

YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS WITH US

# VIRTUOSO LIFE

MAY | JUNE 2022

EDGE OF  
THE  
WORLD

IT'S TIME TO GO BIG





Plaza de la Encarnación,  
Seville, Spain.



VIRTUOSO®

## TRIPS OF A LIFETIME

**When you're ready to go, look to a Virtuoso travel advisor for inspiration and practical advice on navigating travel's landscape now.**

For close-to-home getaways or far-flung trips of a lifetime, Virtuoso advisors are your resource for the insight you need to plan a safe, successful, and unforgettable vacation. Their expertise and access to Virtuoso's network of the world's best travel brands, perks, and experiences mean your most memorable trips are yet to come.

**Connect with an advisor at [virtuoso.com](https://www.virtuoso.com).**

---

**THE WORLD'S TOP TRAVEL AGENCIES AND ADVISORS ARE VIRTUOSO®.**

---



ADVERTISEMENT

 SILVERSEA®



UNCOVER  
AUTHENTIC BEAUTY  
IN 2023

LET US TAKE YOU CLOSER TO THE  
TUCKED AWAY TREASURES OF  
THE MEDITERRANEAN



# INTIMATE LUXURY & INSPIRED ITINERARIES

*The recipe for unmatched Mediterranean pleasure*

---

These shores gave birth to Silversea, and no cruise line understands the Mediterranean better. This depth of local knowledge – combined with a fleet perfectly sized to access not only the familiar marquee destinations but smaller, less travelled ports – promises an experience only Silversea can offer. Add to that a level of personalised luxury that is second to none, from butler-serviced all-suite accommodations to Door-to-Door chauffeur service – and the Silversea difference becomes even more compelling.

Select from our hand-picked 2023 itineraries spanning the region from one sumptuous end to the other. Cosy up to the glamour of Monte Carlo or glide alongside mega-yachts off Sardinia. Island hop through Greece, bask along the Costa del Sol, or travel back through time in the Holy Land. Play boules with locals at Port-Vendres or sample a venerable Châteauneuf-du-Pape outside Avignon. The choices are endless, as are the discoveries.



The stairway leading to the Neptune's Grotto, Sardinia, Italy



# FROM LISBON TO ASHDOD – AND PORTS BETWEEN

*The Silversea fleet is ever on the move*

---

## CHOOSE FROM SOME 49 SAILINGS

Our 2023 Mediterranean season runs throughout the year, not just in spring, and features itineraries ranging from 7 to 15 luxurious days. No corner of the region is overlooked, from the Strait of Gibraltar to the Bosphorus of Istanbul. Ensconced in a shipboard atmosphere of uncompromised luxury, you can be introduced to the European destinations you've always dreamt of, or return to several you've been yearning to visit anew. The most challenging part might be choosing.

## SPARKLING NEW SHIPS PLYING FABLED SEAS

Come get deliciously lost in the grandeur of cities and landmarks that have inspired travellers and artists alike for centuries. Surrender to the romance of France, the sultry rhythm of Spain, the sensory allure of Italy, the sublime beauty of Greece, or a myriad of other Mediterranean realms steeped in history. Perhaps you'll opt to experience your journey onboard a Silversea ship so new it barely has a history – like the *Silver Dawn*, launching 2022, or the boldly innovative *Silver Nova*, which will spend much of its inaugural 2023 season exploring these legendary lands.



Venetian fortress in the old harbour of Heraklion, Crete, Greece



*Silver Nova*



# THE SILVERSEA DIFFERENCE

*Bespoke, all-inclusive luxury from the very first moment*



## ALL-SUITE SHIPS, DESIGNED FOR COMFORT

From your first welcome greeting to the final champagne toast goodbye, your Silversea journey unfolds with a quiet perfection that is both unseen and flawless. Finely appointed suites – most with private veranda – and one of the highest space-per-guest ratios at sea ensure your sense of intimate luxury. Your butler sees to everything from the essentials to the unexpected, around the clock. And gourmet international and locally inspired dining venues satisfy even the most ambitious of cravings.



## INSIDER INSIGHTS & ENRICHING DISCOVERIES

Our expertise in the Mediterranean is unequalled. Step away from shallow and everyday tourist experiences, and plunge with us into the depth of discovery, Silversea style. Enjoy privileged access to sites both renowned and undiscovered. Choose from a comprehensive programme of expert-led, small-group shore excursions designed to put you in the know, everywhere. As of summer 2022, one excursion per port, per day is included with our compliments; select from curated offerings in each destination.

*While the destinations may be what first attracts you, it's the Silversea experience that will stay with you forever.*

## "ALL-INCLUSIVE" NOW BEGINS FROM YOUR DOORSTEP

Take your Silversea all-inclusive experience to new heights. Start your cruise the moment you depart your door, thanks to our new chauffeur service. Escorting you from home to your domestic airport and back again, this luxurious service is included as part of our Door-to-Door All-Inclusive fares on new voyage bookings starting spring 2022.

### OUR ALL-INCLUSIVE DOOR-TO-DOOR FARES INCLUDE:

- Private executive transfers (between home and airport)
- Economy Class Air/Business Class upgrades at reduced rates or Air Credit
- Shore excursions (one per port, per day)
- Butler service in every suite category
- Premium beverages in-suite and throughout the ship
- Multiple restaurants serving diverse cuisine and an in-suite 24-hour dining service, including caviar
- Unlimited Wi-Fi
- Onboard gratuities



**RESERVE YOUR SUITE WITH YOUR VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR TODAY TO RECEIVE EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS.**



Contact your Virtuoso travel advisor for full offer details and complete Terms and Conditions. This document may contain inadvertent technical or factual inaccuracies and typographical errors. Silversea reserves the right to correct errors and omissions at any time without prior notice, and to cancel any offered product, service, programme, reward, savings, credit, amenity, etc. in the event of any error or omission in the description, including pricing and availability. Due to evolving health protocols, some imagery and messaging may not accurately reflect current onboard and destination offerings, or the public health standards and government requirements that modify or limit these offerings. Onboard and destination experiences, features, itineraries, and guest conduct rules vary by ship and destination and are subject to change without notice.

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



# Contents

ISSUE 129  
May | June 2022



CLARA TUMA

**112**

The Seville showroom of flamenco-dress designer Carmen Acedo.

## **86** ANTARCTICA THREE WAYS

Cruising the seventh continent and the coolest base camp ever.

BY KIMBERLEY LOVATO AND  
KORENA BOLDING SINNETT

## **100** THE TOTAL PACKAGE

Trips of a lifetime that do good.

BY AMY CASSELL

## **112** ALL FOR FLAMENCO

Spotlighting Seville's revered art form.

BY JEN ROSE SMITH

### DESTINATION INDEX

Antarctica	86
Australia	107
Berkshires	40
Buenos Aires	111
Canada	47
Costa Rica	109
Egypt	18
Greenland	105
India	48, 110
Japan	106
London	25, 70
Los Angeles	74
Madrid	44
Maldives	103
Paris	54
Seville	112
Tanzania	102
Tuscany	104
U.S. National Parks	108, 124

### ON THE COVER

BLUE-CHIP TRIP:

Take a shine to Antarctica.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KORENA BOLDING SINNETT

**i** Your Virtuoso travel advisor is your best resource for up-to-date information on health-and-safety protocols and restrictions, wherever your travels lead.



# Contents

ISSUE 129  
May | June 2022



52



70



54



74

## **10** EDITOR'S NOTE

## **14** CONTRIBUTORS

## **18** JUST BACK

An all-ages adventure in Egypt.

## **25** PASSPORT

London blooms again.

## **34** BON VOYAGE

Ritz-Carlton takes to the seas.

## **40** SUITE TALK

Pickleball, The Madrid Edition, and wellness in the Berkshires.

## **46** SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

Plant-based dining, tiger preservation, and African art.

## **52** INSPIRED BY Spring Picnics

Dining splendor in the grass.

## **54** CITY TO GO

**Easy on the Eyes**  
A fashionable take on the City of Light.

## **70** ON THE TABLE In with the Old

A tour of London's classic food destinations.

## **74** STYLE AND DESIGN Rare Bird

Dig into Richard Christiansen's L.A. garden of earthly delights.

## **78** WELL TRAVELED All Together Now

Bathing traditions around the globe.

## **82** IN MY BAG

**My Travel Essentials**  
Aerin Lauder's packing tips and must-haves.

## **122** HOW TO TRAVEL BETTER

The travel tips and insight you need now.

## **126** GALLERY

**Repetitive Emotion**  
Photos that capture cities' souls.

(CAFÉ) CHARLOTTE BLAND (MODEL) ALAIN GIL-GONZALEZ/ABACA/SIPA USA/AP IMAGES  
(VEGETABLES) DREW ESCRIVA



# Abercrombie & Kent

LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISES<sup>SM</sup>

## Explore All Seven Continents with the Unrivaled Experts at Sea

Join A&K for a thrilling 2023-24 season of Luxury Expedition Cruises, now featuring four new voyages and unique adventures from Antarctica to the east coast of Africa. Backed by more than 30 years of experience, every A&K voyage is led by our acclaimed Expedition Team on an exclusively chartered – and luxuriously all-inclusive – small ship, each featuring all-balcony accommodations, a fascinating enrichment program and an intimate guest capacity that never exceeds 199.

Ready for the ultimate adventure at sea? Contact your Virtuoso<sup>SM</sup> Travel Advisor today.

©2022 Abercrombie & Kent, USA, LLC CST#2007274-20



VIRTUOSO.  
PREFERRED

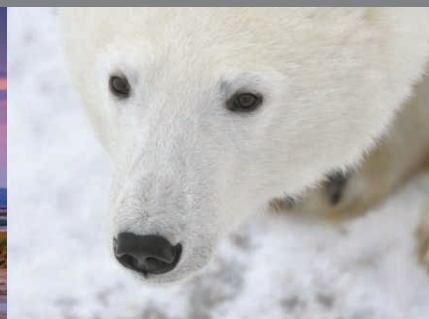
### EXCLUSIVE AMENITY

Receive a \$200 shipboard credit on all cruises.

Credit is per booking on Luxury Expedition Cruises only and has no cash value.

### Discover a New Season of Luxury Expedition Cruises to the World's Most Inspiring Destinations

Antarctica | Arctic | Northwest Passage | Japan | Australia | Indonesia | French Polynesia & Easter Island  
Seychelles & Tanzania | Portugal, Spain & France | Italy | Greece | Croatia & Montenegro | Baltic Sea







\* Imagery and messaging may not accurately reflect onboard and destination experiences, offerings, features, or itineraries. These may not be available during your voyage, may vary by ship and destination, and may be subject to change without notice. ©2022 Celebrity Cruises Inc. Ships' registry: Malta and Ecuador.



# ISN'T IT TIME?

TO AWAKEN A JOURNEY FILLED WITH  
WONDER IN EUROPE.

Reconnect with each other—and the world—on our revolutionary Edge® Series ships that make the journey as incredible as the destination. Lose yourself in accommodations so stunning, you won't want to be found. Dine in restaurants that awaken every sense with menus crafted by our Michelin-starred chef. Enjoy intuitive service that's always one step ahead of your every need. All this is just the beginning. Our Europe sailings introduce incredible experiences from discovering the blue lagoon of Iceland to exploring Italy's Amalfi Coast—and everything in between.

JOURNEY SAFE. JOURNEY WONDERFULL<sup>SM</sup>.

**ENJOY UP TO \$475 SHIPBOARD CREDIT PER SUITE WHEN YOU BOOK  
THE RETREAT WITH YOUR VIRTUOSO® TRAVEL ADVISOR**



VIRTUOSO  
PREFERRED

Celebrity **X** Cruises®

JOURNEY WONDERFULL<sup>SM</sup>

# The Size of Things

**I**F YOU LISTENED CLOSELY IN LATE WINTER, YOU could hear it: the rustle of parkas as everyone in the travel industry hightailed it for Antarctica. My Instagram feed overflowed with penguins, icebergs, and red-cheeked friends squinting in the Antarctic sunshine and raising Champagne flutes to their seventh continent. People were swapping seasickness remedies, comparing Drake Passage swell heights, and trading packing tips.

Why the stampede toward the South Pole? Yes, after a season lost to Covid in 2021, operators were back to more robust schedules. But could it also be the prevailing sentiment in travel, which skews heavily “carpe diem” (with a dash of YOLO)? Travel plans delayed by the pandemic or even by run-of-the-mill waffling have taken on a new urgency. Add to that the landscapes being literally remade by climate change, and you have a recipe for action. (Our poster boy for this galvanization, Virtuoso’s David Kolner, pulled off a years-in-the-making multifamily grand tour of Egypt with the help of one supremely well-connected Virtuoso advisor – read about his trip on page 18.)

So in addition to our comprehensive guide to Antarctica (page 86) – and a take-me-there-now cover photo by art director Korena Bolding Sinnett – we’ve stacked this issue with big trips that can’t wait: safaris, rain-forest adventures, Tuscan wine tours, and other trips of a lifetime, each with sustainability at their core (page 100). There are other gems too, like Amy Merrick’s foray into classic London food destinations and an interview with the trailblazing adman-turned-farm-supporter Richard Christiansen, who knows a thing or two about ambitious itineraries and enjoying life. Whatever your version of going big, we aim to inspire – and your Virtuoso advisor is here to get you out there in style.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mari Cain". The signature is fluid and cursive.

MARIKA CAIN  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR



## Where I've Been

A recent long weekend with friends in **Ojai, California**, was an orange-blossom-scented gift. We rode horses through the Ventura River Valley, OMG-ed through dinner (and ordered all the desserts) at new, sister-owned **Rory's Place**, scarfed down \$2.50 tacos at **Ojai Tortilla House**, bought sage bundles and **Ojai Wild's** Pink Peppercorn body oil, and read Joan Didion by the pool. The Virtuoso stay of choice: the Cali-cool **Ojai Valley Inn**.



# GERMANY

## Crafted with Flair

With a flair for diversity, Germany welcomes you to 25,000 castles and palaces, charming historic towns, and vibrant urban centers. Dedicated to authenticity, Germany celebrates centuries of craftsmanship and that special moment when craft becomes art. Always open to new ideas, but dedicated to conserving traditional German skills, the country's workshops, farms, bakeries, and more welcome visitors to learn first-hand how timeless products and artistic works are created.

Meet a traditional baker and learn how they produce delectable homemade bread according to original recipes. Sit side-by-side with a fashion designer in the art city of Weimar and review their sketches. Marvel at magnificent glass art from the Harz Mountains at the Harzkristall manufactory in Derenberg, one of the only glassworks in Germany still producing hand-blown glass objects.

Visit a traditional goldsmith and learn how they incorporate Bavarian traditions and their signature style to create *Heimatwohlgefühl* (home comforts). Follow the German Clock Road through the Black Forest to visit clock manufacturers and their grandfather clocks, ornamental timepieces, and the much-loved cuckoo clock.

Throughout this vibrant country, you'll discover a rich craft tradition and flair for individuality. With open arms and enhanced protocols to ensure you stay safe and healthy throughout your travels, countless opportunities for unforgettable experiences are waiting.

**Contact your Virtuoso travel advisor to craft an unforgettable visit to Germany.**

In cooperation with:



on the basis of a decision  
by the German Bundestag

**Germany**  
The travel destination



[www.germany.travel](http://www.germany.travel)



A fashion designer showing her beautiful work.



Cuckoo clocks surprise and delight with their artistry.



Hands-on experience in traditional bread-making.



# VIRTUOSO LIFE®

YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS WITH US

“What’s always in your carry-on?”

## EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR **MARIKA CAIN**

SENIOR EDITOR **JUSTIN PAUL**  
ASSISTANT EDITOR **AUBURN SCALLON**  
DIGITAL CONTENT SPECIALIST **EMMA FRANKE**

## DESIGN

DESIGN DIRECTOR **MELANIE PRASETYO FOWLER**  
ART DIRECTOR **KORENA BOLDING SINNETT**

“A paper journal to capture travel memories in the moment.”

## CONTRIBUTORS

COPY EDITORS **MIRIAM BULMER, DIANE SEPANSKI**  
RESEARCHERS **DONNA BLINN, JESSICA MUELLER**  
PHOTO RESEARCHER **MARY RISHER** DIGITAL RETOUCHER **WALTER KELLY**  
WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS **NANNA DÍZ, LUIS GARCÍA, ELAINE GLUSAC, DAVID HOCHMAN, JEFF KOEHLER, KIMBERLEY LOVATO, KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI, KIM BROWN SEELY**

## MARKETING/ADVERTISING

MANAGING DIRECTOR, GLOBAL MARKETING STRATEGY **LAURA SPORT**  
DIRECTOR, MARKETING PRODUCTS & PROGRAMS **ROBERT DUNCAN**  
MANAGER, DIGITAL MARKETING **KELLY KIRCHNER**

## CIRCULATION/DATA SERVICES

**LANECHA WHITE**  
**AMY HYDE, GAYLYNN MAGERS**

## MARKETING OPERATIONS

DIRECTOR **KATHY NIWA TERRELL**  
MANAGER **NATALIE SHERMAN**  
SPECIALIST **DENISE RODRIGUEZ**  
COORDINATORS **KATIE HARNISH, CAROL LEWIS**

## ACCOUNT SALES

**SARA ARCHIBALD, AMY BAILEY, SCOTT BRYAN, CAROL COLEMAN, XABIER EGUREN, ARLLYS FILMER-BENNETT, TRISHA FORESMAN, CHRISTINE GILBERT, MALLORY HAYES, TONY LOGAN, GREGG NIELSEN, DANIELA TROTTA**

## VIRTUOSO

CHAIRMAN & CEO **MATTHEW D. UPCHURCH**  
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER **BRAD BOURLAND**  
SVP, STRATEGY **DAVID KOLNER**  
SVP, GLOBAL OPERATIONS **MICHAEL LONDREGAN**  
SVP, MARKETING **HELEN McCABE-YOUNG**  
SVP, FINANCE & OPERATIONS **MIKE McCOWN**  
SVP, PRODUCT **TRAVIS McELFRESH**  
VP, GLOBAL PUBLIC RELATIONS **MISTY EWING BELLES**  
VP, MEMBER RELATIONS **CHERYL BUNKER**  
VP, NETWORK PRODUCTS **JENNIFER CAMPBELL**  
VP, TECHNOLOGY **PAUL KEARNEY**  
VP, CONSUMER PRODUCTS **ANDREW LOCKE**  
VP FINANCE & ACCOUNTING **TAMARA LUPASCU-PRUNA**  
VP, MEMBER AND PARTNER DEVELOPMENT **KARYN McCARTHY**  
VP, CULTURE & TALENT **MICHELLE RASHID**  
VP, OPERATIONS **STEVE WOOSTER**  
VP, PRODUCT MARKETING **MARY BETH WRESSSELL**

“My favorite wrap, purchased a few years ago in Rome – and these days, a Covid self-test.”

“My go-to is a portable humidifier. Try it – you’ll be amazed at the difference it makes.” – A.B.

## EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

**MEREDITH BURBIDGE, NOELLE CELESTE, EMILY CLENNEY, GRACE DEVITA, CHRISTINA HANNA, SCOTT LARGAY, LEAH SMITH, JIM WELCH, JENNY WESTERMANN, KIMBERLY WILSON WETTY**

Virtuoso® is the leading global travel agency network specializing in luxury and experiential travel. This by-invitation-only organization comprises over 1,200 travel agency locations with more than 20,000 travel advisors in over 50 countries throughout North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa, and the Middle East. Drawing upon its preferred relationships with more than 2,200 of the world’s best hotels and resorts, cruise lines, airlines, tour companies, and premier destinations, the network provides its upscale clientele with exclusive amenities, rare experiences, and privileged access. Normalized annual sales of (U.S.) \$25 to \$30 billion make Virtuoso a powerhouse in the luxury travel industry. For more information, visit [www.virtuoso.com](http://www.virtuoso.com). For a subscription, please call your Virtuoso travel advisor. All pricing and travel described herein are subject to change and availability, and restrictions may apply. Prices are per person, double occupancy, in U.S. dollars, and do not include taxes or other fees unless stated otherwise. Publisher assumes no liability for the representations contained herein. Publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited art, photography, or manuscripts. Nothing may be reprinted in whole or in part without written consent of the publisher. EDITORIAL: [editors@virtuoso.com](mailto:editors@virtuoso.com). ADVERTISING: [marketingproduction@virtuoso.com](mailto:marketingproduction@virtuoso.com). VIRTUOSO HEADQUARTERS, VIRTUOSO LIFE CIRCULATION, AND POSTMASTER INQUIRIES: Virtuoso Life Circulation, Virtuoso, 777 Main Street, Suite 900, Fort Worth, TX 76102; [virtuoso.com](http://virtuoso.com). To stop receiving Virtuoso Life, contact your travel advisor or email [help@virtuoso.com](mailto:help@virtuoso.com). California CST #2069091-50; Washington UBI #601554183. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the state of California. Copyright © 2022 by Virtuoso, Ltd. All rights reserved. Within the United States, Virtuoso, the Globe Swirl Logo, Virtuoso Life, Specialists in the Art of Travel, We Orchestrate Dreams, Orchestrate Dreams, Journey to Global Citizenship, Return on Life, and Wanderlist are registered trademarks of Virtuoso, Ltd. Your Journey Begins With Us, Best of the Best, and Virtuoso Voyages are trademarks of Virtuoso, Ltd. Virtuoso, Ltd., has a U.S. copyright registration for the Globe Swirl Logo. © 2000. Outside the U.S., these marks are the property of Virtuoso, Ltd., and the applicable marks are registered with numerous national trademark registries around the world.





Sun, sea and adventure; the Atlantic Coast and volcanic Canary Isles delight with diverse landscapes and inviting beaches.



### The Canary Islands QUEEN VICTORIA\*

12 nights ♦ Nov 29, 2022 ♦ V233

London (sails from Southampton), UK >  
Vigo, Spain > Funchal, Madeira, Portugal >  
La Palma, Spain > Gran Canaria, Spain >  
Lanzarote, Spain > Lisbon, Portugal >  
London (disembarks in Southampton), UK

### Atlantic Coast Adventure QUEEN VICTORIA\*

12 nights ♦ Dec 11, 2022 ♦ V234

London (sails from Southampton), UK >  
La Coruna, Spain > Seville (tours from Cadiz), Spain >  
Granada (tours from Malaga), Spain >  
Cartagena, Spain > Lisbon, Portugal (overnight) >  
London (disembarks in Southampton), UK

### Canary Islands Celebration QUEEN VICTORIA\*

15 nights ♦ Dec 23, 2022 ♦ V301

London (sails from Southampton), UK >  
Lanzarote, Spain > Fuerteventura, Spain >  
Gran Canaria, Spain > Tenerife, Spain >  
Funchal, Madeira, Portugal (overnight) >  
Seville (tours from Cadiz), Spain > Lisbon, Portugal >  
London (disembarks in Southampton), UK

### Virtuoso Exclusive Benefits include:

- ♦ Up to \$500 Bonus Onboard Credit per stateroom\*
- ♦ Specialty Dining Dinner in Steakhouse at The Verandah (Balcony and above)\*

\*Contact your Virtuoso Travel Advisor for complete Terms and Conditions.

Combinable with: Limited Time Offers | Cruise Sales<sup>†</sup> | Future Cruise Sales<sup>†</sup> | Military Benefits

<sup>†</sup>Cruise Sales and Onboard Future Cruise Sales are not combinable with each other. We are currently assessing enhanced health and safety protocols in light of COVID-19 and looking at how these may affect each voyage. Our actual cruise offerings and itineraries may vary from the descriptions provided and images displayed throughout. © 2022 Cunard. Ships' Registry: Bermuda. The Cunard logo and logotype and Queen Victoria are registered trademarks of Carnival plc, an English company trading as Cunard. All rights reserved in the United States and other countries.





## ARTISANS of LEISURE

Simply the best.

Private luxury tours for the world's most sophisticated and curious travelers.

For more information, please contact your Virtuoso Travel Advisor.



## Contributors



**Writer**  
**Kimberley Lovato**  
Sausalito, California  
"Antarctica Three Ways," page 86

**THE REPORT:** "I learned something new every day on this trip: The bluer the ice, the older it is; Antarctica is the highest continent, with an average elevation of 8,200 feet; while penguins waddle awkwardly on land, they swim Michael Phelps-style at lightning speed. I never got tired of watching them."

**TRIP OF A LIFETIME:** "Japan – for the cherry blossoms, the neon and buzz of Tokyo, Kyoto's temples, Mount Fuji, Narai's wooden houses ... I could go on. I suspect I'll need at least a month or two!"  
@KimberleyLovato



**Art Director**  
**Korena Bolding Sinnett**  
Dallas

Cover and "Antarctica Three Ways," page 86  
**THE REPORT:** "When I saw the iceberg that appears on this issue's cover, I knew it would make a great photo. The shape stood out from others we'd seen, and the sun lit it up like neon. I asked our Zodiac guide if he could circle around it so I could shoot every angle. And then I asked him to do it again, and once more again – after which he jokingly named it 'the Korena Iceberg.'"

**TRIP OF A LIFETIME:** "Since I just crossed Antarctica off my list, my eye is set on a Micato safari!"  
@korenasinnett



**Writer**  
**Amy Cassell**  
Seattle

"The Total Package," page 100  
**THE REPORT:** "Working on this story made me realize how much sustainable travel has become the norm, not the exception. These special experiences are proof that you don't have to go that far out of your comfort zone to be a more conscious traveler. Every little step in the right direction counts, and I'll take that with me on future adventures."  
**TRIP OF A LIFETIME:** "A few days searching for secret speakeasies in Buenos Aires before hiking and lodge-hopping in Patagonia – the best of both worlds."  
@amycassell



**Photographer**  
**Clara Tuma**  
Zürich

"All for Flamenco," page 112  
**THE REPORT:** "It was wonderful to learn about Seville's passionate side through its artisans and artists who live for flamenco. Every detail in each guitar and castanet has its purpose, just as every expressive nuance in flamenco has its meaning – from the hoarse voice of the singer wailing and lamenting to the facial expressions of the dancer telling an emotional story with their whole body."  
**TRIP OF A LIFETIME:** "Finnish Lapland, for husky sledding, reindeer safaris, cross-country skiing, and – I hope – watching aurora borealis magic from inside a cozy glass igloo."  
@claratuma  
photography





# VOTED BEST RIVER CRUISE LINE BY VIRTUOSO ADVISORS

EIGHT-TIME WINNER, BEST RIVER CRUISE LINE  
2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019



AmaKristina on Rhône River, Avignon, France



Rhine River Valley, Bacharach, Germany



Locally-sourced cuisine at The Chef's Table

Journey through the heart of Europe aboard award-winning ships that offer the luxury of space for an average of only 150 guests. With a variety of enriching open-air excursions, locally-sourced cuisine and high-quality Wi-Fi all included in the cruise fare, let us be your breath of fresh air when you're ready to travel again.

**SAVE UP TO \$2,000 PER STATEROOM**

Plus, receive up to \$100 Onboard Credit per stateroom



**VIRTUOSO.**  
PREFERRED

For exclusive offers expiring soon, contact your preferred Virtuoso Travel Advisor.





# Explora

JOURNEYS



## INTRODUCING OUR JOURNEYS COLLECTION

Explora Journeys is **CREATING** a *collection* of journeys that offer the *perfect BLEND* of *celebrated* destinations and less-travelled spots, both seen from a *new* and **ORIGINAL** *point of view* that will *inspire* and **EXCITE** in equal measure.

With sailings between seven and 44 nights long, Explora Journeys cover the Mediterranean, Northern Europe, Iceland and Greenland, USA and Canada, the Caribbean, South America, Pacific Coast and Hawaii.

The Explora Journeys team looks forward to welcoming guests from May 31, 2023.

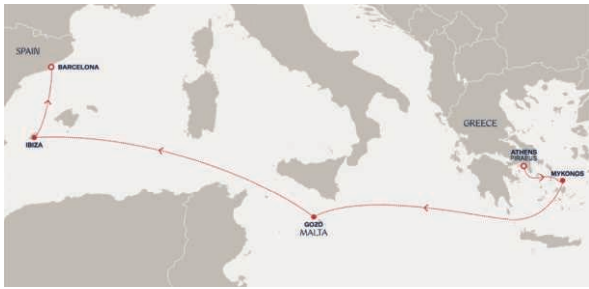


## FEATURED JOURNEYS

All journeys include high-speed unlimited Wi-Fi, access to sophisticated dining across a choice of nine culinary experiences, unlimited beverages, fine wines, premium spirits, a welcome bottle of Champagne, on board gratuities and more.

