers range from blackberry-tart Blanche aux Mûres white beer to Marée Basse wild ale, aged for two years in Bordeaux barrels.

**SHOP** Amid the Upper Town's centuries-old tangle of streets, Innu-owned **Atikuss** sells beaded moccasins and mukluks sewn in Québec's remote North Shore community of Uashat mak Mani-utenam by First Nations women artisans. Accents of fur from responsibly hunted beaver, fox, or seal banish cold

in bespoke, knee-high leather "hopeboots" with an Arctic-ready designer sensibility.

From the Upper Town, ride the 1879 funicular downhill to endlessly browsable galleries and boutiques along **rue du Petit-Champlain**. Sample local treats at **Cidrie et Vergers Pedneault**, including piquant ice cider fermented from late-harvest apples left to freeze when winter temps plummet.

**STAY** Copper-roofed turrets at the 610-room **Fairmont le Château Frontenac** crown Québec City's Upper Town, high ground that lends the 1893 property marvelous views. A longtime perch for royalty – both the old-world and Hollywood varieties – the Château's oak-paneled lobby exudes Jazz Age sophistication. Snag a window seat at elegant Champlain restaurant to watch summertime fireworks over the Saint Lawrence. *Doubles from \$450, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

History is intimate at **Auberge Saint-Antoine**, whose Lower Town location is a two-minute walk from the Old Port's main cruise terminal. Archaeological artifacts found on-site are displayed in each of its 95 distinctly designed rooms and suites, while flagship restaurant Chez Muffy serves warmly sophisticated farm-to-table cuisine in a stone-walled, 1822 maritime warehouse that's been reverently updated. *Doubles from \$337, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.* **VI**



**Clockwise from left:** The Fairmont over Lower Town, Strøm Nordic Spa, Atikuss, Champlain Street, and La Bûche.





From left: Chef and restaurateur Jasmine Norton grills oysters at her Baltimore Farmers' Market pop-up, Chesapeake blue crabs at Point Crab House & Grill, and the Inn at Perry Cabin's lawn and marina.

## Get Cracking

It's crab season on the Chesapeake – the most delicious bay in the States.

BY ADAM ERACE PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT SUCHMAN

THE WESTBOUND BAY BRIDGE BEGINS FLAT and unimposing, skimming so close to the quicksilver surface of Chesapeake Bay you could throw out a fishing line and hit water. The ascent, it's sneaky. Conscientious drivers might not notice until they happen to glance over and find themselves soaring nearly 200 feet above the water. If you're not afraid of heights, the four-mile ride is an engineering marvel and a thrill. If you are afraid of heights, then you're probably contributing to the bridge's most commonly googled question: "Why is the Chesapeake Bay Bridge the scariest bridge in America?"

That dubious distinction overshadows the key link the bridge provides between Maryland's rural Eastern Shore and the cities and suburbs of Annapolis, Baltimore, and beyond. More to the point, you can't experience the full bounty of Chesapeake Bay, the nation's largest estuary at 4,479 square miles, without it. Despite threats (changing climate, overfishing, habitat degradation), the bay and its lacework of waterways still produce 500 million pounds of seafood annually.

"Seafood is our culture," says Severna Park-based Virtuoso travel advisor Stephanie Petros. "It's not summer in Maryland if you haven't been able to sit down at a table covered with newspaper, mallets, and Chesapeake crabs steamed and ready to pick." From the blue-blooded dining rooms of Saint Michaels' nautical inns



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to the blue-collar fish houses of Baltimore's industrial fringes, the Bay Bridge – and our road map – will get you there.

### EASTERN SHORE

Three years ago, the **Inn at Perry Cabin** merited mentions for its iconic lawn, gracious guest rooms and gathering spaces, and status as the ne plus ultra of preppy Saint Michaels luxury. For its food, not so much. "At first it was very hard to find local purveyors to work with us," says chef Gregory James, who arrived at the property in 2019. The kitchen he inherited didn't have a great reputation among locals – but that quickly changed. Now, Eastern Shore product is the rule rather than the exception at convivial Purser's Pub (don't miss the oysters Rockefeller with creamy crab), as well as at Stars, the inn's fine-dining restaurant with views of the Adirondack-dotted lawn, well-mannered marina, and tangerine sunsets.

The menu at the latter is a choose-your-own-adventure prix fixe whose starters and entrees (perhaps dry-aged rockfish and crispy soft-shell crab with ginger beurre blanc) change nightly, depending on who shows up with what. One exception to the ever-evolving menu: crab cakes, always available and *always* made with Maryland crabmeat.

Another quality crab cake lives down the

road from Perry Cabin and over the tiny bridge that deposits you onto sleepy Tilghman Island. Chef Chris Mitchell, a Shore native, tints his Maryland mix with mustard for the crisp griddled cakes at **Tickler's Crab Shack**, but don't dare sleep on the creamy oyster stew studded with fat Wild Divers harvested by scuba divers from the middle of the Chesapeake.

Back in Saint Michaels, Mike Correll, a Maryland boy who's cooked in Philly and D.C., roasts Wild Divers with Calabrian chile butter and garlicky breadcrumbs at **Ruse**. These spicy mollusks join a raw-bar list that, in season, includes briny-sweet Harris Creeks, farmed about three miles away. And even though they don't come from the bay, you might consider a detour to the watermelon-size wedge of charred cabbage with whipped maple-tahini or the Maryland beef double cheeseburger dripping with miso-Dijonnaise.

Speaking of detours: Hop over to Easton, where Bluepoint Hospitality has turned the partially vacant historic downtown into a thriving culinary hive. The company runs ten establishments, including **The Stewart**, an F. Scott Fitzgerald fever dream where the staff wear suits and pearls, and the single-malt Scotch and Champagne flow.

From a transcendent Speyside by the fire to a Bud Light Lime from the beer fridge, the







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## On the Table



From left: Ruse chef Mike Correll, Point Crab House & Grill's crab cake sandwich, and soft-shell crab in lemon broth at the Inn at Perry Cabin.

last stop on the Shore is **Stevensville Crab Shack**, a squat brick seafood market/restaurant on Kent Island. Utz potato chips and jars of J.O. crab spice line the shelves, and a markerboard behind the fish counter advertises the day's crabs. A friendly woman in a Champion sweat suit takes your order at the counter and calls your name when it's ready. You carry your dozen crabs (or if it's early in the season, the crackling soft-shell sandwich) out to a picnic table on the gravel-and-seashell lot and pick the blues apart while cars zoom onto the Bay Bridge right behind you. You'll join them in a moment.

### WEST-SIDE CITIES

Having survived the drive across the Chesapeake and landed safely in Anne Arundel County, the Maryland seafood tour continues with old treasures in Annapolis. The weathered bungalow housing **Davis' Pub**, serving locals since the 1940s, is the cozy tavern every neighborhood wishes it had: affable bartenders; rafters decked in Orioles, Terrapins, and Naval Academy gear; and the Chesapeake Bay Retriever: a hot dog smothered in cheesy, molten crab dip. Fifteen minutes away, 48-year-old **Cantler's Riverside Inn** is tucked like a family heirloom into

the folds of a tony residential enclave (and gets Stephanie Petros' local approval). Pass through the wood-clad dining room, where long tables flanked by stackable black chairs with burgundy vinyl cushions give strong church-bingo-night vibes, onto the deck overlooking a placid ripple of Mill Creek. You could spend hours here among the multigenerational families, admiring the idyllic views while extricating nuggets of sweet, snowy meat from the J.O.-crusted shells.

Just off the Magothy River in the community of Arnold, marina-side **Point Crab House & Grill** is like Cantler's younger brother who went to the city and got his MBA in the early 2000s. Don't go looking for crabs out of season here: When Maryland crabs aren't available, The Point simply doesn't serve crabs. The excellent softball-size crab *cake*, however, you can get year-round as an entree or sandwich alongside a thicket of super-thin waffle-cut potato chips.

Onward to Baltimore. Plan your trip to pass through the city on a Sunday, when you'll catch Jasmine Norton chatting up customers and chargrilling luscious Madhouse and Bayshore oysters with garlic chili butter and cheddar, bacon, and barbecue





sauce at the Baltimore Farmers' Market. Norton, the first Black woman to own her own oyster bar in Maryland, is back as a pop-up after closing **The Urban Oyster** during the pandemic. Thankfully, a new U.O. location is on deck for late summer a block from **Dylan's Oyster Cellar**, making this stretch of West 36th Street an essential seafood stop. Dylan's not only serves oysters, but also that Bawlmer delicacy, coddies – fried salt-cod-and-potato cakes sandwiched between mustard-dabbed saltines.

Baltimore has bushels of seafood houses downtown and around the harbor, but locals know to head east into Essex, Middle

River, and the inner suburbs to icons such as **Schultz's Crab House**, run by the McKinney family since 1969. What Schultz's lacks in water views it makes up for in personality: The waitresses wear glitter nail polish, the old-timers buy scratch-offs from the bar's glowing blue lotto machine, and the lighting and pine paneling make it feel like nighttime even in the middle of the day. You might expect the server to eye you curiously when you order the crab fluff – a Baltimore specialty that's like a golden crab-laced doughnut – *and* the glorious jumbo lump cake, but she won't miss a beat. "Coming right up, hon."

