

NEW: GET TWO SEVEN-DAY EXCHANGES WITH **CHOOSE2**. SEE PAGE 8.

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interval WORLD®

FALL 2015



Perfect Powder in **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Exploring **Oahu**, Hawaii's Multicultural Metropolis | **Curaçao's** Dutch Caribbean Flavor
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INTERVAL WORLD
EASTERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
THE BERKSHIRES
CURAÇAO
MID WALES
OAHU
FALL 2015

This is an advertisement for Interval's

Initially, we thought we would show you what some of the tools look like —

IntervalWorld.com on a big desktop screen,
the **Interval International® app** on a tablet,
the **mobile website** on a smartphone.

But is that what you want to see when you open a magazine?

OK, OK, here's a glimpse:



The way we see it, the tools are just a means to an end. They simplify. They expedite. They inform. Take these for example:

You go to **Community** on the Web to ask a fellow member where to get the best fish tacos in Cancún.

You tune in to **Interval HD** for a Las Vegas video.

You check out the **Interval Exchange Tracker** to see that another member has traded her home resort in Myrtle Beach for a week in Malta.

And then?

You book a last-minute **Getaway** while waiting in the car-pool line, or you confirm an **exchange** between binge-watched episodes of *Scandal*.

And before the 11:00 news is over, you've booked your rental car through **Interval Travel®**.

digital vacation-planning tools.

Once the tools do
their job, you do your
best to forget yours.

We suspect it will
play out a lot like this.



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Happiness in Traveling (Even on the Run)

WHAT'S GOING ON AT **IntervalWorld.com** AND IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA REALM

Community Turns 5!

A big thank you to the 4,000-plus members who celebrated Community's fifth anniversary with us! Congratulations to the 25 contest winners, including grand-prize winner Craig Riddle, who received a trip to Riviera Maya, Mexico. We loved reading your stories and seeing pictures of your globe-trotting travels on Community, too. Here are just a few of the happy tales and photographs members shared:

"My favorite vacation memory is when my family of 10 went to Orlando (thanks to Interval) to do the parks. It was my granddaughter's first time there and the looks on their faces are imprinted in my heart."

— Bebe 4

"One of my favorite vacation memories is when my husband and I traveled to Turks and Caicos for our 15th wedding anniversary on a Getaway week we purchased through Interval. While there, we met some fellow timeshare owners who gave us some great tips on what to see. We decided to take their advice and venture off for the day. [We saw the] prettiest, most tranquil beach we have ever encountered in the Caribbean and only for us to enjoy at that moment."

— ShabbieChicBaker1

"Since adding our daughter to the family last year . . . the best trip we've done was to Branson. We didn't do anything special on the trip — it was all about seeing family, meeting her cousins, etc. We spent a lot of time at the unit just playing. Priceless."

— zipporah8



Share Your




#VacationPerfection

Heading out on your next Interval adventure? Don't forget: You can share your vacation pictures instantly and easily with other members on social media with the #VacationPerfection hashtag. Or, for some eye-popping travel inspiration, search Instagram or Facebook for #VacationPerfection. We may even share your photo on Interval's social media pages!

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Travel Planner.
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(Deposit Photos/Glow Images)



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Scan the QR code with your mobile device to view this issue of *Interval World*[®] online.



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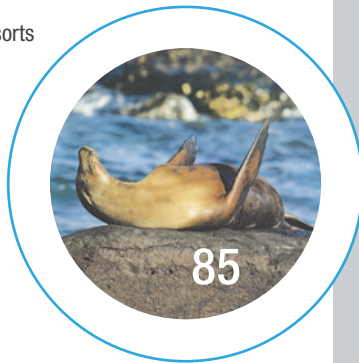
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- VICE PRESIDENT & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Torey Marcus
- EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
Leah Schwartz
- ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT & CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Ailis M. Cabrera
- ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT – GRAPHICS AND PRODUCTION
Janet L. Orr
- MANAGING EDITOR
Jacquelyn Kalis
- EDITORS
J.B. Bissell
Wendy Long
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Joshua Pramis
- SENIOR GRAPHICS MANAGER
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- SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Maria Garcia-Aguilar
- GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
Frank Gonzalez
Cristina Mencia
George A. Sariego
- SENIOR GRAPHIC ARTIST
Sheryl Shore
- DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION
Val Chiofalo

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND ADDRESS CHANGE
Membership Services
Interval International
P.O. Box 430960
Miami, FL 33243-0960
800.843.8843
305.666.1884
IntervalWorld.com
CustomerService@intervalintl.com

EDITORIAL
Editors
Interval World
P.O. Box 431920
Miami, FL 33243-1920
IntervalEditors@intervalintl.com

ADVERTISING
Nicole Meck
949.470.8324
Nicole.Meck@intervalintl.com



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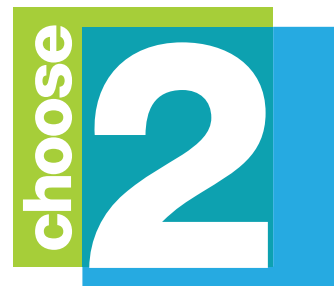
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Benefits etc.

NEW!



CHOOSE2:
BECAUSE 2 IS
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Now, you can turn your upcoming confirmed exchange into *two* seven-day exchanges — without giving up another week or any additional points.*

Reserve a second unit and bring along some friends or family, or extend your vacation for another week — it's up to you!

Here are two ways Choose2 can turn a great vacation into an epic one:

- Spend a week touring Orlando's theme parks, then relax in style the next week on one of Florida's white-sand beaches
- Invite the whole gang along for a week of casino action, dazzling entertainment, and more in Las Vegas. With two units, there's plenty of room for everyone.

To learn more about Choose2 and view anticipated availability, go to IntervalWorld.com.



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AND GET READY TO **CHOOSE2!**

*The Choose2 program requires the standard exchange fee for each week reserved.

E-PLUS + INSURANCE

= PEACE OF MIND

Two amazing benefits that ensure your vacation dollars are well spent and protected. Here's a look at why it's a smart move to have both:



E-Plus: A powerful benefit but *not* travel insurance, E-Plus provides you with the flexibility to change destinations, resorts, and/or travel dates up to three times for a low, one-time fee. Need to change your unit size? With E-Plus, you can retrade your confirmed exchange until 24 hours before your check-in date. Don't forget: E-Plus must be purchased within five days of receiving your confirmation.

"We used E-Plus to upgrade from a one-bedroom to a two-bedroom unit!"
— rogers92026

Travel Insurance: If you've confirmed an exchange or Getaway, or purchased airfare, a cruise, or a tour vacation, you want to protect yourself. You also want recourse should your trip become delayed, your luggage gets damaged or lost, or if an unforeseen medical situation arises. Be sure to purchase the plan that fits your needs within 21 days of confirming your vacation for resort accommodations insurance, or at least 24 hours prior to your travel date for cruise, tour, or air coverage.

With **E-Plus**, you gain the flexibility to make a change, and with **Travel Insurance**, you can protect yourself against a variety of mishaps that can occur before and during your trip. **That's a powerful combination!**

"Scored again with E-Plus, tweaking my week so it matched perfectly with an adjoining unit."
— go4fun

"So glad I purchased E-Plus when I traded for my Hawaii vacation (avoided a hurricane forecast)! Smartest choice I ever made."
— gransuhr

"Travel insurance covers the two main reasons people have travel issues — illness and weather, both at the destination and departure locations."
— Krell

"Always buy travel insurance — you never know when you'll need to purchase clothing because your luggage didn't arrive on the same plane you did!"
— guaguagirl2

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BRING YOUR TRAVEL SHOPPING LIST — INTERVAL HAS IT ALL!



As an Interval member, you can exchange your resort week or points and visit amazing destinations around the globe. You can also travel more often for less with low-priced, weeklong Getaway vacations.

But that's just the start to all the great travel services available to you. Interval offers **everything and anything** you need to put together your dream vacation. Take a look!



- **CRUISES:** Search for your perfect cruise vacation on the world's leading lines. Then reserve your spot on the itinerary of your choice.
- **HOTELS:** Search for and book hotels at IntervalWorld.com. You can also receive special pricing through Aston Hotels & Resorts and Preferred Hotels & Resorts properties.