A journey to blessed islands  
of Bohemia

**JUNE 17 – JUNE 25 2023**  
**8 NIGHTS**



**ATHENS – MYKONOS – GOZO –  
IBIZA – BARCELONA**

Ocean Suites fares from USD 5,450 pp  
Ocean Penthouses fares from USD 7,350 pp  
Ocean Residences fares from USD 11,200 pp

Glacier carved islands  
& the valley of Mischievous Trolls

**JULY 23 – AUGUST 1 2023**  
**9 NIGHTS**



**TROMSØ – LEKNES – BRØNNØYSUND –  
FLÅM – BERGEN – STAVANGER –  
SKAGEN – COPENHAGEN**

Ocean Suites fares from USD 6,600 pp  
Ocean Penthouses fares from USD 8,900 pp  
Ocean Residences fares from USD 12,850 pp

Contact Your Virtuoso Travel Advisor



Fares are cruise only, per person; subject to availability, Terms & Conditions apply.



# All In on Egypt

A multifamily adventure for the books. **INTERVIEWED BY DAVID HOCHMAN**



**From left: Aswan, and David Kolner (second from right) with his husband and sons.**

AS VIRTUOSO'S SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT of strategy, David Kolner helps steer the company's global planning process and business development. But traveling with eight families – including 17 teenagers, two of whom are his own – from Seattle to Egypt in February pushed strategic plotting to new levels.

The trip was nearly a decade in the making: "Our families met when our kids were in

kindergarten together nine years ago," Kolner says. "We recognized this would be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for parents and children alike, and we also knew we didn't want a reenactment of *Lord of the Flies*."

Parent Julie Williamson, whose husband is Egyptian, planned the trip with Sarasota-based Virtuoso agency owner Malaka

Hilton and Virtuoso partners such as Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts and Abercrombie & Kent Egypt on the ground. "Malaka layered on her own contacts and extras," Kolner says, "including private plane and boat charters for the group up and down the Nile, guest lectures in unforgettable locations, and insider access that made this an epic ten-day trip like no other. We felt so



☀️ TA' PINU BASILICA, GOZO

MORE  
TO EXPLORE



VIRTUOSO.  
PREFERRED



VisitMalta



## Just Back



**Clockwise from top: The Sphinx, Cairo's Great Mosque of Muhammad Ali, and the group set for takeoff. Opposite: Cruising the Nile on the Sanctuary Sun Boat IV.**

safe and welcomed, and couldn't recommend it more to others – go now." Here are just a few of his highlights.

**THE GRATITUDE FACTOR** For most of us, this was the first serious travel we'd done post-pandemic, so our collective appreciation was off the charts. We chartered the *Sanctuary Sun Boat IV*, which has a rooftop deck with a plunge pool, a massage therapist, and chefs. The weather was 75 and sunny every day. Even the teenagers were like, "This is freakin' amazing!"

**ACCESS FOR THE AGES** On one night, Zahi Abass Hawass, arguably the world's most famous Egyptologist, gave us a private presentation on antiquities as our group sat between the paws of the Sphinx. We didn't exactly realize how special this access was until we noticed the next-closest tourists stuck behind a railing a block away.



# LIVE YOUR ADVENTURE. GO ACTIVE.

Join Backroads, the leader in **active travel for 40+ years**, and enjoy bold adventures in the freedom of the great outdoors. In **over 65 countries**, from easygoing to avid, every Backroads adventure features **world-class luxury** with unrivaled service and support from a **dedicated team** of Trip Leaders.



“The woman who works on the pharaohs let us touch one of their wigs. Talk about history coming alive! We all had goose bumps.”

**BRUSHES WITH HISTORY** At the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo, they took us down into a basement, way beyond where standard tours go, to visit with scientists restoring artifacts. The woman who works on the pharaohs let us touch one of their wigs. Talk about history coming alive! We all had goose bumps.

**THE PLOT THICKENS** The general manager at Aswan’s Sofitel Legend Old Cataract hotel heard about our group and threw us a cocktail party in the suite where Agatha Christie wrote *Death on the Nile*. To experience the sun setting over the Nile amid lush gardens, with a drink in hand and fezzucas floating by ... we could have written our own novel.

**WHOSE TRIP IS IT ANYWAY?** After a few days of earnestly following every detail on the itinerary, we started making our own rules. Having private guides and a chartered boat

and plane meant nobody was waiting for us. We weren’t beholden to other travelers. If we wanted to let the kids sleep late, we could cancel a morning activity. If the parents wanted a grown-up dinner, we’d shift things, and the kids were happy to stay back and hang together. Going private, your time is your own.

**EVERYONE’S A WINNER** A multigenerational trip isn’t just ticking boxes, like seeing the pyramids or riding a camel. It’s the time you spend together that matters. We played this game, Salad Bowl, where you put celebrity names into a bowl and guess which mixed team of parents and kids came up with which famous name. Floating down the Nile on a perfect evening, playing this game and laughing together – it didn’t have anything to do with Egypt or even Virtuoso perks. It was about having the space to really connect in ways you can’t engineer or predict, and that was the trip’s real magic. VI.





## UNRIVALED SPACE AT SEA™

The luxury of personal space is central to the promise of An Unrivaled Experience® with Regent Seven Seas Cruises®. It provides the extravagant freedom guests need to explore and relax to the fullest. As the preeminent luxury cruise line on the ocean, we pride ourselves in offering some of the largest balconies and most spacious suites at sea. Our wide range of specialty restaurants, al fresco and in-suite dining options, exquisite lounges, bars and expansive spaces are perfect to rest and celebrate in, knowing there is never a queue or a crowd and that every detail is taken care of and every amenity is included.

Join us and discover how — with our unrivaled space at sea — we will exceed your loftiest expectations of comfort and personalized service for a truly unforgettable experience aboard The World's Most Luxurious Fleet™.

The world is waiting. Start the journey with Regent.



**CONTACT YOUR VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR  
TO BOOK YOUR REGENT EXPERIENCE TODAY!**



**SEVEN SEAS CRUISES®**

AN UNRIVALED EXPERIENCE®



**SAIL SAFE** | For the latest details on our health and safety protocols, please visit [RSSC.com/HealthSafetyProtocols](https://www.rssc.com/HealthSafetyProtocols)

\*Visit [rssc.com/legal](https://www.rssc.com/legal) for full terms and conditions. Ships' Registry: Marshall Islands & Bahamas. ©2021 Regent Seven Seas Cruises.



EVERY  
LUXURY  
INCLUDED







# EXPERIENCE THE GRANDEUR OF *Europe*

Visit the places you've always dreamed of and experience grand cities' historic wonders. Travel in Europe is the stuff that fantasies are made of and it's one of the top "must-see" places on everyone's bucket list. Europe promises to deliver all that you seek and more.

Plus, book confidently knowing that when you add our Travel Protection Plan, you get a full money-back refund† if you need to cancel - up to 24 hours before departure\*\*.



**Italy's Treasures:**  
Art, Food & Wine of Italy  
12 Days • 17 Meals  
From **\$3,249\*PP** BASED ON US DEPARTURE

**This is:** Your chance to delve into incredible history, indelible culture, and unforgettable cuisine.

Canadian pricing starting from **\$4,649\*** pp based on March 18, 2023 departure



**Iceland's Magical Northern Lights**  
7 Days • 10 Meals  
From **\$2,399\*PP** BASED ON US DEPARTURE

**This is:** Your time to experience the "land of fire and ice" and chase the aurora borealis across an ethereal wonderland.

Canadian pricing starting from **\$2,999\*** pp based on November 12, 2022 departure



**Spain & Portugal:**  
Costa del Sol to the Portuguese Riviera  
12 Days • 17 Meals  
From **\$3,199\*PP** BASED ON US DEPARTURE

**This is:** Your moment to get a true taste of the Iberian Peninsula - from bustling cities to peaceful stays on the Mediterranean coast.

Canadian pricing starting from **\$4,199\*** pp based on January 28, 2023 departure

Extraordinary experiences await. For reservations, contact your Trusted Virtuoso Travel Advisor.



\*Pricing is per person, land only, double occupancy, and varies by departure date. \*\*Visit [collette.com/travelprotection](https://collette.com/travelprotection) for full details of insurance policy and benefits. † If you choose to cancel your tour, a refund will be issued in the original form of payment, minus the cost of the Travel Protection Plan. Other restrictions may apply.

Travel Industry Council of Ontario Reg. #3206405; BC Reg. #23337

CST No. 2006766-2 UBI No. 601-220-855; Fla. Seller of Travel Reg. No. ST35613



# Passport

PLACES  
TRENDS  
CULTURE  
STYLE



CHRIS BEARDSHAW

A sketch for Chris Beardshaw's Royal National Lifeboat Institution Garden at this year's show.

## The Bee's Knees

London's harbinger of spring, the **Chelsea Flower Show** blossoms May 24 through 28. Organized by the Royal Horticultural Society annually since 1913 (apart from breaks during the World Wars and in 2020), the garden party champions biodiversity this year. Displays will burst with native nettles, cow parsley, poppies, and buttercups in more than 30 naturalistic and wildlife-friendly designs on the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea. Top landscape designers compete for medals in the 13 show gardens, while in the sanctuary gardens, visitors will find plantings inspired by Switzerland, climate change, travel, and nine more themes. A new category, "All About Plants," explores flora's positive effects on mental health, communities, and – in a textile garden featuring plants used for fibers and dyes – industry. Interactive exhibits highlight sustainable gardening through composting, seed-saving, bee-friendly blooms, and more, sowing ideas for greener beds back home.

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





Prepare for beautiful biking in upstate New York and (below) a royal fete in London.



## Freewheel the Finger Lakes

As the riesling grapes around New York's Finger Lakes begin to ripen, active-tour company **Backroads** will take to the wine region's rolling hills and lake-shore paths in a series of new five-day culinary-exploration-meets-fall-color cycling tours. A maximum-26-person peloton will ride vineyard to vineyard, visiting historic Seneca Falls, ferrying across Cayuga Lake, sampling local cheeses, and overnighting in classic lakeside resorts for post-ride recovery through yoga classes and paddleboarding. *Departures: Multiple dates, August 8 through October 10; from \$4,799.*

## CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT

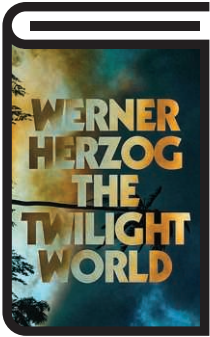
In February, Queen Elizabeth – already the UK's longest-reigning monarch – marked her 70th anniversary as sovereign. Celebrated June 2 through 5, the official **Platinum Jubilee** kicks off with a parade from Buckingham Palace comprising more than 1,400 soldiers and 400 musicians. It continues with the traditional Derby horse race at Epsom Downs and a pageant in London combining street theater, music, and dance. For the festive weekend, Virtuoso on-site connection **NoteWorthy** can work with travel advisors to secure VIP seats to the parade and Derby, and organize exclusive lunches with an expert on the Royal Family in the artifact-filled Guards Museum.



(FINGER LAKES) AGEFOTOS/STOCK/ALAMY, (PARADE) BRONAC MCNEILL



# Carry-On Companions



## ● THE TWILIGHT WORLD

BY WERNER HERZOG (*Penguin Press*)

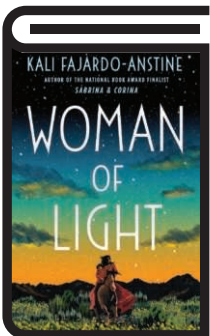
The acclaimed director of more than 60 feature films and documentaries, Werner Herzog has also written more than a dozen books. His first novel concerns one of his longtime obsessions: Hiroo Onoda, the Japanese Army lieutenant who defended a Philippine island for decades, because he had no idea World War II had ended. Herzog, who met Onoda in 1997 and became his friend and confidant, has now imagined those years of isolation in a style that is his alone, bringing new insight into what makes us human.



## ● THE LIONESS

BY CHRIS BOHJALIAN (*Doubleday*)

Movie star Katie Barstow and her new husband, David Hill, bring a Hollywood entourage on their African honeymoon, all the better to pepper their Serengeti camp with murder suspects when their guides are killed. Instead of drinks in front of dramatic veldt sunsets, the Americans face kidnapping, mercenaries, and danger. However, Bohjalian (*The Flight Attendant*) takes what could be elements of a potboiler and skillfully works them into a smart and stirring look at a continent on the cusp of change.



## ● WOMAN OF LIGHT

BY KALI FAJARDO-ANSTINE (*One World*)

If you love a good Western, get ready to dig into this tale of mestizos in 1930s Denver and its neighboring Lost Territory. Luz "Little Light" Lopez has visions about that Indigenous region, but struggles to make sense of what appears to her. Flashbacks to her grandparents Pidre and Simodecea (not many grandmothers can sling a gun so skillfully) not only help readers understand Chicano life in the U.S., but also ground the Lopez family's experiences in the long history of American racism – and Luz's triumph over it.



## ● TRUST

BY HERNAN DIAZ (*Riverhead Books*)

Hernan Diaz's new novel is a must-read in our era of "fake news," combining dazzling writing and a literary puzzle to show the emptiness and deceit that often lurk behind excess. The first narrative, about Roaring Twenties eccentrics Benjamin and Helen Rask, segues to the second, examining their origin story in a novel-within-a-novel called *Bonds*, a fictional massive best seller in 1937. But who were the real humans behind the Rasks? To answer that question, Diaz pushes his narrative even further, adding new voices to help reveal the mystery.





## Roll with It

**Roam Luggage** wins praise for its lightweight hard-shell cases – carry-ons weigh in at just over seven pounds – and the option for travelers to personalize the color of almost everything from the front and back halves to the zipper, wheels, and handles. We spoke with cofounder **Charlie Clifford** (he also cofounded Tumi) about some of his favorite destinations and tips for preparing to take flight.

**FAVORITE AIRPORT?** Kastrup in Copenhagen for its modern Danish aesthetic, beautiful hardwood floors, and high, airy ceilings that create a sense of comfort unusual for a busy airport. But for shopping, it's hard to beat Singapore's Changi Airport.

**YOUR GO-TO BAG:** Like many frequent travelers, I prefer a carry-on to avoid lost luggage and save time at check-in and baggage claim. Roam's extra-large carry-on offers additional packing room, and the expandable version accommodates purchases for the homeward-bound portion of a trip.

**WHY A HARD-SIDE?** As someone who used a two-wheeled soft-side case for years, I can tell you that a four-wheeled hard-side is much easier to travel with: It eliminates arm and back strain, protects the contents, and has a sleeker look. Today's top cases are much lighter and stronger than previous generations.

**TOP THREE PACKING TIPS:** 1) Put everything you think you'll need on your bed – and discard half of it. 2) Limit the number of shoes and sweaters, as they are heavy and bulky. 3) Choose wrinkle-resistant clothes in complementary colors, so you can wear them more than once in different combinations.

**FAVORITE FEATURES OF ROAM BAGS:** The ball-bearing wheels are fantastic and roll effortlessly down long concourses, even if you have a smaller bag slipped over the pull handle. And the interior compression boards in the top and bottom shells tighten to increase packing capacity.

**TRAVEL WISH LIST:** I've been fortunate to travel extensively in Europe and Asia, and my wife and I visited a number of South American countries during our Peace Corps days. I'd like to see India and Israel and spend time in national parks in Utah, Montana, Wyoming, and the Badlands of South Dakota. An Alaskan cruise is also on our list. "Bandon Dunes" Jaunt carry-on, \$550, [roamluggage.com](http://roamluggage.com).



## CLEAN GETAWAY

Weekender no-brainer: The new **Flight Ready Travel Kit** from Gentlemen's Hardware packs two-ounce bottles of body wash, face wash, shaving cream, and lotion in a getaway-friendly tin. \$22, [gentlemenshardware.com](http://gentlemenshardware.com).



Conscience cleared for takeoff: Atlantic Aviation, operator of Aspen's airport, is now offsetting jet fuel bought by commercial and private air carriers for **carbon-neutral departures**.



ART & CULTURE

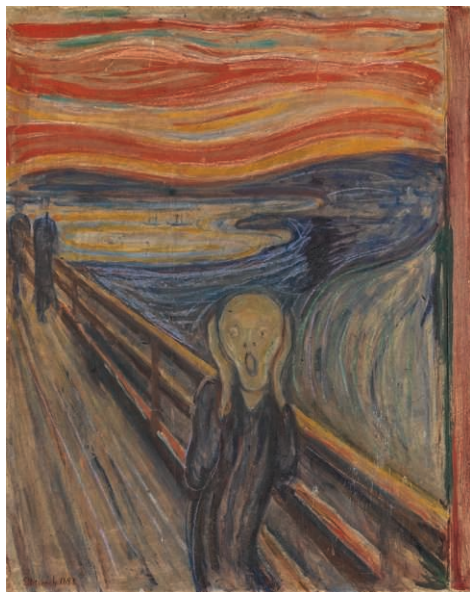


## TREASURE TROVE

Beginning in the late nineteenth century, Scottish shipping merchant William Burrell began amassing an impressive art collection, buying hundreds of tapestries, more than 20 paintings by Degas alone, and Chinese pottery and porcelain representing a 5,000-year span. Those treasures are highlighted in the **Burrell Collection** in Glasgow, newly expanded by a third and remodeled for the twenty-first century.



From top: Glasgow's Burrell Collection and *The Girls on the Bridge* and *The Scream* by Edvard Munch at Oslo's National Museum of Art.



## More Than Munch

On June 11, Oslo's **National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design** debuts in its new slate-clad building while reducing its carbon footprint by half. With more than 90 rooms – including one devoted solely to Edvard Munch's most iconic paintings – Scandinavia's largest museum will house more than 5,000 works of art, from medieval tapestries to gowns worn by Norway's queens and earthy sculptures by Gustav Vigeland. The 25,000-square-foot rooftop gallery, Light Hall, will open with a show of contemporary Norwegian art featuring 150 contributors. Its adjoining terrace frames panoramic views of the capital from the museum's prime harbor-front locale.

(BURRELL COLLECTION) ALAN MCATEER, (EDVARD MUNCH PAINTINGS) BØRRE HØSTLAND/THE NATIONAL MUSEUM





## ADVENTURE ON

The all-suite, all-veranda *Seabourn Venture*, **Seabourn's** first expedition ship, promises polar thrills and natural splendor in places such as the Amazon. The 264-passenger vessel sails with two custom-built submarines and double sea kayaks, along with a 26-member expedition team that can take all passengers Zodiac-exploring simultaneously – a rarity for expedition ships. Summer cruises include Iceland, Greenland, and Svalbard, while fall delivers South American highlights and Antarctica. *Thirteen-day Tromsø to Oslo, Norway, departure: July 27; from \$14,999.*

From top: *Seabourn Venture's* Grand Wintergarden Suite and Santorini, Greece. Opposite, from top: Luxor Temple, a caribou dish on Quark's *Ultra-marine*, and the Rocky Mountaineer.

## More of the Med

This spring **Azamara** debuts the 692-passenger *Azamara Onward* (a bow-to-stern remodel of the former *Pacific Princess*), with itineraries focused on spending more time in destinations – such as Greece and Croatia this season – through late-night departures and overnight stays. Pre- and post-cruise tours add to the cultural richness: In Istanbul, for example, passengers can experience a spiritual *sema* ceremony, a movement-centric meditation dating back to the thirteenth century. *Twelve-day Ravenna, Italy, to Istanbul departure: June 18; from \$2,199.*





# Ahoy, Egypt

This summer **Viking** introduces its second riverboat on the Nile, the 82-passenger *Viking Osiris*. Round-trip-from-Cairo journeys kick off with three days of sightseeing in the capital before guests fly to Luxor for an eight-day cruise. Among the highlights: private access to Nefertari's tomb in the Valley of the Queens and a visit to an artisan Nubian village. *Inaugural departure: August 24; from \$5,199.*



## TASTE OF THE TUNDRA

Delve into Inuit culture through its cuisine on **Quark Expeditions'** 199-passenger *Ultramarine*. On select Arctic voyages (two this year and five in 2023), passengers opting for the Tundra to Table specialty dining program savor four courses of modern Inuit cuisine served on regional tableware, prepared by Indigenous chefs from Greenland and the Canadian Arctic in the ship's Balena restaurant. Plates showcase pristine local ingredients in dishes such as beer-braised musk ox served with Greenlandic mashed potatoes, mushroom sauce, and berry jam. The chefs also share Inuit culinary origins and storytelling. *Seventeen-day Northwest Passage departure: August 30; from \$15,495, including round-trip transfer flights and one pre- and post-cruise hotel stay in Toronto.*



(LUXOR) OLEH SLOBODENIUK/GETTY IMAGES

## Ship to Shore

**American Queen Voyages** has partnered with **Rocky Mountaineer** for river-and-rail journeys during the 186-passenger *Ocean Victory's* inaugural Alaska season. Pre- or post-cruise, passengers set out from Vancouver for two days on board the train with hotel stays in Banff, Kamloops, and Vancouver; a Parks Canada Discovery Pass; and return airport transfers to Vancouver. On the water, expedition teams lead kayak and Zodiac tours and talks with First Nations leaders during 12- and 13-day Inside Passage sailings. *Departures: Multiple dates, May 2 through September 9; from \$4,699. Rocky Mountaineer extension, from \$3,799.*



# Stylish Arrival



The much anticipated **Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection** launches this summer with the 298-passenger, all-suite *Evrima*. Here are five things to love about the new line.



**ROOM TO SPREAD OUT:** The smallest staterooms come in at a generous 300 square feet, with a double-sink bath and a private terrace. Other suites run from 429 square feet to the 1,091-square-foot Owner's Suites with whirlpool-equipped terraces. Our pick: duplex **Loft Suites**, with a bedroom downstairs and living space and a terrace above.

**TASTEMAKERS:** Five restaurants showcase a bold gastronomic agenda. The *Evrima* Room's menus reflect the yacht's regional position, Talaat Nam serves sushi and modern Southeast Asian fare, the open-air Pool House is the spot for casual *à la minute* cooking, and alfresco Mistral specializes in Mediterranean classics. The highlight: **S.E.A.** from chef Sven Elverfeld, who earned three Michelin stars for his Aqua restaurant in Wolfsburg, Germany.

**MADE IN THE SHADE:** Make the most of the yachting life on the aft marina, with its sleek, shaded sun loungers. Passengers descend stairs leading into the open sea to play with a variety of water toys, while bartenders pour chilled Champagne and shake up cocktails at **Marina Terrace**.

**HAPPY PLACE:** Relax to the sound of gulls and surf during treatments on the spa's private terraces. Fitness instructors lead Pilates and **sunrise yoga sessions**, and personal trainers customize workout routines and offer nutrition counseling.

**INSIDER ACCESS:** Shore excursions lean intimate and exclusive, such as touring the Côte d'Azur in a chauffeured classic car and **truffle hunting** at a Croatian family farm.

From top: *Evrima's* Observation Lounge, Mediterranean-inspired Mistral, and Grand Suite.

*Eight-day inaugural departure round-trip from Athens: August 6; from \$8,200.*



# SAY *BULA* TO FIJI

This 333-island archipelago welcomes travelers back for adventure, romance, and family fun among pristine reefs and palm-shaded beaches.

**T**HE FIRST FIJIAN WORD YOU NEED TO KNOW IS “*BULA*,” and it’s best said with a smile. The local greeting embodies a wish for health, happiness, and welcome for all who hear it – and its spirit permeates the islands, whether you’re swapping stories with villagers or taking a guided hike to a hidden waterfall.

## Find a Thrill, Then Chill

Both **laid-back and active adventures** abound in Fiji. Take a leisurely trek along flower-lined trails, ride an old sugarcane train, or skim across the sparkling blue ocean on a catamaran. For an adrenaline burst, try white-water rafting or zip-lining through tropical jungle canopy. Cool off by snorkeling Fiji’s marine-life-rich reefs, surfing gentle beach breaks and pro-tour waves, and diving among manta rays, sharks, sea turtles, and dolphins.

## Stays for Your Travel Style

Resorts in Fiji trend toward the boutique variety. For a romantic escape, try an adults-only getaway such as **Royal Davui Island**. For family fun, **VOMO Island Fiji**’s 34 residences and villas offer a rich lineup of crafts, cultural activities, and nature excursions just for kids, or head to one of 26 villas at **Kokomo Private Island Resort** for some quality bonding time.

## Island Dreaming

Most flights to Fiji (roughly ten hours from Los Angeles or San Francisco) **depart in the evening and arrive early in the morning** two days later after crossing the international date line. At Fiji’s Nadi International Airport, the harmonic voices of a welcoming choir signal the start of a memorable trip.

## Safe Travels for All

Fiji’s natural landscape ensures that visitors have plenty of space to themselves among a highly vaccinated population. The **Care Fiji Commitment** also sets thorough health-and-safety standards for tourism businesses to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Enjoy healthy meals made from local ingredients, traditional spa treatments, and lots of fresh air and sunshine.





MO'OREA



Especially not you. The wind and stars have guided the journeys of travelers throughout history. Today they illuminate paths forward for you to explore the world one enchanting destination at a time. Each of our majestic yachts in our iconic, masted Wind Class and our newly transformed all-suite Star Plus Class captures the feeling of cruising on your own private yacht. They are perfectly sized for 148 to 342 discerning guests, ready to indulge in the casual luxury that Windstar is known for. Personalize with sails or all-suite yachts, Cruise Only or All-Inclusive fares to fit your style. That's 180 degrees from ordinary.





NO ONE SHOULD EVER  
SETTLE FOR ORDINARY



Do you know the way to Windstar?

Contact your professional Virtuoso Travel Advisor today  
for All-Inclusive pricing and exclusive amenities.

**WINDSTAR**  
CRUISES  
180° FROM ORDINARY®

  
**VIRTUOSO**  
PREFERRED



## Well-Positioned

Make the most of this summer's retreat to the Berkshires at these renewed wellness resorts.

● The nineteenth-century Bellefontaine Mansion houses the 126-room **Canyon Ranch, Lenox** in Gilded Age style. But the free-standing spa, newly renovated by designer Lauren Rottet, takes inspiration from the forested estate with wood and stone finishes – a fieldstone fireplace stands at the center of one lounge – as well as from the region's utopian communities, with furnishings inspired by Shaker artisans. New additions, including a demonstration kitchen and a cold-plunge pool, encourage guests and groups of friends to gather. *Doubles from \$729 per person, including all meals, complimentary daily wellness activities, and a \$100 resort credit.*

● A poet's short wander away, the 121-room **Miraval Berkshires Resort & Spa** has gained its own period landmark with the 1894-vintage Wyndhurst Mansion and its three carriage houses – previously an independent resort. The spa and the homes now share the 380-acre grounds designed by Central Park landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. The expansion added 21 new rooms, many named for classic American writers such as Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost, and the 1894 Fireside Bistro & Bar. Manor guests have access to Miraval's wide range of wellness activities, from Pilates and equine therapy to challenge courses, beekeeping, energy treatments, and more. *Doubles from \$859 per person, including all meals, complimentary daily wellness activities, and a \$100 resort credit.*



From top: Canyon Ranch, Lenox, and the pool at Miraval Berkshires.



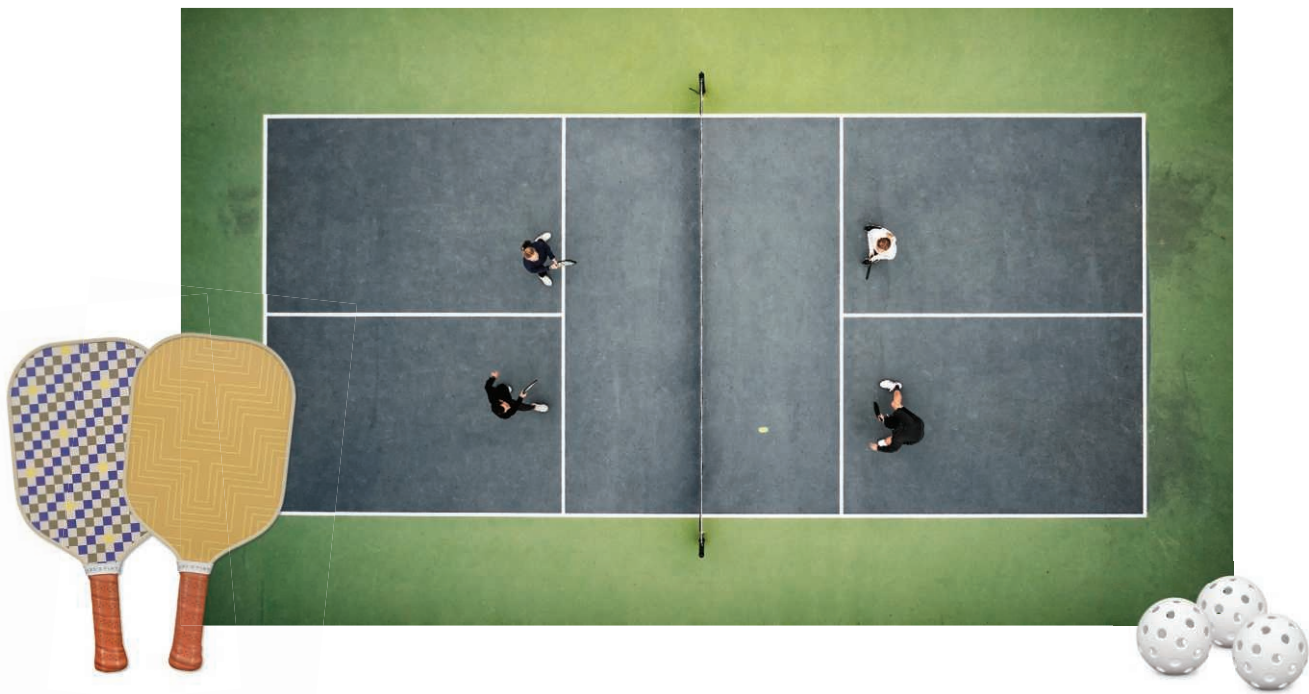


# WE'RE IN A BIT OF A PICKLE

Take a swing at this fast-growing sport on your next vacation.