## Your Base on Both Sides of the Bay

A dapper Eastern Shore icon, the 78-room **Inn at Perry Cabin** leans into its nautical heritage with bright shiplap walls, naval artifacts, and activities that maximize its brilliant waterfront location, such as sailing lessons on the house fleet. Grab an Adirondack chair on the lawn, watch the yachts motor into and out of the marina, and toast the sunset every night. *Doubles from \$715, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*

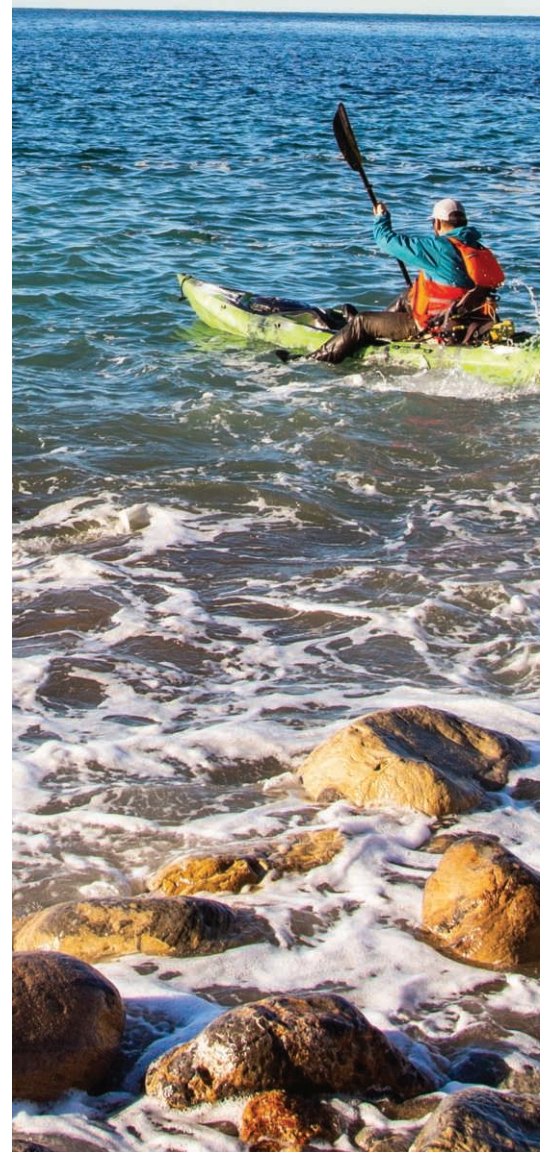
Outdoor pools don't come easy in Baltimore, which makes the pier-perched **Sagamore Pendry Baltimore** special. Its pool (a lively scene in summer) seems to reach out to the Patapsco River, and when you're tired of swimming, 128 chic, oversize rooms with seriously comfortable beds await. *Doubles from \$413, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.* **VI**



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## Beach Bound

Sun-and-sand fun for families of all ages.

BY JEN ROSE SMITH

ILLUSTRATIONS BY COOKIE MOON

SEASIDE GETAWAYS WITH FAMILY ARE peak summer, rich with those “everyone loved it” moments that spark nostalgia even while they’re still unfolding. After the school year starts, they’ll tug you back to shoreline bonfires, rhythmic surf, or the piña colada scent of your favorite beach bar. But the finest oceanside idylls are uncommon finds – off-the-rack doesn’t make the cut. Where next in the quest for perfect beach towns? Turns out, it’s personal.

There’s a prime beach escape for every family, from vacationing young parents to multigenerational bashes where everyone’s invited. We turned to veteran travel advisors and family-vacation pros for their picks of islands ideal for grandparent getaways sans passport, and seaside manors where family golf rounds end in fireside whisky tastings. In between: Mayan pyramids, sun-washed villages on Spain’s Costa del Sol, and time to play in the sand. Grab your sunblock for these beach breaks that will please the whole gang.



## HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

**BEST FOR:** The classic grandparent-grandkid getaway.

Miles of open beaches invite sandy strolls at Hilton Head Island, which Seattle-based Virtuoso advisor Melissa Smith praises for its variety and accessibility for grandparents with kids in tow. “Off the beach, the surrounding area is very lush, and there are some light walks, eco-adventures, and bike rides everyone can do together,” she says. Guided fishing trips in the island’s sheltered lagoons are great for beginning anglers. Streamlining is key when corralling kids, and here there’s little need to drive: Trolleys whisk groups between The Sea Pines Beach Club and Harbour Town, where boats depart for dolphin-watching or pirate-themed adventures.

**STAY** Southern elegance presides at **The Inn & Club at Harbour Town at The Sea Pines Resort**, whose 60 rooms and suites offer unfussy settings designed for relaxation. Snag a lounge by the pool for a kid-friendly, alfresco lunch with views across the links. *Doubles from \$498, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*

## SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

**BEST FOR:** Families with young kids.

Convenience is paramount for families with young children, says Fort Lauderdale-based advisor Jesse Taylor, whose sons – ages 5, 12, and 14 – are veteran travelers. “In Santa Monica you don’t really have to leave,” he says. “The Santa Monica Pier is incredible, with roller coasters, slides, arcades, and street performers.” Even younger kids can try surfing the beginner-friendly rollers at Santa Monica Beach. “It’s also easy access to all those real highlights for families in L.A.,” Taylor says, noting that the town is a 30- to 40-minute drive from Hollywood, Disneyland, Universal Studios, and the dino-packed Natural History Museum of Los Angeles.

**STAY** Settle into the breezy, beach-cottage-inspired 198-room **Shutters on the Beach** and discover a new family hobby with

private surf lessons or borrow cruisers to explore the 22-mile Marvin Braude Bike Trail. *Doubles from \$1,050, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

## PLAYA DEL CARMEN, MEXICO

**BEST FOR:** Families with teens.

“There’s a lot to do besides lounging on the beach,” says Frisco, Texas-based Virtuoso

advisor Brittani Robertson of the Riviera Maya area. She recommends Playa del Carmen as a low-key, teen-friendly destination with a rep for safety. While you shouldn’t skip those glorious beaches, also plan time to swim in an underground river at Maya-themed adventure park Xcaret, browse Quinta Avenida for handicrafts, and snorkel the limestone-filtered jade pools of Cenote Azul. Robertson says Playa del Carmen’s central location puts the whole

While you shouldn’t skip those glorious beaches,  
also plan time to snorkel the limestone-filtered jade  
pools of Cenote Azul.





## Family Travel

Riviera Maya within exploring distance: Green sea turtles glide through shallows in nearby Akumal, and Tulum's ancient ruins are an hour away. "Teens learn about this stuff in their history books," Robertson says. "To actually tour the historic sites with them is really neat."

**STAY** Spanning jungle and pearly sand, the all-inclusive, 539-suite **Grand Velas Riviera Maya** has a teens-only club complete with gaming consoles, arcade games, and a nonalcoholic bar. *Doubles from \$1,192, including all meals, a hydrotherapy treatment for two, and a \$50 spa credit.*

### MARBELLA, SPAIN

**BEST FOR:** A multigenerational trip to remember.

Year-round sun is the Costa del Sol's signature, but a chic international crowd lends Marbella extra sparkle. "Think glitzy appeal meets quaint old town," says Scottsdale, Arizona-based travel advisor Jessica Avery. Channel Andalusian cool strolling the beachside Paseo Marítimo or linger under blooming orange trees in fifteenth-century Plaza de los Naranjos. You can still find your own private piece of sea on a sailing charter, snorkeling in the Mediterranean with distant views of Morocco's Atlas Mountains.

Marbella, too, remains soulfully Spanish. "For families, I like places that are a little more remote and laid-back," Avery says. "And Marbella has lovely outdoor café culture with whitewashed villages, flowers, and cobblestoned streets."

**STAY** Spread across a subtropical garden, the 132-room **Marbella Club Hotel** has two- to four-bedroom bungalows with private pools that give families room to spread out. Genre-topping Kids' Club activities for 4- to 14-year-olds are designed to impress the savviest young travelers, with next-level fun from flamenco dress-up to chef-guided cooking classes, stand-up-paddleboard lessons, ocean conservation activities, and rescue-donkey caretaking. *Doubles from \$495, including breakfast daily, a \$100 resort credit, and one round of golf.*

### ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

**BEST FOR:** Parents with adult children.

A pilgrimage place for golfers with a knack for good living, this North Sea beach town merges heritage with student energy. "St Andrews entwines traditional values, history, and sports all in one small town," says Virtuoso advisor Carly Renshaw, based in Vancouver, B.C. Even if you leave the late-night, student-driven bar scene to the kids, she says, its old-world pubs – like the most hallowed golf courses – are a multigenerational affair. Secure tee times at the fifteenth-century Old Course at St Andrews by spring for the subsequent year through **Adventures in Golf**, or head to equally scenic Kingsbarns for a coast-hugging 18 holes. Afternoons off the links are for pub crawls, browsing tartan boutiques, sipping whisky in Lindores Abbey Distillery, and elegant afternoon tea services at the Old Course Hotel. Or slip off your shoes to stroll West Sands Beach, bracketed by low dunes and an estuary where seals bask on sunny days.

**STAY** Tartans adorn the 211 rooms and suites of the **Fairmont St Andrews'** 520-acre seaside estate – home to two championship golf courses overlooking the nearby city and St Andrews Bay. *Doubles from \$490, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.* VI







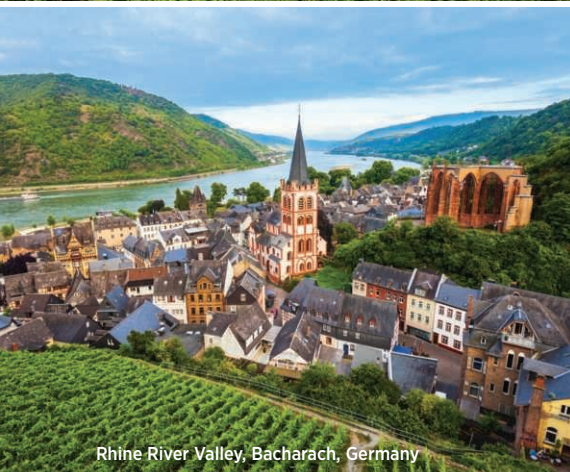
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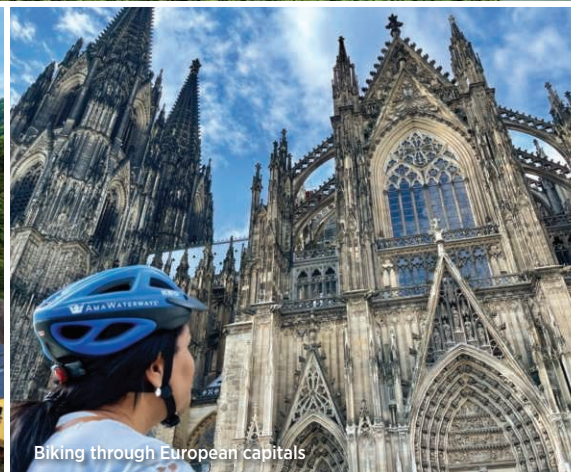
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## The Life Aquatic with Richard Bailey

The ocean advocate and Pacific Beachcomber founder on why sustainable travel matters and what he's doing about it.