- **ACTIVITIES:** Conveniently purchase theme park tickets, reserve space on a popular city tour, or book a day-trip in advance (often at a discounted rate)
- **CAR, AIR & MORE:** You can also rent a car (often with discounts through Hertz), book airfare (with no online booking fees), shop for brand-name apparel and travel extras (discounts again), and so much more. Interval truly is your one-stop travel shop!

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Here's a card that's worthy of space in your wallet: The Interval International Visa Signature® card with WorldPoints® rewards lets you earn one point for every dollar you spend on purchases. Redeem your points for:

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Deposit Early and Reap the Rewards

When you know that you want to go somewhere other than your home resort, it's time to deposit your week. Don't wait; there are many reasons it pays to deposit as soon as you can:

It's All About Trading Power

When you deposit your week and place a request in our exchange system, your trading power gets a boost, giving you an advantage over two key groups:

1. fellow members who deposit comparable weeks after you, and
2. members seeking an instant confirmation.

And what happens if you don't deposit your week? The week you want could go to someone else. Don't let it. Deposit and place a request as soon as you know where you want to go.

Four Years of Flexibility

Did you know you can deposit up to two years before your home resort week starts? You'll then have two more years after your week to make an exchange, giving you a four-year travel window. New resort weeks are added to our system regularly, so the vacation you request may become available at any time. Just sit back while we do the searching for you, and when the week you want becomes available, it's yours.

The Path to Request Success

- 1 Always select three different resorts during one time period, one resort during three time periods, or two resorts during two time periods.
- 2 Think less about a specific destination and more about what *kind* of vacation you want. For example, if you want a tropical break, choose several Caribbean islands rather than just one.
- 3 Many resorts have more small units than large ones, so consider a unit with the minimum sleeping capacity necessary for your traveling party to increase your exchange opportunities.

Go to IntervalWorld.com or call 800.INTERVAL and deposit today!



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You can receive special pricing of **10 to 50 percent off published rates** at participating Preferred Hotels & Resorts properties. For more information, sign in to IntervalWorld.com, click on Offers & Extras, and visit our Vacations page today.

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Winning!

Every time you make an exchange or take a Getaway, you have a chance to win a Resort Accommodations Certificate, good for a one-week stay at an Interval resort. With your confirmation, you'll receive an evaluation form, which is also available at IntervalWorld.com. Complete a Vacation Evaluation form when you return, and you'll be entered automatically into a resort week drawing.

June 2015's winner is Angelena Moore of The Villages, Florida; July 2015's winner is Idella Easterling of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and August 2015's winners are William and Sarah Orrick of Red Bay, Alabama.

MEMBERS' ADVICE

From travel tips to how to make the most of your benefits, there's no better place to seek out your fellow members' words of wisdom than Interval's Community. Here is what a few savvy members had to say about Interval Platinum®:



"Platinum membership has been great for us. We take advantage of reduced Getaways, and the Platinum Escapes for such a reduced price." — [gigi12](#)

"You can waive [the Guest Certificate] fee if you purchase Platinum. This may be worth it if you may have more than one trip a year to give away." — [bonitafamily](#)

"[Interval] also offers Platinum Escapes, which are highly discounted Getaways to a limited assortment of destinations offered a couple of times each year. The markdowns are at least \$150 and may be worthwhile to upgrade to take advantage of the sale pricing." — [Pathstrayer1](#)



Go to IntervalWorld.com to upgrade to Interval Platinum.

"If you could find an available check-in day for the day of the week that you want to check in, you could book it and have another (up to six-day) ShortStay Exchange left to use at a later date. Of course you have to be a Gold or Platinum member to do a ShortStay Exchange, but that can be upgraded at any time." — [jcsilord](#)



Presenting the Deals page at IntervalWorld.com.

What's behind the curtain? Why, it's the latest and greatest deals from Interval [crowd applause]! In one spot, you'll find Getaway and cruise specials, limited-time offers, last-minute sales, and more [crowd applause]. You want a deal? Come on down and click the **Deals** tab today!



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- **Enroll for free** in Hertz Gold Plus Rewards at IntervalWorld.com
- **Receive 550 bonus points** after your first qualifying rental and **550 more** after your second
- That's enough points for **two free weekend rental days** (a \$110 average value)

But that's not all. With Hertz Gold Plus Rewards, you also get these fantastic perks:

- **Carfirmation™**: When your plane lands, you'll receive an email or a text message confirming the vehicle and the stall in which it's located
- **Counter Bypass**: Skip the counter, the lines, and the paperwork
- **Hertz Gold Choice®**: Take the car you reserved — or choose another
- **eReturn**: Drop off your car, fill in the Express Return slip, and you're done. Hertz will email your receipt to you. Voilà!

*Go to IntervalWorld.com for complete terms and conditions.



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Whatever strikes your fancy, **VIP Concierge** can help satiate your craving. Don't forget to pack your appetite!

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And when it comes to dining, VIP Concierge really shines. Through the Preferred Restaurant program, you can search a wide variety of eateries organized by dining categories and location. Peruse options in Las Vegas, Miami, New York, and San Francisco, just to name a few. (Participating restaurants often offer special perks and activities, too, such as complimentary appetizers, desserts, and kitchen tours.) Restaurants are broken down into the following categories, so you can find what you want — when you want — fast:

- **ICONIC**: A classic. When you think of the specific city, there is a great chance you'll think of this restaurant, too.
- **HOT**: New or relatively new restaurants that are the talk of the town.
- **STILL HOT**: Landmark restaurants whose popularity continues unabated year after year. Don't miss your opportunity to sit at these prized tables.
- **HIDDEN GEM**: Niche restaurants that have outstanding credentials, amazing cuisine, and a devoted clientele. We know you'll love these picks.

Dining and Leisure Discounts Here!

Access discounts at participating restaurants and retail outlets across the U.S. and Canada. Receive up to 50 percent off, and enjoy two-for-one offers and other special values whether you're traveling or right in your own neighborhood.

Ready to save? View discounts from IntervalWorld.com, then present a printable coupon or show the offer on your mobile device at participating locations for savings on the go!

For more information, sign in to IntervalWorld.com, and click the Benefits link.

MEMBERSHIP TIERS

WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Upgrade your membership for additional benefits and discounts. Each level brings you more.

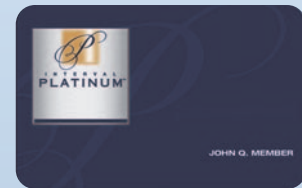
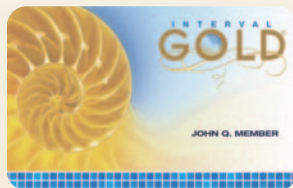
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Catskills, New York Rock Wear

Simply showing up at the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts connects visitors to one of the most powerful and important social movements in American history: The facility is located where the original Woodstock music festival took place in 1969. And through December 2015, the museum's *Threads: Connecting '60s & Modern Rockwear* display examines a particular piece of that period with a fascinating — and infinitely colorful — glimpse at how rock-star clothing has influenced the world of fashion design, and continues to impact today's wardrobe trends. *Threads* is guest curated by Andy Hilfiger, brother to famous couturier Tommy, with pieces from his personal collection.

Atlantic City, New Jersey Devilishly Good Dining

There probably aren't many people who'd actually *want* to spend an evening working with Gordon Ramsay, the talented celebrity chef who gained popularity for his disheartening outbursts on cooking television programs such as *Kitchen Nightmares*. Eating the food that's produced as a result of those tantrums, however, is a completely different story. At the recently opened **Gordon Ramsay Pub & Grill** in Caesars Atlantic City, hungry patrons can devour delicious takes on shepherd's pie, fish and chips, bangers and mash, beef Wellington, and more, all overseen by somebody who did have what it took to survive Ramsay's intense tutelage, La Tasha McCutchen, the season 13 winner of *Hell's Kitchen*.

Palm Beaches and Fort Lauderdale Coast, Florida Art Outdoors

From Palm Beach to Fort Lauderdale to Miami, South Florida is home to a vibrant **open-air arts-festival scene** come wintertime. On January 9 and 10, 2016, more than 150 photographers, painters, sculptors, and other creators will line Fort Lauderdale's Las Olas Boulevard for its namesake fair. The 29th Annual Boca Fest takes place January 16 and 17 in Boca Raton, while the juried 65th Annual Beaux Arts Festival of Art happens the same weekend at the University of Miami. And a few days later on January 23 and 24, you can stroll the 27th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Festival of the Arts.