With its convivial energy, shallow learning curve, and fast pace, pickleball – a combination of tennis, badminton, and Ping-Pong that's played with wooden paddles and a plastic, Wiffle Ball-like ball – has emerged as the hottest sport in the U.S. Former tennis pro Matthew Manasse loved it so much, he left his job as a women's pro circuit coach to pursue it full-time. Now he's nationally ranked and known as "the pickleball coach to the stars," training everyone from Matthew Perry to Larry David. "The switch was a no-brainer for me, as tennis skills get harder to sustain as one ages," says Manasse.

"But anyone can get into pickleball, even without a tennis background – it's very rewarding because you improve and learn concepts quickly." Here's where to paddle up.



● Players at the 181-room **Carmel Valley Ranch** serve it up on four new pickleball courts and enjoy a full roster of programs, ranging from beginner clinics to specialty shot drills and bimonthly mixers.

● Hawaii's 213-room **Four Seasons Resort Lanai** recently introduced pickleball to racquet-sports clinics in its Tennis Garden to help guests perfect dinks, volleys, and match strategies. Resort pro Andres Durandegui also holds complimentary clinics for local Lanai kids to introduce them to the sport.

● Home to 86 casitas set on 4,000 acres in Tecate, Mexico, **Rancho La Puerta** hosts a series of immersive specialty pickleball weeks on its six courts, with visiting pros to coach drills and techniques.

● Guests at the British Virgin Islands' 81-room **Rosewood Little Dix Bay** can work on their technique under a canopy of palms five days a week with the resort's two private instructors.

● Southeastern Florida's iconic 901-room **Boca Raton** recently underwent a \$200 million transformation and now offers pickleball clinics five days a week, along with organized evening socials.

Pickleball paddles from \$48 to \$74, [recesspickleball.com](http://recesspickleball.com).





MISSISSIPPI RIVER



POLAR EXPEDITIONS



EUROPEAN RIVERS

## EXPLORE ALL SEVEN CONTINENTS ON OUR FLEET OF AWARD-WINNING SMALL SHIPS

As the small ship experts, Viking delivers you right to your destination's doorstep to explore in comfort. From river ships in Europe, Southeast Asia, Egypt, and along the Mississippi to 930-guest ocean ships that sail the world, we offer a tremendous variety of itineraries and departures. And our new, purpose-built Expedition ships journey to the Arctic, Antarctica and The Great Lakes.



VIKING  
*Exploring the World in Comfort*







VIKING TAKES YOU TO THE HEART OF THE PLACES

# YOU WANT TO EXPLORE

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





**NEW HOTEL**

# Make for Madrid

Splash down at the city's largest rooftop pool and live it up in the underground nightclub at this sexy arrival.



Spain's capital is gearing up for a big summer: Joining the city's much-anticipated hotel openings from Four Seasons and Mandarin Oriental, **The Madrid Edition** has debuted on Plaza de las Descalzas in the city-center Sol neighborhood. Step out of its eighteenth-century baroque doorframe and Plaza Mayor is a three-minute walk south; a three-minute stroll east brings visitors to Puerta del Sol's bustling tapas bars and "Kilometer Zero" – the country's geographic center and starting point for its six national roads. Inside, the urban resort spreads out with 200 guest rooms (including two duplex penthouses with private terraces), a spa dispensing signature mud baths, and the city's largest rooftop pool. Mexico City chef Enrique Olvera's Jerónimo restaurant explores the links between Spanish and Mexican traditions – *hola*, sherry margaritas – while breezy Oroya from Lima chef Diego Muñoz dishes out ceviche and other Peruvian favorites. Add in the lobby's marble pool table and the property's subterranean nightclub, and it's an addition to Madrid's luxe-hotel scene that stands out for its celebratory vibe. *Doubles from \$416, including breakfast daily and a \$100 hotel credit.*



**Style central: The portico hallway and a Premier Room at The Madrid Edition.**



# INTRODUCING AZAMARA ONWARD,<sup>SM</sup> OUR NEWEST SHIP



There's a brand new ship on our horizon, and there's never been a better time to begin your journey with Azamara®. Join us aboard the maiden voyage of Azamara Onward<sup>SM</sup> and revel in all her nautical glory, with 20% savings on your sailing when you book early with us. But the incentives don't stop there — in addition to savings on your early booking, also enjoy an exclusive cocktail reception and land excursion hosted by Virtuoso®.

We give our guests the luxury of time, to dive deeper into each destination, inviting them to immerse themselves into a world of experiences at a more relaxed pace. Appreciate majestic landscapes, vibrant cultures, and local customs — by day and night. Rediscover the joy of discovery with Azamara.



**TO BOOK, CONTACT YOUR  
VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR TODAY!**

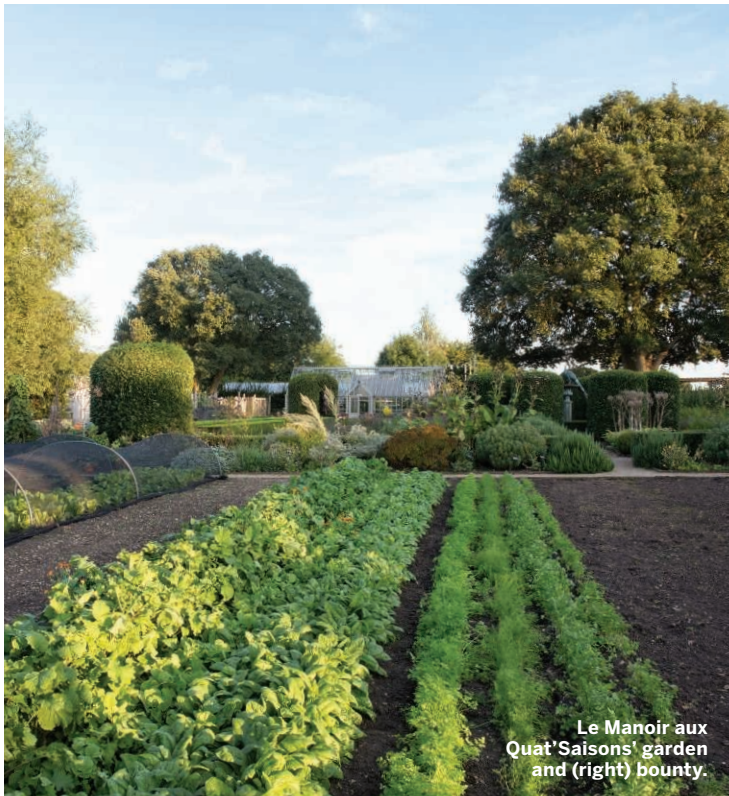
**EARLY BOOKING BONUS OFFER** **SAVE 20% + \$300 ONBOARD CREDIT** + **FREE WIFI** + **UPGRADED PREMIUM BEVERAGE PACKAGE**

**Terms and Conditions:** Virtuoso Voyages Hosted program amenities are valid for new, individual FIT bookings made on eligible voyages. Must Select Price Program "Hosted Vrt." Program is not combinable with reduced rate offers which include but are not limited to LMV, Guarantee rates, interline rates, Closed User rates, and Net rates. Amenities apply to 1st and 2nd passenger only. Offer is not combinable with group bookings. Offer only available for bookings made in the United States, Canada, Mexico, or Brazil. Offer, sailing dates and amenities are subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Program amenities may be substituted if made through a Tour Operator. Certain restrictions apply. Canada Agencies: This offer is not valid for bookings through a Tour Operator. **\*Early Booking Bonus (Offer):** For select sailings departing March 23, 2023–November 14, 2023, offer applies to new bookings created before August 31, 2022 ("Offer Period"). For select sailings departing November 18, 2023 – April 3, 2024, Offer applies to new bookings created before December 31, 2022. Offer provides 20% off cruise fares of all stateroom categories. Offer also provides a complimentary Experience More Essentials Package (inclusive of \$300 USD Shore Excursion Onboard Credit [OBC], Unlimited WiFi for one device, and a Premium Beverage Package for Two) per stateroom, for guests booked in Veranda and Suite stateroom categories. The Shore Excursion OBC portion of the Experience More Essentials Package will be applied to the booking as an individual component, with the option to spend pre-cruise. The balance of any pre-cruise spend of Shore Excursion OBC, will be reconciled once onboard. Experience More Essentials Packages have no cash value, are not redeemable for cash, and are not transferable. Limit one Offer per stateroom. All other charges, including, but not limited to, cruise taxes, fees, and port expenses, are additional and apply to all guests. Offer is combinable with Back to Back Benefits, onboard booking savings and Azamara Circle Quarterly Savings, National Account Hosted and Amenity Programs, and one other OBC or value add. Unless stated otherwise, offer is not combinable with any other offer or promotion, including, but not limited to, Last Minute Voyages, Closed User Rates, Employee Rates, Interline Rates, Travel Agent Rates, and Net Rates. Offer is not applicable to 3rd and 4th guests in a stateroom. Offer is not applicable to incentive or contracted groups. After the Offer Period, the offer will be removed from the booking if the guest cancels and reinstates the booking, applies a fare change, or changes the ship or sail date of the booking, even if sailing date is within the sailing period highlighted above; certain other changes to the booking may also result in removal of the offer. Offer is subject to availability and change without notice and may be withdrawn at any time. Single occupancy guests paying 200% cruise fare are eligible for the full amount of the offer; single occupancy guests paying less than 200% cruise fare are eligible for a prorated amount of the offer. This offer is applicable to U.S., Canada, and select global markets only. Refer to Azamara.com/booearly or www.Azamara.com and the Cruise Ticket Contract for additional terms and conditions or contact your travel professional. ©2022 Azamara. Ships registered in Malta. "Change The Way You Sea" is an international service mark of SP Cruises OpCo Limited.



# Good Eats

Call it the new comfort food: Plant-based dishes benefit the body, soul, and planet. Here are three hotels embracing the veg.



## Saint Lucia

Vegetarian and hyperlocal, the Rastafarian ita! diet aims to cultivate deeper connections with the earth and universal energy, known as “livity” in Rasta-speak. Travelers can tuck in at the 155-room **BodyHoliday**, where the I-TAL experience features an intro to Rastafarian culture and cooking lessons, followed by an alfresco meal overlooking Caribblue Beach. Try the pumpkin and callaloo soup and eggplant ragù. *Doubles from \$800, including all meals and daily spa treatments. I-TAL experience \$65 (lunch) or \$85 (dinner).*

## Maldives

On the table at the 122-villa **One&Only Reethi Rah**'s Botanica with Matthew Kenney: handpicked ingredients served at their peak amid the restaurant's herb and vegetable gardens. Artichoke, butternut ravioli, and king oyster mushroom mains star on the tasting menu, recently bolstered with a pairing option highlighting biodynamic wines. New vitamin-rich beverages include house-made turmeric beer with fresh ginger and limes. *Doubles from \$1,850, including breakfast daily and a \$100 resort credit.*

## England

Lavender-scented footpaths lead to six- and seven-course vegan and vegetarian, Michelin-starred meals at the 32-room **Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons** in the Oxfordshire countryside. Chef Raymond Blanc's extensive organic gardens not only provide ingredients for super-fresh seasonal dishes such as chargrilled Jerusalem artichokes with truffles and leeks, but also inspiration for his on-site cooking and gardening schools. *Doubles from \$1,390, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*



# KIT UP

Good things come in fair-trade, handmade packages. Take **Delta's** new amenity kits, made by **Someone Somewhere**. The Mexican apparel brand relies on natural and recycled materials while sustaining traditional artisanal techniques and employing women in five of the country's poorest states – with 51 percent higher pay than Mexico's minimum wage. Bonus: The plastic-reducing kit, available for Delta One cabin passengers, is stocked with eco-friendly contents – Someone Somewhere's eye mask, a bamboo toothbrush from Humble Co., and Grown Alchemist hand lotion.



## Chain of Life

The world's largest freshwater archipelago, Canada's Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve in Lake Huron comprises so many islands and shoals throughout its bays, inlets, and sounds that it's known locally as the Thirty Thousand Islands. It also shelters 1,100 native plant and animal species – 100-plus of which are threatened – meaning that treading lightly here is a must. Enter **Viking's** eight-day Great Lakes voyage aboard the new 378-passenger *Viking Octantis*, with eco-features such as quiet propulsion to minimize underwater noise pollution and avian-safe lighting to keep curious birds away. Sailing from Milwaukee to Thunder Bay, Ontario, cruisers spend two days in Georgian Bay to hike and kayak with naturalist guides, learn about the region's ecology with onboard scientists, and help monitor birds to identify migration patterns. *Departures: Multiple dates, May 21 through September 10; from \$5,995.*



## Eye on the Tiger

Launched in 1973, Project Tiger – India’s unprecedented effort to save its Bengal tigers from extinction – has led to wild success: Since its inception, the project has created 50-plus tiger reserves across the country and helped increase the wild tiger population from roughly 1,800 to 3,000. (For perspective, fewer than 4,000 tigers are estimated to live in all of Asia.) To celebrate Project Tiger’s upcoming 50-year anniversary, **andBeyond Bhutan** will host two small-group, 16-day tours that visit Ranthambore, Kanha, and Kaziranga national parks, where travelers can see tigers – and tiger conservation – in action. Even better: andBeyond will donate \$1,500 per group to the nonprofit Tiger Watch. *Departures: December 1, 2022, and January 12, 2023; from \$10,712.*



### ON THE GROUND

**Aditya Panda** – conservationist, wildlife photographer, honorary wildlife warden in the state of Odisha, and guide for both Project Tiger departures – shares his insights on the project’s golden anniversary and its significance.

**ON PROJECT TIGER:** This 50th anniversary is a conservation landmark – not just for India, but for the world. It’s proven that if the planet’s largest cat can be saved and revived among one of the world’s most densely populated nations, with enormous growth and development aspirations, then *any* species can be saved, *anywhere*.

**ON SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL:** It’s no coincidence that most of India’s most successful tiger reserves – those that consistently sustain large, breeding tiger populations – have had thriving wildlife tourism industries around them. Regulated tourism has played a major role in providing alternative livelihoods to communities that would otherwise depend on the tiger’s habitat for income, for example, for firewood collection and livestock grazing.

**ON MOVING FORWARD:** Project Tiger’s anniversary can be seen as a celebration of India’s successes *and* a call to action. We must applaud the increase in tigers across most of India, but at the same time, this is a moment to acknowledge that the increase is driven by a few very successful landscapes, while in others, tigers have continued to decline. It’s now time to focus on all aspects of tiger conservation, so that every inch of India’s tiger habitats can be restored, and the tiger can truly be revived across its existing range.



## ART CHANGES EVERYTHING

Childhood polio prevented Bonnie Ntshalintshali from earning income as a farmer, so in 1985 artist Fée Halsted took her on as the first apprentice at her newly founded Ardmore design studio in South Africa’s KwaZulu-Natal province. Ntshalintshali would later go on to exhibit her now legendary work in major collections around the world before passing away in 1999. Today, several of her relatives create at Ardmore, including her son, Senzo, who’s shown his own pieces in exhibitions in Africa, Europe, and the U.S. He’s just another of many local artists who found their calling and a home for their work with the studio’s help. Before heading out on safari with **African Travel, Inc.** on a private 11-day tour from Cape Town to Sabi Sand Game Reserve, travelers can visit Ardmore to have afternoon tea with its artists and browse their ceramics, paintings, textiles, and wallpapers inspired by Zulu heritage and African flora and fauna – and even create original artworks with them. *Departures: Any day through November 30; from \$9,995.*



**Natural inspiration:** On the prowl in India’s Kanha National Park and Tiger Reserve, and (right) Ardmore’s Bush Baby wallpaper.

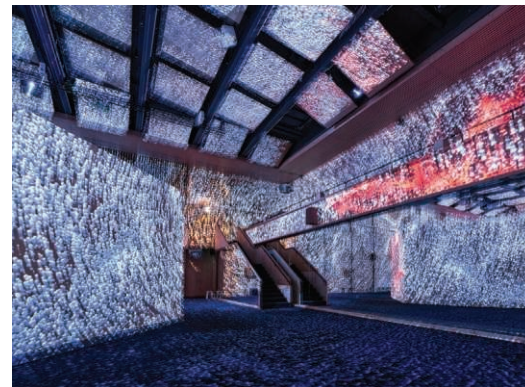
(TIGER) ADITYA PANDA



## SPOTLIGHT ON: ZÜRICH

# ZÜRICH'S EXPANDING CULTURAL SCENE

Ambitious operas and innovative events draw art lovers to Switzerland.



**Z**ÜRICH IS STAKING ITS CLAIM AS A SWISS HUB FOR ARTS AND CULTURE. Kunsthaus Zürich opened its highly anticipated museum expansion; Zürich Art Weekend marks a special anniversary this summer; and Wagner's monumental *Ring* cycle returns to the city's opera house.

## Celebrate Art and Technology

The fifth anniversary of **Zürich Art Weekend**, June 10 through 12, kicks off the art world's annual pilgrimage to Switzerland, followed by Art Basel a week later. Museums, galleries, and offbeat spaces across the city will play host to more than 50 exhibitions and 200 events, studio visits, and curator-led tours. Expect a creative tech presence this year, including partnerships with ETH Zürich's Artificial Intelligence Center and the Immersive Lab at the Institute for Computer Music and Sound Technology.

## One Ring to Rule Them All

Richard Wagner's four-part, 16-hour opera experience, ***Der Ring des Nibelungen***, returns to the Zürich Opera House for the first time in 20 years. For any opera house, mounting a new *Ring* production is one of the greatest challenges the repertoire has to offer. The German composer and revolutionary-in-exile called Zürich home while developing and writing much of the piece in the mid-1800s. Opera director Annette Weber also highlights the intimate 1,100-seat environment: "The Opernhaus Zürich isn't the Met or Chicago," she says, "where you have to fill a hall with 2,000 or 4,000 guests." Pace yourself: The first work, *Das Rheingold*, premieres April 30, followed by *Die Walküre* in September; *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung* commence in the spring and fall of 2023, culminating with the complete production in spring 2024.

## New-Age Monet

Repurposed as a museum for immersive art last fall, MAAG Light Hall's current multimedia show, ***Monet's Garden***, brings the painter's home in Giverny to life. Following similar shows illuminating Van Gogh and Frida Kahlo, MAAG paints the petals of Monet's *Water Lilies* series in high-definition, blending impressionism and innovation into a 360-degree light and sound experience.

## Switzerland's Largest Art Collection

After five years in the works, Kunsthaus Zürich recently debuted its Chipperfield annex, making it **Switzerland's largest art museum**, housing nearly 100,000 paintings and prints from the thirteenth century to present day. David Chipperfield Architects' sleek design features a geometric facade made from local limestone and lots of natural light. Highlights of the new space include van Gogh's *Sower at Sunset*, a *Reclining Nude* by Modigliani, and immersive installations such as "Turicum Pixelwald" by Pipilotti Rist.

*Choose from five Virtuoso properties for your stay in the city.*

From left: Take in a show at the Zürich Opera House, experience Zürich Art Weekend, or immerse yourself in *Monet's Garden*.



NORWEGIAN  
**PRIMA CLASS**

*Norwegian Prima inaugural season starts  
summer 2022 sailing to Northern Europe,  
Bermuda and the Caribbean*



## ELEVATING SPACE, STYLE AND SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

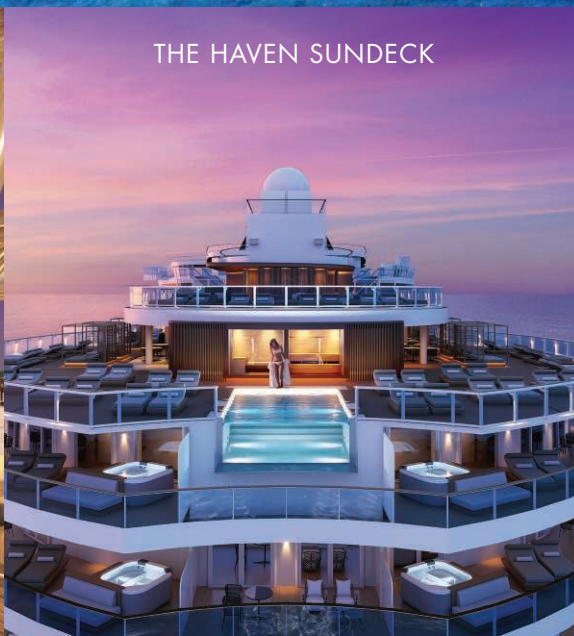
Experiences beyond expectations and wide-open spaces with sweeping ocean views give this new generation of ships a truly distinct and luxurious feel. Norwegian Prima and Viva are the first two in a new class of ships designed to elevate every experience, including an unwavering dedication to food and 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.



VIBE BEACH CLUB



THE HAVEN SUNDECK



THE HAVEN  
DELUXE OWNER'S SUITE





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



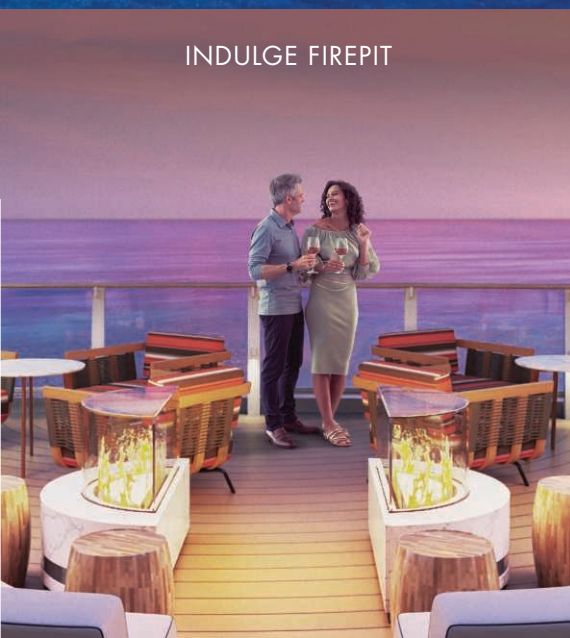
## LET THE PAMPERING BEGIN

The Haven by Norwegian® is an exclusive enclave with our most luxurious, well-appointed and spacious accommodations. Not only will you have access to all the ship has to offer, but you'll also enjoy a breathtaking sundeck, exclusive amenities, and the personal service of a concierge and 24-hour butler throughout your entire stay. Enjoy a cocktail and stunning views at the Haven Lounge & Bar, dip into the infinity pool or relax in the outdoor sauna and cold room – all exclusively for guests of The Haven. Skip the lines and be personally escorted on and off the ship at the pier and at ports-of-call. Then return to your sanctuary using private elevators. Get white tablecloth in-suite dining or enjoy the priority reservation for all restaurants and entertainment. In your own ship within a ship, The Haven will make for a unique experience you'll never forget.

**CONTACT YOUR VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR HAVEN SUITE ABOARD  
PRIMA AND VIVA AND RECEIVE \$300 ONBOARD CREDIT ON SELECT SAILINGS.**

©2022 NCL Corporation Ltd. Ships' Registry: Bahamas and USA. 03/2022

INDULGE FIREPIT



THE HAVEN OUTDOOR LOUNGE



HUDSON'S







1.  
**PINK CITY PRINTS**  
Lorenza dress, \$264,  
pinkcityprints.com

2.  
**WILLIAMS SONOMA**  
Classic Wine & Cheese picnic basket,  
\$125, williams-sonoma.com



3.  
**HEATHER TAYLOR HOME**  
Gingham tablecloth, from \$186,  
heathertaylorhome.com



4.  
**PAMELA MUNSON**  
Gardner tote, \$295,  
pamelamunson.com



## Spring Picnics

Alfresco snacking at its finest.

Milder days, sunshine, new growth: Metaphors for hope bloom like so many cherry blossoms in spring, drawing us outside to flop down in some verdant park with a basket of goodies. All the better when that picnic spot is in a new-to-us location and the hamper is loaded with local snacks and drinks. At the 33-room **Vanderbilt**, a historic, recently reimagined-by-Auberge property in Newport, Rhode Island, picnicking takes a Gilded Age turn with an outing in a 1920s Studebaker or Model A to The Breakers, Newport's grandest "summer cottage" mansion. The basket might include Narragansett Creamery cheeses, smoked salmon, and a dark chocolate and sea salt tart. Permission to loll and linger granted. *Doubles from \$720, including breakfast daily and one lunch or dinner for two. Breakers outing from \$575; picnic from \$100 for two.*

(PICNIC) HUNG QUACH/STOCKSY



# IT'S YOUR HEART THAT TAKES YOU PLACES

We make your travels to the world's most magical destinations possible.  
But it's your endless passion for discovery that leads you there.



EXQUISITELY CRAFTED CUISINE. CURATED TRAVEL EXPERIENCES. SMALL SHIP LUXURY.



Ask your Virtuoso Travel Advisor about special voyages with exclusive Virtuoso benefits, such as complimentary Shore Experiences and Pre-Paid Gratuities.





Clockwise from top left: Acne Studios' womenswear show at Paris Fashion Week in March, La Samaritaine's restored interior and sketching workshop, and Palais Galliera.

## Easy on the Eyes

For the most fashionable city break, we'll always have Paris.  
BY JEFF KOEHLER

**GO FOR** The fashion-world's capital is currently flaunting its flair with events (Haute Couture Week struts across runways July 4 through 7), the new **Galerie Dior** – a museum, boutique, fine-dining restaurant, and café at the fashion house's remodeled headquarters – and a number of highly anticipated openings to help refresh wardrobes. After standing shuttered for 16 years, **La Samaritaine** department store reopened with a painstaking restoration – peacock frescoes, gold-leaf-covered mosaic tiles, soaring wrought-iron staircases, and more – from its new owner, French luxury conglomerate LVMH. The 1870 art nouveau landmark has never looked so glamorous (nor have the outfits and accessories from its 650 luxury brands). Not to be outshone, **Galleries Lafayette Haussmann** has refurbished its iconic soaring glass-dome ceiling. And for those who want to catch more than the next season's looks, **Palais Galliera** joined the makeover trend,

doubling its space to showcase its 200,000-piece collection of French fashion. Paris, as the displays in the new vaulted rooms show, never goes out of style.

**EAT** On the top floor of the eighteenth-century Bourse de Commerce – once a commodities exchange for grains, now home to the Pinault Collection of contemporary art – **Les Halles aux Grains**, under the stewardship of father-and-son chefs Michel and Sébastien Bras, serves refined cuisine based on grains and seeds.

Tucked into the rippling-glass facade on the back of La Samaritaine, **Ernest** puts new spins on classics, such as mushroom risotto with hazelnuts and a foam of aged Comté cheese.

The Musée d'Art Moderne's **Forest** has a dazzling riverside summer terrace, but it's inside among climbing foliage and projections on the exposed



## tip

“Two of my favorite shops in Paris are in Palais Royal: Serge Lutens for perfumes and French designer Jérôme L'Hullier's boutique.”

— Marie-Louise Noujaim, Virtuoso travel agency executive, Paris

cement walls that diners fully experience chef Julien Sebbag's underground aesthetic. Plants are the center of his seasonal, local, and creative menu with Middle Eastern accents.

**DRINK** Slide into an orange leather booth for a predinner drink at **Brasserie Dubillot**, where every cocktail is prepared with 100 percent French alcohol. Don't miss its signature spritz, with pét-nat sparkling wine and Pampelle ruby red grapefruit aperitif.