BY JOEL CENTANO

**T**AHITI HAS A WAY OF CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES. JUST ask Richard Bailey – during a visit to the islands in the 1970s, he met his future wife and, he says, “fell in love with the place she lived, as well.” Since that fateful trip, Bailey and his wife have called Tahiti home. They raised three children there, against its backdrop of, in his words, “heart-stopping natural beauty.” In 1989, understanding Tahiti’s tug on travelers and inspired by Tahitians’ culture and commitment to conservation, Bailey founded Pacific Beachcomber, a resort collection that made sustainability a priority.





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Richard Bailey.

“Tahitians taught me an abiding love and respect for nature, and especially the oceans,” he says. “And as a business manager, it became apparent that protecting the oceans and the way of life of this unique ocean people was of paramount importance.”

An avid rower and scuba diver, Bailey went on to form the nonprofit Te Mana O Te Moana, which works to protect the Polynesian marine environment, and to implement pioneering green tech – including seawater air-conditioning systems – at resorts such as the InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa and The Brando on Tetiaroa Atoll. At the latter, which he developed in 1999 with the late actor Marlon Brando, Bailey also cofounded the Tetiaroa Society to preserve the atoll’s

natural and cultural resources and manage an “ecostation” where leading scientists conduct marine conservation research.

Most recently, Bailey cofounded the Blue Climate Initiative (BCI) to bring scientists, philanthropists, investors, and others together to save our seas while spurring scientific innovations and ocean-based strategies to combat climate change. Toward that goal, BCI earlier this year named winners of its first Community Awards and Ocean Innovation Prize, and in May convened a global summit of ocean experts and activists to strengthen BCI’s six primary pillars, which include harnessing marine energy, securing sustainable marine food supplies, and advancing sustainable tourism. We recently chatted with Bailey about topics ranging from the role oceans

can play in preserving our planet to how we as travelers can be part of the solution (great news: The answer includes snorkeling and diving).

### **Why are oceans so important to the planet’s health?**

As a species, we’ve not held the oceans in high enough regard to protect them the way islanders do. If the oceans die, so do we. Oceans exist as the primary food source for 3 million-plus people and produce half the world’s oxygen. They also absorb most of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which makes them more acidic and threatens small life-forms critical to the food chain.

### **What role does ocean stewardship play in Polynesian culture?**

Tahitians’ history, livelihood, and spirituality all derived from the ocean. To arrive at their home, they traveled across the immensity of the Pacific in small craft, accomplishing the most astonishing feats of seamanship. They’re hardy, robust, brave, and resourceful, and over the centuries learned how to manage their limited resources, including from the ocean. They have something to teach us all.

### **How was Blue Climate Initiative born?**

The audacity of The Brando was to conceive a model of tourism where visitor experience and environmental interests aren’t mutually exclusive. We harnessed technology to solve the problems of energy, waste, water, and food in ways that leave a zero-carbon balance. If a win for the guest is also a win for the planet, then we’ve changed the game from zero to a positive sum. This is the essence of sustainability. What’s more, Tetiaroa Society, which undertakes research, education, and conservation on the atoll, is part of this symbiosis between visitor and the environment. It seemed then that this model could have relevance for a wider world than just our one island. This was the starting point for BCI: finding wins for people, ocean, and planet.

### **What is BCI’S approach?**

BCI aims to answer key questions. For example: Could wave or ocean thermal energy



**“Tahitians taught me an abiding love and respect for nature, and especially the oceans.”**

conversion become viable in the next decade? Are there marine permacultures that can reduce and sequester carbon to limit atmospheric temperature? What will it take for tourism to zero out its own carbon impacts? If we can answer these and similar questions, we can help fight climate change and improve our world and the lives of its inhabitants.

**Why is sustainable tourism essential?**

Tourism can have a big impact on the environment and as an industry is often criticized for its carbon footprint. In addition,

the sheer numbers of people can put pressure on fragile ecosystems in island and coastal communities. One of BCI's goals is to explore how travelers can offset their carbon impact in meaningful ways that become part of a rich visitor experience, through projects sponsored directly in their destinations.

**How can travelers help?**

When you travel, check that “offset your carbon footprint” box. It may add another \$50, but that contribution really does make a difference. Try to avoid single-use plastics, consume only sustainably caught seafood, and avoid sunscreens with oxybenzone – one molecule can damage coral in a body of water the size of a swimming pool. Ask your hotel how they manage energy, waste, and water; how they're giving back to the community; and if they're helping preserve the beauty of their site for future travelers. And go diving or snorkeling – we preserve what we love, and once you see the astonishing beauty of the

undersea world, you'll want to do whatever you can to preserve it.

**So travel can help change the world?**

Travel makes us ambassadors of all the places we've visited. As happened to me in Tahiti, when we travel, we all fall in love with the people we encounter and the experiences we have. From this attachment arises a desire to preserve what we've seen for the future. And this all happens naturally – we have only to travel, keep an open mind, and let it happen.

**What else gives you hope for the future?**

In the time I've watched my children grow to adulthood, I've seen public regard for the environment change so radically that, yes, it gives me hope. There is momentum. The challenges remain enormous, and new ones appear as soon as others subside. But the stakes are too great – what remains is simply to soldier on and, as with our resorts, try to leave the world in a better state than we found it. VI



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## My Travel Essentials

Heather Taylor's business was born during breakfast in Greece.  
PORTRAIT BY SEAN HAZEN

**T**HE FOUNDER AND creative director of Heather Taylor Home credits a casual 2006 morning meal in Greece as the impetus for starting her home goods and textile company. "It was the most beautiful, everyday breakfast on a terrace at my husband's cousin's house," she says. "I remember the best peaches, really

strong coffee, a Greek pastry called *bougatsa*, and, most of all, the crisp white-lace tablecloth. I've been chasing that feeling ever since." Pre-pandemic, L.A.-based Taylor and her husband traveled to Paris once a year looking for inspiration and made several NYC trips as well. With young daughters at home, she's exploring California these days. "Mammoth, Yosemite,

Monterey, Ojai – we usually do one big trip during the summer and long-weekend road trips throughout the year," she says. Up next: hiking and exploring in and around Idyllwild, just outside L.A., where her family recently purchased a home. Taylor's packing tips, like her packing style, are minimal: "I usually under-pack. I don't want to be weighed down."

### I DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT:

1. A chic green **Clare V. Weekender** holds my essentials.
2. My **Loop Canvas** needlepoint keeps me occupied in flight.
3. A **great book** and a couple issues of *The New Yorker*. I love to catch up on my reading on the plane.
4. **Supergoop!** sunscreen to protect my skin.
5. A **Clare V. fanny pack** for long days exploring a city.
6. **New Balance** sneakers and **Birkenstocks** are always with me, regardless of where I am.
7. Red lipstick (**Nars Dragon Girl**) keeps me feeling pulled together, even if I'm jet-lagged.
8. A **Smythson planner** for notes on trip highlights.
9. **Notes from my daughters** to remind me of home.
10. I always pack a **Heather Taylor Home tote bag** in case I need extra space for souvenirs. **VI.**



4.



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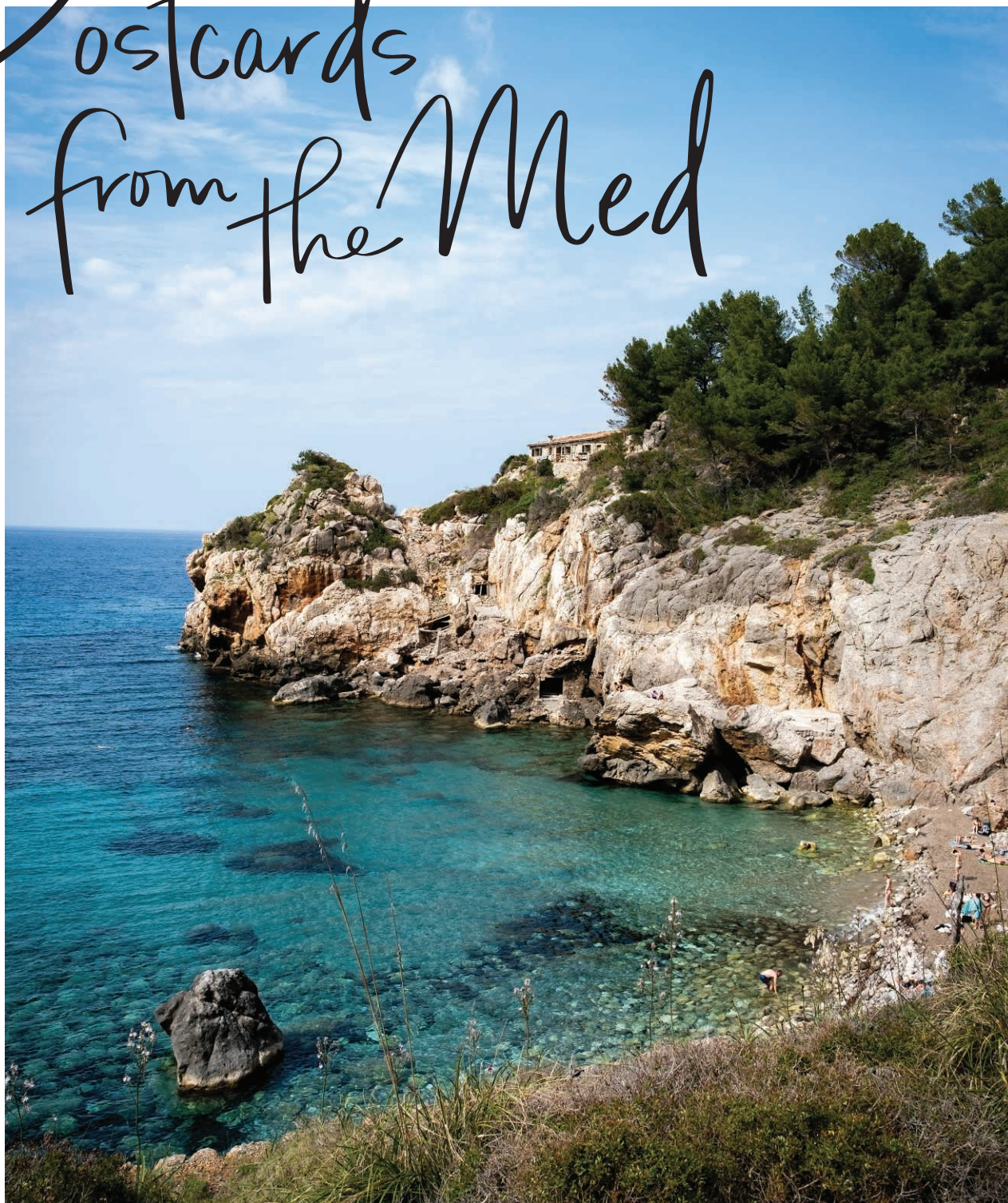




Mallorcan delights: Citrus at its peak and (right) Cala Deia.