GETAWAY TO **the Catskills** Weekly rates for a one-bedroom starting at: **\$407**

Interval Platinum **\$357**

Interval Gold **\$382**

Add a rental car **\$227**

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To book, go to IntervalWorld.com, or call 800.INTERVAL. For terms and conditions, and for more Getaway offers, turn to page 79.

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts; Carl Scofield/Go Bleck



Breckenridge, Colorado Icy Reception

Breckenridge might not have a beach for sandcastle building, but come January, competitors in the **Budweiser International Snow Sculpture Championships** make use of the region's copious snowfall to carve all manner of elaborate figures. You can witness the actual competition event from January 26 through 30, 2016, or, if the weather holds, stroll the grounds of what becomes a temporary outdoor art gallery until February 7.

Phoenix, Arizona Framing Frida

On display October 31, 2015, through February 8, 2016, Phoenix's Heard Museum presents two **Frida Kahlo-inspired exhibits**, each designed to give visitors a behind-the-scenes look at the life of the Mexican painter. *Frida Kahlo—Her Photos* is an assemblage of more than 240 pictures the artist kept as both inspiration and cherished memories. For *Las Favoritas de Frida: Selections from the Heard Collection*, a group of local Kahlo authorities chose various pieces from the museum's Mexican art collection that they believe she would appreciate if she were still alive.

Lake Tahoe, California and Nevada

A Winning Hand

Seeking some indoor excitement around Lake Tahoe? Look no further than the **new Hard Rock Casino** in Stateline, Nevada, boasting some 500 slot machines and all your favorite table games on its 25,000-square-foot casino floor. And even if games of chance aren't what you're after, the complex offers plenty of other options, including live entertainment and late-night dancing at the Vinyl nightclub. Be sure to dine at one of its top-shelf restaurants: Get your fill of seasonal seafood at The Oyster Bar or slice into a hearty cut of steak at Park Prime.

GETAWAY TO Lake Tahoe

Weekly rates for a studio starting at: **\$297**

Interval Platinum **\$247** Interval Gold **\$272** Add a rental car **\$308**

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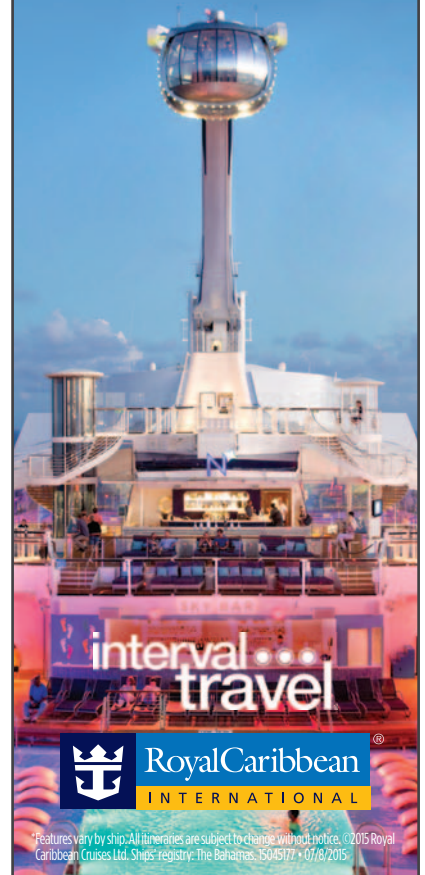
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spotlight Orlando

Downtown: Things Will Be Great

Historic Downtown Kissimmee is seeing a resurgence in popularity as of late, and there's no question why: from dining to shopping to leisurely strolling, it's the perfect blend of old-time appeal and thoroughly modern attractions. Start out at its heart, Dakin Avenue, where you'll find a number of restaurants and bars such as Savion's Place, which serves Caribbean fare with an American twist. Shopping abounds in this area, but you'd be remiss to pass up Lanier's Historic Downtown Marketplace, an 18,000-square-foot mall fully stocked with antiques and collectibles. For a tranquil respite, head to Kissimmee Lakefront Park, nestled along the bank of Lake Tohopekaliga; don't miss the 50-foot-tall sculpture constructed of artifacts (think stones, fossils, and pieces of buildings) from around the world.

Make Way for Mako

Though it's primarily known for its wide array of marine life, SeaWorld Orlando is no stranger to thrill rides. Next summer, the theme park will step up its game with the opening of Mako, the **tallest and fastest roller coaster in Orlando**. Reaching a top speed of 73 miles per hour, the shark-themed coaster will peak at a chilling 200 feet and run in a loop adjacent to the Shark Encounter attraction, alongside the park's central lake. While guests will never be upside-down, the ride's developers promise nine instances of "air time" (weightlessness) during the 3-minute ride.



GETAWAY TO Orlando

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O-Town Eats

Located on busy Fairbanks Avenue in Winter Park, **Scratch** feels like a whole other (quieter) world, full of playful whimsy, delectable small plates, and craft beers.

THE SETTING: Eclectic elegance. Oversized Victorian banquets line the walls, which are tastefully adorned with a medley of paintings and tchotchkes, giving the intimate space a decidedly boho-chic vibe. Guests waiting for a table can relax on the chevron-patterned loveseat in the front, or sit at the lacquered bar (there are nearly as many bar stools as table seats) and indulge in one of the microbrews on tap.

THE MENU: Seasoned executive chef Dustin Haney uses locally sourced ingredients to create an always-evolving menu that blends classic French cuisine with gastronomic flair. Though the small-plate menu changes on a daily basis — you can expect to find 10 to 15 items on



offer — the three signature dishes that you can count on are seared broccoli with aged cheddar, grilled sea bass with potato-and-fennel hash, and a soy-glazed pork belly adobo.

THE PARTICULARS: Scratch is open Tuesday through Saturday from 5:30 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.; Sunday hours include brunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and dinner from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For more information, call 407.325.5165 or visit scratchtapas.com.

No Monkeying Around

Following a 14-year hiatus, America's favorite — albeit most terrifying — giant gorilla, King Kong, is making his way back to Universal Orlando. Opening in summer 2016, the **Skull Island: Reign of Kong** ride will transport visitors on safari-style vehicles to Kong's home island, where they'll face foreboding jungle, a realm of caves, hostile natives, and dinosaurs, eventually heading inside temple ruins. Once indoors, expect encounters with a number of creepy creatures and, of course, the pièce de résistance: an up-close-and-personal confrontation with the King of Apes.

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hawaii



Maui

I Spy a Humpback

Hawaii's warm tropical seas beckon visitors from near and far, and not just the human kind: Its secluded shallows provide one of the most important cetacean breeding grounds on Earth. November through May, majestic humpback whales reside in the waters off Hawaii, affording animal lovers a prime opportunity to get up close and personal with these magnificent mammals. Among the top whale-watch operators is **The Pacific Whale Foundation**, offering a variety of cruises departing from Maui's Lahaina and Maalaea harbors. Each sailing includes a team of marine naturalists, and sightings are guaranteed (the foundation boasts a 97-percent success rate), or you can go again for free.

GETAWAY TO **Maui** Weekly rates for a studio starting at: **\$749**

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Buenos Aires, Argentina

Running of the Horses

Get a dose of history and horse racing at the **Palermo Hippodrome** in downtown Buenos Aires. The ornate, neoclassical French façade greets visitors and immediately whisks them back to a bygone era — or in this case, 1908, the year the entrance was completed. The opulence and elegance is palpable inside, where men and women alike dress to impress (but plenty of guests go for a more casual look). The on-site casino thrills, theater shows entertain, and fine dining and shopping options abound. As for the ponies, some 10 races take place each month from late afternoon until after midnight, and entry is free.

Cultura RF/Image Source; Jack Zallum; Paul Gordon/Alamy

mexico

Puerto Vallarta Procession Party

Every year December 1 to 12, stunning displays and floats flood the streets of Puerto Vallarta during the annual **Festival of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, a frenetic celebration commemorating what many believe was the miraculous apparition of the Virgin Mary seen by a local peasant in December 1531. During the festival, vibrant processions come in waves from throughout the city and surrounding communities. When they converge at the historic downtown Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a Carnival-like scene ensues, with music, dancing, traditional food, drinks, crafts, and souvenirs. With so much going on, many consider this the very best time of the year to visit the city.