With sumptuous decor by Dior Maison artistic director Cordelia de Castellane, the recently opened **Café Lapérouse**, just off place de la Concorde, has become one of the chicest spots in Paris for a drink.

**SHOP** From the Hermès global flagship to Alexander McQueen, virtually every major luxury fashion brand has an outpost around rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré. None are more famous than the original **Chanel** store, just behind the Ritz Paris, where Coco Chanel lived in a suite for 34 years.

Up-and-coming designers, though, are more likely to be found in concept shops such as **Merci** in the Marais. Visitors find

plenty of clothing and accessories on its three floors, but don't bypass the home goods.

Head to **Babel**, facing Canal Saint-Martin, for pieces by young French designers as well as vintage clothing, antiques, and jewelry. Watch for its “pop-upcycling” events, featuring handmade, upcycled fashion from Paris.

**STAY** Facing the Pont Neuf on the riverfront side of La Samaritaine, the new **Cheval Blanc Paris** has just 72 rooms and suites. They go quickly, but non-hotel guests can still enjoy its fashionable seventh-floor Le Tout-Paris brasserie-cum-cocktail bar and the Dior Spa. *Doubles from \$1,530, including private round-trip airport transfers, breakfast daily, and fast-track customs.*

Such was the grandeur of the **InterContinental Paris Le Grand** that when Empress Eugénie inaugurated the hotel in 1862, she said it reminded her of her royal residence. A 2021 refurbishment returned the regal sparkle to the 470 Second Empire-style rooms and legendary Café de la Paix. *Doubles from \$500, including breakfast daily and Club Lounge access.* VI



Clockwise from top: Café Lapérouse, the Bourse de Commerce, Ernest, and concept store Merci.





# AWARD-WINNING LUXURY TRAVEL

BY LAND, RIVER AND RAIL

Journey through Italy, Austria, France, Switzerland and beyond by land or river. Along the way, immerse yourself in each destination in VIP style, dine on delectable local cuisine and stay in magnificent accommodations. For an even more extraordinary experience, pair either your river cruise or guided land tour with a private journey by luxury train.



**UNI**WORLD  
BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISES

Cruise in all-inclusive luxury on board a floating boutique hotel, with personalized service and a selection of unique experiences at every stop.

**LUXURY GOLD**<sup>®</sup>  
BRINGING BACK THE GOLDEN ERA OF TRAVEL

On small-group guided journeys averaging just 20 guests, your five-star Traveling Concierge will personalize your experience in real time.

  
**VIRTUOSO**  
PREFERRED

CONTACT YOUR PREFERRED VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR TO BOOK



VIRTUOSO  
**BEST**  
OF THE  
**BEST**

**FEATURED HOTELS AND RESORTS**  
**PLUS CRUISES AND TOP TRAVEL DESTINATIONS**

Montage Healdsburg pairs local vintages with Alexander Valley views.



SPOTLIGHT ON: **MONTAGE HOTELS & RESORTS**

# CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

From exclusive winetasting in Northern California to canyoning in Los Cabos, Montage Hotels & Resorts introduces guests to the best of their destinations.

## Savor Sonoma

Inspired by travel photographer Andy Katz, the new tasting room and private lounges at Aperture Cellars – minutes from **Montage Healdsburg** – engage all the senses. Sip Bordeaux-style wines crafted from cool-climate vineyards while enjoying views of the Russian River Valley, an experience reserved exclusively for Montage guests.

## Explore the First National Park

Dive into Yellowstone National Park's 2.2 million acres – an hour's drive from **Montage Big Sky** resort – with a private jeep tour of geyser country. A few highlights: Old Faithful spouting water more than 100 feet in the air, the Mud Volcano's domes and swirling pools, and the bright oranges, blues, and greens of the Grand Prismatic Spring. Keep an eye out for bison, bighorn sheep, elk, and moose along the way.

## Picnic Essentials: Bicycles, Blankets, and Baskets

South Carolina's **Montage Palmetto Bluff** staff know how to prepare a picnic. Themed baskets of goodies, such as Seersucker & Pearls (caviar with the works, oysters, and shrimp cocktail), complement a cold bottle of Veuve Clicquot. Picnic baskets fit perfectly onto resort-provided bicycles, allowing guests to pedal along the May River's tree-lined trails in search of the perfect spot.

## Fish On in Utah

Hone your fly-fishing skills along the Provo, Green, and Weber rivers at **Montage Deer Valley**. Expert guide Joe Mitchell imparts wisdom and techniques, from casting to fly-tying to spotting the fish themselves. Pack light for this experience, with equipment, waders, licenses, and picnic supplies provided.

## Off-Roading in Baja

Hop in a utility terrain vehicle (UTV) from **Montage Los Cabos** to experience the natural beauty of Fox Canyon. Guests can hike, swim, and ride among the Sierra de la Laguna, the pastel church of Santiago, and the 40-foot Sol de Mayo waterfall with a private guide, pausing for a Baja-style lunch.

## Your Own Personal Luau

Traditional dances and island-style instruments showcase Polynesian history and culture during a private Aha Aina Luau at **Montage Kapalua Bay**. The intimate show comes with a Hawaiian feast of fish, poke, prawns, kalua pork, and tropical fruit in the comfort of your own residence.



From top: A Champagne picnic in Palmetto Bluff, South Carolina; fly-fishing in Provo, Utah; and Old Faithful spouting off at Yellowstone National Park.



# Montage

HOTELS & RESORTS



On Location at Montage Los Cabos

*With nothing but blue skies on the horizon,  
make this summer the one you've been waiting for.*

---

FOR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR

---

BIG SKY | DEER VALLEY | HEALDSBURG | KAPALUA BAY  
LAGUNA BEACH | LOS CABOS | PALMETTO BLUFF

LEGEND<sup>™</sup>  
*Preferred*  
HOTELS & RESORTS

  
VIRTUOSO  
PREFERRED



# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

This extraordinary collection of Virtuoso Preferred Hotels & Resorts offers once-in-a-lifetime experiences and exclusive amenities you'll only receive through your Virtuoso travel advisor.

MARATHON, FLORIDA

## Isla Bella Beach Resort & Spa



Enjoy an intimate beach, five pools, and sweeping ocean panoramas from every room of this Florida Keys resort.

Bask in the sun and sink your toes into sugar-sand beaches. Try world-class fishing, snorkeling, and diving. Savor Polynesian-inspired dishes at Mahina and tropical cocktails at the Beach Bar. Get an invigorating workout in the fitness center and follow it up with a spa treatment.

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

  
isla bella  
BEACH RESORT

KENNEBUNKPORT, MAINE

## Hidden Pond Resort & Tree Spa



This hideaway is tucked within 60 acres of birch groves and balsam fir, minutes from Goose Rocks Beach.

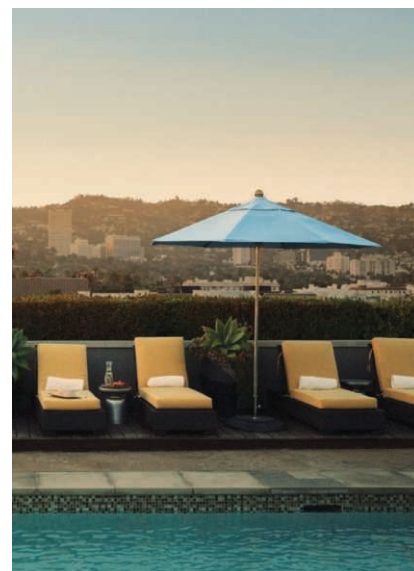
Accommodations offer a unique mix of natural serenity and rustic luxury. Try yoga, swimming, hiking, and biking, as well as rejuvenating sessions in the tree-house spa. Take a refreshing dip in two outdoor pools. And enjoy organic farm-to-fork dining at award-winning Earth at Hidden Pond.

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

 HIDDEN  
POND  
kennebunkport

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

## L'Ermitage Beverly Hills



Take up residence in this gracious all-suite hotel near Rodeo Drive in the heart of Beverly Hills.

Suites offer private French balconies. Enjoy Cali twists on French classics in Avec Nous. Work out in the fitness center, indulge in bespoke wellness services, and take in the view from the rooftop pool. Book by June 8 to receive your fourth night free for stays through December 20, 2022.

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

1975  
L'ERMITAGE  
BEVERLY HILLS





# 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.



# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

FLORENCE, ITALY

## Brunelleschi Hotel



This boutique hotel is housed within the iconic Byzantine Pagliazza Tower and sixth-century medieval church.

Rooms and suites offer a unique blend of classic and contemporary design. Dine on gourmet Italian fare in two restaurants. Sample warm canapés and Italian wines in the stylish Tower Bar. Work out in the gym or wander inside the private museum to view historic pieces of ancient Rome.

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



BRUNELLESCHI  
HOTEL

THE HEART OF FLORENCE

ROME, ITALY

## Sofitel Rome Villa Borghese



Experience personalized service in this former Roman palazzo on the edge of Villa Borghese gardens.

Stroll to nearby Trevi Fountain, Villa Medici, and the Spanish Steps. Sample innovative fare at Settimo. Enjoy cocktails and tapas paired with spectacular views from the rooftop lounge. Stay three nights between November 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023, and receive a complimentary fourth night. Book by June 30, 2022.

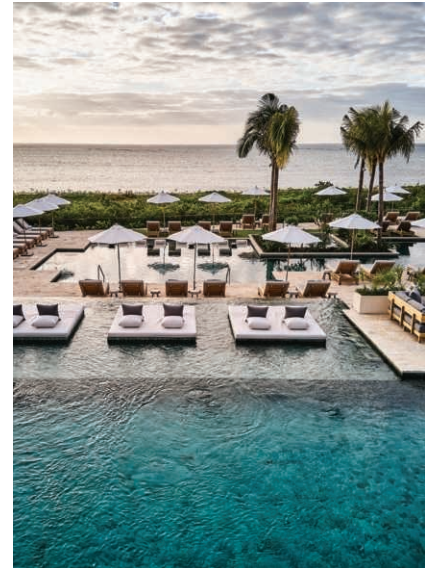
**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$100 food and beverage credit per stay.

S O F I T E L  
HOTELS & RESORTS

ROME VILLA BORGHESI

RIVIERA MAYA, MEXICO

## Etéreo, Auberge Resorts Collection



Experience breathtaking encounters with nature and pristine beaches at this ethereal oceanfront retreat.

Reserve a Studio or Suite with a private plunge pool. Celebrate the flavors of Mexico and Japanese fusion fare in four dining venues. Ancient Mayan philosophies inform soothing wellness rituals in SANA spa. Book by May 31 to enjoy a fourth night free plus round-trip airport transfers through October 31, 2022.

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



Etéreo

AUBERGE RESORTS COLLECTION  
RIVIERA MAYA, MEXICO

ENJOY EXCLUSIVE VIRTUOSO AMENITIES AT MORE THAN 1,400 TOP HOTELS AND RESORTS WORLDWIDE.

Room upgrade, when available • Breakfast for two daily • Early check-in and late checkout, when available • Complimentary Wi-Fi • Virtuoso amenity



# A HISTORY OF HOSPITALITY

InterContinental Hotels & Resorts celebrates its 75th anniversary across storied properties from Australia to North America.

“IN ONE FELL SWOOP, we have shrunken the earth,” declared Pan American World Airways founder Juan Trippe. The aviation trailblazer also left his mark on Pan Am’s destinations, establishing InterContinental Hotels & Resorts in the 1940s and attracting the jet set to properties in Beirut, Cannes, and Santiago. Today, guests can raise a glass of an InterContinental75 (a twist on the French 75) and toast the diamond anniversary of the world’s largest luxury hotel brand, featuring more than 200 properties from Sydney Harbour to New York City.

## Quintessential London

Built on the site of Queen Elizabeth’s childhood home, the Frederick Gibberd-designed **InterContinental London Park Lane** sits steps away from the boutiques and restaurants of Mayfair and Knightsbridge. The leafy greenery of Hyde Park and the Buckingham Palace Garden surrounds the hotel’s 520 guest rooms and suites. Reserve one of the Mayfair Collection’s newly refurbished rooms and ask the concierge about curated experiences, such as horseback riding in Hyde Park and British garden games such as croquet, badminton, giant tumble towers, quoits, and rounders.

## Heritage on the Harbor

Set beside harborside icons in the heart of Circular Quay, **InterContinental Sydney** has landmark credentials of its own. A multimillion-dollar restoration highlighted features of its 1851 Treasury Building, introduced new dining experiences, and transformed 509 guest rooms, 28 suites, and public spaces. Step outside and the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, Royal Botanic Garden, and The Rocks historic quarter are an easy walk away. Upgrade to Club level for access to the Club InterContinental lounge, with outdoor seating and panoramic views over Sydney Harbour.

## Old New York Charm

In 1926, the **InterContinental New York Barclay** helped establish Park Avenue glamour. The city’s decision to relocate rail tracks underground led to a building boom north of Grand Central Station. Nearly a century later, the Cross & Cross-designed hotel has wrapped up a complete renovation of the 702 guest rooms and 31 suites, each furnished with Federal details and artwork that nods to its origins. One favorite: the 2,700-square-foot Harold S. Vanderbilt Penthouse, with a private terrace and views overlooking the Chrysler Building and the Manhattan skyline.



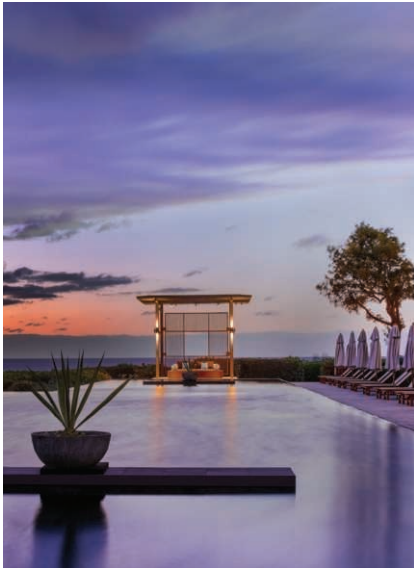
Understated elegance at the InterContinental London Park Lane.



# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

PROVIDENCIALES,  
TURKS AND CAICOS

## Amanyara



Spring and summer are ideal for an island resort getaway on the secluded shores of this 18,000-acre nature preserve.

Experience a restorative wellness immersion treatment while kids participate in the educational SEEK program. Activities include tennis, boxing, Pilates, yoga, and more. Sample the vibrant flavors of the Caribbean with Asian touches in two venues, and try the signature Amanyara Mojito in The Bar.

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

AMANYARA

BORA BORA, FRENCH POLYNESIA

## Conrad Bora Bora Nui



This private island retreat offers sugar-sand beaches nestled between mountains and the mesmerizing lagoon.

Hike, swim with manta rays, or unwind by the infinity-edge pool. Stay in a luxurious overwater villa with a plunge pool. Enjoy a treatment in the hilltop Hina spa. Five restaurants and bars offer an abundance of culinary options. Receive your fourth night complimentary through December 21, 2022.

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

CONRAD  
BORA BORA NUI

WELLS, NEVADA

## Mustang Monument



Immerse yourself in over 900 square miles of sprawling Nevada plains at this wild horse eco-resort.

Reconnect with nature amid the majesty of the American West in a place where wild mustangs run free. Try roping, shooting, and archery lessons. Cabins and luxury teepees combine comfort with an outdoor safari-style experience. Enjoy cocktails, camaraderie, and expertly crafted meals at two restaurants.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** Round-trip private airport transfers.

MUSTANG  
MONUMENT

ENJOY EXCLUSIVE VIRTUOSO AMENITIES AT MORE THAN 1,400 TOP HOTELS AND RESORTS WORLDWIDE.

Room upgrade, when available • Breakfast for two daily • Early check-in and late checkout, when available • Complimentary Wi-Fi • Virtuoso amenity



# Arizona's Icon, Reinvented.

Capture magic at the new Arizona Biltmore.



ARIZONA BILTMORE™

A WALDORF ASTORIA® RESORT

2400 E Missouri Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, United States, 85016 • Please contact your Virtuoso Travel Advisor to book.



# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA

## Vintage House at The Estate Yountville



The bungalow-style abodes of this hotel haven channel the rich, carefree spirit of its wine country locale.

Take a complimentary bicycle ride and enjoy Napa's peaceful appeal. Unwind on sun-soaked chaises by the private pool and hot tub. Three chic, convivial dining spaces serve up gourmet creations from famed Napa chef Michael Chiarello. Relax and be restored with a day of artfully curated spa treatments.

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

PLAYA DEL CARMEN,  
QUINTANA ROO, MEXICO

## Banyan Tree Mayakoba



Reserve a Beachfront Terrace Pool Suite to enjoy direct beach access and a private terrace with heated plunge pool.

Stroll along the white-sand shore, taking in sparkling ocean views. Savor cocktails and the best of Thai, local, kosher, and fusion cuisines in multiple dining venues. Enter the Banyan Tree Spa, a sanctuary for the senses, and embark on a rejuvenating wellness journey with Mexican and Asian traditions.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** Up to \$200 resort credit per stay.

WORLDWIDE

## Villas of Distinction



Experience a one-of-a-kind getaway and create lasting memories at one of the world's top luxury villas.

Options range from lavish one-bedroom penthouses to sprawling 23-bedroom estates in over 50 destinations across the globe. Whether it's a romantic getaway or a family event, each villa reservation includes personal concierge service to ensure that every detail is customized for your enjoyment.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** \$200 Concierge Services credit per stay.



ENJOY EXCLUSIVE VIRTUOSO AMENITIES AT MORE THAN 1,400 TOP HOTELS AND RESORTS WORLDWIDE.

Room upgrade, when available • Breakfast for two daily • Early check-in and late checkout, when available • Complimentary Wi-Fi • Virtuoso amenity



# REGAL ARRIVAL

Dubai's most anticipated resort opens this autumn with a star-studded chef lineup and a rooftop pool overlooking the Dubai skyline and the Arabian Sea. Here's a first glimpse of its glamour.

## Statement-Making Design

Designed by architecture firm KPF, **Atlantis The Royal** is destined to become a Dubai icon. With a stepped silhouette that features a sky bridge separating the resort from the residential towers, the design makes the most of beach and city skyline views from every vantage point – including the rooftop infinity pool. For the interiors, Paris-based Sybille de Margerie employed silver, copper, and gold tones inspired by Dubai's light at various times of day.

## Destination Dining

From Spanish small plates to high-end Hellenic, The Royal tapped some of the world's most renowned chefs for its 17 restaurants, including Gastón Acurio, Heston Blumenthal, and Nobu Matsuhisa. **José Andrés** brings his signature tapas and paellas to Palm Island with Jaleo. Iranian American chef Ariana Bundy debuts Ariana's Persian Kitchen, with dishes such as Caspian-style filet kebab and rose-scented sea bass. And Milos, from Greek chef and restaurateur Costas Spiliadis, touches down with whole-fish sashimi and tartare.

## The Royal Treatment

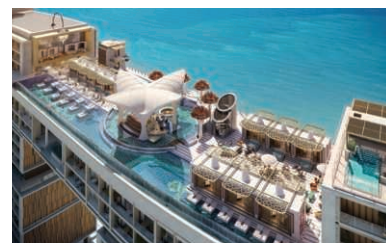
With expansive terraces, infinity pools, and exclusive benefits such as around-the-clock butler service and private elevators, Signature Penthouses are the jewels in the property's crown. Guests in the **three-bedroom Royal Mansion**, for example, are greeted by 100-year-old olive trees flanking a majestic foyer. The split-level penthouse, which spans the sky bridge connecting the two buildings, is party-ready with an outdoor kitchen, 360-degree views, and an entertainment room equipped with a 98-inch LED TV.

## Make a Splash

Guests seeking that ideal Insta backdrop needn't look further than **Cloud 22**. An infinity pool surrounded by luxe private cabanas stretches nearly double the length of an Olympic pool. The rooftop space is a relaxing spot to soak up sunshine and city views with a cocktail in hand.

## Rouse Your Well-Being

Whether your sense of well-being springs from meditating in a halotherapy salt cave, taking a snow sauna, or daily HIIT sessions on the beach, Atlantis The Royal's 32,000-square-foot, indoor-outdoor **Awaken spa** can make it happen. Find your Zen among 17 therapy and VIP treatment rooms; the six-room Hammam Sensorium, inspired by traditional Arabic integrative medicine; a lap pool and fitness classes; and a wellness center with a mindfulness pavilion and meditation gardens.



Clockwise from left: Ariana's Persian Kitchen, Cloud 22's sky pool and lounge, and the Royal Mansion's *majlis* (living room).



# VIRTUOSO BEST OF THE BEST

SAINT MARY'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

## Carlisle Bay



Exquisitely appointed suites with balconies or covered terraces feature daybeds for lounging in the sunshine.

After a day of complimentary paddleboarding or snorkeling, set aside time for an organic spa treatment. Choose from a delectable selection of restaurants and bars. Stay by December 21, 2022, and enjoy 20 percent off Bed & Breakfast and All-Inclusive rates. Kids stay or eat free, subject to availability.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITIES:** Rain-forest hike, cooking demonstration, and \$100 resort credit per stay.



ITALY

## Belmond



Discover hidden gems when you plan a grand tour among some of the most treasured destinations in Italy.

Witness dawn light on a dazzling Sicilian coast, greet the rolling hills of Tuscany, glide across the Venetian lagoon, and explore sun-splashed seaside villages. Book a minimum of seven nights at two or more Belmond luxury retreats through November 14, 2022, and enjoy 20 percent off the published rate.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY:** Each hotel offers an exclusive \$100-value benefit.



REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND

## The Reykjavik EDITION



Escape to a hotel offering waterfront and city panoramas in the historic center of downtown Reykjavík.

Dine at signature restaurant Tides by Michelin-starred chef Gunnar Karl Gíslason. Four culinary venues feature specialty cocktails and alfresco options. The first-of-its-kind social spa offers a bar serving post-workout smoothies, hammam, hydrotherapy splash pool, sauna, and invigorating treatment options.

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



ENJOY EXCLUSIVE VIRTUOSO AMENITIES AT MORE THAN 1,400 TOP HOTELS AND RESORTS WORLDWIDE.

Room upgrade, when available • Breakfast for two daily • Early check-in and late checkout, when available • Complimentary Wi-Fi • Virtuoso amenity



# ZIP OFF TO ZAGREB

The Croatian capital's offbeat museums, cobblestone streets, and year-round events calendar make it one of Europe's best-kept secrets.



From top: Rooftop views over the Croatian capital, Zagreb's Festival of Lights, and the Museum of Broken Relationships.

**E**XPANSIVE PARKS, MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE, and a chilled-out attitude surround Zagreb's city streets. One of the local pastimes involves planting yourself at an outdoor café, sipping espresso, and gossiping with friends – but there's much more to this city of 800,000 than caffeine and conversation.

## Old Town, Modern Life

In Zagreb's medieval Gornji Grad, or Upper Town, neoclassical palaces and churches spanning the architectural spectrum line narrow cobblestone streets, standing alongside ancient taverns and restaurants serving hearty Croatian cuisine. But don't get the impression that residents are partying like it's 1499: The **ultramodern side of the city** includes the Museum of Contemporary Art's geometric glass exterior and rooftop terraces, and the wavelike roof of Zagreb's Franjo Tudman International Airport.

## Heartbreak and Hangovers

Zagreb's museum philosophy: The more avant-garde, the better. The **Museum of Broken Relationships** houses crowdsourced symbols of heartbreak, including a “toaster of vindication” and an “ex ax,” along with photographs, letters, lingerie, and jewelry donated from around the world. The 2019 addition of the **Museum of Hangovers** captures yet another agonizing feeling via interactive exhibits. Visitors can practice “drunk walking,” browse unexpected items people have woken up with, or put on beer goggles to see the world through the eyes of a big night out (without the subsequent foggy memory and splitting headache).

## The Cuisine and Caffeine Scene

The phrase “*dobar tek*” (Croatian for “bon appétit”) will come in handy when dining out in Zagreb. One tasty option: **Michelin-starred Noel** serves six-course, seasonal tasting menus of Croatian cuisine on a coveted outdoor patio. Coffee culture has long been pervasive in the city, with third-wave coffee roasters such as Eli's Caffe and Quahwa setting up shop in the last decade.

## 'Tis the Season – All Year Long

Croatia's Dalmatian Coast draws jet-setters and yachters for summer's surf, sand, and sunshine, but there's **always something to celebrate** in Zagreb. Performing-arts fans can plan a September visit around the city's Artpuncture Festival, catch the Zagreb Film Festival in November, or enjoy open-air concerts throughout the warmer months. Zagreb Advent's Christmas markets run from late November through early January.

## Walk This Way

The Croatian capital is made for pedestrians. Trams occasionally cross the city center, while the world's shortest funicular shuttles people uphill to Gornji Grad. Head to **Maksimir Park**, built in the late eighteenth century, to trade cobblestones for 1,000 oak-studded acres in central Zagreb.





Culinary time travel at a London favorite.

## In with the Old

In praise of London's classic food outlets.

BY AMY MERRICK

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLOTTE BLAND

THERE'S NOWHERE BETTER to be in London at 10 AM than the **Regency Cafe** on the corner of Regency and Page streets in Westminster. You don't need me to tell you it's special, though. The ever-present line of hungry Londoners winding through its 1946 ivory-tiled interior says it all. Red gingham café curtains hang in big glass windows, and a glossy, deco sign spells out the restaurant's name. Parked black taxis dot the surrounding blocks: The drivers are queuing up for breakfast along with the rest of the city. Art students wait alongside businesspeople, tattooed construction workers, and tweedy old-timers with caps and canes.

Nobody comes to London for the food, but when you're here, it sure makes it easy to stay. The city's peculiar culinary charms reveal themselves slowly, corner by corner, institution by institution, winding back the clock on its staggering 2,000-year history. These places aren't suspended in aspic, catering to nostalgia alone, but are instead thriving hubs of food and life and flavor that have managed, tooth and nail, to continue to serve a city that has, from its earliest days, flung



itself toward the future. Seeking them out helps reveal just what makes a classic worthy of its reputation, and what fuels a distinctly British establishment. Food alone does not a restaurant make.

The long line at the Regency Cafe moves fast. A few minutes' wait and you'll find yourself at the counter, finally able to read the old-fashioned red felt menu board just moments before it's time to order. In the frenzy of the midmorning rush, the breakfast menu is completely overwhelming in its frank simplicity. A dozen different combinations are listed from a dozen ingredients: eggs, bacon, sausage, chips, mushrooms, tomatoes, baked beans, black pudding, hash browns, toast, buttered bread, and the unmistakably British bubble and squeak, a savory fried pancake made from cabbage and mashed potatoes. The sandwich menu is equally prosaic.

The food is hearty, cheap, hot, and delicious – and tastes just like you imagine it will, but better, because it's nearly all fried, then lashed with a mysteriously sweet and savory, vinegary sauce called, simply, “brown sauce.” Best to admit now: You won't be needing lunch. A whirl around the galleries of the Tate Britain a few blocks away always helps walk it off.

IF I EVER NEED TO CHEER MYSELF UP, I'LL turn the dial to the fancy-foods spectrum: **Fortnum & Mason** department store on Piccadilly, founded in 1707, with a royal warrant as the queen's grocer. I'm not alone in this particular pick-me-up, but a waltz through its minty-green arched doorway and six floors of plush red carpet and crystal chandeliers never fails to astonish me. In addition to exceedingly refined groceries, there's a tea salon, flower shop, wine cellar, butcher, bakery, and an entire floor chiefly devoted to fine china and tea accessories.

When Fortnum's was established, Britain's empire was unmatched, and London was the crossroads of the world. Even now, porters in pinstripe trousers and tailcoats whiz through the crowds to fetch provisions to fill their famed wicker hampers. Looking for marmalade? There are 35 varieties to choose from, with flavors such as lemon chamomile or blood orange and rose petal. Prefer some honey? They stock jars sourced

from almost every county in England. The magic is that even the fanciest jar feels accessible, a bounty on offer, and even a ten-pound note will get you a treat.

The chocolate counter puts me in mind of a Nancy Mitford novel: rows of scented rose and violet creams with candied petals, tucked into a telltale turquoise box, more glamorous to me than anything from Tiffany's. Load up a picnic basket with potted Stilton, gherkins, Welsh rarebit, waxed cheddar, Scotch eggs, sausage rolls, and cold-smoked chicken, and *bam*, you're off to the races – or at the very least, St James's

Park, which is just a stone's throw away, at the very foot of Buckingham Palace.