# Postcards from the Med



Arts hubs, outdoor adventure, and annual village fetes  
have us daydreaming about the Balearic Islands.

BY JEFF KOEHLER



**F**OR A SMALL ARCHIPELAGO OFF THE EAST COAST OF SPAIN, the Balearics deliver big on sun-drenched escapism, enrapturing artists, outdoorists, expats, and beach revelers alike for decades. “We’re very lucky to have them,” says Barcelona-based Virtuoso travel agency cofounder Pilar Vivet, who, like many Spaniards, vacations in the islands each year for quiet coves with “water that rivals the Maldives,” to reconnect with nature, and, yes, for the resorts, seafood, and beach clubs. From northern Mallorca to Ibiza’s Es Vedrà and Menorca’s cultural riches, here’s what we’re eyeing in the land where summer reigns.

## Mallorca

### MAKE FOR THE MOUNTAINS

In Deià’s Gres Gallery, ceramic artist Dora Alzamora Good’s pots sit on rough-hewn wooden tables. Using stoneware clay and finishing them with high-fire glazes or black firing (which lets smoke penetrate the porous clay to create dark, ashen colors), she creates deeply textured vessels that resonate with depth and emotion, but also place.

Good lives and works in Deià, a picturesque village of 600 residents at the cusp of limestone cliffs 1,000 feet above the Mediterranean. This landscape inspires her earthy tones, rough textures, and soft blue and gray hues that emulate the rocky coastline and mountains. Sometimes the influence is more intrinsic, with glazes that contain rocks pulled from the sea and ground for their minerals or ash from foraged seaweed.

While Mallorca’s southern coast is known for resort developments, the laid-back, wilder north and its rugged Serra de Tramuntana range have long called to novelists, painters, and other creative types. After a day exploring the island’s capital, Palma, it’s best to head north and dive into Deià, but savor the hour-long drive, which crosses the Es Pla plain and quickly climbs into the steep Tramuntanas.

A worthwhile detour en route: Artesanía Textil Bujosa, a small store and workshop in Santa María del Camí with a handful of

old looms that have produced the island’s *robes de llengües* fabric since 1949. The name means “cloth of tongues” and refers to the flamelike patterns made by binding sections of the yarn before dying and weaving. Known globally as ikat, it’s used by locals for everything from curtains and tablecloths to bags and bedcovers.

Passing through the village of Valldemossa, travelers wind along a road lined with precarious drops and dramatic views over the sea. “I love this part of the island,” Vivet says. “Crossing the Serra de Tramuntana, you escape Palma’s busyness and noise and are surrounded by nature, birds, and wild-herb-laced hillsides.”

Deià is straight from vacation-fantasy central casting, with galleries and restaurants backed by Mediterranean vistas and a fourteenth-century church that rises above its sloped streets. Spectacularly set above hillsides etched in drystone terraces of ancient olive trees and fragrant citrus, it’s an ideal base for the north’s hiking, famous road cycling, and pristine beaches only accessible by foot.

The English poet and author Robert Graves settled in Deià in 1929, noting that it had everything he wanted as a writer: “sun, sea, mountains, spring water, shady trees. No politics, and a few civilized luxuries.” Other artists followed, including an American, George Sheridan, who arrived from Paris in the late 1950s. By the time Sheridan’s





Clockwise from left: Ceramist Dora Alzamora Good in her gallery, pool views at Belmond's La Residencia, and island traditions at Artesanía Textil Bujosa.



bride, Cecilie, a fellow painter – and current doyenne – joined him in 1972, the artists' community in Deià was thriving.

When the town's first luxury hotel, La Residencia, opened in 1984 in a couple of centuries-old manor houses surrounded by 35 acres of olive groves, the owner asked the Sheridans to lend him some paintings to fill the empty white walls. The collection now numbers over 800, representing 80 artists – nearly all with a connection to Deià. In keeping with the village vibe, the property started an artist-in-residence program, which currently includes English painter Alan Hydes and Chilean sculptor Juan Waelder. Both offer private classes to guests in their on-site studios.

From the hotel, Cecilie Sheridan leads art walks through Deià, beginning with the rotating exhibits in La Residencia's Sa Tafona gallery and often ending at her house. While the town's artistic community is smaller than in its heyday, the landscape and the clarity of the light that makes blues, greens, and earth tones so vivid remain. "You see colors in a different way here," she says. "They leap out at you and demand you get them on the canvas."

For perspective on the landscape that's inspired so many, travelers can take to a network of trails, including the Dry Stone Route, which runs more than 100 miles along the spine of the Serra de Tramuntana and passes through the center of town. Not all the treks are so ambitious, including the one to Cala Deià beach, which drops down an old donkey path to the cove below. Winding through terraces of gnarled olive trees toward water that glows a particularly pleasing blue, you realize that high on Mallorca's long list of draws is this village's distinct serenity.

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**Clockwise from left: Summer wildflowers, sculptor Juan Waelder, Deià, and Alan Hydes' studio.**

## Ibiza

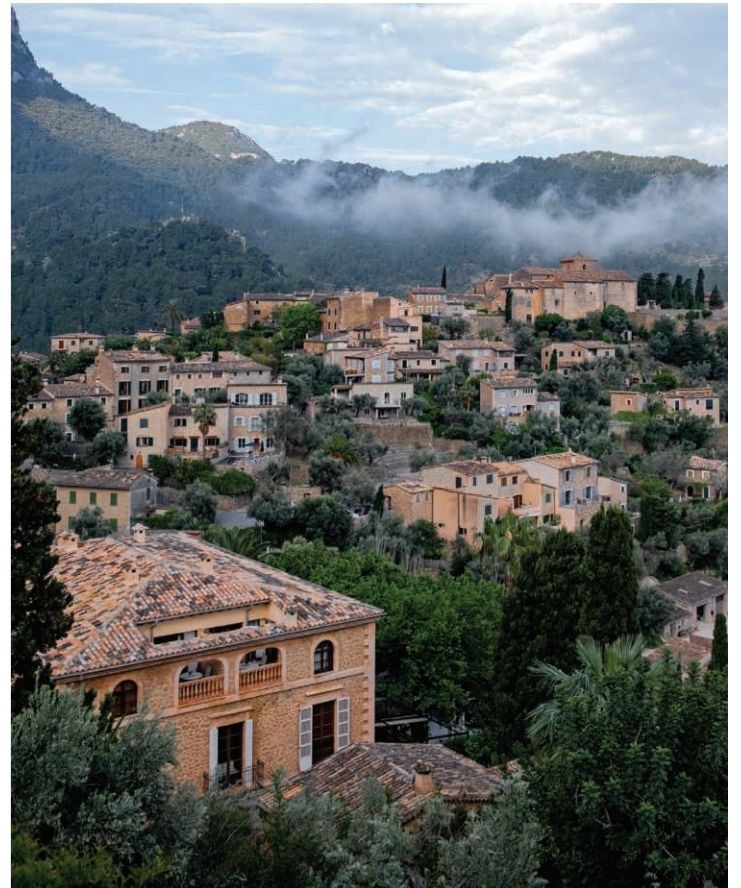
### NATURE RAVES ON

Hawks wheel around cliffs in the sunny-morning breeze on Ibiza's southern tip. Just offshore, Es Vedrà, a limestone outcropping that juts 1,350 feet straight up from the sea, commands attention. The islet is said to be the third most magnetic spot on the planet. But for hikers on Ibiza, the attraction to Es Vedrà – and the vertigo-inducing views from those sheer 2,300-foot-high sea cliffs – is unmatched.

Among the Balearic Islands, Ibiza sits the closest to the Iberian Peninsula and has the best weather. Over the last decades, it's gained fame (and infamy) as Europe's summer party capital, with globe-trotting DJs, swank beach clubs, and parties that don't stop even when the sun rises. Yet aside from a few areas, Ibiza still feels overwhelmingly rural and unspoiled, with broad swaths of pines covering much of the island. A handful of interior villages with whitewashed churches, olive and almond trees, and hidden coves reached by former smugglers' routes give it a surprising tranquility.

Travelers have recently begun exploring this quieter, natural side in greater numbers. Luxury hotels such as W Ibiza and ME Ibiza on the eastern part of the island and 7Pines on the west are responding with a host of active excursions. Nobu Hotel Ibiza Bay on Talamanca Bay near the island's capital has created a collection of day trips with locals: coastal hiking to view Es Vedrà, diving with a naturalist, e-mountain-biking tours in Parc Natural de Ses Salines, and more.









From top: Es Vedrà and  
Nobu Hotel Ibiza Bay.