GETAWAY TO Puerto Vallarta

Weekly rates for a studio starting at: **\$259**

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Interval Gold **\$234**

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Drinks on the House

Beginning in 2016, cruisers on every *Norwegian Sky* sailing from Miami can enjoy a variety of unlimited alcoholic drinks — for free! Premium spirits, mixed drinks, wines by the glass, and bottled or draft beer up to \$11 are all gratis, both onboard and on Great Stirrup Cay, Norwegian Cruise Line's private island in the Bahamas. For the 20-and-under set, unlimited sodas and juices are free of charge.

What's more, 10 of the cruise line's popular Asian specialty restaurants are now available at no additional cost. So enjoy all the fried rice, spicy udon noodles, and steamed pork dumplings you want at numerous onboard eateries, including Shanghai's Noodle Bar on *Breakaway*, *Getaway*, and *Epic*; or Ginza on the *Star*. It's all included, after all.



Culinary Cruising

TOP CHEF SHOWDOWN

Back by popular demand: Top Chef at Sea, which brings the competition and cuisine of the Emmy Award-winning *Top Chef* television series onboard Celebrity Cruises' sailings. Presented in conjunction with Bravo Media, the program was launched in 2014, and has been extended to all sailings on nine of Celebrity's ships departing through June 2016. Foodies and fans of the show can look forward to a special Top Chef Night in the main dining room, featuring judge-approved dishes from the series, and Quickfire Challenges, where participants flex their culinary muscles in an interactive, fun-filled exhibition just like the "chefestants" do on TV.



HANDS-ON INSTRUCTION

Whether you're new to the kitchen or a superstar chef, Oceania Cruises' innovative Culinary Center, available onboard the *Marina* and *Riviera*, has a class for you. And now, 20 all-new experiences — including a celebration of all things Jacques Pépin and regional-cuisine courses inspired by ports of call — offer even more opportunities to sink your teeth into the program. For the ultimate in culinary instruction at sea, opt for a two-day immersion program for home cooks. Developed in response to guest requests, the in-depth instruction hones essential techniques, from creating basic sauces to preparing vegetables.



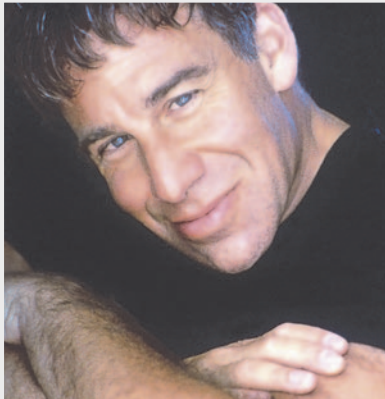
Celebrity Cruises/Catalyst; Joan Lauren; Holland America Line

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BROADWAY GREAT

In a groundbreaking collaboration with Princess Cruises, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony Award-winning composer Stephen Schwartz (of *Godspell*, *Pippin*, and *Wicked* fame) will oversee the creation of four all-new musicals exclusively for the cruise line. First up is *Magic to Do*, a Broadway-quality production combining dazzling magic with some of Schwartz's most famous songs, as well as a new song written exclusively for Princess. *Magic to Do* debuts this year on the *Crown Princess*, *Ruby Princess*, and *Emerald Princess*, with more Schwartz performances to come.



PINNACLE DEBUT

As the first ship in Holland America Line's all-new Pinnacle Class, the *ms Koningsdam* combines tried-and-true Holland America favorites with extra-special, first-at-sea offerings. Embarking on its maiden voyage in April 2016, the 2,650-passenger vessel will feature new fine-dining venues, including French seafood brasserie Sel de Mer and an immersive farm-to-table experience presented by *Food & Wine* magazine. The *ms Koningsdam* will also have the line's first staterooms built for families and the Music Walk entertainment area, home to B.B. King's Blues Club, Lincoln Center Stage, and Billboard Onboard.



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Price is per person, double occupancy. Price is subject to availability and to change without notice. Taxes, fees, and port expenses are additional. Airfare, cruise line surcharges, and insurance are additional.

SHIP:	<i>Harmony of the Seas</i>
DEBUT DATE:	April 2016
ITINERARY:	Caribbean
LENGTH:	1,187 feet
WEIGHT:	227,000 tons
CAPACITY:	5,479 passengers



IN PERFECT *Harmony*



Royal Caribbean International's newest Oasis-class offering boasts all the amenities and innovation of her two sister ships — and then some.



Who's It For?

While fans of *Allure of the Seas* and *Oasis of the Seas* are sure to be smitten with *Harmony of the Seas*, first-time cruisers, families, and couples will be equally enthralled. Being one of the largest cruise ships in the world means there's some serious real estate — spanning 16 passenger decks and seven neighborhoods — housing a vast array of dining, entertainment, and leisure pursuits.

What's For Dinner?

What's a cruise without a little splurging? Specialty dining options include Chops Grille, Izumi Hibachi & Sushi, and Sabor Modern Mexican. For the adventurous palate, the all-new Wonderland Imaginative Cuisine is where Royal Caribbean chefs go to dream big and push their skills to new heights, resulting in a payoff of unique creations for you to enjoy. The restaurant combines sensory effects with whimsical decor that promises to deliver a one-of-a-kind dining experience.

How To Spend The Days At Sea?

You can start by not worrying about carrying a room key. The *Harmony* is outfitted with the latest radio-frequency identification technology, allowing you to make purchases and reservations, and access your stateroom in a snap using a wristband. Play classic games at the arcade, brave three enormous waterslides, and enjoy drinks at the Bionic Bar, where robotic bartenders mix, shake, and stir a variety of cocktails to a danceable beat.

How To Spend The Days In Port?

- Civitavecchia:** Tour the Vatican Museums in Vatican City.
- Naples:** Savor top-notch Neapolitan pizza at Da Michele.
- Barcelona:** Visit the Museu Picasso, where some of the legendary artist's most prominent works are on display.
- Palma de Mallorca:** Explore the majestic La Seu cathedral's vast interior and chapels.
- Marseille:** Dine at sidewalk cafes and stroll the Vieux Port area.
- La Spezia:** Snap a photo of the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE ABOARD *Harmony of the Seas*

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To browse cruise tours, sign in to IntervalWorld.com, go to the Cruises section under the Travel tab, and click the Cruise Tours banner.



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BY BETSY SHELDON

WARMING SPIRITS

Clarance, the second-class angel struggling to earn his wings, walks into a bar and orders a flaming rum punch. As anyone who's watched *It's a Wonderful Life* knows, the strange request gets Clarence and George Bailey thrown out into the snowy streets of Bedford Falls. But all's well in the end: George discovers the true meaning of giving, Clarence earns his wings, and the viewers, aglow with emotion, wipe away tears as the credits roll.

Whether curled up on the couch watching holiday classics or basking in the heat of a crackling fire, cold-weather months call for drinks that warm from the inside out. Cupping chilled hands around a steaming mug is a universal comfort move, akin to wrapping up in a cashmere throw or sinking into a hot bath.

Here are seven classic comfort drinks, perfect for enjoying après ski or entirely in lieu of snow sports. And with short ingredient lists and simple preparation, they're as easy to whip up in your resort unit as in your own kitchen.



IRISH COFFEE

The blustery seacoast town of Foynes in County Limerick, Ireland, was once a bustling trans-Atlantic port for seaplanes known as flying boats. In 1942, the chef at the terminal's restaurant concocted this recipe. The ingredients were simple enough — but the combination created an elixir capable of breathing life into exhausted passengers.

6 ounces freshly brewed coffee
1 teaspoon brown sugar
1 1/2 ounces whiskey
Whipped cream

Pour coffee into a warmed glass. Add brown sugar and stir to dissolve. Mix in the whiskey. Add a layer of whipped cream. Serves one.

MEXICAN HOT CHOCOLATE

We're as devoted to chocolate today as the ancient Aztecs were to their bitter cacao drink, but we appreciate the addition of sugar. Mexican-style hot chocolate has a unique zip, thanks to the cinnamon. For an extra kick, add cayenne pepper or replace 1/2 cup of the milk with Kahlua or a cream liqueur.

3 ounces unsweetened chocolate, broken into pieces
1/4 cup sugar
4 cups whole milk
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla

Heat chocolate, sugar, and milk in a saucepan on medium, stirring until the chocolate melts and the milk is very hot but not boiling. Remove from heat and stir in cinnamon and vanilla. Whip to a froth with a whisk or beater or in the blender. Pour into four warmed mugs. Makes four servings.