With the deeply British penchant for booze, libations are nonnegotiable. A stop at nearby **Berry Bros. & Rudd**, a fine-wine-and-spirits merchant founded in 1698, makes Fortnum's look like a youthful upstart. Still trading from its original black-arched, wood-paneled premises on St James's Street, the shop supplies the Prince of Wales with wine. Vaulted brick cellars offer winetastings, and the shelves hold classic vintages as well as surprises, such as British bubbly from Hampshire.



**Highbrow and humble:**  
The exterior of Sweetings (left)  
and (above) a Regency Cafe  
breakfast feast.



## On the Table



From left: A Sweetings server and the restaurant's fresh-from-the-sea spread, and Fortnum & Mason treats. Opposite: Berry Bros. & Rudd.



The spots we return to time and time again, generation after generation, are the ones that make us feel at ease and provide space for life to unfold at the table.

For decades, the best-selling offering has been the house-label Good Ordinary Claret, which speaks volumes about England's longing for comfort and ease.

INCHING EASTWARD TOWARD SAINT Paul's Cathedral, the street names tell another tale. In the same neighborhood as Fishmongers' Hall, Fleet Place, Ropemaker Street, Ship Tavern Passage, and Whalebone Court, **Sweetings**, a classic seafood restaurant, first caught my eye the old-fashioned way: with a massive pile of gorgeous, fresh oysters heaped on ice in the front window. They enticed me as they have Londoners since 1889.

Sweetings is undeniably a special-occasion spot, but an unfussy one, with tall

ceilings and utilitarian counter seating throughout, save for a small white-table-clothed dining room at the rear. Open only for lunch, it draws a mixed bunch. Navy-blue suits fill stools, while fashionable friends mingle over the signature Black Velvet cocktail, a heady mixture of Guinness and Champagne, served in a pewter tankard. After that, all bets are off: bacon-wrapped scallops, shrimp cocktail served in a silver footed dish, and half a dozen oysters – the briniest of my life – from Mersea Island off the Essex coast, shells still sporting fresh seaweed, studded with barnacles.

The bill of fare is straightforward and uncomplicated, like so much of the cozy British food that stands the test of time: Dover sole; fish pie topped with mashed potatoes; a

battered haddock fillet, with chips, peas, and crunchy, saline samphire (known stateside as sea beans) available on the side. Sticky toffee pudding and a small jug of warm custard fill any remaining gaps.

There's an immediacy to even the highest-quality food in these London institutions – a no-nonsense simplicity that comes as a relief, a “what you order is what you get” sense of comfort that all the newness in the world can't conjure up. After all, the spots we return to time and time again, generation after generation, are the ones that make us feel at ease and provide space for life to unfold at the table. These places aren't reinventing the wheel, and I, for one, am all for it. The wheel has been rolling successfully here in London for quite some time.



## London Calling

**GO** Virtuoso advisors can work with **NoteWorthy**, an on-site tour connection in the UK, to arrange behind-the-counter experiences at many of the places mentioned in this story. They've also got the in on private food-market tours with Michelin-starred chefs, London's best Sunday roasts (or vegan cooking classes), and VIP access to a few of the royal family's favorites, including perfumer Floris London and Lock & Co. Hatters, the world's oldest hat shop.

**STAY** Behind its grand belle epoque facade, the **Rosewood London's** aesthetic skews contemporary; 308 rooms feature Italian linens and white marble bathrooms. Travelers and Londoners congregate in the Holborn Dining Room, a brasserie with a faithfully British menu: Scotch eggs, lobster

thermidor, and a raved-about selection of meat pies – the restaurant kitchen even has a dedicated Pie Room. *Doubles from \$559, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*

**The Egerton House Hotel's** 28 rooms are peak posh, bedecked with brocade curtains and silk-lined walls. Guests love the hotel's Alice in Wonderland-themed afternoon tea, daily master classes in martini making, and tony location on a quiet Knightsbridge street, just a seven-minute walk away from Harrods. *Doubles from \$557, including breakfast daily, two tickets to the Victoria and Albert Museum, a complimentary afternoon tea for two, and a martini master class.*

**The Stafford London's** St James's address makes it a prime perch for exploring

Buckingham Palace and Hyde Park; the hotel's 106 rooms, spread across three buildings, include cozy hideaways and suites with private terraces. There's plenty of British comfort food at The Game Bird and one of the city's best gin martinis at The American Bar. *Doubles from \$535, including breakfast daily and one lunch or dinner for two.*

It's all glitz in the West End at the 283-room **Corinthia London**, from the massive chandelier in the marble-wrapped lobby to the plush guest rooms with their knockout London Eye and River Thames views. Two must-grab reservations: dinner at Kerridge's Bar & Grill and an afternoon facial at the fourth-floor ESPA Life spa. *Doubles from \$890, including breakfast daily and a \$100 hotel credit. VI.*



voted  
**BEST**  
adventure  
cruise line

SMALL SHIP CRUISING

CONTACT YOUR  
VIRTUOSO TRAVEL  
ADVISOR TODAY



# Rare Bird

Inside Flamingo Estate founder Richard Christiansen's garden of earthly delights.

INTERVIEWED BY DAVID HOCHMAN



From left: Richard Christiansen's Land Rover, Christiansen with a mural by Luke Edward Hall in Flamingo Estate's flower room, and his heritage extra-virgin olive oil and Fuyu Hachiya persimmon vinegar.

**F**OR A MAN WHO HAS TREKKED TO THE NORTH and South poles on foot, Richard Christiansen can be a surprisingly good homebody. Grounded from nearly nonstop travel by the pandemic, the Australian-born founder of Chandelier Creative, a New York-based creative agency, transformed his property on a stepped seven-acre hillside in northeast Los Angeles into Flamingo Estate – an earthly (and retail) paradise

of homemade bath and body products, oils, tinctures, candles, potions, flowers, veggies, honey, and chocolate. (“You must have chocolate,” he says.)

The garden-fantasia vibe also has a community component. In March 2020, Christiansen began packing and distributing CSA produce boxes to support local farmers. That first Friday, he sold 400 boxes. The next, he sold 800. Today he has 35 drivers delivering thousands of farm



“I want to go places and do things that aren’t easy – to get further off the path. I want to be surprised and awestruck, to feel truly transported. I never want to land somewhere that’s generic.”

boxes around Southern California, collaborating with more than 75 farmers, growers, and makers.

Even as he acts locally, Christiansen thinks globally, in that travel informs every design decision he makes. Working with Studio KO in Paris to reimagine Flamingo Estate’s Spanish Revival main house (once an adult-film studio), he says, “We literally pulled the things we loved the most from every beautiful corner of the world.” Tiles and terra-cotta pots came from buying trips to Morocco. Marble from India. Fabrics from Japan. Furniture from Italy. And the lighting, mostly from Paris. “Someone once described the place as Epcot, which to me is the highest compliment,” says Christiansen, who cites Walt Disney as his childhood idol and muse.

As his pandemic nesting period comes to an end, Christiansen, 45, is eyeing new horizons, in business and as a global explorer. “Maybe it’s my reaction to Covid, but I’m hungrier than before to find the non-obvious,” he says, as if predictability were ever in the cards. “I want to go places and do things that aren’t easy – to get further off the path. I want to be surprised and awestruck, to feel truly transported. I never want to land somewhere that’s generic.” Here are a few discoveries from Christiansen’s unquenchable search for adventure.

**I don’t own very many clothes.** I don’t wear a watch. I bike everywhere. But I will happily pay for a really good seat on a really good airplane and an excellent room in an exceptional hotel. To me that’s where money should be spent in life.



From top: Fresh produce in the kitchen and Christiansen’s music room.





Sunset at Flamingo Estate.

**Growing up in rural Australia**, my twin brother and I became obsessed with airlines. After school, we'd go sit in the airport doing our homework, watching people coming and going. Qantas and Singapore Airlines flew out of there, and we'd see the pilots and flight attendants heading onto the planes. We thought, "Wow, up those stairs and through the doors, you enter a magical bubble where conversation flows freely and you can reinvent yourself someplace new." I still feel that excitement geeking out over seating charts.

**Forme, Italy's Il Pellicano and Mezzatorre Hotel** are the essence of great hospitality. Marie-Louise Sciò keeps the Pellicano style up to date with a combo of freewheeling spirit and old-school polish. The attention to detail, the rejection of status-quo design cues, the dedication to service and food – you're free to disappear into another realm when you're in someone's hands like that.

**When I turned 40**, I climbed Everest and hiked to the South Pole and the North Pole. On the way to the North Pole, I visited the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, which may save the world one day. Nearby is Gruvelageret, one of the best restaurants I've ever been to – even more precious because it's on a small island in the Arctic Circle. While going up Everest I ate the best chocolate croissants I've ever tasted at Mother Earth House in the village of Lobuche on the way to base camp at an altitude of 16,300 feet – a rare

delight for weary climbers. In Antarctica, there's a small vegetable and herb garden growing in the United States' Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station. It's powered largely by lights during winter and feels like a bubble on the moon.

**I was staying in a dreadful hotel in Argentina** when I met Darius Khondji, the Iranian French cinematographer, whose room looked the same as mine but somehow felt completely different. My room was hell. His was beautiful. It had something to do with the lighting. Long story short: Darius traveled with a suitcase of light bulbs and candles and would replace the lighting when he got to a hotel. Now I do the same. I carry warm, pink-colored light bulbs, and if I'm staying more than a few days, I'll screw in new bulbs for an aesthetic upgrade that transforms my experience.

**I never leave home without a Polaroid camera:** It's instant, artful, tactile, shareable gratification.

**Old hotel ashtrays are irresistible collectibles.** The Italians and French have gorgeous ones that evoke an almost impossibly glamorous time that's rare these days.

**My current go list:** I'm desperately keen to get back to Japan and India. I've never been to Sri Lanka. I've never been to Papua New Guinea.

## Richard Christiansen's Los Angeles

**EAT** **Il Piccolino** in West Hollywood is my favorite Italian hole-in-the-wall. It's always beautiful people-watching, and there's no better place for pasta Bolognese.

**DRINK** Usually, I make cocktails at home. But they're inspired by the great hotel bars of the world. The **Park Hyatt Tokyo** fixes a cocktail called the Million Dollar that's the best drink anywhere. Mix gin, vermouth, pineapple puree, grenadine, and egg white.

**DO** I love getting my hands in the dirt, but it's also nice just walking around and seeing plants. That's why I love strolling around **Huntington Botanical Gardens**. They have a cactus collection that's unlike anything in Los Angeles.

**SHOP** **Bode** is a cult menswear brand from New York that has a fantastic showroom in Hollywood. **Alchemy Works** sells jewelry and housewares and some Flamingo Estate products as well. **Mohawk General Store** is my go-to for clothing: It's easy, unfussy, and somehow captures the moment in Los Angeles. **Neighborhood Goods** is an Austin-based shop with a new L.A. location that features a perfectly curated collection of clothing and products. I always want everything I see there.

**STAY** **The Beverly Hills Hotel** is still the classic of classics: the pink walls, the iconic palm-green wallpaper, the Polo Lounge, the pool. It's hard to find another place that embodies the energy and electricity and vibe of Southern California. It deserves the title of "legendary" like few other places. *Doubles from \$1,145, including breakfast daily and a \$100 hotel credit.* **VI**



## SPOTLIGHT ON: OCEANIA CRUISES

# PERSONAL CONNECTIONS

Try a new take on wine pairing, enhance your culinary expertise, and savor local life on shore with Oceania Cruises.

**S**EASONED TRAVELERS KNOW THE MOST SATISFYING ANSWER to “How was your trip?” includes cultural details and vivid descriptions that evoke the senses. From ship to shore, **Oceania Cruises** helps you collect those story-worthy adventures that you’ll delight in recounting to friends and family. Smaller ships, a strong culinary program, and onshore excursions facilitate deep connections between guests and their destinations.

## Champagne Dreams

The pop of a cork and bubbles filling your glass signal some of life’s most memorable moments. Oceania Cruises’ **Dom Pérignon Experience** on the 1,250-passenger *Marina* and *Riviera* pairs select vintages with a six-course meal – previous installments featured scallops with mole negro and roasted pineapple served with Dom Pérignon 2009, as well as sashimi-style Wagyu beef with arugula, blood orange, and caviar, accompanied by a playful 2004 rosé. Served at the luxe La Reserve, the exclusive, once-a-cruise event is limited to just 24 guests and frequently sells out well in advance of embarkation. From canapés to the cheese course, this night is all about joie de vivre.

## A Sense of Taste

Food connects us to the heart and soul of a place and its people. On Oceania Cruises’ **Culinary Discovery Tours**, passengers savor destinations through the likes of guided market tours, visits to a Tahitian vanilla plantation, or a Venetian villa meal with a master chef deep-frying meats and vegetables for *fritto misto*. Outings are guided by chef-instructors from The Culinary Center (the ships’ hands-on cooking school) and often conclude with a cooking class that uses products collected onshore to create a regional dish.

## A Warm Welcome in Every Port

Oceania Cruises introduced Go Local shore excursions to connect passengers with a wide array of artisans, bakers, home cooks, gardeners, and craftspeople across Europe, Alaska, and South America. The idea: Skip the landmarks and meet a local family to get **a taste of daily life**. The tours are ideal for passengers who have already hit marquee attractions or those looking to get off the tourist track. A few examples from more than 120 options: Sitting down to a home-cooked family meal in an Andalusian mountain village, touring a private garden with a landscape architect in rural Norway, learning to tango in the San Telmo neighborhood of Buenos Aires, and exploring Paris’ famed Marché d’Aligre with a local to sample seasonal ingredients, followed by a visit to their chosen wine bar.



From left: The Dom Pérignon Experience, sailing into Montenegro, and winetasting on a Culinary Discovery Tour in France.



# All Together Now

Soaking in the world's communal bathing traditions.

BY INGRID K. WILLIAMS



Infinite relaxation at Iceland's Sky Lagoon. Opposite: A Finnish sauna and the Blue Lagoon.

**W**HEN I FIRST HEARD ABOUT A BATHHOUSE-CUM-ARTWORK ON THE JAPANESE ISLAND OF Naoshima, I hadn't realized that experiencing the art project would require wading into a steaming pool amid a group of strangers, all of us in the nude. For someone unaccustomed to public nudity, the mere thought was terrifying.

Yet there I was in the Naoshima Bath changing area, clutching only a tiny washcloth for a modicum of modesty. After a few deep breaths, I entered a cavernous, tiled bathing room where several women were already soaking and quietly chatting in groups of two or three. Following the instructions on an illustrated sign, I self-consciously scrubbed every inch of my body before gently easing myself into the pool. Once submerged in the hot water, however, I felt my anxiety instantly ease, as if washed away in the soothing warmth. In this newly blissed-out state, I could finally appreciate



the art I'd come to see: the aquatic-themed mosaics on the wall, the intricate collages on the pool floor, and the swirling patterns painted on the skylights overhead.

That inaugural dip on Naoshima turned out to be the first of many such experiences in Japan, a country with a rich tradition of ritual washing in public bathhouses, known as *senjo*, as well as in natural hot springs, or *onsen*. Over the years, I've soaked in communal *senjo* at small inns where they were the only places to wash up, and in private outdoor *onsen* at luxurious *ryokan*, traditional Japanese guesthouses. I've simmered in a bubbling thermal pool with spectacular river views in Hakone, a resort town southwest of Tokyo, and trekked into the snowy mountains near Nagano to the natural hot springs frequented by red-faced snow monkeys.

THE HISTORY OF BATHING CULTURE dates back to ancient civilizations. The Greeks took ritualistic mineral baths, and the Romans considered communal bathing an integral part of daily life. Grand bathing facilities, known as *thermae*, constructed throughout the Roman Empire, were dual-purpose places for washing and socializing. The remains of some of those bathhouses from antiquity still stand, from the well-preserved Roman Baths in the English city of Bath to the Terme di Caracalla in Rome.

Centuries later, bathing traditions have evolved in different ways around the world. In the U.S., bathing is almost always done privately, at home. But in South Korea, for example, groups of friends will often socialize at *jjimjilbang*, popular 24-hour bathhouse complexes featuring hot tubs, showers, saunas, and spa facilities. And in Morocco, locals regularly visit the neighborhood hammam to be steamed, soaked, scrubbed, and caught up on the latest town gossip. More than simply a place to get clean, these locales are societal touchstones, and ideal spots for travelers to immerse themselves in the local culture.

While there are many different ways to bathe – in hot air, as in a sauna; in heated tap water, as in your bathroom – for many, the idea of communal bathing is tied to hot springs. Iceland, one of the most volcanically active places on the planet, is dotted with

More than simply a place to get clean, these locales are societal touchstones, and ideal spots for travelers to immerse themselves in the local culture.



(FINNISH SAUNA) ASCGER MORTENSEN, (BLUE LAGOON) JAMIE BODORFF/CAVAN



## Taking the Waters

On **Artisans of Leisure's** private six-day tour, check into the 253-room Reykjavik Edition, a glamorous new timber-and-glass property beside the harbor, and explore the wild nature of rural Iceland, from its glaciers and waterfalls to its steaming, open-air hot springs. *Departures: Any day through May 2023; from \$9,125.*

When Japan reopens to tourism, travelers can make a detour from Tokyo to see the snow monkeys bathing in hot springs near Nagano. A three-day outing with **EXO Travel** whisks explorers from the capital to Shibu Onsen, a historic hot-springs resort town, for a stay at a Japanese inn, or *ryokan*, and a hike into Jigokudani Park to meet the soaking macaques. *Departures: Any day through 2023; from \$497.*

On the Bosphorus' European shore, a former Ottoman palace is now home to the 310-room **Ciragan Palace Kempinski Istanbul**. At this grand property, tired travelers are revived at the Sanitas Spa, which offers a traditional Turkish hammam, as well as sauna and steam rooms, a fitness center, an indoor pool, and a heated outdoor infinity pool. *Doubles from \$630, including breakfast daily and a \$100 hotel credit.*

**Steamy situations: A Japanese onsen and (right) Tuscany's cascading Saturnia hot springs.**



natural hot springs, many of which have been transformed into spalike destinations, such as the famous Blue Lagoon and the new Sky Lagoon outside Reykjavík. Far from the tourist crowds, in the northern village of Húsavík, the geothermal spa GeoSea lures bathers to its clifftop infinity pool filled with piping-hot seawater believed to have a variety of healing properties, from soothing skin conditions to easing joint pain.

Similar health benefits have been attributed to the mineral-rich water bubbling in hot springs around the world. In Tuscany, for example, the tiny village of Bagno Vignoni has long been renowned for its therapeutic geothermal springs. An early rest stop for Christian pilgrims looking to soothe their aches and pains in the Middle Ages, the village remains popular today for its restorative *terme*, or thermal resorts. And in Hungary, the capital of Budapest earned the nickname “City of Spas” due to its abundance of curative thermal baths, some of which date back to the Roman Empire. Many of Budapest’s spas are also



architectural stunners, such as the palatial Széchenyi Baths, with its canary-yellow, neobaroque edifice and outdoor pools, where local retirees often play chess in the steaming water.

IN AREAS WITHOUT THERMAL SPRINGS, bathing traditions often rely on steam and heat to cleanse the body. In Istanbul, visitors to a Turkish bath, or hammam, prime their skin in a steam room, followed by a vigorous scrub and wash, often performed by an attendant. These cleansing and purification rituals, once necessary for public hygiene and religious purposes before indoor plumbing was available, remain cherished traditions for relaxation and laid-back socializing.

In Finland, another place that has been bathing in heat and steam for centuries, the sauna is considered an integral part of the national identity. In 2020, UNESCO added Finnish sauna to its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity – high praise for the simple ritual of





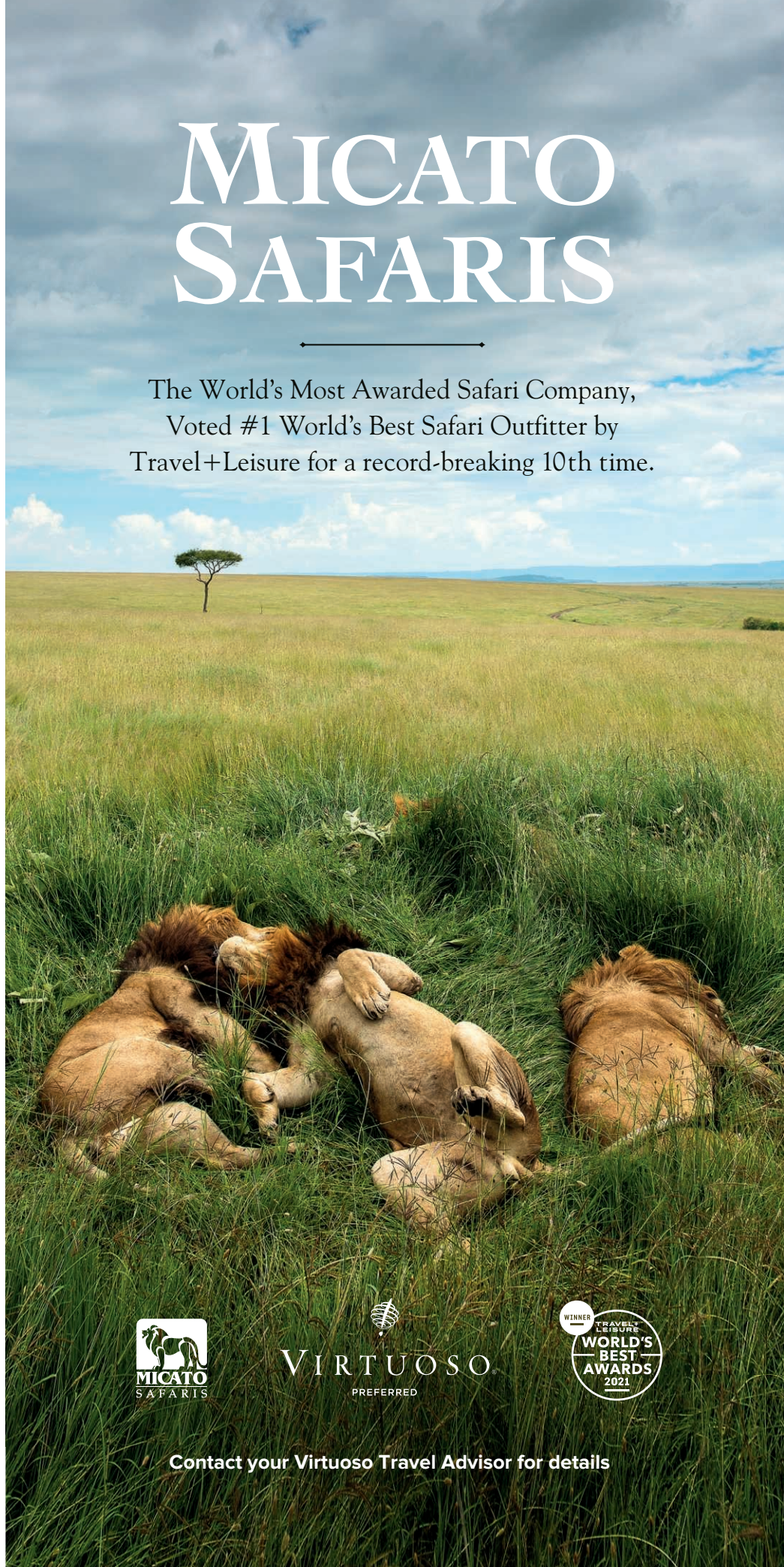
sweating in a small heated room or hut. For my first Finnish sauna, I chose a biting cold autumn day to visit Kulttuurisauna, a minimalist public facility on the waterfront in Helsinki. After stripping down inside, I joined half a dozen women lounging on the sauna's tiered wooden benches. Unaccustomed to the suffocating heat, I chose a spot on a low bench – the higher you sit, the hotter it gets – and winced every time someone suggested *löyly*, the tossing of water on heated stones to release a scorching puff of steam.

After about ten minutes, with my lungs and cheeks ablaze, I ducked out of the sauna and followed the lead of others I'd seen dashing outside and quickly dipping themselves in the ice-cold sea. The jolt of shockingly cold water on the heels of the searing heat was exhilarating. Over the next hour, I repeated the routine a couple of times until all that remained was a meditative calm like I'd never felt before. Once again, a little courage (and nudity) led me directly into foreign – but friendly – waters. VI

©ONSEN/ GYRO/GETTY IMAGES, (SATURNIA) SIMONSKAFAR/GETTY IMAGES

# MICATO SAFARIS

The World's Most Awarded Safari Company,  
Voted #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter by  
Travel+Leisure for a record-breaking 10th time.



VIRTUOSO  
PREFERRED



Contact your Virtuoso Travel Advisor for details





**I DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT:**

- 1.** The **Aerin Mini Weekender** as a carry-on or an overnight bag for a quick getaway.
- 2.** A **D. Porthault** travel pillow for the plane.
- 3.** **Aerin Rose Lip Conditioner** is always in my bag. It adds moisture and shine to my lips and makes me look polished.
- 4.** I've used **Estée Lauder Advanced Night Repair** serum and mask for as long as I can remember. They keep my face feeling hydrated and refreshed after a long flight.
- 5.** **Frame** makes my favorite jeans. I love that they can be dressed up or down.
- 6.** Floral silk tops from **Erdem** or **Giambattista Valli** are an effortless way to be comfortable while looking put together.
- 7.** **Le Monde Béryl** mules are my favorite comfortable walking shoes for travel. They've been a staple in my wardrobe for many years.
- 8.** **Gold jewelry** – a gold bracelet or necklace is the perfect finishing touch to any outfit. My grandmother, Estée, taught me that gold is a neutral. **VI.**

# My Travel Essentials

Aerin Lauder on how to be effortlessly elegant anywhere.

“COMFORT IS KEY, but I want to make sure that I look and feel great,” says Aerin Lauder of her travel style. The founder and creative director of lifestyle brand Aerin and style and image director for Estée Lauder sticks to a formula: “I like to wear and pack pieces that are versatile and can be worn in many ways,”

she says. “I love a great pair of pants and a blazer with gold accessories that can take me from day to night. If I’m visiting a warmer destination, a long dress and flat sandals is the perfect combination.” Lauder travels as often as she can, with Jerusalem and Tanzania ranking among her recent favorite destinations; Paris (The Ritz),

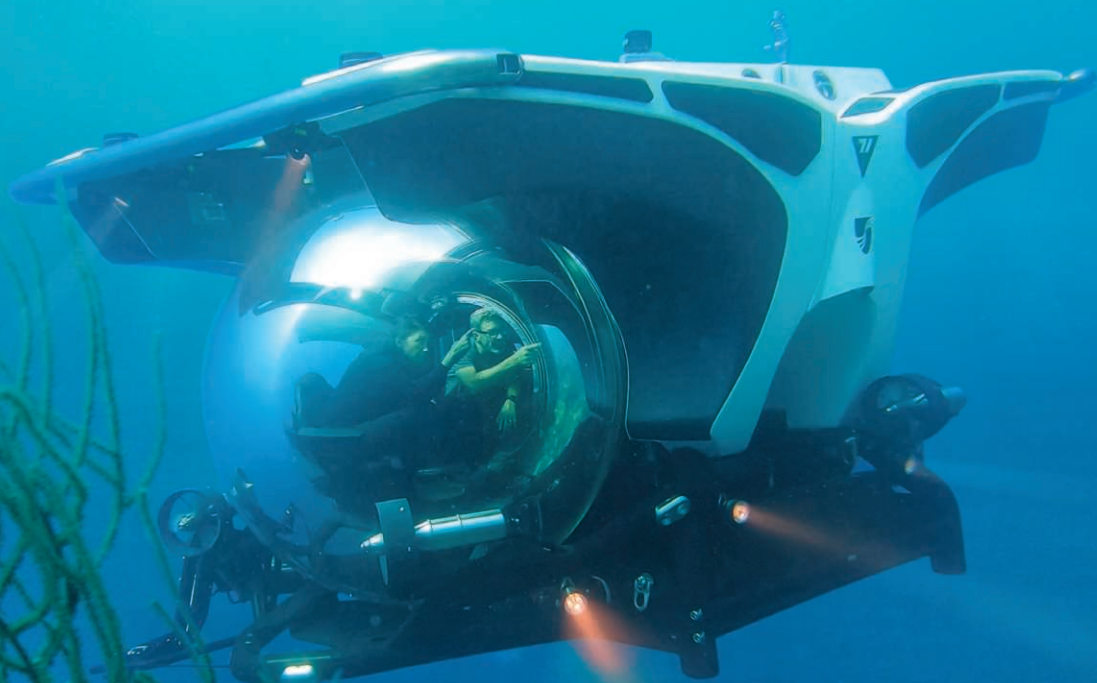
London (Claridge’s), and Positano are perennial favorites. Her itineraries inform her creative endeavors too – especially when it comes to Aerin Beauty: The brand’s newest fragrance, Mediterranean Honeysuckle Mimosa, was inspired by the French Riviera and the brilliant yellow mimosas that bloom in early spring.