Zippering through Ses Salines' woodlands, bikers arrive at an extensive grid of ancient *salines* (salt pans), the lifeblood of Ibiza for much of its existence. Circa 540 BC, Phoenicians built these still-active pans, which provided the island's primary source of revenue until tourism arrived in the second half of the twentieth century. Today, the pans' evaporation pools are part of wetlands that support some 210 species of birds, including pink flamingos.

It's a snapshot of what's luring a new type of traveler to Ibiza beyond its famous club and restaurant scene. These days, giddy predawn voices are just as likely to come from a group of friends heading out on kayaks as from bleary-eyed revelers on a club-night comedown. From easy pedaling around Ses Salines and hard core mountain biking along the rugged northern coast to rambles in lush valleys and snorkeling in crystalline water, the island's wilder side is on the rise as nature claims the limelight.

## Menorca

### PAGEANTRY AND MYSTIQUE

Location – the farthest of the Balearics from the Spanish mainland – and relatively cool off-season weather spared Menorca from the 1960s and '70s package-tourism boom. The reward for present-day travelers: The island's original identity and traditions remain strongly intact, and most of its shoreline is undeveloped – UNESCO designated the whole of Menorca as a biosphere reserve in 1993.

"Menorca is the authentic Balearic experience: a historic island with beautiful countryside and secluded beaches," says Vivet. Among those hundred-plus beaches,

## FYI

**"Menorca's fabulous Hauser & Wirth arts center is an essential stop for modern-art lovers. And no one should leave the island without having the traditional and delicious *caldereta de langosta* (lobster stew) at Es Cranc Pelut in Fornells."**

**– Pilar Vivet, Virtuoso travel agency cofounder, Barcelona**

one of the finest is Cala de Pilar, a cove of golden sand ringed by rusty-red hills reached via a 30-minute walk through a pine forest. (Platja de Cavalleria's vast arc of virgin beach with plenty of room even at high summer comes a close second.)

Here, history runs deep: The mysterious Talayotic settled on Menorca as early as 2100 BC; the 1,600 megalithic sites they left dot fields, walking paths, and farms where some still shelter livestock – a living part of the landscape.

Bean-shaped Menorca has a city at each end: the ancient capital of Ciutadella to the west and the current capital of Mahón to the east. Between these run the vertebrae of the skeletal road system, with small roads running to the sea like fish bones. Much of Menorca's allure is found on an ancient track known as the Camí de Cavalls ("horse path"), which roughly follows the shoreline in an unbroken 115-mile loop. Dating to the fourteenth century when King James II of Aragon obliged islanders to keep an armed horse at the ready to defend on all sides, it was fully restored in 2010 and became part of the European network of long-distance footpaths. Now it



draws hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians from around the world.

Menorca shines brightest in summer not only for beaches and outdoor activities, but because it's then that every town celebrates its patron saint, beginning with Ciutadella at the end of June (the fiesta of Sant Joan is one of Spain's most famous) and wrapping with Es Mercadal in September. At the heart of these festivals: the island's native black horses and the Saturday evening and Sunday morning *jaleos*, where a hundred or so riders in formal black attire parade through town on their steeds, then proceed in pairs into the packed village square. As crowds push near them, the horses rear up on their hind legs to great cheers.

When the orchestra plays on the bandstand at the edge of the square and an ebony Menorcan stallion lifts its front legs just inches away from you, the island feels more unbridled than easygoing. That's this hide-away in a nutshell: kicked back, with moments that thrill.



Ciutadella de Menorca's Cala Santandria beach and (above) high-stepping in style.

(HORSE) JILLADO/FOTOGRAFIA ALAMY, (BEACH) AGEFOTOSTOCK/ALAMY





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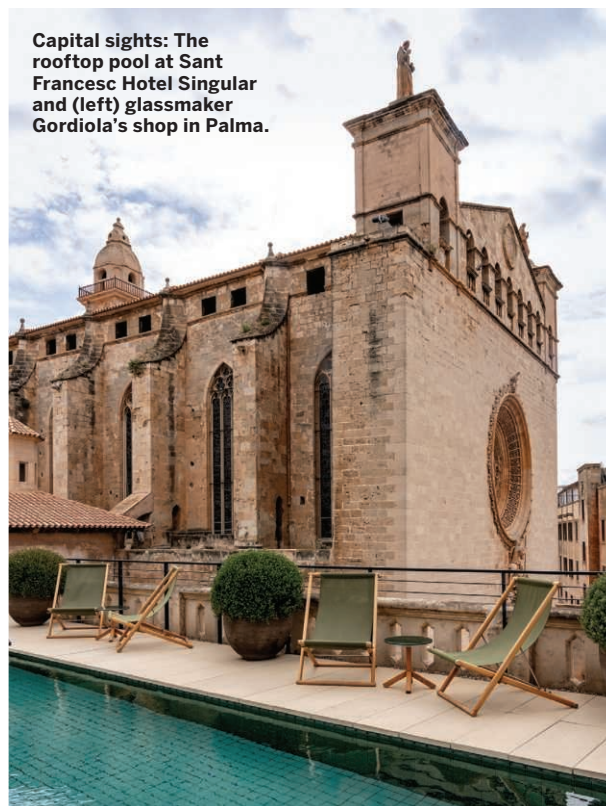
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**Capital sights:** The rooftop pool at Sant Francesc Hotel Singular and (left) glassmaker Gordiola's shop in Palma.

## Bring on the Balearics

**GO Made for Spain & Portugal** works with Virtuoso travel advisors to create custom Balearic itineraries packed with exclusive activities – chartered yachts to snorkel hidden coves, tours of private gardens and artisan workshops, guided stargazing – tailored to travelers' interests.

### **STAY** **Ibiza**

Presiding on Talamanca Bay, the 152-room **Nobu Hotel Ibiza Bay** is a short walk from the island's lively port, go-go nightlife, and historic Old Town. *Doubles from \$1,127, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

The chic, 162-room **W Ibiza** has direct access to Santa Eulalia's white-sand beach and an adults-only rooftop pool and terrace. *Doubles from \$1,987, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

The 176 rooms and 24 suites at **ME Ibiza** on Santa Eulalia beach channel a boho-chic vibe enhanced by daily yoga sessions and a poolside DJ. *Doubles from \$845, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

Cliff-top **7Pines Resort Ibiza** offers 185 suites in a villagelike collection of modern whitewashed buildings with unfettered views of Es Vedrà. *Doubles from \$784, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*

### **Mallorca**

In Palma's Old Town, 42-room **Sant Francesc Hotel Singular** occupies a renovated nineteenth-century mansion with original frescoes and contemporary artworks. *Doubles from \$545, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

Deià's 72-room **La Residencia, a Belmond Hotel** spreads across a hillside overlooking the village. Known as an arts hub, it also offers guided hiking in the mountains and along the coast. *Doubles from \$1,070, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

With cliff-top views over Port de Sóller and the northern coast, the 121-room **Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa** is a prime base for Serra de Tramuntana adventures. *Doubles from \$802, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

### **The St. Regis Mardavall Mallorca**

**Resort's** 125 refined guest rooms come with large private terraces or balconies and Mediterranean views. *Doubles from \$1,287, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

Richard Branson's **Son Bunyola** comprises three traditional, exclusive-use four- and five-bedroom villas set among olive groves and vineyards in northwestern Mallorca. *Eight-day villa rentals from \$28,411 for eight guests, including all meals and drinks.*

**Cap Vermell Grand Hotel** is home to 142 guest rooms with hilltop views and a tapas bar, a restaurant focused on Balearic staples, and two Michelin-starred Voro. *Doubles from \$666, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

### **Menorca**

The island's top resort, **Fontenille Menorca** encompasses two traditional fincas, Torre Vella and Santa Ponsa. Its 39 guest rooms are spread among a former watchtower, a stone farmhouse, the barn, and other outbuildings. *Doubles from \$618, including breakfast daily. VI.*



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# SUMMER CAMP GROWS UP



**NOBODY'S ROUGHING IT  
AT THESE ACTIVITY-PACKED ESCAPES.**

**BY AMY CASSELL**

We're a little nostalgic for sleepaway camp, a place where the afternoon's only dilemma was whether we'd have enough time to canoe across the lake *and* make it to arts-and-crafts hour before dinner. This collection of hotels around the world channels that carefree feeling, showcasing outdoor playgrounds where the activities options are abundant enough to keep everyone in your squad happy. (A reminder: Soaking up summer in Southern Hemisphere spots of course means traveling during the Northern Hemisphere's winter.) This time around, though, we're trading the bunk beds for turndown service. And yes, there are s'mores – they just come with artisanal cocktails now. That's the grown-up summer-camp spirit.







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## GREAT-CAMP GOOD TIMES

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During the Gilded Age of the late 1800s and early 1900s, Rockefellers, Vanderbilts, and the rest of Manhattan's elite relocated upstate every summer to host elaborate parties and sporting competitions at sprawling lakefront estates – the Adirondack Great Camps. One of those original camps, **Lake Kora**, is now an exclusive-use retreat for travelers. Only available from July through October, Lake Kora hosts up to 24 guests in accommodations across the 1,000-acre estate, from cottages with stone fireplaces to private rooms in the main timber-walled lodge.

The self-catered pursuits leave little room for boredom: There are canoes, kayaks, sailboats, and electric wooden boats for enjoying the 500-acre lake; a field for ball games; a tennis court; and badminton, croquet, and volleyball equipment. Activities continue indoors, with a squash court, Ping-Pong and casino tables, and even a vintage two-lane Brunswick bowling alley. A culinary team handles all meals, including lunch barbecues, daily cocktail hours, four-course dinners served at the original table in the Great Hall Dining Room, and twilight s'mores at the lake's edge. Anything else guests want – a massage, a babysitter, live musicians, fly-fishing guides, yoga instructors – is a quick request away. *Exclusive use from \$22,980 per night (minimum of four nights for stays before Labor Day) for up to 24 guests, including all meals.*





## HEY, DUDES

Summer vacations get the Wild West treatment at the 44-room **Lodge & Spa at Brush Creek Ranch**, a 30,000-acre working cattle ranch in southwestern Wyoming. Dude ranch dreams come true during morning horseback-riding excursions and cattle drives, and there's even a Lil' Wranglers program for kids. Guests can turn up the adventure on one of the ranch's 38 sport-climbing routes or on an ATV in the adjacent Medicine Bow National Forest. (For those who prefer the adorable over the adrenaline-inducing, the spa added goat yoga to its calendar this summer.)