HOT BUTTERED RUM

The cocktail is rooted in the history of the colonial Americas, where rum and its components were key imports from the Caribbean. Hot buttered rum became part of important celebrations, including Thanksgiving, among the early Americans. Connoisseurs insist that nutmeg and dark rum, with its intense molasses flavoring, are essential for the best results.

1 teaspoon brown sugar
Pinch nutmeg
1 pat room-temperature butter
(1 1/2 teaspoons)
2 to 3 ounces dark rum (to taste)
4 to 5 ounces hot water
Cinnamon stick (optional)

Cream brown sugar, nutmeg, and butter together and refrigerate until firm. Pour rum in a warmed mug and add hot water. Add butter mixture and stir — with a cinnamon stick if you like — letting the butter melt into the drink. Serves one.



HOT BULLSHOT

Cold-weather warming drinks can be on the savory side, as well. A bullshot is typically served over ice, but try this version on a bone-chilling day. This recipe can also be made with vegetarian bouillon — and if Tabasco is too hot for you, leave it out or try a milder sauce instead. You can tame it further by leaving out the vodka.

1 beef bouillon cube
6 ounces boiling water
1 dash Tabasco sauce
1 dash Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon lemon juice
1 1/2 ounces vodka
1 celery stalk

Place bouillon cube in a mug and pour over water to dissolve. Add Tabasco, Worcestershire sauce, and lemon juice and stir well. Add vodka and stir with a celery stalk. Serves one.

MULLED WINE

In German-speaking countries, it's *Glühwein*; in Scandinavian communities, it's *glogg*. Spiced wine, mulled wine, and other names identify a drink that finds its way onto the menu of many a seasonal celebration, from cozy gatherings around a fire to boisterous holiday parties. Recipes vary, but spices and red wine tend to be the common denominators.

2 oranges
1 lemon
3 cardamom pods
6 whole cloves
6 whole peppercorns
1 piece ginger, approximately 1 inch, peeled
2 cinnamon sticks
1 bottle red wine
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup brandy

Zest and juice one orange and the lemon. Slice second orange and set aside. Place zest and juice with the rest of the ingredients in a saucepan and heat over medium, stirring until the sugar is dissolved. Simmer for at least a half-hour to infuse the spices. Pour into mugs, and serve with orange slices. Yields approximately five servings.



SIMPLE MASALA CHAI

It's said that an Indian ruler developed the recipe as a healing tonic. Today, not only do Indian grandmothers still swear by masala chai, the drink's popularity has exploded, thanks to a worldwide coffee-shop chain. This recipe takes a shortcut by using garam masala, a spice blend found in most grocery spice sections — but the result is quite satisfying.

- 3/4 cup boiling water
- 1/2 teaspoon garam masala
- 1 tea bag (black)
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 to 2 teaspoons honey

Pour water into a mug. Add the spice blend, tea, and milk, then let steep for five minutes. Add honey to taste. Serves one.



HOT TODDY

The concoction most likely originated in Scotland in the 1700s, and while its origins may be obscure, the hot toddy is widely embraced as a remedy for aches and chills. Recipes vary, but whisky (that's the Scotch spelling) is most often the star ingredient. Feel free to get creative: Add a sprinkle of ginger, a tea bag of Earl Grey, or a dash of cayenne pepper.

- 1 1/2 ounces whiskey
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 6 ounces boiling water
- Lemon slice

Place whiskey, honey, and lemon juice in a mug. Top off with just-boiled water and stir until honey dissolves. Add the lemon slice. Serves one.



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BY BETSY SHELDON

Christmas Markets

Holiday Wonderlands Bear Gifts and Glad Tidings



A town square hums with bundled shoppers warding off the cold with hot, spiced wine. Twinkling light strands wrap around market stalls thick with the scents of gingerbread and roasted chestnuts. The jingle of bells punctuates the conversation of commerce as vendors sell their crafts — wooden toys, glass ornaments, and Christmas angels.

The picture evokes a Dickensian tale, a Currier & Ives print — something from a time long past. But this scene continues to play out in the modern day every holiday season in Germany, Austria, and surrounding regions shaped by Teutonic influence.

The Christmas markets of Europe, celebrated in towns large and small, hark back hundreds of years to medieval times, when

Christmas Market Cruises

A great way to take in many markets in a single trip is on a Danube River cruise, with an itinerary that showcases a variety of experiences, from Vienna's massive gathering to other venerable events in Nuremberg, Regensburg, Budapest, and smaller venues. Viking River Cruises offers a selection of trips during late November and December.

the marketplace was the center of village life. The start of Advent, the period beginning four Sundays before Christmas, kicked off what became known as the Christkindlmarkt or Weihnachtsmarkt, typically located in the town square, or in front of the cathedral.

Vienna's medieval December market, dating to the year 1294, is widely considered the forerunner of the Christmas market. Eventually, Munich, Dresden, and Frankfurt, Germany, were boasting their own events and the tradition spread to Switzerland, France, the Czech Republic, Italy, Hungary, and beyond.

Over time, certain customs developed, including music and dancing, a manger scene, and the portrayal of the Christkind, a mythical angel-like being who is the traditional gift-bringer in parts of Europe. Merchants sold holiday-related crafts including hand-made nativity figures, nutcrackers, and tree ornaments. Shivering shoppers warmed up with comestibles such as *Lebkuchen* (gingerbread), sausages, and *Glühwein* (hot mulled wine).

For the traveler, the Christmas market remains an opportunity to experience a sense of season and place — not to mention knocking out the tasks of souvenir- and gift-shopping in one fun expedition. Christmas markets offer a chance to find special mementos that will be treasured long past the expiration date of a gift card.

Here are a few of our favorite Christmas markets in Europe and closer to home.

SALZBURG, AUSTRIA (NOVEMBER 19 – DECEMBER 26, 2015):

Nestled amid the snowcapped Alps, Salzburg couldn't provide a cozier setting for its Christmas markets. The Salzburg Christkindlmarkt is the main one, spreading before the cathedral in the Old Town.

Shop for: Pewter, felt slippers, hats, mittens, and loden coats.

Added value: The streets are alive with the sound of Advent concerts. The Turmblasen brass ensemble plays on Residence Square every Saturday evening.

Website: christkindlmarkt.co.at

MUNICH, GERMANY (NOVEMBER 27 – DECEMBER 24, 2015):

The Marienplatz Christkindlmarkt is one of Europe's oldest and largest, counting 3 million visitors a year. The Manger Market, just steps away, has everything needed to create a nativity scene, from miniature to life-size.

View cruise options and book today on IntervalWorld.com. You can also call 800.622.1540 or 305.668.3496.

Shop for: Gingerbread figures in pretty wrappings, as well as not-so-pretty prune men, with heads of walnuts, bodies of figs, and limbs of dried plums.

Added value: The Krampus Run brings out individuals masked as demonic spirits who run through the crowds, causing mock mayhem.

Website: weihnachtsmarkt-marienplatz.de

BATH, ENGLAND (NOVEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 13, 2015):

This Christmas market fills the streets before Bath Abbey, showcasing locally sourced products, with most vendors based nearby.

Shop for: Door wreaths and garlands woven with lavender, gingerbread houses, snow globes, and made-in-Bath skincare products.

Added value: Warm up after shopping with a tour of the Roman Baths and a plunge into the famed thermal waters at Thermae Bath Spa.

Website: bathchristmasmarket.co.uk

DENVER, COLORADO (NOVEMBER 20 – DECEMBER 23, 2015):

The Christkindl Market offers up a taste of all things German. Traditional music and dancing liven up the downtown Skyline Mall. Garbed in gold, the Christkind, a young woman chosen for her German heritage and fair looks, mingles with the crowds.

Shop for: Authentic German goods such as beer steins, handmade lace, and illuminated paper stars.

Added value: Head over to the outdoor skating rink at Skyline Park for free ice-skating. (There's a small fee for skate rental.)

Website: denverchristkindlmarkt.com ■





AHU

THE FOUR-DAY PARADISE PLAN

BY RITA ARIYOSHI

THE HAWAIIAN ISLAND OF OAHU IS A PARADISE POWERHOUSE. It has so much action, so many attitudes, and so much solar soul in the mix that it takes a robust plan to squeeze the most juice — pineapple juice, that is — out of it.

One of America's most sophisticated cities, busy and lonely beaches alike, two entire mountain ranges, plantations, ranches, and small towns are packed into 608 square miles. The dazzling coastline, pounded by seasonally awesome surf, runs for 112 miles.