*That moment*

when you envision life outside your bubble.



*This is your moment™*



SEABOURN®





Welcome to your new neighborhood.

Explore it deeply in a submarine. Speed around it in a Zodiac®. Hike it, paddle your kayak through it, and experience the world's beauty from new perspectives. Aboard our intimate, brand new Expedition ships, you're in the company of scientists, naturalists, expert guides, and visionaries. Together, you venture into corners of the earth only the boldest souls ever reach. Rare, close interactions with nature and wildlife become your everyday reality.







**New expedition ships**  
built to PC6 Polar Class  
standards

**2 submarines**  
carrying six guests to  
depths of 1,000 feet

**24 Zodiacs® plus kayaks,**  
snorkeling and scuba gear

**26-member Expedition  
Team** of scientists,  
historians, and naturalists

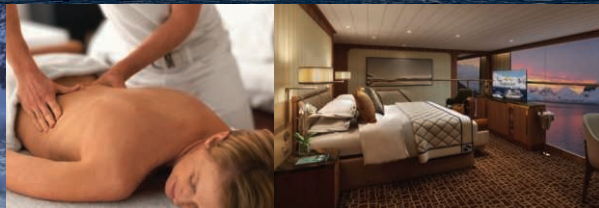
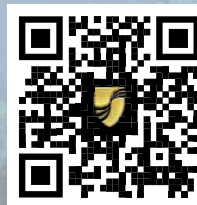
**8 first-class dining  
experiences** even in the  
most remote destinations

**Complimentary Helly  
Hansen** parka & back-  
pack on polar expeditions

**Swarovski Optik  
binoculars** in each suite  
for guests to use



SEABOURN®



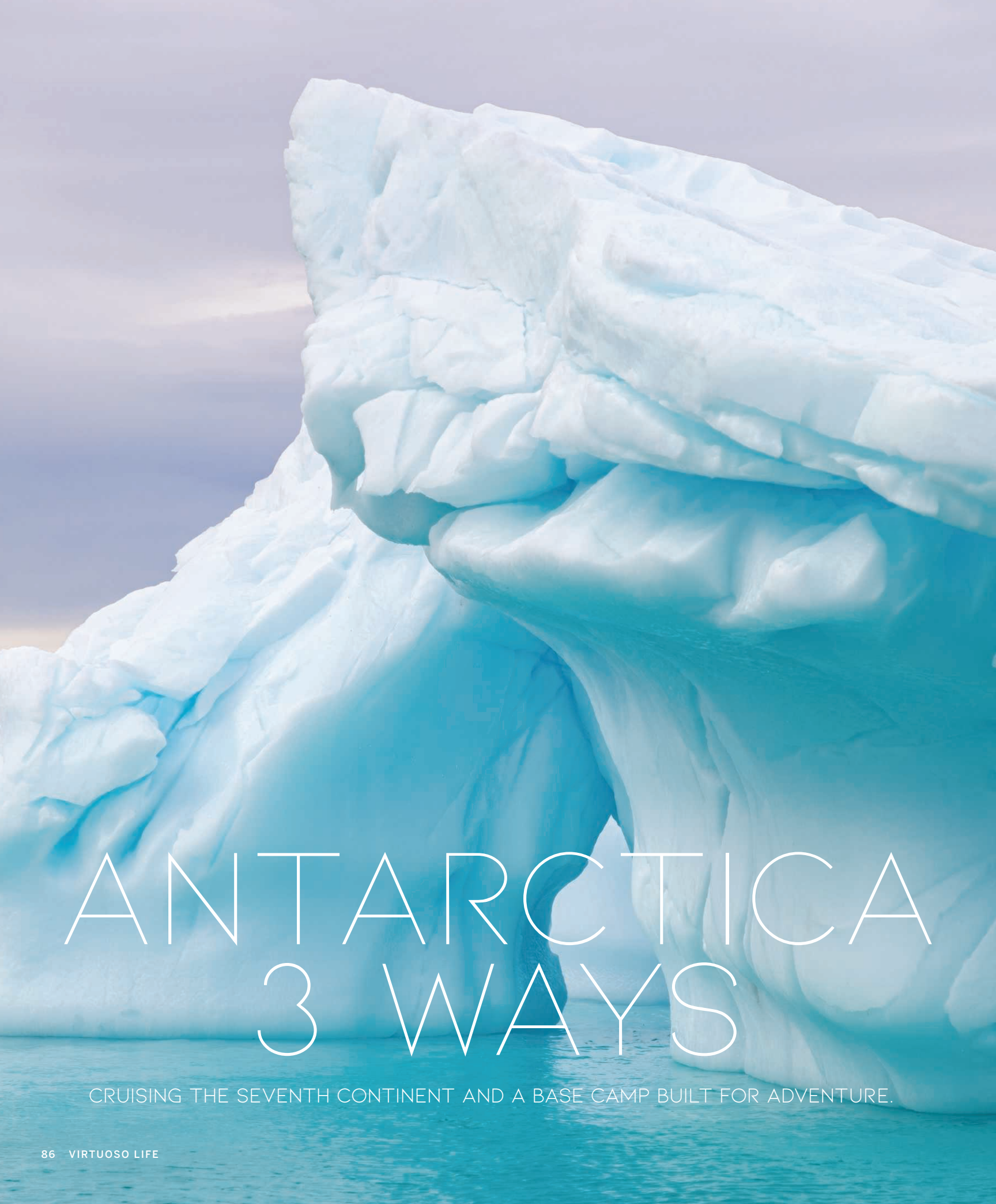
Afterward, our floating zone of comfort and luxury welcomes you with exquisitely prepared food, Spa & Wellness with Dr. Andrew Weil Mindful Living programs, and sumptuous ocean-front accommodations with private verandas—a front-row suite for the adventure of a lifetime. Where will yours take you?

*This is your moment.*

VIRTUOSO   
**adventure**  
TRAVEL

Contact your Virtuoso  
Travel Advisor to learn  
more about special offers.





# ANTARCTICA 3 WAYS

CRUISING THE SEVENTH CONTINENT AND A BASE CAMP BUILT FOR ADVENTURE.





KORENA BOLDING SINNETT

Exploring Roundel Point  
with Aurora Expeditions,  
and (opposite) an iceberg  
adrift off Snow Hill Island.



## COOL FACTOR

EXPLORE THE EASTERN PENINSULA (AND SKIP THE DRAKE ON THE WAY HOME).

BY KORENA BOLDING SINNETT

YOU'LL NEVER FORGET your first iceberg," our ship's sea-kayaking guide told us somewhere between Punta Arenas and Antarctica. "And you will take a thousand photos of it."

He was right. Our ship's passengers were all out on deck when a few faint white dots appeared on the horizon. As we got closer, the asymmetrical shapes came into focus, and I knew we'd made it. For me, the continent's remoteness was its initial appeal, but I could never have imagined its stark beauty.

We've all seen a lot of pictures of Antarctica, but it's tough for a photo to capture its sheer vastness and colors. The white is so bright and pure, and older icebergs contain shades of blue I'd never seen in nature. Each one is a different shape, a different size, with different sky behind it. The light dances around them, changing their appearance from one second to the next.

I traveled to Antarctica with Aurora Expeditions to explore the Antarctic Peninsula's eastern side and less-visited spots, such as Snow Hill Island in the Weddell Sea. We'd just crossed the Drake Passage in 18-foot seas, and the

side-to-side swaying was extreme: The ship's dining room has big picture windows, and at a sway's apex, the windows on the opposite side were three-quarters underwater. Like many of my fellow adventurers, I chose the 132-passenger *Greg Mortimer's* 12-day sail/fly option, which skips the return Drake crossing, because I wanted to experience this uneasy rite of passage – but only once! We thought our crossing was rough until the crew rated it a 5 or 6 on a scale of 1 to 10. Laughter filled the lecture hall. Our bubbles were burst.

"Goood morning, ladies and gentlemen, good morning!" our expedition leader, Florence Kuyper, greeted us each day over the intercom. "You are in Antarctica! You can sleep when you're home, but today is a day for exploration!" And explore we did, with two Zodiac excursions a day to see penguins, whales, and other wildlife, and the option to sea kayak, dry-suit snorkel, scuba dive, and brave the polar plunge. I assumed Antarctica would be colder than this Texan might be comfortable with, but we lucked out with perfect blue skies, very little wind, and an average

temperature of 32 degrees on five of our six days there.

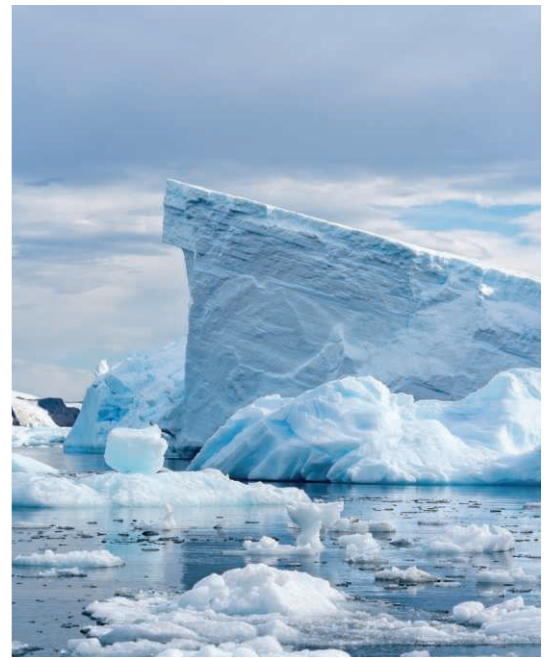
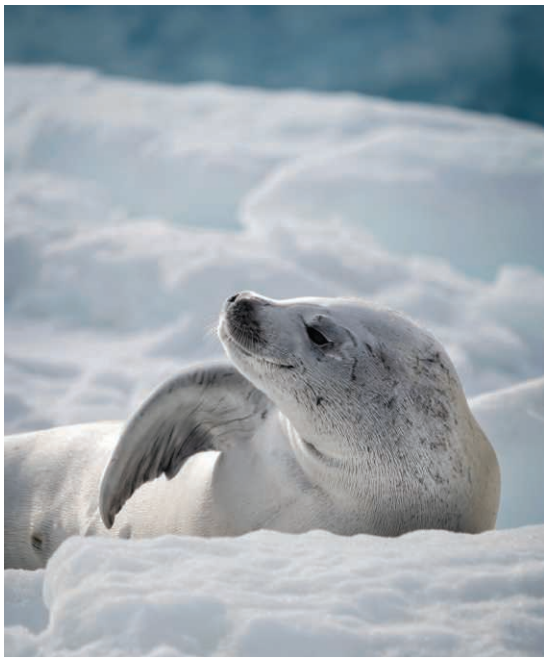
About the penguins: I thought I'd seen my fill of penguin shots, but I get it now. They're hilarious in real life – especially when they chase each other. Our first Zodiac landing was to visit a gentoo colony on Brown Bluff, and all those penguins in their natural habitat made me smile from ear to ear. Immediately after I stepped ashore, a gentoo came close to greet me; we tried to keep a respectful distance, but penguins are very curious, and they kept coming closer to inspect us.

One morning, I stepped onto my private balcony in my pajamas at 3:30 AM, camera in hand. A sliver of burning orange lined the horizon. Snaps, crackles, and pops shattered the silence as we slowly cut through the ice. The sky turned cobalt with streaks of orange, and millions of glistening ice chunks dotted the sea.

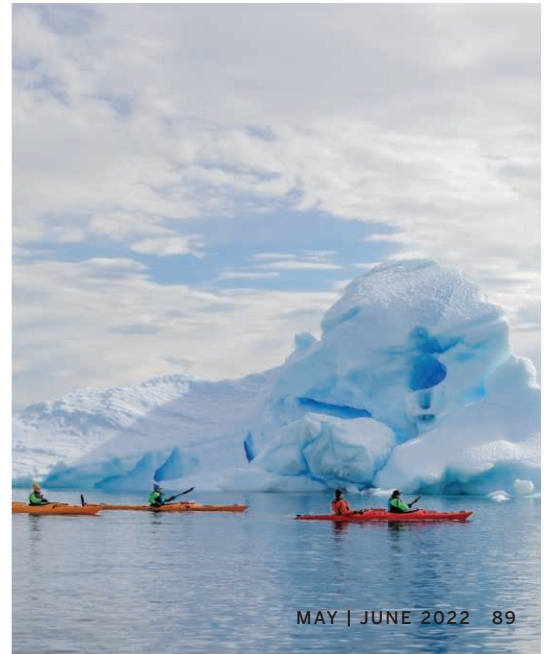
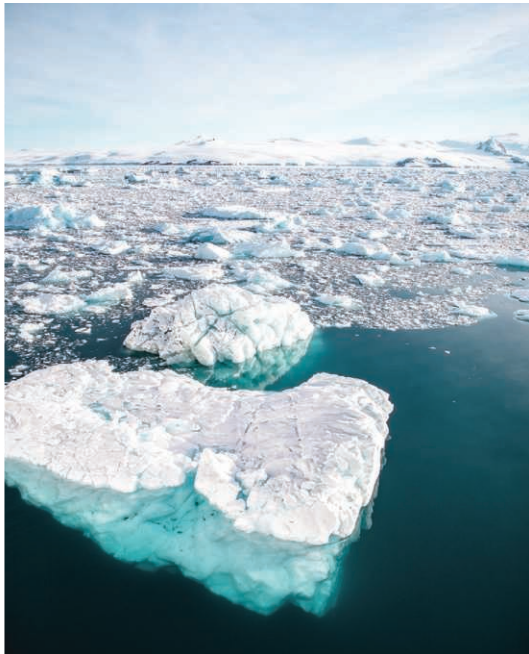
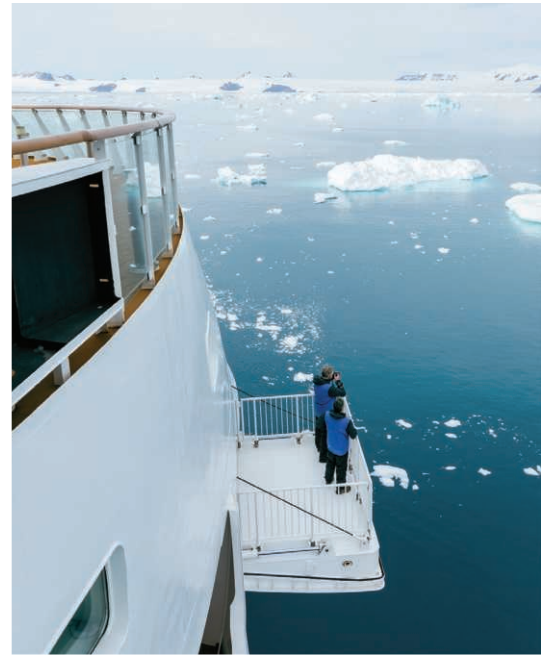
Before I left Dallas, I didn't fully comprehend how long it takes to get to Antarctica – six days from doorstep to iceberg. I'm learning it will take infinitely longer for Antarctica to leave me.







Clockwise from top left:  
A crabeater seal, dry-suit  
snorkeling, the White  
Continent's color palette,  
the *Greg Mortimer's*  
hydraulic viewing platform,  
kayaking, View Point's  
clear waters, scuba divers  
heading out, and the ship's  
cozy quarters. Opposite:  
Aurora Expeditions'  
*Greg Mortimer* cruising  
View Point.





2

View from the stern of *Le Commandant Charcot* and (opposite) the ship navigating ice and its dining room.



# CHAMPAGNE ON ICE

DISCOVER A DELIGHTFULLY FRENCH TAKE ON EXPEDITION CRUISING.

BY KIMBERLEY LOVATO

I'M ALONE ON THE SHIP'S FORWARD DECK, WHICH MAKES IT EASIER TO HEAR THE cracking. I peer over the railing to see the source: square slabs of Land Rover-size ice pushing away from the metal bow. It's the first sound I've heard 20 minutes into my preferred activity du jour – watching snow-covered peaks and sculptured icebergs slip by.

What resonates isn't this unfamiliar noise, but rather the booming silence into which it expands. Against the backdrop of Antarctica's untamed vastness, the *whoosh* of whales breathing, the *plouf* of penguins porpoising through the water, and the flap of bird wings on frigid air amplify and form the soundtrack of my expedition aboard Ponant's newest ship, the eco-friendly, 245-passenger *Commandant Charcot*.

Sprawling almost entirely within the Antarctic Circle, the southernmost continent is a place of extremes trod by more penguin feet than human. The word "otherworldly" gets thrown around a lot in travel writing, but Antarctica comes by it honestly. It *is* another world that, not so long ago, was reserved exclusively for brave explorers, sailors, and scientists, such as our ship's namesake, Frenchman Jean-Baptiste Charcot. In the early 1900s, he carried out two lengthy expeditions around the Antarctic Peninsula, where our 14-day odyssey concentrates.

These days, travelers can't get here fast enough. According to the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators, 74,401 visitors traveled to Antarctica during the 2019-2020 season, compared to 56,168 the previous year. Now that pandemic travel restrictions are lifting,





SPRAWLING ALMOST ENTIRELY WITHIN THE ANTARCTIC CIRCLE, THE SOUTHERNMOST CONTINENT IS A PLACE OF EXTREMES TROD BY MORE PENGUIN FEET THAN HUMAN.

pent-up wanderlust has been unleashed, and big-ticket trips are on trend, says Noosa, Australia-based Virtuoso travel advisor Natalie Cherry, who chose this cruise for *Le Commandant Charcot*'s ice-breaking capabilities and luxury, private-yacht feel.

"During the pandemic, people had time to reevaluate their lives, and they developed a thirst to see remote places," she says. "They feel like more is possible now." Over her 26 years in the industry, she's never had more clients set sail for Antarctica.

MOST ANTARCTIC CRUISES EMBARK from Punta Arenas, Chile, or Ushuaia, Argentina, before making the nearly 600-mile crossing of the Drake Passage, a much-feared strait of converging oceans pinched between the tip of South America and the South Shetland Islands. Admittedly, I was nervous and packed a drugstore's worth of patches, pills, and wristbands to ward off seasickness, none of which I used. While *Charcot* and explorers like him roughed it in drafty wooden boats, the 492-foot *Commandant Charcot*'s stabilizers handle squally seas like a dream – it helped that we encountered the "Drake Lake" (a fairly smooth crossing) instead of the "Drake Shake." The most challenging part as a passenger was keeping the free-flowing *Veuve Clicquot* from splashing out of my flute, and not rolling off the spa's massage table.

As the only luxury cruise line flying under the *tricolore*, Ponant doubles down on French *joie de vivre*, from the vessel's captain, Patrick Marchesseau, to much of



(DECK) OLIVIER BLAUD, (SHIP) MORGANE MONNERET, (DINING ROOM) GILLES TRILLARD





A gentoo penguin strikes a pose. Opposite: A whale prepares to dive off Deception Island, and a balcony suite on *Le Commandant Charcot*.





the 215-person crew to daily homemade desserts and croissants. Pastry chef Julien Arnaud uses roughly 26 pounds of sugar and more than eight pounds of chocolate a day to whip up cream puffs, éclairs, macarons, and the flakiest tarts this side of Paris. At Nuna by Alain Ducasse, multicourse and à la carte menus change daily and are paired with fine French and Chilean wines.

Dining sets the daily clock on board, but it's an explorer ethos that sets the tone – one embraced wholeheartedly by Marchesseau, who has spent 12 years sailing the polar regions. Minding Antarctica's mercurial weather, Marchesseau deviates off our planned course to Peter I Island, a few hundred miles away, and opts to push down the peninsula. We squeeze through rugged, narrow channels and tuck into ice-filled blue lagoons, ultimately landing at Carroll Inlet – 73 degrees, 15 minutes south – the farthest Marchesseau and *Le Commandant Charcot* have gone to date.

En route, the captain maneuvers so passengers get a good gander at a pod of humpback whales on the starboard side, and the turquoise hues of older icebergs off the stern. Another afternoon, he announces a plan to assist the *Sir David Attenborough*, a British research ship in the area. For several hours, we gather on deck to watch our ship open a three-nautical-mile path through sheets of ice eight feet thick, a task that would have taken the other vessel six days.

“I think passengers like going where no one has been before,” Marchesseau says. “It's exciting and the true idea of being an explorer. In Antarctica, you never know what to expect each day.”

WHETHER SEATED NEXT TO A WINDOW in the dining room or on a heated bench by the outdoor pool, I keep tabs on passing ice, looking for dark smudges on the white topography that might be a lounging crabeater seal, nesting birds, or



(PENGUIN) KORENA BOLDING SINNETT. (WHALE) LORRAINE TURCI. (INTERIOR) GILLES TRILLARD





Hiking in Hanusse Bay.

penguins. While many passengers aim paparazzi-length camera lenses, I find it hard to take in Antarctica through a screen or viewfinder – my eyes capture wide, golden sunrises and dapper penguin tuxedos with 100 percent precision.

The ship's expedition team consists of guides and scientists from around the globe who orchestrate our daily landings in this surreal world. (*Le Commandant Charcot* is also the only expedition ship that hosts researchers on board in a dedicated scientific laboratory.) Given the volatile weather, they have their work cut out for them and set out early each morning to scout locations. Eventually, we zip from ship to shore in inflatable Zodiacs for polar hikes and walks; the braver among us even take plunges into the Antarctic water in our swimsuits. One morning, we wiggle into dry suits and kayak amid floating ice, catching sight of an ice rainbow against the

cerulean sky. In the ship's 270-seat theater, team members give afternoon presentations on local geology, history, and wildlife, as well as on the area's delicate ecosystem.

Expedition leader John Frick says climate change remains the biggest threat to the region, and Ponant takes sustainability seriously: *Le Commandant Charcot* is the first luxury hybrid-electric polar vessel powered by liquified natural gas. But increased visitors imperil Antarctica too, which is why guides keep passengers an appropriate distance from sensitive areas such as rookeries and attempt to prevent the introduction of invasive species by insisting we vacuum our clothing and pockets and disinfect our boots.

"A lot of people think of Antarctica as this desolate place," Frick says. "But it's actually full of life and is a wilderness that needs our protection."

Always a back-seat driver, I visit the ship's bridge, where screens blink green

compass headings, wind direction, and the outline of our ship between latitude and longitude lines. Nearby, a crew member charts our position on a paper map with calipers, "in case all electronics fail," he says. His numbered markings remind me of how the original seafarers and scientists voyaged into Antarctica – with maps and mathematics, instinct, and a robust spirit of exploration.

Through the front window, white clouds fall into the white horizon, and towering basalt cliffs drop straight into inky water. I imagine this remote tableau of white, blue, and gray to be almost as it was when Charcot first saw it, and goose bumps rise on my skin. It's a big ask to take in every last illuminated inch. In reverence to the exquisite expanse and those who came before us, I study Antarctica piece by piece, joining her in utter silence.



“CONDITIONS AND WEATHER ARE UNPREDICTABLE AND CAN CHANGE BY THE HOUR, SO COME MENTALLY PREPARED TO LEAN INTO THE ADVENTURE.”



## NEED TO KNOW: TIPS FOR CRUISING ANTARCTICA

“Antarctic cruises are true expeditions,” says Helen McCabe-Young, Virtuoso’s senior vice president of marketing visited her seventh continent in December on a six-day cruise with Silversea, flying across the Drake both ways – a great option for travelers seeking to experience Antarctica on a compressed schedule. “Conditions and weather are unpredictable and can change by the hour, so come mentally prepared to lean into the adventure,” she notes. She recommends that ocean and river cruisers adjust their expectations for Antarctic voyages: “They require a good deal more physically, especially if you hit weather.” Here are her tips for White Continent explorers.

- If your ship offers sea kayaking, sign up. It was one of the biggest highlights of my cruise, and well worth pushing yourself, even if you’re a novice like me.

- Flights between Punta Arenas and King George Island are subject to weather conditions, and the airline calls the shots – not Silversea.

- Dress prepared for the 1.3-mile walk between the airstrip and the Zodiacs, which ferry passengers to and from the ship. You’ll be exposed to the elements and carrying your pack on a gravel path. A van transports checked luggage and those who need assistance, but everything else is your responsibility.

- Resist the temptation to overpack: Weight limits on the flights to the South Shetlands are strictly enforced; if your bag is overweight, you’ll be leaving things behind. Even on luxury lines such as Silversea, Antarctic cruises are casual – no heels or dressed-up evenings.

- This is a great excuse to upgrade your cell phone for

one with a better camera. And get a waterproof sleeve for Zodiac rides, so you don’t end up with it sitting in a bowl of rice back on board.

- Read up on the early Antarctic explorers. I loved sitting with my husband in the comfort of our stateroom, looking out across our balcony and learning about early expeditions – while snacking on caviar and sipping Champagne, of course! Two recommendations: Alfred Lansing’s *Endurance*, about the Shackleton expedition, and Julian Sancton’s *Madhouse at the End of the Earth*, about the 1897 Belgian expedition – the first to winter on the continent.

- Schedule spa treatments before embarkation. For the most part, passengers are on or off the ship at the same time, so availability is limited.

- If you have the opportunity to take the polar plunge, do it!



## POD POP-UP

TOUCH DOWN AT THIS LUXE, LUNARLIKE BASE CAMP.

AS TOLD TO KIMBERLEY LOVATO



**M**OST TRAVELERS TACKLE ANTARCTICA FROM POSH CRUISE SHIPS DEPARTING from South America. Virtuoso vice-chair and sustainability strategist Jessica Hall Upchurch and CEO Matthew D. Upchurch, and their two sons, Clay, 17, and Benji, 13, chose a more direct (and adventurous) route: Taking off from Cape Town on White Desert's 13-passenger private Gulfstream jet, they touched down five hours later on the sustainably minded tour company's ice runway on the southernmost continent. Founded by Patrick and Robyn Woodhead, White Desert is the same company that, in March, provided safety and on-ice survival assistance to the team that located the wreck of the *Endurance*, polar explorer Ernest Shackleton's ship, lost to Antarctic ice in 1915. Although the family didn't happen upon a sunken vessel during their eight-day expedition, they did step foot on their seventh continent, forging transformative memories. Here, the couple share their impressions from a rare land-based adventure on the White Continent.

**BASE CAMP, ANTARCTICA**

The vast whiteness of Antarctica was surreal. About an hour before landing, we changed into our gear, looked out the window at the icy runway and landscape, and thought, "We're landing





The Upchurch family in an ice cave and (below), Wagyu steaks for dinner.



there?” A cauldron of emotions bubbled up – we were excited and grateful at the same time, and proud that we weren’t there to impact the continent, but to help with the preservation and understanding of it.

Our home base, Whichaway Camp, was like an earthly moon landing. Its polar sleeping pods, as the yurtlike accommodations are called, are cozy, amazingly comfortable, and beautifully outfitted. They’re scattered across this little canyon and look out over a frozen lake to a glacier with the ridge of a mountain – called a nunatak – protruding from it, like Mother Earth’s art.

This was our first time in 24-hour daylight. Antarctica already feels otherworldly, and the fact that the sun never sets during its summer just enhances that. It also creates this sense of freedom – that it’s never too late or too early to do something. We could be awake and out on an adventure, or, if we wanted to take a nap or sleep in, we just pulled down the shades. Our pods were our cocoons.

In addition to the six private bedroom pods, Whichaway has communal pods for dining and hanging out. Meals are amazing: One highlight was when we gathered during a blizzard and the chef brought us mushroom ravioli, then shaved truffles on top; another time we sat down to Wagyu steaks cooked on searing-hot salt stones. The meals were a great time to connect with other guests, guides, and staff – it was a lively, multinational, multilingual group.

#### ICE-WORLD ADVENTURES

The first thing we did each morning was sip coffee and look out the window. Blues, whites, and browns dance with each other across the Antarctic landscape. There isn’t the constant hum of society, so the only sounds you hear come from nature.

There’s no typical day in Antarctica: On each one, guests choose how much or how little they want to do. Visiting ice caves stands out as our favorite activity by far – one of the most visually stunning things



From left: Jessica and Matthew Upchurch trekking to the nunatak near camp, Clay and Matthew at the South Pole, emperor penguins, and the Woodheads and Upchurches visiting the colony.



we've ever seen. Another day, during a hike to the nunatak, our guide, Alesh, clipped the kids onto a safety rope and took them with him; it was a great moment watching them set off trekking ahead of us. The day we visited the emperor penguin colony was gorgeous – we didn't need more than our sweaters. We kept a respectful distance from the penguins, but Robyn and Patrick estimated the colony was about 20,000 strong.