Ranch activities will keep everyone busy, but the lodge rooms and log cabins – some with antler chandeliers in open-air kitchens, fur throws tossed over king-size beds, and fireplaces – make winding down easy. Carve out at least one afternoon to visit The Farm, Brush Creek's sustainable culinary complex with a restaurant, bakery, distillery, greenhouse, and more. Guests can take a cooking class, tour the distillery, or, for an all-ages treat, play with Alpine goats and learn to churn butter at Medicine Bow Creamery. Like all good summer outings, this one ends with ice cream. *Doubles from \$2,900, including all meals and a \$150 activity credit per adult.*

### FYI

**"Activities at Brush Creek Ranch are endless and can be tailored to just about any ability level. Plan for an unforgettable dinner experience at The Farm's Cheyenne Club, and don't leave without a tour of the stunning wine cellar."**

*– Jordan Brady, Virtuoso travel advisor, Boston*

**The bar at the Lodge & Spa at Brush Creek Ranch and (below) in the saddle. Opposite: Splashdown at Lake Kora.**







## WELLNESS ON THE WATER

Call this self-care summer camp: At **Lake Austin Spa Resort**, a 40-room, adults-only retreat 30 minutes west of Austin, the activities list is long, and the spa-treatment menu is even longer. Guests check in for wellness-focused, fitness-minded experiences – many of which revolve around the resort’s eponymous body of water – that range from classic favorites (yoga, stand-up paddleboarding) to Goop-esque pursuits (a floating meditation session in the pool with a soundtrack of Native American flutes). The food is healthy, but not horribly restrictive (there’s wine!), and the shabby-chic cottages, many with outdoor soaking tubs and gardens, exude calm. Lake Austin champions the Blue Mind philosophy that spending time near the water is essential to sustained happiness – in the summertime, when Texas temps are on the rise, it’s a good rule to live by. *Doubles from \$595 per person, including all meals and activities and a \$100 resort credit.*



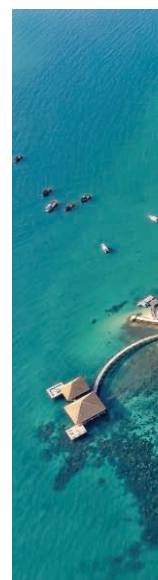
## DIVE RIGHT IN

For a tropical spin on summer camp, we’re dreaming of **Song Saa**, a lush private-island resort off Cambodia’s southern coast. Instead of cabins, guests settle into one of 24 jungle, beach, or overwater villas, made from reclaimed timber; and instead of ghost stories by the bonfire, there are late-night swims in bioluminescent bays. Daily activities include scuba diving and snorkeling, Khmer cuisine cooking classes, kayak tours to nearby mangroves, and nature-themed treasure hunts for kids. Bonus: Song Saa is a sustainability champion, protecting the 650-foot reef off-shore from the resort (it was Cambodia’s first marine reserve) and supporting the local community on neighboring Koh Rong. Guests can visit Prek Svay Village’s community school and help local kids practice their English skills during a guided tour. *Doubles from \$890, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*

### FYI

“Song Saa is paradise. Spend no less than four nights here – you won’t regret it. Your advisor can craft a Cambodian itinerary that includes time at Song Saa along with a few days in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. After busy days at Angkor Wat, you’ll want a few days of R&R on the island.”

– *Chris Weatherhead, Virtuoso travel advisor, Santa Barbara*







From opposite left: Finding balance on Lake Austin, Khmer cooking classes and a bird's-eye view of Song Saa, and a private dining nook at Huka Lodge.



## FERNGULLY FOR REAL

It's love at first sight at **Huka Lodge**, a 20-suite, two-cabin retreat on New Zealand's North Island. (Some might say *all* of New Zealand is love at first sight, TBH.) The lodge, fronting a manicured lawn on the banks of the Waikato River, first opened as a trout-fishing camp in the 1920s; today, fly-fishing on nearby Lake Taupo is still one of the most popular diversions for guests, along with tennis, yoga, and scenic helicopter tours.

Staff can arrange private outings, from soaking in geothermal pools and learning about Maori culture in Rotorua to biking across suspension bridges in Pureora Forest Park. At a property beloved for its seclusion (suites are tucked within lush gardens), slowing down is welcome: Guests can play a round of croquet, book a massage, and linger over a long meal at one of 20 private-dining spots across the property. The ideal nightcap: a soak in your bathtub, perfectly positioned beneath a picture window framed by a canopy of ferns. *Doubles from \$3,560 for two nights, including most meals.*





**Clockwise from top left: Bushmans Kloof's spa, San rock paintings, farm-to-table dining, and a two-wheel safari. Opposite: Hike vistas.**





## FYI

"Bushmans Kloof is a must for nature lovers – it's a wilderness paradise abundant with wildlife and one of my favorite places in the world. Be sure to ask the staff to pack a picnic lunch for you before you head out on a nature tour."

– Janie Bullard, Virtuoso travel advisor, Atlanta

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## CAVE PAINTINGS AND WILDCATS

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There are only 14 rooms and two villas at **Bushmans Kloof**, an 18,000-acre wilderness reserve in South Africa's Western Cape province (a three-hour drive north of Cape Town), which gives just a few dozen travelers unfettered access to an expansive corner of the Cederberg Mountains. Guests can head out on game drives to spy the 200-plus species that call the reserve home, including the Cape mountain zebra and the African wildcat; sign up for hiking or canoeing excursions; and see some of the 130 ancient San rock paintings found in caves and on rocky overhangs across the property. The nomadic San people lived on this land between 2,000 and 10,000 years ago, and the lodge preserves their art and other relics. Everything at this sustainable property is deeply inspired by its surroundings: The four restaurants source organic produce from on-site gardens, and spa treatments feature products made from local plant extracts. *Doubles from \$613, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*





## MOUNTAIN MAGIC

Near the Virginia-North Carolina border at an elevation of 3,000 feet, with 51 rooms, suites, and cottages, **Primland Resort** makes an excellent base for exploring the Blue Ridge Mountains – but with all there is to do at the 12,000-acre Auberge property, you don't have to go far to find adventure. Guests can swim, fly-fish, kayak, stand-up paddleboard, or try out archery or tomahawk throwing; there are yoga and meditation classes, an 18-hole golf course, and plenty of opportunities to hike, bike, ATV, and ride horses across the property's forested grounds. Guest rooms in the main lodge are spacious, while families and bigger groups love the resort's cottages, which sleep up to 12 and have full kitchens, outdoor dining areas, and stone fireplaces. A trio of ultra-private tree houses overlooking the Dan River Gorge each sleep two and elicit some very #cozycabin vibes. Primland's four restaurants all champion a farm-to-table ethos, and s'mores by the firepit are a given. A stargazing session at the resort's observatory is the best way to end the day. *Doubles from \$939, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*



**Clockwise from top: Cool green on the loch at Cameron House, an equine encounter at Estancia Vik José Ignacio, and a Blue Ridge tree house and nature outing at Primland Resort.**







## FALCONS AND WHISKY

Summer in the Scottish Highlands may not call for swimsuits and snorkeling, but longer, brighter days give the region's mountains, lochs, and glens extra sparkle. At the 208-room **Cameron House**, a seventeenth-century baronial mansion on the shores of Loch Lomond, all the expected simple Scottish pleasures await, including falconry, fishing, golf, clay pigeon shooting, pony trekking, and off-roading through the estate's 400 wooded acres in a house Land Rover. Guests can slurp Scottish oysters at The Boat House lounge before boarding the hotel's motor yacht, the *Celtic Warrior*, for an afternoon on Loch Lomond. (Does nearby Doune Castle look familiar? It's Winterfell from *Game of Thrones*.) The hotel also has its own seaplane – scenic flights over the Highlands are an in-demand summertime experience. Rooms are cozy, decked out in tartan and plaid wools, and because this is Scotland, the best nightcaps are in The Great Scots' Bar. Our advice? Sip a dram of one of its 300-plus whiskies on the terrace overlooking the loch. *Doubles from \$349, including breakfast daily, a complimentary lake cruise, and a nip of whisky from the Virtuoso Whisky Locker.*



## GOING FULL GAUCHO

Over the past few decades, José Ignacio has gone from a sleepy coastal enclave to one of South America's most beloved summer vacation spots, luring travelers with its windswept coastline, trendy design and cuisine, and laid-back vibe. **Estancia Vik José Ignacio**, set a mile inland on a 4,000-acre working ranch, captures everything travelers love about this corner of the world. Past the hotel's white adobe facade, a labyrinth of covered walkways and open-air courtyards connects the 12 guest rooms, each of which is named for and furnished with the work of a contemporary Uruguayan artist. The decor is bold: sexy murals over king-size beds, gorgeous wood soaking tubs, and private patios with expansive views.

And while the scene is museum-worthy cool inside, time outdoors embraces the estancia lifestyle: Guests can shadow a gaucho for the morning, then ride horses across the pampas for a swim in the José Ignacio Lagoon before an *asado* (Uruguayan barbecue) lunch. Other activities include polo and surfing lessons, tennis, canoeing, and touring neighboring Punta del Este. One highlight: the stunning new Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Atchugarry, Uruguay's first contemporary art museum, just 20 minutes from the hotel. *Doubles from \$500, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*







Rec time, elevated: Château de Berne's five-bedroom Maison Fito and (below) a dish from the Michelin-starred Jardin de Berne.