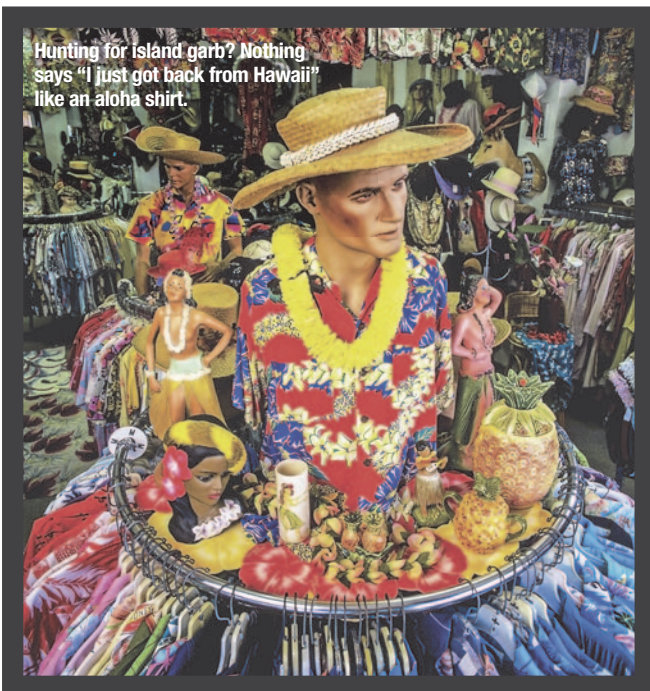
Here's a vacation blueprint, not written in stone, but sketched in sand, subject to tides, the pull of the moon, the swing of a mood.



The revered tradition of hula weaves tales through chants, drumming, and dance.



More than 900,000 people visit Diamond Head every year for sweeping views of Oahu's coastline.



DAY ONE

Make your way to breakfast at the Hau Tree Lanai. Beware: Golden hau blossoms may drop into your Kona coffee. The dawn patrol (local execs getting in their surfing before business) will be just paddling ashore, and the long curve of Waikiki will be basking in the first rays of the day.

Power up with a legendary Benedict, whether it's the classic, the crab cake Benedict, or Super Kaimana Benedict with beef filet, foie gras-infused mushroom spread, and lobster. It's okay to have a cappuccino, too. You'll work it off hiking to the 760-foot summit of nearby Diamond Head.

Bring water and allow a couple of hours for the round-trip into the crater, along a switchback trail, up a steep flight of stairs, and through a tunnel to jump-for-joy views from the Waianae Mountains in the west, to Koko Head in the east. If it's winter, there may be whales.

Afterward, explore the local neighborhood of Kapahulu, brimming with shops and restaurants. Don't miss Bailey's Antiques and Aloha Shirts, where you can choose from among 15,000-plus vintage to trending, new aloha shirts.

Hungry? Mr. Ojisan is a small, classic Japanese restaurant offering feather-light, crispy tempura and *tonkatsu* (fried pork cutlet), bespoke sushi, and *wafu* steak. If you're looking for heartier fare, try the no-frills Ono Hawaiian Foods for industrial-strength local *kaukau* (chow). Dig into the Laulau Plate for taro leaves, fish, and pork steamed in a ti-leaf bundle. Ono in Hawaiian means delicious — and it is.

Save room for dessert at Leonard's Bakery, famous for *malasadas* (Portuguese doughnuts). Have one plain, or dusted in *li hing* (ground dried plum skin) and stuffed with chocolate or *haupia* (coconut pudding).

Stagger back to Waikiki and set sail on one of the catamarans pulled up along the shore. The boat will surf the waves. Beyond the reef, the captain may let down the ladder for snorkeling. Smile — dolphins often show up.

Evening cocktails will be on the lanai of the classic Moana, the oldest hotel in Waikiki. Hawaiian music will serenade you in the place where the famed Scottish writer Robert Louis Stevenson once enchanted a young Princess Kaiulani with his tall tales.

Dinner will be right there at the hotel's elegant Beachhouse at the Moana. The specialties are Angus beef and fresh local produce. Opt for one of chef David Lukela's prix fixe menus, then kick off your shoes and stroll Waikiki Beach barefoot in the moonlight.

Glow Images/SuperStock; Richard A. Cooke/CO/age fotostock; Stock Connection/SuperStock; North Light Images/age fotostock/SuperStock



Kapahulu's Ono Hawaiian Foods maintains a loyal fan base with its no-frills traditional fare, from lomilomi salmon to kalua pork and steaming bundles of laulau.

DAY TWO

The Chinese have a saying that you gain a day of life for every new dish you try. Add a month or so by breakfasting on dim sum at Mei Sum in Honolulu's Chinatown. Steaming carts come rolling by your table loaded with bamboo baskets stuffed with dumplings. Point to what you want. Choose taro *gok*, *char siu bao* (buns filled with barbecue pork), sesame *mochi* balls, and delicate concoctions of shrimp and chives. Shrimp egg foo yung also makes a good breakfast.

You're off to a good start exploring Chinatown. Take time to smell the flowers in the lei shops along Maunakea Street, listen to the haggling over hung ducks, mangoes, and fish at the busy, aromatic Oahu Market, and light incense in the ornate Kuan Yin Temple.

Take time out at the famed Foster Botanical Garden, bordering the temple. Some of the highlights are an outdoor butterfly garden, prehistoric glen, great trees, and prom-queen orchids. It's very peaceful.

Ready for lunch? Grab a slice of New York-style pizza or a whole pie at J.J. Dolan's, an Irish pub with cold beer and creative drinks.

Next, brace yourself for a fascinating history lesson at Iolani Palace, America's only royal residence. Get there early enough for the 20-minute film about the dramatic overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy. Any true understanding of Hawaii, its culture, and the political forces shaping the islands today begins here. (Reservations are advised.) You'll be given

booties to slip over your sandals as you tiptoe through the throne room, and lavish dining room set with French china, British sterling, and Bavarian crystal. Then it's upstairs to the royal bedrooms, including the one where Hawaii's queen was imprisoned by American usurpers in 1893.

Across King Street from the palace is the bronze statue of Kamehameha The Great, the king who united all the Hawaiian islands into one nation and established constitutional law. On the other side of the palace on Beretania Street, a moat surrounds the intriguing architecture of the state capitol. It symbolizes the island state surrounded by ocean. A statue of St. Damien, the Catholic priest who ministered to the victims of Hansen's disease (leprosy) on Molokai, stands in front.

After all that sightseeing, it's time to relax. You've earned a sunset cocktail on the beachside lanai of House Without a Key. Sip an umbrella drink as the sinuous grace of a hula dancer silhouetted against a blazing sky seduces you completely. You are now officially in love with Hawaii. Most Hawaiian songs are love songs — to Hawaii.

For dinner, just stroll across the lawn to the seaside open-air restaurant, Orchids, where you can still hear that enchanting music while you savor fresh local seafood from an epicurean menu. Beyond your table, the moon splashes its silver light on the rolling surf.



Dim sum is a Chinatown must.



Constructed entirely without nails, Byodo-In Temple was established in 1968 to honor the centennial of Hawaii's first Japanese immigrants. It also garnered fame as a filming location for the television series *Lost*.

DAY THREE

It's out of Waikiki today. You'll take the long way to Laie and the Polynesian Cultural Center. Drive along Kalaniana'ole Highway to suburban Hawaii Kai. Stop at Zippy's in Koko Marina and pick up Breakfast Bento #3 to go. You'll get corned beef hash, Portuguese sausage, egg, and rice. Have them tuck in a couple of coconut napples — like apple turnovers, but coconut.

Continue east along the dramatic lava coastline, round the curve at Makapuu, peel off the road at the beach park beneath the towering mountains, and grab a picnic table. Enjoy breakfast surrounded by one of the most spectacular views in the world.

Next stop: Valley of the Temples Memorial Park, just off Kahekili Highway at Haiku Road. Take several deep breaths as you gaze upon the serene Byodo-In Temple, a faithful replica of an ancient Buddhist temple in Uji, Japan. Bong the *bon-sho*, the sacred bell, and feel blessings as the deep sound resonates against the Koolau Mountains. Strolling peacocks share the gardens, and more than 10,000 prize golden koi (carp) swim in the reflecting pond. A nine-foot golden Buddha presides over it all.