Matthew and Clay's trip to the South Pole was a monumental experience. For 15 hours, they flew in an unpressurized turboprop, stopping twice for refueling and for a nine-hour rest stop at Dixie's Camp, where you could see to the horizon in every direction, every inch of it flat, desolate, and white. They arrived on a *nice* day: minus 13 degrees Fahrenheit and mostly sunny with low winds. Matthew had planned to put his finger on the geographic South Pole and go around it ten times. Clay filmed but

couldn't keep his hands out for long, so he cut it short at three.

#### PLANET PROTECTORS

Sustainability is important to us as a family and to Virtuoso, and it's built into White Desert's DNA; they understand what's required to preserve and protect the continent, and work with scientists to provide logistical support for research bases. The company has been carbon neutral since 2007 and this season became the first operator in Antarctica to use sustainable aviation fuel for its flights. Solar panels provide the heat for camp pods. Robyn currently serves as the chair of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators' executive committee, which shapes policy and helps the polar community and future visitors to Antarctica effect positive change.

When you're there, it's important to be open to whatever comes. We've all heard

“THE IDEA OF APPROACHING EACH DAY WITHOUT A STRUCTURED SCHEDULE TO GUIDE US WAS BEAUTIFUL AND WILL STICK WITH US FOR A LONG TIME.”

the saying “Go with the flow.” But now we like to say, “Go with the snow.” One of our biggest lessons and joys of the whole experience was learning to be flexible; for example, we had to extend our trip because inclement weather made it unsafe to fly. The idea of approaching each day without a structured schedule to guide us was beautiful and will stick with us for a long time.

(JESSICA AND MATTHEW D. UPCHURCH) ANDREW LING, (SOUTH POLE) MATTHEW D. UPCHURCH, (PENGUINS) KELVIN TRAUTMAN





## WAYS TO THE WHITE CONTINENT

**STAY** The ultimate land-based adventure begins when **White Desert** whisks its 12 guests by private jet from Cape Town to its ice runway in Antarctica. Travelers on this eight-day odyssey visit an emperor penguin colony and the geographic South Pole. Whichaway Camp's six cozy bedroom pods are kitted out for warmth and wonder; gourmet meals and gatherings take place in communal pods. *Departures: Multiple dates, November 7, 2022, through January 25, 2023; from \$98,500.*

**CRUISE** French joie de vivre meets polar expedition ruggedness aboard **Ponant's** 245-passenger *Le Commandant Charcot*. Unlimited Champagne and a restaurant from Alain Ducasse add to the sophistication of 14-day expeditions between Punta Arenas, Chile, and Ushuaia, Argentina. *Departures: October 29 and November 12, 2022, and January 2, 2023; from \$23,900.*

For those short on time or skittish about the Drake, **Silversea** offers the option of flying business class between Punta Arenas or Ushuaia and King George Island, skipping the crossing and cutting

out four days at sea. Once aboard the *Silver Explorer*, 144 passengers spread out in 72 suites and cabins, including the 728-square-foot Owner's Suite with a private balcony, for seven-day Antarctic cruises. *Departures: Multiple dates, December 2, 2022, through January 24, 2023; from \$12,650.*

Cruisers on **Aurora Expeditions'** 12-day Weddell Sea and Antarctic Peninsula voyages skip the return Drake Passage crossing with the line's sail/fly option between Punta Arenas and King George Island. The 132-passenger *Greg Mortimer's* X-bow design cuts through swells for a smoother trip from Ushuaia to the South Shetlands, where travelers earn their true Antarctic explorer stripes. *Departures: January 15 and February 11, 2023; from \$11,960.*

**Hurtigruten, Lindblad Expeditions, Seabourn, and Viking** also offer sailings to Antarctica. All four lines have new expedition ships, which range from 126 to 500 passengers, cruising the continent from late November 2022 through mid-February 2023. **VI**



A large, vertical photograph of a savanna landscape at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of blue, purple, and orange. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow. In the foreground, a single acacia tree stands prominently against the sunset. The ground is covered in green grass.

**BIG TRIPS THAT WOW US  
WITH STYLE AND SUBSTANCE.**

# THE TOTAL PACKAGE

Traveling with purpose can be sexy. A trip of a lifetime that makes our hearts go pitter-pat *and* gives back to the communities we visit? We'll bite. Two years into a global pandemic, many of the places we love are just beginning to rebound from Covid-induced economic hardship. Throw in the ongoing effects of climate change, and traveling with care feels more important than ever. The trips we've chosen here pull double duty, showcasing incredible experiences that also make a meaningful impact: tours with companies that directly support the communities they visit, resorts that are walking the conservation walk, and beyond-the-predictable chances for cultural immersion. From Tanzania to Tokyo, the Maldives to the Arctic, may we just say: Travel has never looked better.

**BY AMY CASSELL**

(LANDSCAPE) PEDRO FERREIRA DO AMARAL. (CHEETAH) ANASTASIA SHAVSHYNA/GETTY IMAGES





The time for Tanzania is now: A cheetah in Serengeti National Park, and (opposite) sunset over the Serengeti's Namiri Plains.



## Tanzania

# SPOT THE “BIG FIVE” ON A SERENGETI SAFARI.



Looking for wildlife on an evening game drive.

**T**ANZANIA'S SAFARI RÉSUMÉ IS STACKED: MORE THAN 40 PERCENT OF THE country's land, home to one of the densest concentrations of wildlife in Africa, is protected. A nine-day private tour with **andBeyond** is a bona fide highlight reel, sweeping travelers between the great Serengeti and less-explored corners of the country. Daily game drives provide plenty of action (and photo ops) – spy flamingos, giraffes, and tree-climbing lions in Lake Manyara National Park; scout for the “big five” in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area; and, between May and August, witness millions of wildebeests, gazelles, and zebras move across the Serengeti's plains during the annual Great Migration. Nights are spent winding down in five-star tree houses and camps, while other over-the-top moments include gourmet picnic lunches in the bush and sunset hot-air balloon rides over the Serengeti.

Indigenous communities in Tanzania and other safari destinations rely on tourism dollars for their livelihoods, so it's crucial to travel with a company like **andBeyond**, which has a slate of initiatives to fund local projects. On this trip, travelers can meet nomadic Mang'ati people near Lake Manyara, dance with Maasai warriors in the Serengeti, and visit a collective in Arusha where people with disabilities make *shanga* (Swahili for “bead”) necklaces and other goods. They're all cultural experiences that feel meaningful, not voyeuristic, especially because they champion **andBeyond's** ethos – the company partners with the nonprofit Africa Foundation to support the economic development of rural communities. *Departures: Any day through 2022; from \$8,255.*

“If you have the chance to go on a walking safari, I highly recommend it. You'll notice the small stuff you don't see from your vehicle – paw prints, medicinal plants, and tiny creatures such as ant lions. It's another great way to really get in touch with the nature around you.”

– *Crisney Lane, Virtuoso travel advisor, Austin*



(TANZANIA) DOOK





# FIND PARADISE ON AN ECO-FRIENDLY PRIVATE ISLAND.

**C**ONJURE A VISION OF TROPICAL bliss and it will probably look something like the Maldives, a chain of 1,200 islands in the Indian Ocean. It's a journey to get there, but the destination is worth the trek, especially when **Gili Lankanfushi** awaits you. At this 45-villa, conservation-minded retreat, guests are encouraged to ditch their shoes and disconnect. Here's how to dive in.

Conscious castaway life at Gili Lankanfushi.

## DAY ONE

Some say the best jet-lag remedy is a little nap, and there are plenty of places to snooze in the resort's overwater villas: the open-air living room, the lounge chair on your rooftop terrace, and, in several, a hammock in the ocean. Later, pedal a complimentary resort cruiser over to the spa for an Ayurvedic detox massage – your butler will have already secured the reservation.

## DAY TWO

Gili Lankanfushi's marine biology team has spent eight years growing coral in its on-site nursery and has replanted around 600 coral colonies in the reefs surrounding the resort. Lend a hand in the nursery before getting out on the water to snorkel or dive near the reefs. Keep an eye out for green turtles, reef sharks, and, on a lucky day, manta rays.

## DAY THREE

Tour the resort's organic garden before heading to a Maldivian curry cooking class or a winetasting in the underground cellar. For dinner or at lunch in the garden, take the vegan tasting menu or sustainably sourced seafood for a spin.

## DAY FOUR (AND FIVE AND SIX ...)

Sleep. Spa. Swim. Repeat.

*Villas from \$1,440, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*





In no hurry in Tuscany.

## Italy

# EMBRACE SLOW TRAVEL AND SIP BIODYNAMIC WINES IN TUSCANY.

**I**N THE TUSCAN COUNTRYSIDE, SIMPLE PLEASURES NEARLY OUTNUMBER olive trees: bike rides on cypress-lined roads, lazy mornings and hearty breakfasts in hilltop farmhouses, afternoons kneading pasta dough with your tour guide's *nonna* – and wine, of course. Tuscany's wine-making tradition dates to the eighth century, and today the region produces some of the world's most coveted reds. Spurred by drier growing seasons and a desire to embrace more-sustainable practices, a slate of wineries has gone biodynamic. Travel advisors can work with **IC Bellagio**, one of Virtuoso's on-site tour connections in Italy, to arrange tastings, winemaker meet and greets, farm visits, and farm-to-table dinners at some of Tuscany's best organic wineries, including three favorites we've rounded up here.



## WHERE TO TASTE

### PODERE LE RIPI

**LOCATION:** Montalcino, Siena  
**KNOWN FOR:** Brunello di Montalcino

**DOING GOOD:** Winemaker Sebastian Nasello has been producing biodynamic wines for more than a decade. Visitors can also sample the estate's olive oils and tour its organic vegetable garden and working farm.

### CASA EMMA

**LOCATION:** San Donato in Poggio, Chianti Classico  
**KNOWN FOR:**

Chianti Classico, Super Tuscans, extra-virgin olive oil  
**DOING GOOD:** The solar-powered, hilltop winery also produces its own grape pomace flour, milled from dried grape skins left over from the vinification process.

### ORNELLAIA

**LOCATION:** Bolgheri, Livorno  
**KNOWN FOR:** Super Tuscans, Bordeaux-style reds

**DOING GOOD:** This high-profile winery on Tuscany's Mediterranean coast partners with a different contemporary artist each year on a special bottle-label design. Proceeds from auctioned bottles are donated to the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation to support the Mind's Eye program, which gives individuals who are blind or have low vision access to museum art.

(TUSCANY) SIMON SKAFAR/GETTY IMAGES, (GREENLAND) BEFA/ISTOCK



# CHASE THE MIDNIGHT SUN IN THE ARCTIC.

**T**HE NORTHERN LIGHTS MAY GET most of the Arctic-illumination glory, but the midnight sun creates its own magic too. From April to August, daylight reigns in Greenland's northernmost reaches, which **Lindblad Expeditions** visits during a six-day exploration of the country's wild west coast – giving travelers access to local culture in one of the world's most remote places. (Traveling by sea is the best way to see this isolated country – the world's largest island – as coastal towns aren't well connected by roads.) The cruise, on the new 126-passenger *National Geographic Resolution*, introduces travelers to Greenland's untamed, undiscovered terrain, from iceberg-viewing in Disko Bay to kayaking in the Ataneq Fjord. Onboard photo pros help passengers capture midnight sun landscapes, and opportunities to meet local Inuit people provide a chance for meaningful connection in a destination that still feels beautifully off the beaten path. *Departures: July 7 and 12; from \$8,220, including a round-trip charter flight from Boston.*

“A highlight of sailing along Greenland's west coast is seeing the massive Ilulissat Icefjord, one of the few spots where the country's ice sheet reaches the sea. The glacier calves frequently – we saw icebergs that were five stories high. It's fascinating to learn about the ice sheet and the journey these icebergs will take from there.”

– Randy Raphael, Virtuoso travel advisor, Ancaster, Ontario

North of the Arctic Circle in Sisimiut, Greenland.





## Japan

# TIME-TRAVEL IN THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN.



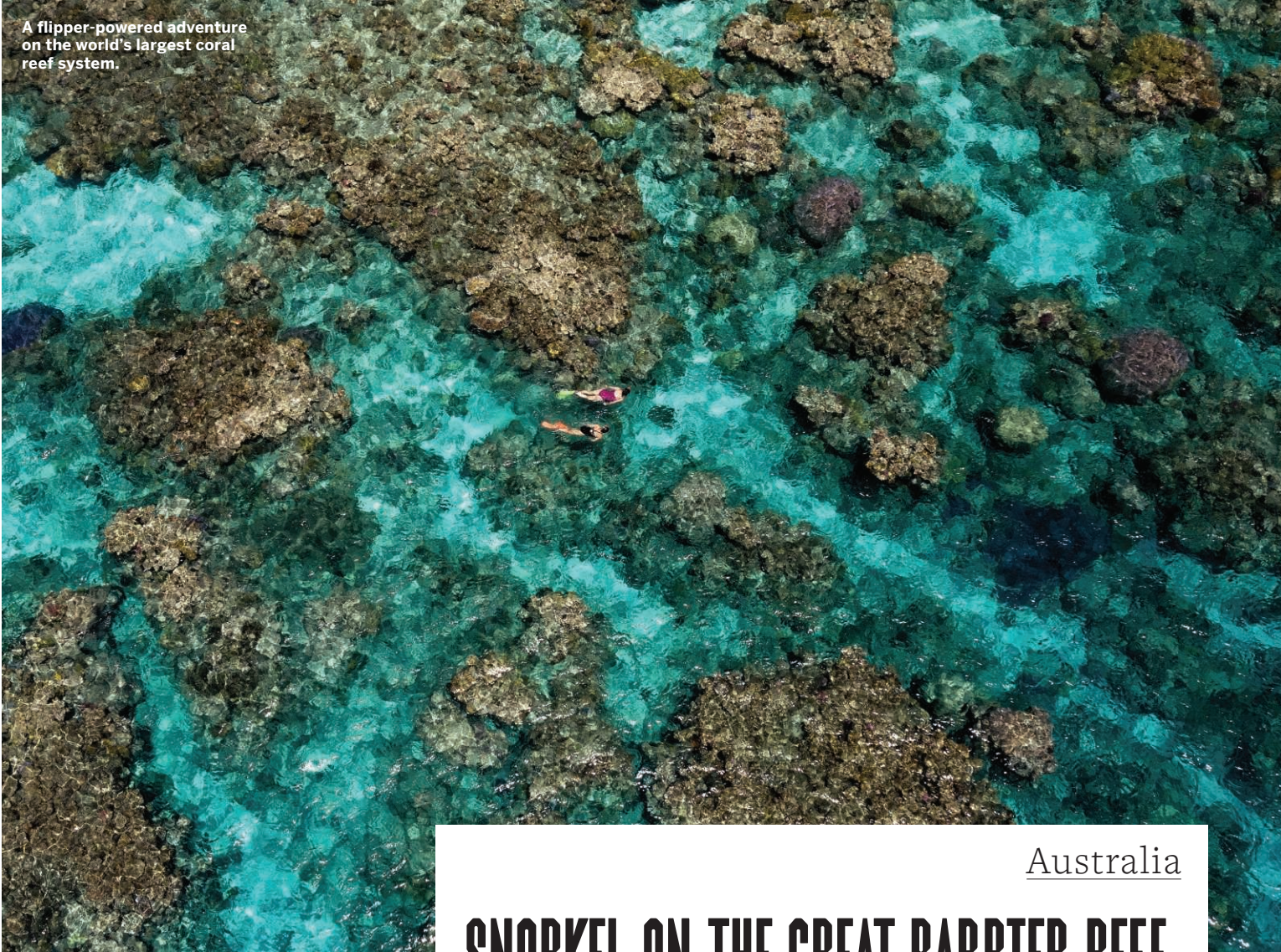
Living tradition in Kyoto.

**M**EANINGFUL CULTURAL immersion is a key part of traveling sustainably. And Japan's compelling juxtaposition of ancient past and modern, neon-lit present makes for one riveting IRL history lesson. It's not easy to pack 1,900 years into an 11-day trip, but **Remote Lands** accepts the challenge, covering seven destinations on the main island of Honshu. Travelers visit an ancient tomb and Buddhist temple in Osaka, stroll through Japanese gardens in Kyoto, and log plenty of steps at Tokyo's imperial palaces, Shinto shrines, and contemporary art museums. Beyond the monuments, the private itinerary emphasizes authentic opportunities for travelers to connect with Japanese culture – a private *imayō* dance performance and a tea-tasting ceremony in Kyoto, for example, and in Kanazawa, a silk-dyeing workshop in a traditional Kaga Yuzen studio. Throw in Michelin-starred meals and some of the country's most beautiful hotels, and this is the best kind of time travel. (Note: As of press time, Japan had not yet reopened to international tourism.) *Departures: Any day through 2023; from \$27,400.*

"Japan's natural beauty is stunning, and there are plenty of serene escapes right in the middle of Tokyo, such as Inokashira Park in Musashino. Two of my other favorite under-the-radar gems: the Jiyugaoka neighborhood and its outdoor cafés, and Shimokitazawa, a stylish, bohemian district that feels like the East Village of Tokyo."

– Lauren Gunnels, *Virtuoso travel advisor, Atlanta*





A flipper-powered adventure on the world's largest coral reef system.

Australia

## SNORKEL ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF.

**A**USTRALIA'S NORTHEASTERN STATE OF QUEENSLAND KNOWS HOW TO GO BIG ON SUSTAINABLE ADVENTURE. Last year, the Australian government returned ownership of the 180-million-year-old Daintree National Park to its original stewards, the Eastern Kuku Yalanji. Daintree is the world's oldest tropical rain forest, stretching for 59 miles along the coast, where the Great Barrier Reef beckons just offshore. Visits to both biodiverse wonders are highlights of **Intrepid Travel's** 12-day, Brisbane-to-Cairns tour: Travelers spend a full day boating and snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef with the conservation organization Reef Check Australia, followed by two days in Daintree, where they can learn about Kuku Yalanji traditions from a local family, take an Aboriginal painting class, and search for cassowaries and freshwater crocodiles on a cruise through mangrove thickets. More good news: Intrepid shares proceeds from this portion of the trip directly with the Kuku Yalanji. Other stops include overnights on Fraser Island, known for its endemic dingo population, and the Whitsunday Islands, home to some of Australia's most beautiful beaches. *Departures: Multiple dates, May 13, 2022, through December 22, 2023; from \$4,355.*

“Don't forget to pack insect repellent. And if you have the space, bring your own snorkel mask too. While every operator provides equipment, there's nothing more annoying than spending your morning on the Great Barrier Reef trying to find the one mask that fits you well.”

– Cassandra Bookholder, Virtuoso travel advisor, San Diego





U.S.

## FIND CALM IN POPULAR NATIONAL PARKS.

**A**S THE PANDEMIC KEPT TRAVELERS IN THEIR BACKYARDS AND CRAVING THE OUTDOORS, national parks had a moment when a record 4.8 million people visited Yellowstone in 2021. But hear us out: With the right guides, it's still possible to visit some of the country's most well-trodden public lands without feeling like you're at a theme park.

Travel advisors can work with Virtuoso on-site connection **American Excursionist** to arrange multiday trips, private-jet jaunts, and customized tours in the country's most popular national parks. One candidate: a ten-day private trip to Wyoming and Montana to explore Grand Teton and Yellowstone and channel the Wild West at the 139-room **Montage Big Sky**. Guides cover the parks' greatest hits – Old Faithful, Mammoth Hot Springs – but focus more on the less-packed corners of each, from floating down the Snake River in Grand Teton to ditching Yellowstone's main routes and hiking parts of its massive interior. By seeking out quieter areas of each park, travelers are prioritizing conservation, as crowds flocking to popular areas threaten local wildlife. Elk and bison sightings are practically guaranteed, but mountain lions or grizzlies might make appearances too (at a distance!). It's a close-to-home adventure that proves you don't always have to go far to go big. *Departures: Fall 2022; from \$10,500.*



## Costa Rica

# GO GLAMPING IN THE RAIN FOREST.

**A**BOUT A QUARTER OF Costa Rica's land is protected, and last year, the small Central American country with a big sustainable reputation won the inaugural, UN-backed Earthshot Prize for its efforts to reverse deforestation and increase biodiversity. Travelers support the efforts of this ecotourism powerhouse on a ten-day private trip with **Big Five Tours & Expeditions** that focuses on natural immersion and glamping-style overnights in the western half of the country. Here, a few of the trip's most exciting moments.

### DAY TWO

Hit up the espresso bar at the 21-room Nayara Tented Camp before a busy day exploring Arenal, known for its eponymous 5,358-foot volcano. Hike to La Fortuna waterfall before boating across Lake Arenal to the slopes of the volcano, where another hike precedes a visit to the volcano's observatory.

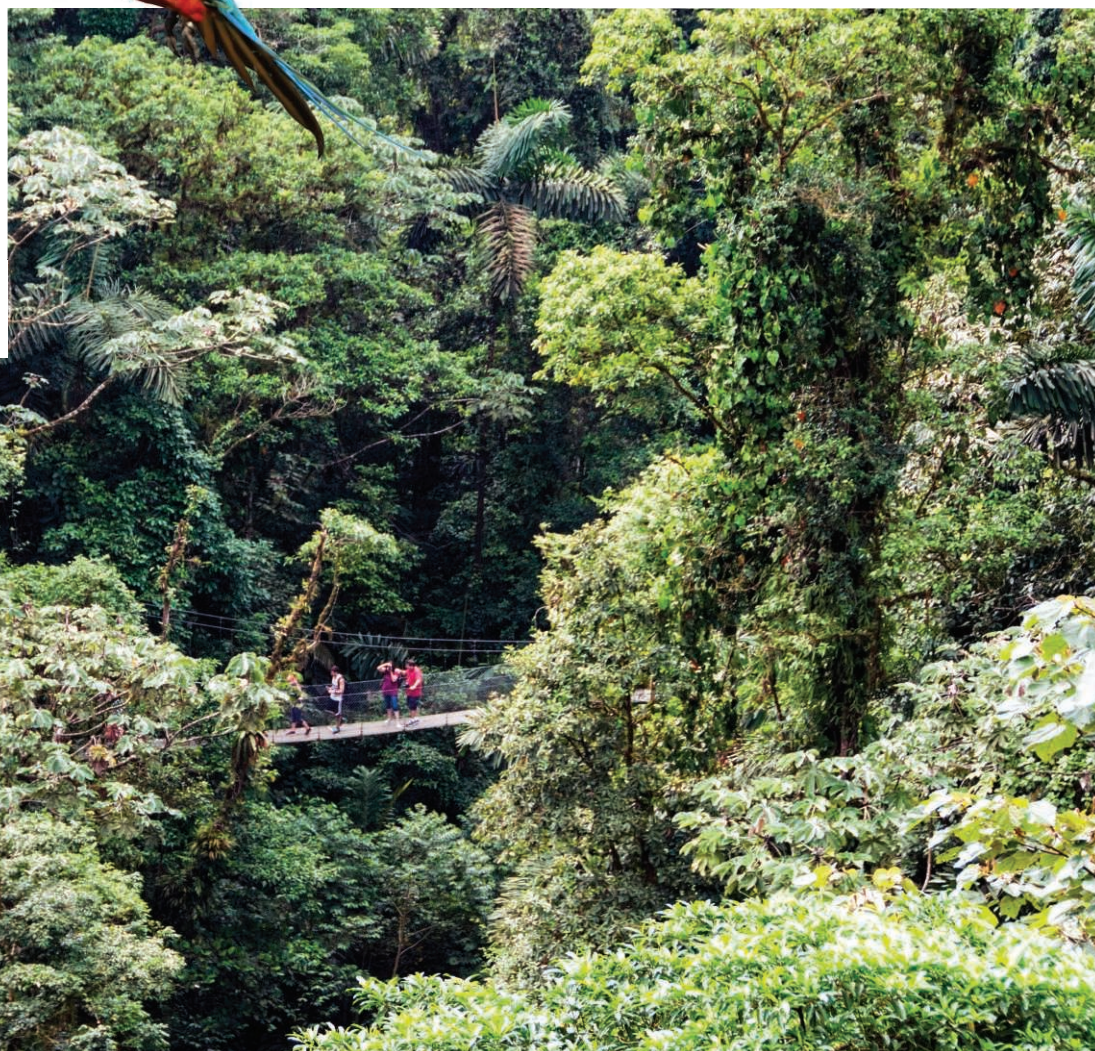
### DAY FIVE

During a two-day stopover in Bagaces, a quiet town known for its biological reserves and volcanic hot springs, travelers hike, white-water raft down the Río Perdido, and soak in geothermal waters. But the real highlight comes after dark during a guided twilight canyon hike and zip-line outing beneath a glowing blanket of constellations.

### DAY EIGHT

It's a tough call while staying on the Papagayo Peninsula: snorkel, surf, or scuba? After a morning in the Pacific, sign up to help locals replant mangroves or deliver supplies to a local classroom – two of the many opportunities Big Five arranges for travelers to support conservation and education in the places they visit.

*Departures: Any day through 2022; from \$9,000.*

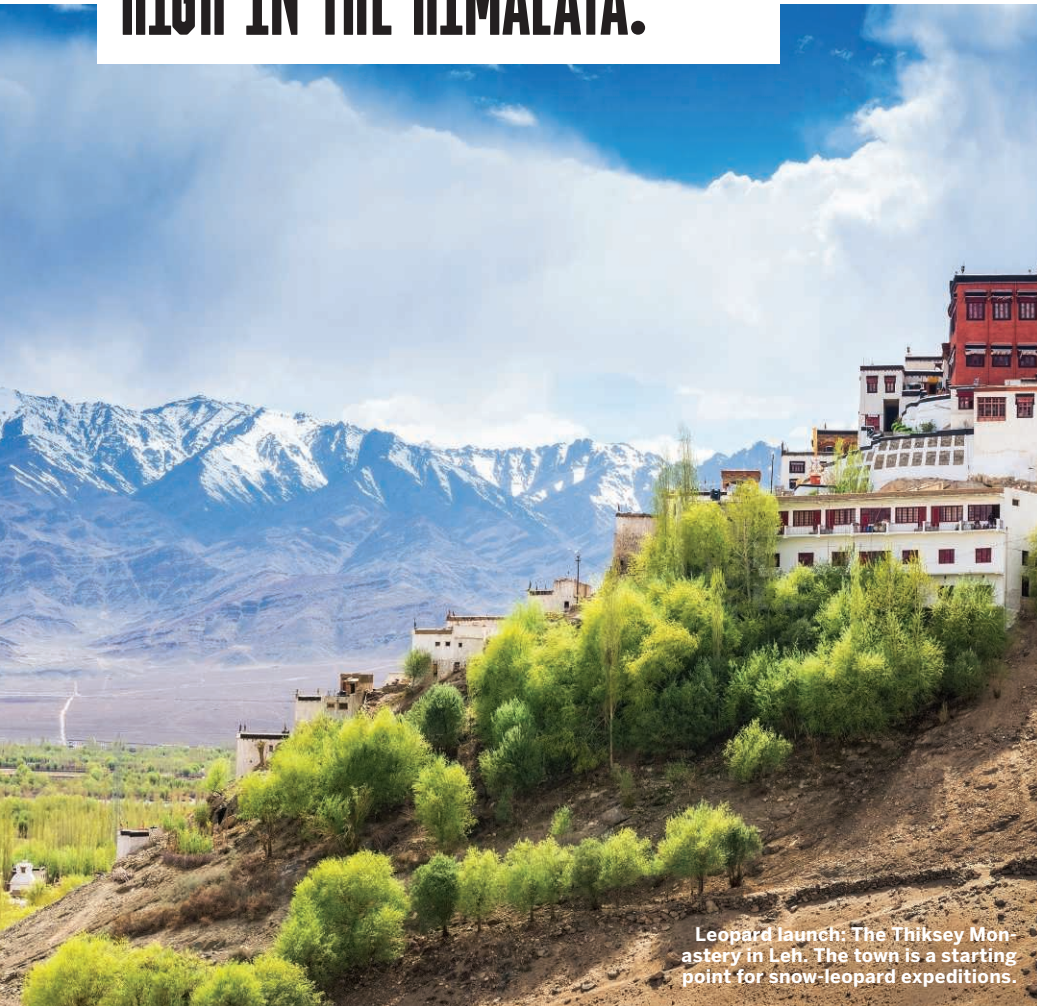


A walk in the rain forest: Traversing a hanging bridge through Arenal.