## EARN YOUR ROSÉ BADGE

This is summer camp with a Provençal spin: soufflé classes in a picturesque farmhouse. Wine workshops and rosé pours overlooking vineyards that have been planted with grapes since Roman times. Late-afternoon swims and field trips to Saint-Tropez. The French countryside dream is just a typical week at the 34-room **Château de Berne**, a 2,500-acre winery near the village of Lorgues. Most of the action is focused on culinary interests (there's also an olive oil operation, and the restaurant, Le Jardin de Berne, has a Michelin star), but a fleet of mountain bikes and e-bikes, plus more than 60 miles of hiking trails, make exploring the grounds in between winetasting sessions easy. Inside the eighteenth-century château, farmhouse-chic guest rooms drenched in natural light charm with vaulted ceilings and claw-foot tubs. A pair of villas with pools provide a little more space and privacy, but for the ultimate group trip, book the seven-bedroom Château, with a movie room, vegetable garden, and full kitchen. *Doubles from \$750, including breakfast daily and a complimentary 60-minute wine discovery tour.* VI.







# I WANT TO TASTE THE STARS



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## Immersed in Palau's singular beauty.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEN JUDGE

**Shallow reefs in Palau's Rock Islands (left) and  
(above) a traditional Palauan dancer.**



I'd

heard about a small island nation, Palau, in the western Pacific that made ecotourism and conservation a priority. Its "Palau Pledge" states

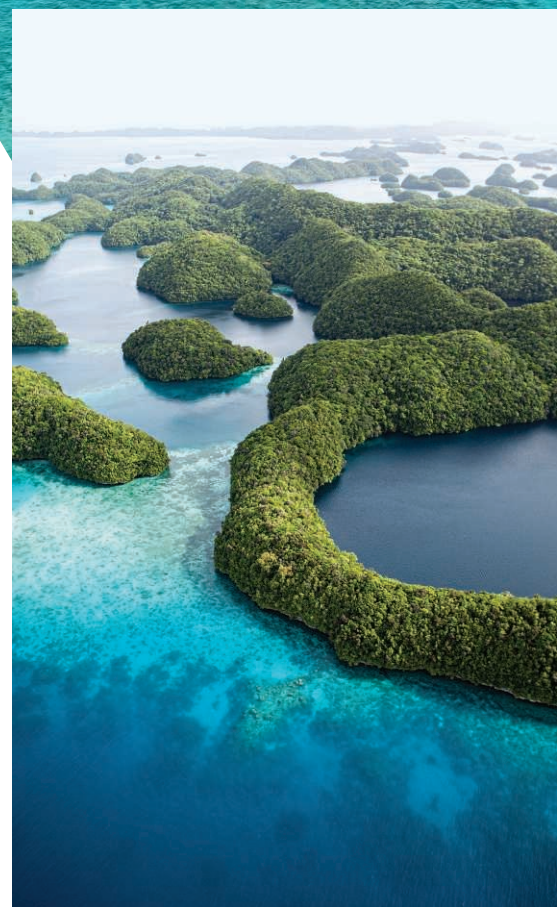
that international arrivals must sign a promise to the country's children that they will "tread lightly, act kindly, and explore mindfully" – that they will not harm the environment during their stay.

I wanted to experience a place that was trying to embrace tourism in a sustainable manner, a place famed for its thriving reefs and clear waters, a scuba diver's dream.

Strewn across some 500 miles east of the Philippines and roughly the same distance above the equator, the islands of Palau – all 340 of them – have a population of less than 22,000. Palau's unparalleled scuba diving is its biggest tourist draw, but visitors also come for snorkeling, to seek out the finest of the islands' miles of white-sand beaches, or to hike to the Ngardmau waterfall, which flows from the country's tallest peak, 794-foot Mount Ngerchelchuus. Palau's cultural heritage is fascinating too, from local farmers tending their taro crops to traditional dance performances.

The Rock Islands hold the country's most conspicuous allure. This scattering of 445 uninhabited white limestone islets and plugs swathed in dense, lush foliage was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2012. Some of Palau's most famous dive sites are here, including Blue Corner, a massive wall that's part of a barrier reef, where serene Napoleon wrasses, leopard sharks, and schools of smaller fish hurtle by in the currents. The islands also harbor numerous inland saltwater lagoons in which, isolated from the ocean, specially adapted creatures have flourished, including jellyfish that have lost the ability to sting. Visitors can strap on fins and float around with hundreds of thousands of the harmless grapefruit-size creatures in one such lagoon – the others have been preserved for conservation.

I've been a diver for at least 20 years; seeing jellyfish on a dive or while snorkeling isn't usually noteworthy. They're often to be avoided – no one enjoys getting stung. But in that isolated lagoon with no current and no waves, it was eerily quiet. I was keenly aware of my heartbeat echoing in my head and the anxiety of swimming with thousands of jellies. The first time one bumped into me was terrifying. The experience defies every instinct. It's like trying to tell yourself that, just this one time, it's OK to stick your hand in an open fire. Before I realized it, I was surrounded by them and quickly found I could float in silence and be fully engulfed and present in the experience. I remember thinking, "This is what it must feel like to float through space."







Clockwise from top left: Rock Islands flora, a Palauan dancer, a local palm tree, a spiderweb lit by the morning sun, and a bird's-eye view of the Rock Islands and a saltwater lagoon.





The experience defies every instinct.  
It's like trying to tell yourself that,  
just this one time, it's OK to stick  
your hand in an open fire.

Stingless denizens of Jellyfish Lake and (right) reef life on  
one of the Rock Islands' many walls.



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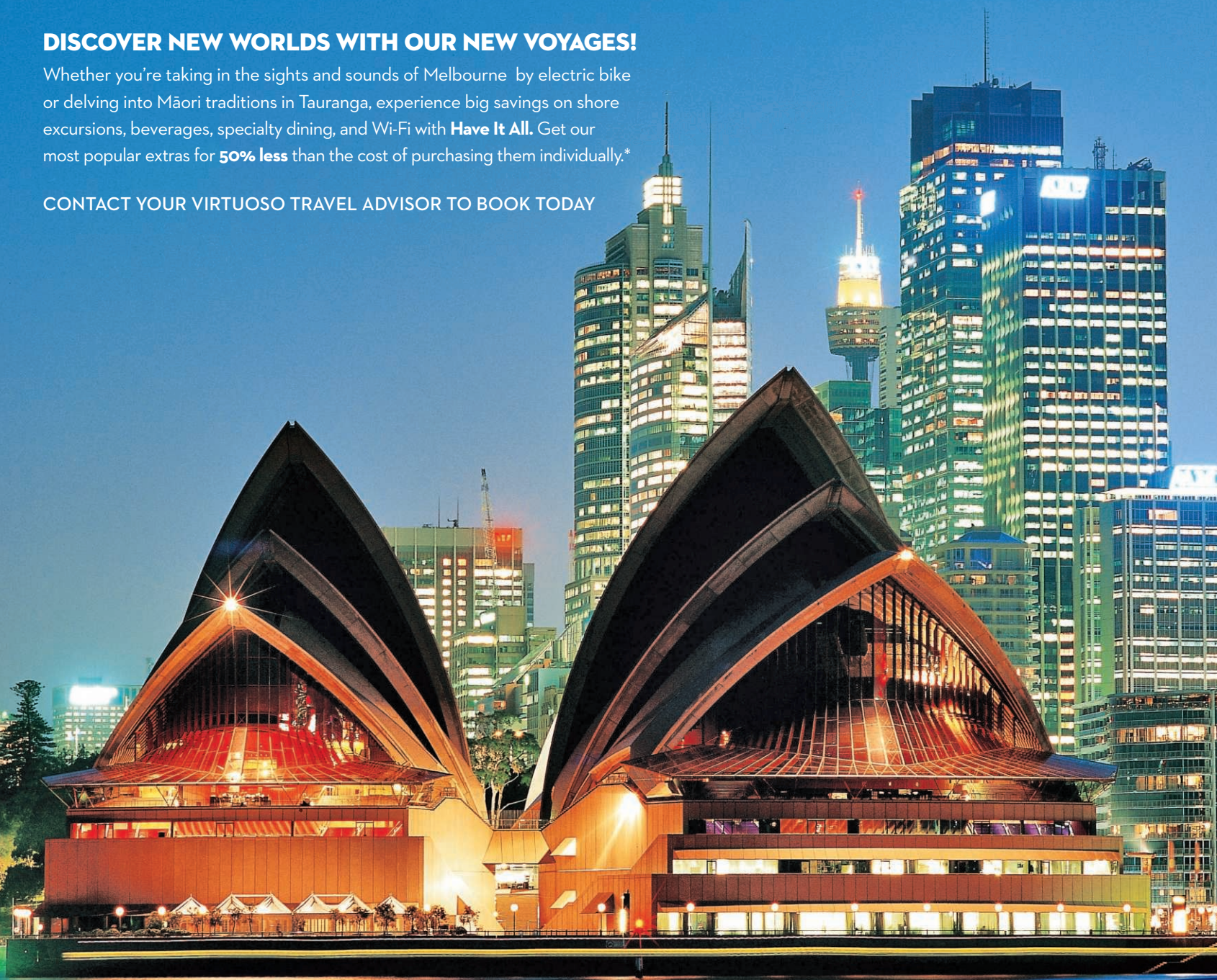
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## Proceed to Paradise

On the 21-night Auckland-to-Manila segment of **Silversea's** multimonth world cruise aboard the 388-passenger *Silver Shadow*, travelers can boat around Palau's labyrinthine Rock Islands and snorkel through the neon reef at Soft Coral Arch, or go directly to Jellyfish Lake to see the famous golden invertebrates up close. *Departure: January 23, 2023; waitlist only, from \$27,800.*

Hike the jungles of Vietnam, visit a cloud forest in Malaysia, and snorkel in Indonesia before the final stop in Palau on **Lindblad Expeditions'** 13-night sailing. There, learn about Peleliu Island's involvement in WWII or snorkel Jellyfish Lake. A National Geographic photographer and a Nat Geo-certified photo instructor and video chronicler join the team aboard the 126-passenger *National Geographic Resolution* on its trip from Ho Chi Minh City. *Departure: October 2, 2023; from \$14,890.*