Heading toward Laie, you'll pass ancient Hawaiian fishponds, marvels of early aquaculture; banana and papaya plantations; farm stands selling ice-cold coconut juice; post-card beaches right beside the road; and the green fields of the sprawling Kualoa Ranch, which you may recognize from the



Experience the diverse cultures of the Pacific at the Polynesian Cultural Center, including the Maori of Aotearoa.

films *Jurassic Park*, *Mighty Joe Young*, and dozens of others.

Lunch is a pit stop at Giovanni's Shrimp Truck. Get messy and tear into a heap of scampi, or, if you dare, the “no-refunds hot-and-spicy shrimp.”

You'll know you've reached Laie when huge *tiki* (deity images) rise beside the road announcing the entrance to the Polynesian Cultural Center (PCC). Explore numerous islands of Oceania: Tahiti, Hawaii, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Aotearoa, the Marquesas, and Rapa Nui. Authentically recreated villages are set along waterways and amid the tropical gardens. Villages are staffed by natives of those islands who will share

their music, skills, and food. Shake your hips in Tahiti, and taste their coconut bread. Twirl *poi* balls and get a temporary Maori tattoo in Aotearoa. Pound the giant drums of Tonga. Build a fire without matches, throw some spears, glimpse the secrets of celestial navigation.

Tour Polynesia by foot or canoe. There's also an Imax theater and a wonderful marketplace featuring the weavings, shell art, bags, hats, games, and tapa cloth of the islands.

Stay for the luau, the most authentic on Oahu. Above all, don't miss the evening show, *Hā: Breath of Life*. A passionate story of love and family unfolds through drama, dance, and music of the islands in the shadow of an “erupting volcano.” The 100-strong cast has the timing, costuming, and professionalism of a Broadway production.

The only problem with the PCC is you won't want to leave.

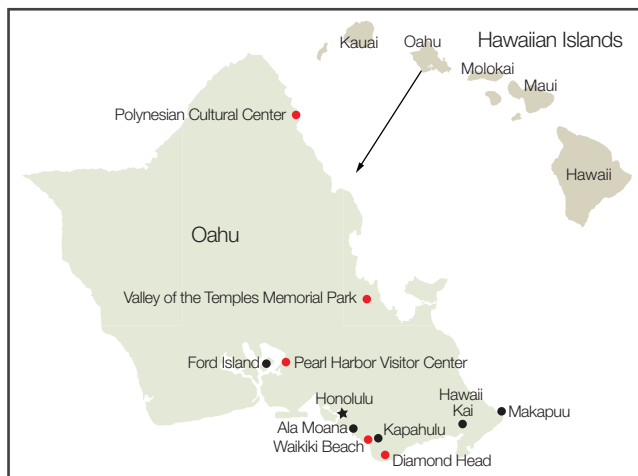
The Mighty Mo, better known as the *U.S.S. Missouri*, sailed for more than 50 years spanning World War II, the Korean War, and Operation Desert Storm. Today, visitors can explore the decommissioned battleship at Pearl Harbor.



Aloha Oahu

Make an exchange or buy a Getaway at IntervalWorld.com.
Getaways start at **\$1,287** for a studio.

Getaway price is valid December 1, 2015, through February 29, 2016.



The museum's Laniākea Café is the best bet for lunch at Pearl Harbor. Count on good salads, burgers, and ribs.

Get back to Waikiki in time for a swim. Then dress for dinner at Alan Wong's Honolulu. In an inconspicuous setting, the master chef has elevated local cuisine to international gourmet status. President and Mrs. Obama never miss a date here when they're in town. Menu offerings include macadamia-coconut crusted lamb chops with taro gratin, a wonderful array of Hawaiian seafood in delicious presentations, island salads, and, of course, fabulous desserts. How about *lilikoi* brûlée or haupia sorbet in a chocolate shell?

Toast the good American life, Hawaiian style. ■

Rita Ariyoshi is the author of *National Geographic Traveler Hawaii*. Her award-winning travel stories and fiction have appeared in a wide variety of publications. She lives on Oahu with her husband and poodle.

DAY FOUR

Treat yourself to breakfast at Longhi's Ala Moana. Choose fresh fruit smoothies, cinnamon rolls, a frittata baked in a cast iron skillet and topped with hollandaise, or Grand Marnier French toast.

Don't linger too long: Pearl Harbor is waiting and the crowds can get thick. Immediately upon arrival, sign up for the free tickets for the boat tour to the memorial. (You can also reserve tickets up to two months in advance at recreation.gov.) While waiting, you'll experience the sneak attack through actual films shot on the Day of Infamy. It's all very emotional.

Other historic sites abound. Nearby, board the *U.S.S. Bowfin* submarine and visit the adjacent museum. Take the shuttle to Ford Island, home of Battleship Row. Buildings still bear the bullet holes. The Japanese surrendered on the deck of the *U.S.S. Missouri*. You can stand there and see where the war began and ended for the U.S.

The Pacific Aviation Museum, also on Ford Island, houses an amazing collection of aircraft in its hangars. See the Douglas SBD Dauntless dive bomber that helped win the Battle of Midway and an authentic Japanese Zero, such as those that attacked Pearl Harbor. Aircraft from the Korean and Vietnam wars are also on display. Defend the skies using combat flight simulators.

fastFACTS

RESORT DIRECTORY:

IntervalWorld.com

CLIMATE: Oahu has two seasons: summer and winter. Summer temperatures average 85°F, but are cooled by gentle trade winds. The winter average is 78°F.

DON'T MISS: A stop at Matsumoto Shave Ice for a hefty orb of the beloved syrup-drenched treat.

INTERVAL TRAVEL:

IntervalWorld.com

RENTAL CAR:

Recommended

VISITOR INFORMATION:

Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau
800.464.2924

gohawaii.com



The Big

No matter where — or how — you choose to get outdoors in the Kootenay Rockies, you'll almost certainly feel on top of the world.

Chill

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S Radium Hot Springs is at the heart of the Kootenay region's winter revelry — and if it gets too cold, just take a dip in the warm mineral pools. ❄️ BY CRAI S. BOWER



The sign is easy to miss. “Kootenay National Park” it reads, about halfway between Banff and Lake Louise on Highway 1 in Banff National Park. I wonder, as I slow to turn west, how many people traveling in Canada’s oldest national park don’t give this Kootenay business a second thought. (Their first thought, if they have one, is a given: “How do you pronounce that name?”) But Kootenay (coot-knee) deserves some respect.

Just one-fifth the size of Banff, the 543-square-mile park features several canyons and valleys, innumerable spectacular vistas, and some of the West’s finest European-style mineral pools. Located on the southwestern corner of the park, the little town of Radium Hot Springs serves as an ideal base from which to explore the entire Kootenay Rockies playground, with downhill and Nordic ski areas, hundreds of miles of trails, and numerous snowy alcoves just calling for a family or romantic escape.

My trip begins in Calgary, home to the closest major airport. I’m excited to dip my toes in the steamy thermal baths, but there’s plenty of shutter-worthy scenery long before I arrive at Radium Hot Springs. In the summer, ease of access clogs parking lots and bloats the trails that surround landmarks. Not so during the cold-weather months, when often I stand alone observing nature that I’ll argue is even more beautiful in subfreezing temperatures and limited sunlight.

For example, winter remains my favorite time to contemplate waterfalls. Their song carries the melody of a Verdi opera, the high frigid tenor harmonizing against the booming bass that emanates from behind the ice-walled enclosures. And the 58-mile Highway 93 connector that runs right into Radium features two excellent examples, beginning with Marble Canyon.

This spot exhibits spectacular interplay between water and limestone, crafting sharp, protractor-precise walls and gouging several collection pools that appear chillingly inviting — even in the dead of winter. Tokumm Creek wills itself through this slot canyon, darting beneath ice floes, then abruptly dashing back into view, as if it knows full well the picture you’re about to take is destined to be your next screensaver.