India

## SEARCH FOR SNOW LEOPARDS HIGH IN THE HIMALAYA.



**Leopard launch:** The Thiksey Monastery in Leh. The town is a starting point for snow-leopard expeditions.

**S**NOW LEOPARDS ARE ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST ELUSIVE ANIMALS, THANKS to the harsh habitat they call home (the peaks of Central Asia) and their vulnerable status (there are only 4,000 to 6,500 remaining, according to the World Wildlife Foundation). The best chance to spot one is in the winter, when **Nomadic Expeditions** leads private eight-day snow-leopard-tracking adventures from Leh, an ancient Silk Road outpost 11,550 feet up in northern India's Ladakh region. Travelers head out every morning with a guide and a spotter on snowy Himalayan treks. While seeing a leopard is the goal, wolf, ibex, and Himalayan fox sightings are added bonuses.

This is a trip for the intrepid. Weather conditions are extreme (read: well below freezing) and infrastructure is basic. But those who have made the trek say that seeing a snow leopard in the wild makes every rugged moment worth it. Nomadic Expeditions has long championed snow leopard conservation in its home country of Mongolia and surrounding destinations, hosting scientific research trips and launching a program that lets rural villagers trade steel poachers' traps for much-needed cooking pots. *Departures: Any day from December 2022 through mid-April 2023; from \$6,400.*

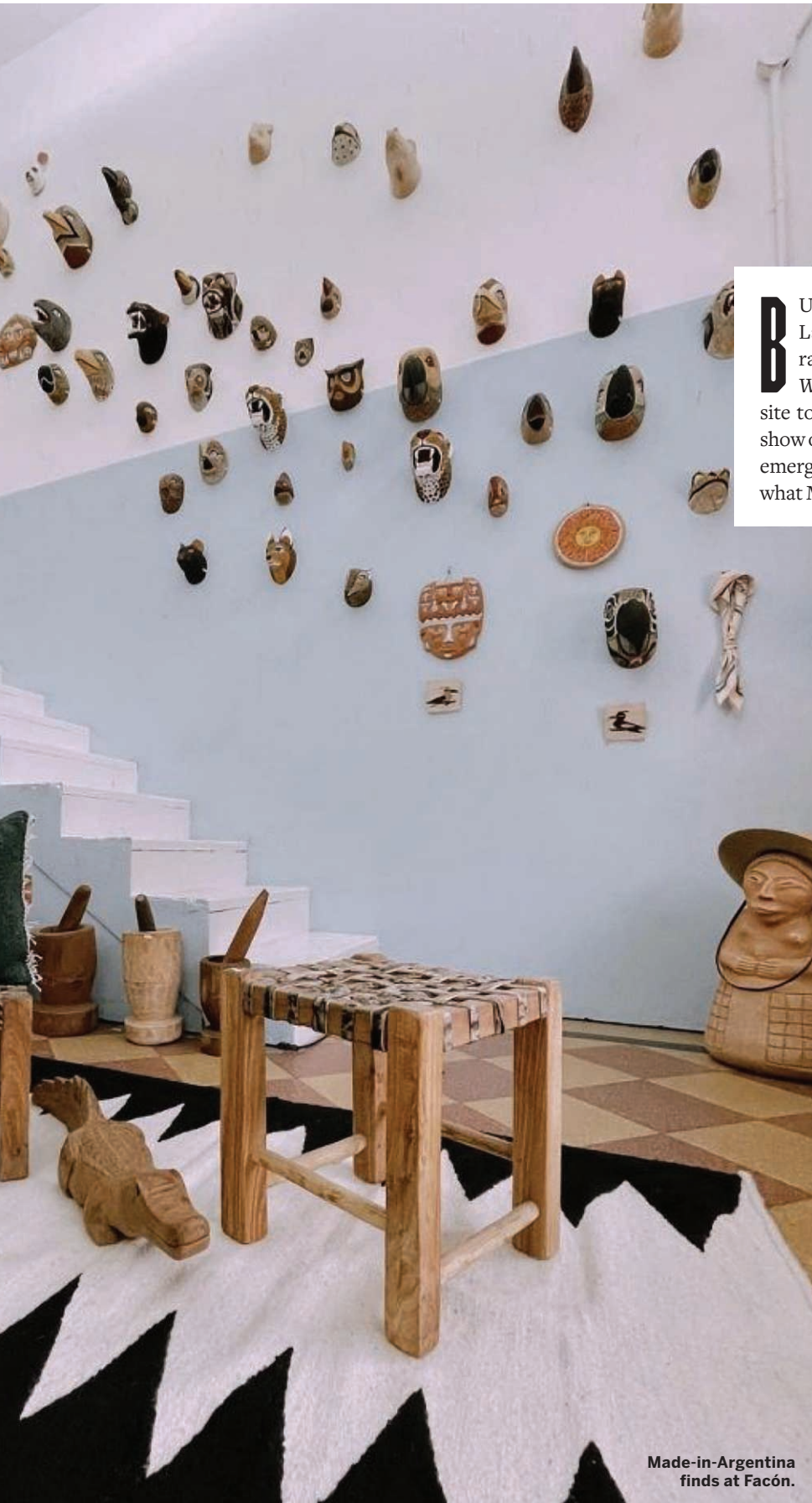


(INDIA) TEDDYBEAR/ICNIC/GETTY IMAGES



# GET CULTURED IN BUENOS AIRES.

**B**UENOS AIRES' ENDURING FUSION OF EUROPEAN AND Latin American influence unfurls throughout its dizzying array of barrios, and for newcomers to the city, it's easy to wonder, *What first?* Travel advisors can work with **Maiio**, a Virtuoso on-site tour connection in Argentina, to craft custom itineraries that show off the sultry capital in a way only a true Porteño can. The city is emerging from the pandemic with new cultural attractions – here's what Maiio's Maita Barrenechea is most excited about right now.



Made-in-Argentina finds at Facón.



## COLÓN FÁBRICA

The performances at Buenos Aires' iconic Teatro Colón are known for their elaborate costumes and sets, all of which are made in-house by a team of local artists. Remnants from past performances – *Aida*, *La Bohème*, *Swan Lake*, and more – are now on display in an 80,000-square-foot warehouse in the artsy, working-class La Boca neighborhood.

## FACÓN

This shop showcasing wares by Indigenous craftspeople from across Argentina just opened a new outpost in the emerging Chacarita neighborhood. It's Barrenechea's favorite spot for wool ponchos, rugs, and other handmade textiles.

## MERCADO DE LOS CARRUAJES

The former presidential garage downtown is now a cavernous food hall, with florists, breweries, and food stalls hawking churros, *alfajores*, empanadas, and more local favorites. Virtuoso advisors can work with Maiio to arrange a private, chef-led tour of the market.

## EL PATIO RODRIGO BUENO

This new food patio and social project in the Puerto Madero neighborhood is home to shipping containers housing food stands that give small catering companies and Latin American chefs a sustainable way to grow their business. **VI**





Poetry in motion in  
Seville's Plaza de España.





# Flamenco

Meet the artisans behind Seville's distinctive sound and style.

BY JEN ROSE SMITH Photography by Clara Tuma





**Clockwise from left: Casa de la Guitarra, designer Carmen Acedo in her showroom in Seville's Triana neighborhood, and *trajes de flamenca* hanging from the showroom's ceiling.**

# In the end,

I didn't have to go looking – flamenco found me right away in Seville. Following narrow alleys through the old Jewish quarter, I heard roving musicians sing, “Sevilla es una maravilla,” slapping their palms to weave rhythms in the warm air. Below shady arcades flanking the Plaza de España, I paused to catch the quicksilver footwork of flamenco dancers, who stomped and whirled amid spontaneous applause from families strolling in the late-afternoon sunshine.

One wintry afternoon months before, I'd put on an old Lola Flores record. It whispered Andalusia into my traveler's ear. Flamenco pulsed from the speakers with emotional urgency. Castanets snapped. Skirts rustled. Wishing suddenly to meet people capable of such soulful art, I began planning a journey to southern Spain for some time in the Andalusian capital of Seville.

“Flamenco is an expression of the culture of the Andalusian people,” 72-year-old guitarist José Luis Postigo says. At his Casa de la Guitarra, he hosts intimate shows on a stage whose twelfth-century stone arch backdrops impassioned performances – the genre's hallmark.

Once a largely private art, flamenco blossomed in Andalusia's nineteenth-century *cafés cantantes*, musical gathering places like Postigo's where artists refined their styles before broader audiences. Guitarists set a nimble pace with finger picking, a keen and sometimes percussive sound to match the *cantaoras'* powerful vocals. Flamenco guitar remains the skittering heartbeat of a genre that commingles Roma traditions with the region's myriad other cultures; such diversity perhaps explains a



musical vibrancy undimmed by centuries. “It’s a blend of all the peoples – from Phoenicians and Moors to Jews and Christians – who have left their mark on this place,” Postigo says.

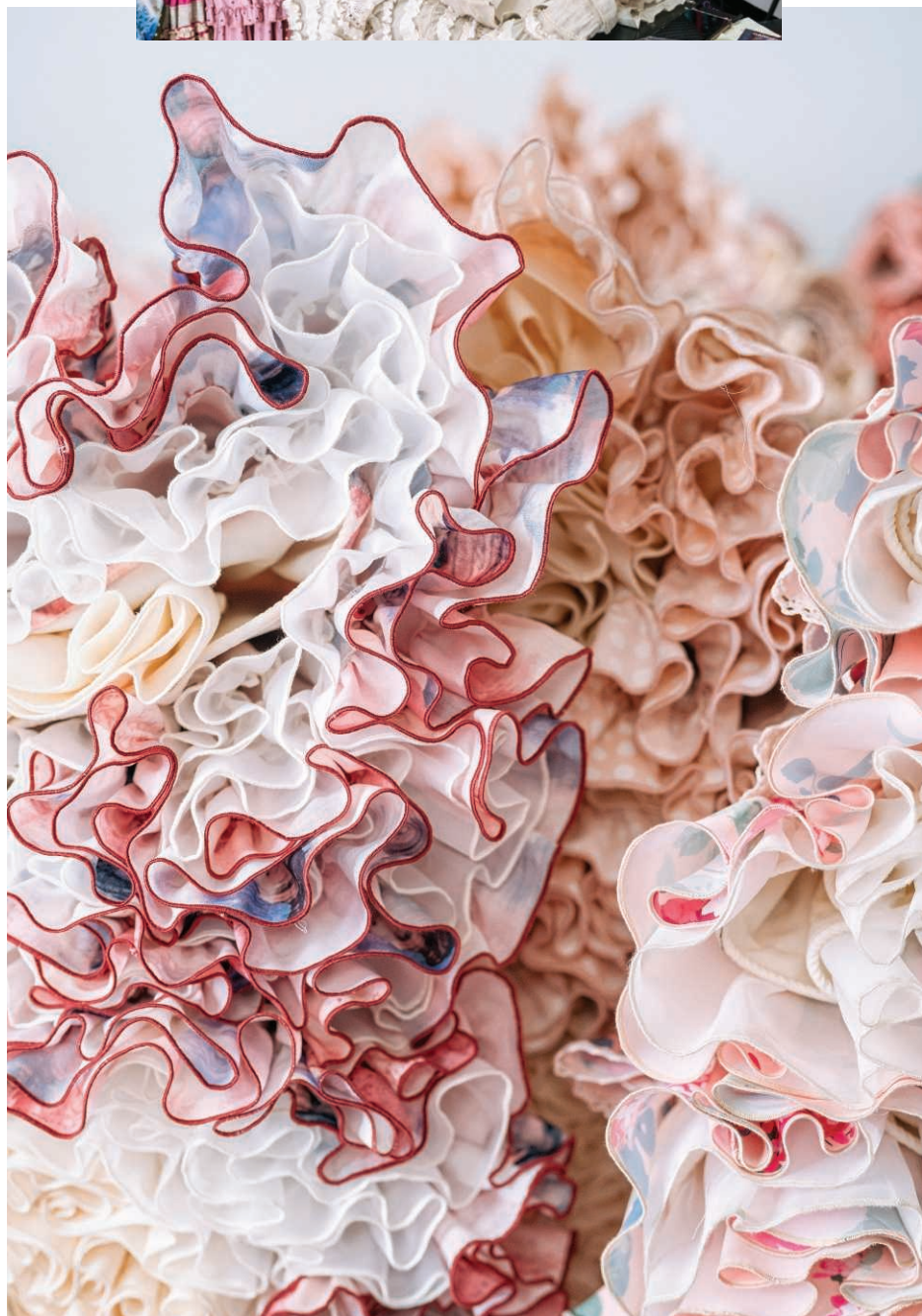
That same heady mix reigns in Seville’s streets, where Islamic arabesques grace churches built by Spanish monarchs. Often just as blooming orange trees perfume the city, Seville explodes into a weeklong, nonstop party called the Feria de Abril (this year’s festivities begin on May 1). It’s a time for locals and visitors to don their finest *trajes de flamenca*, form-fitting flamenco dresses with plenty of ruffles.

And from that party garb to handcrafted instruments, the essence of Seville’s flamenco culture is handed down through generations of artists and artisans. They’re innovators, but also keepers of tradition. “With flamenco you must always look to the past in order to move forward,” Postigo says. These are a few of the creative minds charging Seville’s flamenco with new energy.

## Dressing the Part

Sometimes a dress is more than a dress. Choosing a *traje* or two for each year’s *feria* is a major event for Sevillanas, says designer Carmen Acedo, who learned to sew the elaborate dresses at her mother’s workshop in a nearby village. “It’s such an important thing for us,” Acedo says, “and there’s not a woman that doesn’t look beautiful in a well-made *traje*.” Flamenco dancers wear dresses with widely flared skirts that leave plenty of room to whirl and stamp, while versions for the *feria* hug curves for a dramatic silhouette.

Every year brings new trends to the *feria*, but polka dots, lace, and ruffles are eternal, says Acedo, who in 2002 founded a showroom in the Triana district that’s stacked with dresses from floor to ceiling. In the weeks before the Feria de Abril, locals and visitors crowd the shop, some matching new dresses to hand-embroidered silk shawls called *mantones*, wearable works of art preserved as family heirlooms. But for a *feria*-ready outfit, all a traveler needs is the perfect dress – made to order or rented by the day through a hotel concierge – and bright flowers to pin into her hair. “Flowers are essential,” Acedo says. “Everything else is a little bit extra.”





**Clockwise from left:  
Inside Guitarrería  
Álvarez & Bernal, café  
culture on the Plaza de  
la Encarnación, dancer  
Laura Santamaría, and  
Antonio Álvarez Bernal  
at work in his atelier.**









## The Seville Sound

"I've always been a botanist and gardener; I always felt very connected to wood," says luthier Antonio Álvarez Bernal, who has handcrafted instruments for everyone from pop stars to former U.S. presidents. In his Seville workshop, Guitarería Álvarez & Bernal, burnished skeletons of half-made guitars cover every surface – the instruments in his luthier collection take three to six months to complete. And a flamenco guitar, Bernal explains, requires a sound like no other.

"It must be keen in order to rise to the level of the singer's voice," says Bernal, a graduate of Seville's music conservatory. "We use woods with a very clear tone so musicians can achieve that perfect composition of guitar, song, and the percussion of clapping hands." When crafting flamenco guitars, Bernal relies on a traditional combination of Spanish cypress and German spruce, and believes every instrument resonates with the touch of its maker. "A handmade guitar has soul," Bernal says. "It has the soul of the person who made it."

## Keeping Time

Castanets looped around their thumbs, flamenco dancers click out a rapid-fire counterpoint to their footwork. In expert hands the instrument is subtle, by turns teasing or percussive. "The sound adapts to the kind of music you're going to play," says Carmen Vela, of artisanal castanet maker Castañuelas del Sur, which ships the handheld instruments from a Seville workshop to aficionados around the globe.

Pairs of castanets only look identical, Vela explains, absently tapping out a tune on a polished set. In her right hand is a higher-pitched "female" castanet, while the lower-pitched "male" castanet rests in her left. Together, they create a unique harmony. Making castanets is a third-generation family tradition for Vela, who today works alongside her siblings and cousins. "Our grandfather started making castanets, and my father joined him at 7 years old," says Vela. It's too early to know if a fourth generation – the great-grandchildren of master castanet maker Manuel Vela – will join the family business, she says. But everyone hopes they will.

**Rhythm section:  
Finished castanets  
(right) and works in  
progress (below) at  
Castañuelas del Sur.**





# OUR EUROPE IS YOUR EUROPE



## SEE EUROPE WITH THOSE WHO KNOW IT BEST

Born in the Netherlands in 1873, our 2023 season marks 150 years sailing the breadth of Europe. Whether learning to make the perfect pizza crust in Italy on an exclusive *FOOD & WINE*® culinary tour or cruising the breathtaking fjords of Norway aboard our newest ship, *Rotterdam*, you'll feel like a local as you uncover European culture on board and ashore.



VIRTUOSO®  
PREFERRED

CONTACT YOUR VIRTUOSO  
TRAVEL ADVISOR TO BOOK TODAY



Holland America Line®  
SAVOR THE JOURNEY

Ships' Registry: The Netherlands.





## Olé, Sevilla!

**GO** Virtuoso on-site tour connection **Made for Spain and Portugal** can work with travel advisors to give visitors exclusive – and rare – access to private *casetas*, or flamenco tents, where locals drink *rebujitos* (sherry cocktails) and dance until dawn during Seville’s annual Feria de Abril. Other flamenco possibilities in Seville: a private dance lesson or performance by a prominent local flamenco family, or tapas and a tour of the Triana neighborhood. *Departures: Private tours available year-round; Feria de Abril experience from \$1,220 for two.*

**STAY** With handpainted azulejo tiles and soaring arches, the palatial **Hotel Alfonso XIII** is a masterpiece of Andalusian regionalist style, and its 148 rooms and suites blending Andalusian, Moorish, and Castilian motifs have seen a who’s who of European royals since 1928. Its signature Restaurante San Fernando hosts leisurely dinners overlooking a breezy patio, with meals that feature Spain’s finest artisanal hams and olive oils. *Doubles from \$450, including breakfast daily and a \$100 dining credit.*



**Hotel Colón’s library contains sections on bullfighting, the hotel’s history, and other Sevillian cultural touchstones.**

A favored haunt of bullfighters during the *feria*, the **Hotel Colón, a Gran Meliá Hotel** is a tribute to the tradition. Mementos from Spain’s greatest toreros adorn the walls, and the hotel restaurant El Burladero specializes in the slow-braised oxtail that is a traditional meal following bullfights. Order a drink under the lobby bar’s stained-glass dome to catch a glimpse of exquisitely costumed bullfighters as they depart for the nearby Plaza de Toros. *Doubles from \$494, including breakfast daily and one lunch or dinner for two.* **VI**





# Ready, Set, Riviera

7-night Mediterranean sailings on our newest ships begin soon

Pristine beaches and medieval castles. Summer evenings spent sipping local wines, with electric nights in Ibiza and Mykonos. We're setting sail around the Mediterranean Sea to some of Europe's most iconic ports, with itineraries full of late stays and overnights.

Voyage with Valiant Lady from Barcelona beginning in spring 2022, and with Resilient Lady from Piraeus (Athens) in summer 2022.

Let's Sale Away Together. Book and sail on any voyage in the next 120 days with our Lock It In cabin rates and save up to 40%, or sail anytime and get 20% off. For select Mediterranean Voyages from May 2022 to October 2022 you can also get up to \$400 in onboard credit. But hurry, this epic offer sets sail May 31st.

## Set Sail The Virgin Way

All our voyages are exclusively adult—that means no kids(!)—and include over \$600 in extras, like dining at 20+ unique eateries, WiFi, essential drinks, tips, and group fitness classes.



**CONTACT YOUR VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR TO LEARN MORE**



Promotional offers apply to new, individual bookings and vary by departure date and city, sailing, ship, and stateroom category and are subject to availability, may change without notice, are capacity controlled, may not be combinable with other offers, and may be changed or withdrawn at any time. Additional restrictions may apply. © 2022 Virgin Voyages





# How to Travel Better

THE TRAVEL TIPS, INSIGHT, AND ESSENTIALS YOU NEED NOW.



New Zealand's  
Milford Sound.

## Travel Intelligence

**SEA CHANGE** Earlier this year, Ecuador's president, Guillermo Lasso, signed a decree to increase the size of the Galápagos marine protection zone by nearly 50 percent, growing it to 76,517 square miles. The expansion bolsters the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor – a joint effort among Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, and Costa Rica – by establishing protected waters spanning Costa Rica's Cocos Marine Conservation Area to the Galápagos. This biodiverse "ocean highway," a migratory path for whales, hammerhead sharks, sea turtles, and other species, is now one of the world's largest marine reserves.

**WELCOME BACK** After one of the strictest Covid-related lockdowns in the world, New Zealand has officially

reopened to international travelers. As of May 2, fully vaccinated travelers with proof of a negative pre-departure Covid test can visit; travelers will be required to self-test on arrival (though isolation isn't required) and on day five of their visit. See you soon, Middle-earth.

**BETTER THAN PRECHECK** An exciting development for anyone who's stood in a long airport Starbucks line as their boarding time inches closer: The coffee giant has been quietly rolling out mobile ordering at its licensed airport locations in the U.S. since last summer, and it's now available at more than 230 stores in 70 airports. Go ahead: Sail by that line and grab your grande iced chai with the confidence of a pro traveler who now has 20 minutes to spare.

## We're Obsessed With

The palm-size **Polaroid Go** provides instant gratification for young travel photographers – or anyone with an affinity for Polaroid's throwback look. The compact, eight-ounce camera spits out 2.6-by-2.1-inch prints and offers a self-timer and double-exposure mode. \$100, [polaroid.com](http://polaroid.com).







# THE FARTHER YOU TRAVEL, THE MORE YOU MAY FEEL AT HOME.

Your home is not a stationary manmade structure—your home is planet Earth. Experience that familiar feeling in the Polar regions when you're embraced by the comfort found aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*. Find new perspectives, change your mindset and discover your place in the world.



The reference to the "South Pole" designates the region and not the geographical point.

THE NORTH POLE, THE SOUTH POLE AND YOU.



LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT



Contact your Virtuoso travel advisor for more details and reservations.





## The Grand Outdoors

A surprisingly decadent journey through U.S. national parks.

INTERVIEWED BY JEN ROSE SMITH

Sometimes life's grandest adventures begin as plan B. After border closures scuttled a post-retirement New Zealand trip, Marianne and Patrick Brown looked to their longtime Virtuoso travel advisor, Laurie Reitman of Frisco, Texas. "I said, 'We've got three weeks – let's do some amazing stuff,'" Marianne says. Reitman turned the challenge into a 20-day, custom trip through seven national parks in Montana, Wyoming, and Utah with parks and outdoor tour specialist Austin Adventures. From saddling up alongside Paradise Valley cowboys to watching black bears amid Teton peaks, the Browns immersed themselves in icons of the mountain West. "We'd come away from one day and say, 'That was an amazing day.' Then the next day we'd say, 'No, *that* was an amazing day,'" says Marianne. "I think it was the best trip we've ever taken."

**I didn't really know what we were going to do with three weeks.** I got over that within half a day because we were on to the next experience. It was so rich. And we finished with a couple days of just *decadence* and fabulous spa appointments at Utah's Amangiri in Canyon Point.

**It was crazy.** How amazing to say, "We're not taking a taxi to the airport. We're getting there via a helicopter across the Grand Canyon." But variety is wonderful. One night we had a private chef dinner with beautiful wine to match, which was spectacular. Then, after a day of four-wheeling in the Utah desert, the guides

surprised us with hot dogs roasted over the campfire.

**Our travel guides were so knowledgeable.** We're international travelers – Norway, Scotland, and Ireland are among our favorite destinations – but they just opened up this entire breadth of things to do within the U.S.

**The pandemic hit the reset button on what we truly value.** It helped us look forward to every single moment of the national parks trip. And wow, did it exceed our expectations.

**Where next?** New Zealand! Maybe the year after that, we'll go to Australia.



## BACKGROUND RESEARCH

IF YOU'RE GOING TO ...



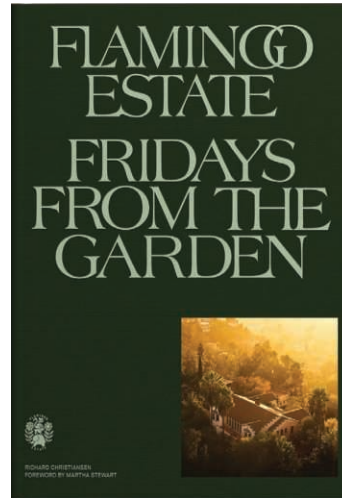
### ANTARCTICA

(“Antarctica Three Ways,” page 86)  
Pack a copy of Maria Semple’s page-turner *Where’d You Go, Bernadette*, an exploration of the White Continent rolled in with a tantalizing mystery.



### SEVILLE

(“All for Flamenco,” page 112)  
Model Caroline de Maigret shares her Sevillian secrets – favorite restaurants, shops, hotels, and more – in *A Night in Seville and the Morning After*, published by Assouline for The Luxury Collection hotel group.



### LOS ANGELES

(“Rare Bird,” page 74)  
*Fridays From the Garden* collects the best recipes from Flamingo Estate’s weekly farm boxes, along with a foreword by Martha Stewart, stories from founder Richard Christiansen, and lush photos.



# \$8.6 trillion

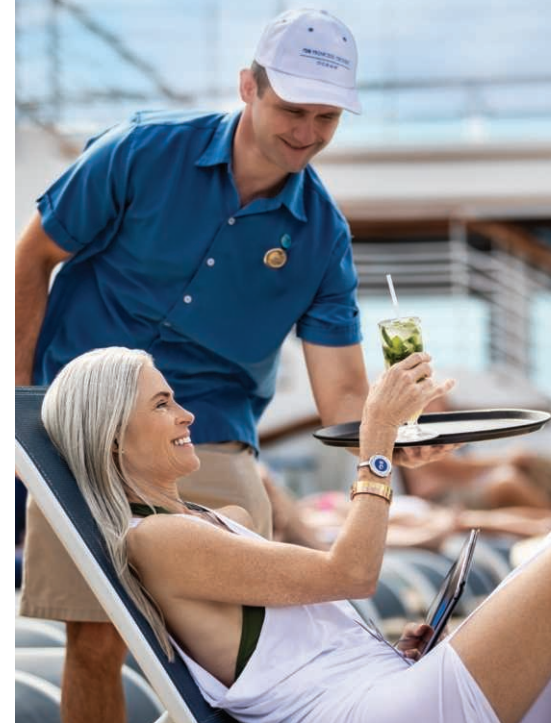
Amount the global travel and tourism sector could generate in 2022, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council. The number – only 6.4 percent below pre-pandemic levels – is a strong indicator of the travel industry’s recovery and, by extension, the recovery of millions of jobs worldwide.

(MAP) GETTY IMAGES



## A cruise that takes care of you

Fantastic things start to happen the moment you step aboard a Princess® cruise. Doors open for you. Your favorite drinks find you. And everything seems to be just how you like it. Get the Princess treatment, and feel taken care of. Because every moment of your vacation should be the experience *of a lifetime.*



Please contact your Virtuoso Advisor for more details.



©2022, Princess Cruise Lines, Ltd. Princess®, MedallionClass®, and the Princess logo are trademarks of Princess Cruise Lines, Ltd. or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Ships of Bermudan and British registry.



# Repetitive Emotion

CAPTURING CITIES' SOULS THROUGH THEIR PEOPLE.



***Time Lapse. Igreja do Carmo, Porto, Portugal***  
**Photography on paper**

For his *Time Lapse* series, Galician photographer Xan Padrón sets his camera discreetly along a distinctive city street for two hours, capturing still images of passersby. His aim, he says, is to “portrait” cities exclusively through their people, without showing streets, landscapes, or distinguishing features. “You can notice many differences and similarities depending on the country, city, or even neighborhood in which they were taken,” he says. “Walking around is one of the best ways to experience this. The way people dress, the sense of purpose, the things we carry with us when we walk. Our cultural identity is defined by who we are, but also by how we fit in the places we live, in the world.” Prints available at [xanpadron.com](http://xanpadron.com). @xanpadron



# THE WORLD AWAITS

VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISORS MAKE YOUR TRAVEL DREAMS REALITY.



VIRTUOSO®

Personal connections and access to a network of the world's best travel companies give Virtuoso travel advisors the power to deliver your dreams - customized just for you. And the peace of mind that comes with knowing an expert has your back is more essential now than ever before.

*Connect with a travel advisor at [virtuoso.com](http://virtuoso.com).*





VIRTUOSO®

**Your trusted travel resource.**

Virtuoso travel advisors customize each trip with extras and perks,  
and act as your advocates every step of the way.

**Connect with an advisor at [virtuoso.com](https://www.virtuoso.com).**

---

THE WORLD'S TOP TRAVEL AGENCIES AND ADVISORS ARE VIRTUOSO®.

---