**Azamara's** new 694-passenger *Azamara Onward* sails for 21 nights from Sydney to Hong Kong in 2024. Along the way, cruisers can visit natural treasures such as Daintree National Park and the Great Barrier Reef, encounter remote villages in Papua New Guinea, and swim among the jellyfish in Palau before exploring monuments and museums in Manila and Hong Kong. *Departure: March 1, 2024; from \$5,199. VI*

**From top: A hermit crab on Peleliu Island; Ngardmau waterfall on Palau's largest island, Babeldaob; and a bai, or men's house, at the Belau National Museum in Koror, Palau's largest city.**





# MEXICAN CARIBBEAN

## ESCAPE TO RIVIERA MAYA

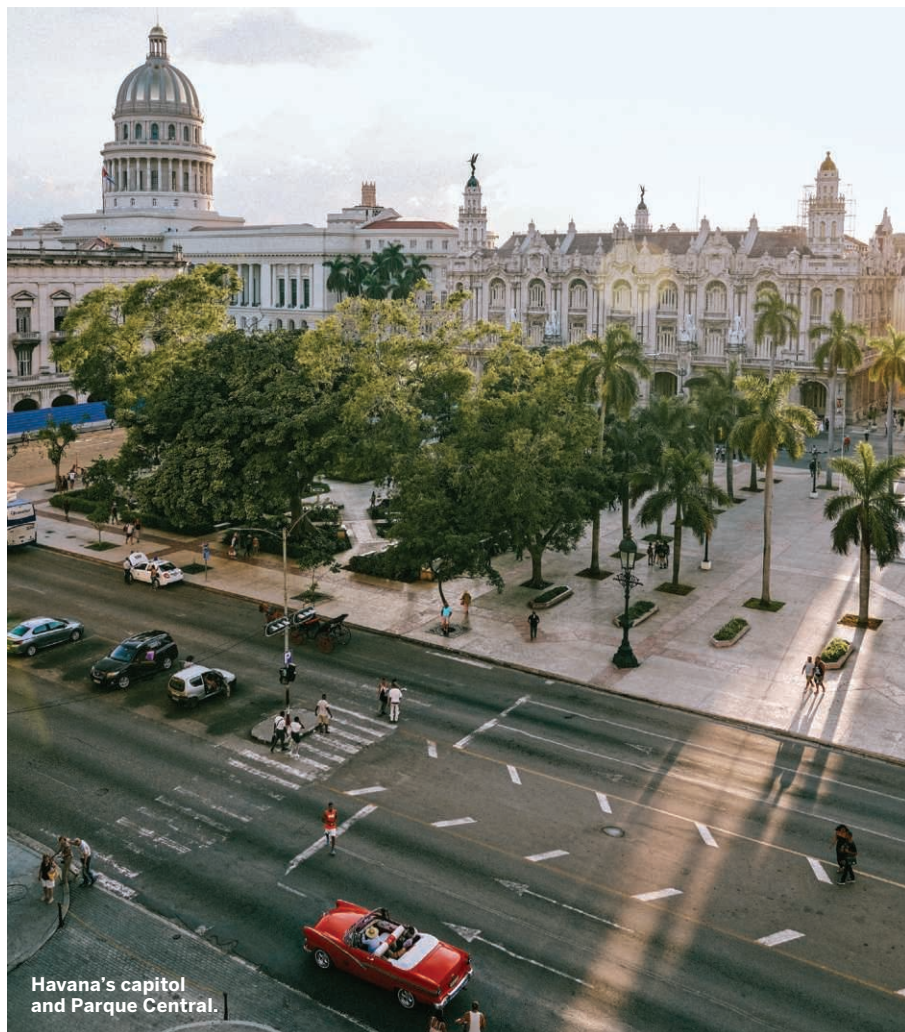
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## We're Obsessed With

The **Sun Tea Trio** from Charleston-based Oliver Pluff & Company is summer on ice. "We used to make sun tea on our back porch to help beat the Oklahoma heat," says *Virtuoso Life* art director Korena Bolding Sinnett. "This is definitely an upgrade from the pitchers of my childhood, but the nostalgia remains." Each peach, raspberry, or Southern Style tea bag brews one gallon. \$39, [oliverpluff.com](http://oliverpluff.com).

## Travel Intelligence

**CUBA CALLING** President Biden recently eased sanctions on Cuba, making travel to the island nation a little easier. People-to-people educational group tours are permitted, but as of press time, there were no plans to allow individual travel or cruises. The group trips must be "purposeful" and "centered on human rights," according to the Biden administration. Your travel advisor can help you navigate regulations and find an appropriate itinerary.

**ON THE LEVEL** The CDC's Travel Health Notices have a slightly new meaning: The agency now only designates a country Level 4 in special circumstances, such as extremely high Covid-19 case counts, the emergence of new variants, or health-care infrastructure collapses. Levels 1 (low), 2 (moderate),

and 3 (high) are based on Covid case counts in a destination. These notices have always served as recommendations; it's best to gauge your own risk level before traveling.

**THE HAPPIEST PLACE(S) ON EARTH** The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network's annual World Happiness Report recently proclaimed Finland the world's happiest country for the fifth consecutive year. Rounding out the top five: Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. This year's report, compiled from surveys conducted in 156 countries, also found that people are more interested in helping strangers, volunteering, and donating – a silver lining of the pandemic, the study's economists hypothesize, and another boost for the power of sustainable travel.



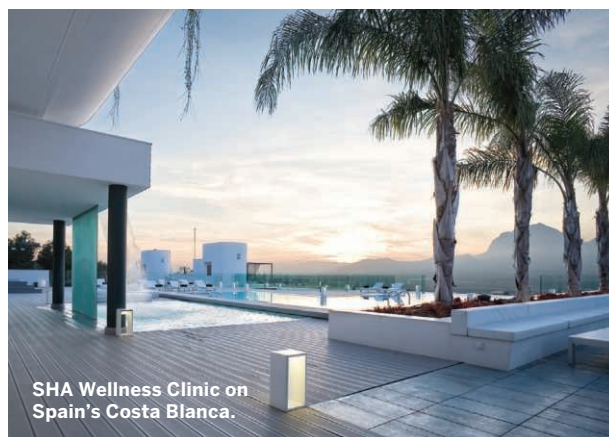


## INTERVIEW

# Mission: Possible

When travel-industry veteran Terry Jones (he founded Travelocity.com) wanted to find a weight-loss retreat, he asked his daughter, Encino, California-based Virtuoso advisor Vanessa Sawtell-Jones, for advice. She suggested Spain's SHA Wellness Clinic, and three years, four visits, and minus 60 pounds later, Jones is hooked.

**I knew I needed to make a change.** After Vanessa recommended SHA, I did a deep dive. They have a really interesting weight-loss and detox program that involves diet, exercise, doctors' advice, and natural therapies. It looked like something that I could actually do, and in a beautiful place. I was blessed with four new granddaughters during the pandemic and felt I had to lose weight so I could hang around with them.



**SHA is in a suburb of Alicante,** overlooking the Mediterranean on Spain's southeastern coast. On the way there, you kind of wonder, "Where am I going?" Then all of a sudden you turn in and see this five-story temple to good health, with stunning views.

**You're busy all day long.** Each visit begins with a consultation with the doctor overseeing your treatment plan – workouts, detox sessions, acupuncture, cryotherapy, homeopathic treatments, and other advanced therapies.

**I was eating 700 calories a day.** That's a tiny amount of food, but I wasn't hungry. The dishes are beautifully presented and taste really good. I met with nutritionists, took cooking classes with the head chef, and even became a vegetarian after my first visit.

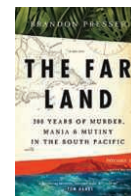
**I've been to 100-plus countries,** led travel companies, and been a consultant, so I don't need help; I need advice. I told Vanessa I wanted to go somewhere to lose weight, and she didn't just pick the place – she picked the *perfect* place. Vanessa knows me, and that's the value of a travel advisor. That combination of knowing people and destinations is magic.

**My wife, Ginny,** wanted to go to Croatia for a long time, and the week before our trip, business called me to Macao. I told Ginny, "I'm sorry, Croatia's off, but meet me in Shanghai?" Vanessa arranged several days in China, and she did it in a heartbeat.

**Where next?** We want that trip to Croatia! And I'll return to SHA, probably next year when they open their new resort in Mexico.

## BACKGROUND RESEARCH

### IF YOU'RE GOING TO ...



#### TAHITI

("The Life Aquatic with Richard Bailey," page 60) Dive into one of the South Pacific's most infamous events with *The Far Land*, Brandon Presser's true story of the Pitcairn Island society formed by *Bounty* mutineers.



#### MALLORCA

("Postcards from the Med," page 66) Watch the BBC series *The Night Manager*, which filmed many scenes on Mallorca, including at Ca's Patró March restaurant (this issue's cover).



#### GET BACK TO NATURE

("Summer Camp Grows Up," page 79) Canoe, camp, and relive that first kiss with 12-year-olds Sam Shakusky and Suzy Bishop in Wes Anderson's *Moonrise Kingdom*.

# 2,365

The length (in feet) of the new **Sky Bridge 721**, the world's longest pedestrian suspension bridge. It connects two mountains in the Czech Republic village of Dolni Morava.



# Sun-Kissed Scenes

WARM TONES AND ROSY MEMORIES OF FAVORITE PLACES.



Clockwise from top left: *St Barthélemy*, *Minuit*, *Madagascar*, *La Lecture*.  
Fine-art giclée prints.

Léa Morichon's résumé includes a stint as an invitation designer for Cartier. These days, the French painter and illustrator works in oils and gouache with some digital flourishes, inspired by her travels and her love of the sun and sailing. Prints available at [sergeantpaper.com](http://sergeantpaper.com), [leamorichon.com](http://leamorichon.com), @ [lea\\_morichon](https://www.instagram.com/lea_morichon)





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