Numa Falls is also right off Highway 93, channeling the Vermilion River through a narrow passage of its own carving. More spillway than cascade, sheets of ice, two feet thick in places, bracket the river as it narrows to 15 feet in width. Icicles hang below angled

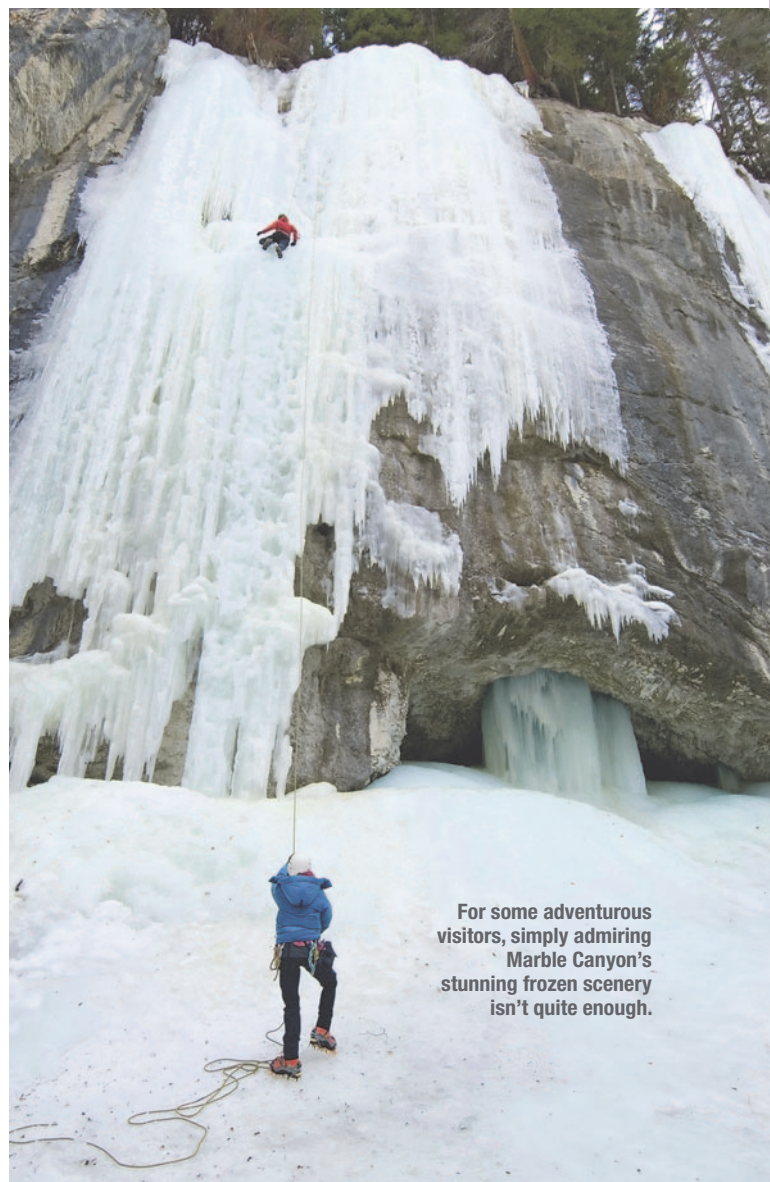
slabs of the sedimentary rock — until the river’s constant forward motion knocks them loose from their moorings.

Warm Up

While gazing down upon the frozen Kootenay River Valley, I decide I’m more than ready for a soak in the famous hot springs. Encompassed by snow-blanketed rock walls, the expansive pools provide a perfect antidote to the three-hour drive from Calgary that was punctuated with short, chilly hikes and the occasional frigid cascade spray.

Radium Hot Springs’ two pools, naturally mineral rich and typically maintained at about 84 and 103 degrees, have soothed the bones and, I assume, calmed the thoughts of no less a world figure than Winston Churchill, who relaxed here for a week in 1929. Although he was rumored to prefer his baths in a champagne-filled tub, I’m confident he enjoyed these percolating steam bubbles, too.

Once warmed up, not to mention fully unwound, I turned my



For some adventurous visitors, simply admiring Marble Canyon’s stunning frozen scenery isn’t quite enough.



Fernie Alpine Resort has epic bowls and glades aplenty, not to mention a happening après scene.

attention to why I love winter in this region: the myriad outdoor recreation. Fittingly, Radium Hot Springs is a convenient waypoint along British Columbia's mythical Powder Highway, a route that connects eight distinct ski resorts known for diverse terrain and some of North America's best snow conditions. While I've tackled — some would argue insanely — all eight in a single feast, biting off half proves a much more palatable trip, so the next morning I turned south and headed toward Panorama, one of the Highway's diamonds in the snow bank.

For some reason, Panorama remains in the shadows of B.C.'s alpine culture even though the 4,019-foot vertical drop and 2,847 skiable acres are far from bunny hill-type statistics. Perhaps it's because steep and deep is what establishes big mountain bragging rights, and Panorama is a self-proclaimed intermediate hill, happily catering to anybody and everybody who wants to buckle in to a pair of skis or strap on a snowboard — including advanced riders who can enjoy the 25 percent of runs that do require expertise.

To me, Panorama's inclusion is the perfect reason to come, especially when traveling with multigenerational or mixed-ability groups. Panorama understands not everyone wants to catch first chair and ski through lunch, as evidenced by the panoply of snow-play options at the resort. Snowshoeing and cruising around on a fat-tired mountain bike are low-key possibilities, and Nordic skiers will find more than 12 miles of groomed trails here.

Panorama's aptly named Summit Hut adds even more luster to the winter snow globe. It's perched nearly 9,000 feet high and offers fondue dinners followed by a headlamp-illuminated group ski back down to the village. My partner wasn't crazy about the thought of carving post-dinner night turns all the way from the top, so we agreed to après at Elkhorn Cabin, a traditional log structure

located mid-mountain. Make reservations and order the raclette, an authentic Swiss meat, cheese, and veggie dinner you prepare to your exact specifications on a personal grill.

Peak to Peak

Some of the Powder Highway's ski areas are located a few hours from Radium Hot Springs, but it takes barely 30 minutes to get to the Fairmont Hot Springs ski resort, certainly the area's quaintest. Bring a beginner to this petite hill for a few days and he or she will build the confidence necessary to swoosh down the region's bigger

fastFACTS

RESORT DIRECTORY:

IntervalWorld.com

CLIMATE:

Average high temperatures from December through February range from the low 20s to 30°F in Radium Hot Springs. It can be much cooler up on the ski mountains, though, so be sure to pack plenty of warm gear.

DON'T MISS: The Olde Tyme Candy Shoppe, where you can stock up on your favorite vacation sweets —

pack some away for when you get back home!

CURRENCY: Canadian dollar

SALES TAX: 12%

TIPPING: 15% to 20% is standard at restaurants and bars.

INTERVAL TRAVEL:

IntervalWorld.com

RENTAL CAR:

Recommended

VISITOR INFORMATION:

Tourism Radium Hot Springs Association
250.347.9331

radiumhotsprings.com

Ski Sojourn

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Getaways start at **\$489** for a one-bedroom unit.

The Getaway price is valid December 1, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

slopes. The alpine ambiance permeates Fairmont, whether guests choose to spa the day away in the natural hot pools, explore the local scenery (namely the magical hoodoo rock formations), or take a guided snowshoe tour.

Transitioning from Fairmont's gentle rollers to Kimberley Alpine Resort's intermediate runs is a natural progression, and for riders who'd like an even bigger shift, Kimberley has glades and plenty of steeps back in the Black Forest. This also is a great place for Nordic skiers, with one of the largest trail systems in the region. (Bonus: The cross-country tracks are lighted and available for night skiing.)

I even managed to save a little energy for a few turns around Kimberley's outdoor ice rink. After all, ice-skating is a requisite undertaking for any winter visit to Canada. My plan was to make a few leisurely laps and then retire for the evening. But a fun-loving group of folks caught my attention. I've skated my entire life, but I had never curled. And it didn't take long for my curiosity to get the better of me.

Curling may look a little zany, sweeping the ice to alter the direction and pace of a large granite stone. Turns out, it's a lot harder than it looks. Take it from me, though, trying to place the "rock" from hack (starting block) to house (target area) also proves a blast.

Panorama's Elkhorn Cabin holds nothing on Kimberley's Old Bauernhaus, a 350-year-old log home that was imported

stick by stick from Germany.

The restaurant, located a few minutes from the ski resort, features a menu

rich in schnitzel and spätzle, pilsners and schnapps. I dove right in to their Bavarian Feast, beginning with baked Brie and crowned with a pair of schnitzels among other traditional fare.

Head of the Class

The skier's crescendo reaches its perfect pitch just a bit more than two hours south of Radium Hot Springs at Fernie Alpine Resort, a 2,500-plus-acre area that holds its own among the premier ski hills in western North America. Simply put, you haven't skied in western Canada until you've notched Fernie in your belt.

And when you do, you'll most likely discover some of the finest powder pockets around. Though it hadn't snowed for three days, we found plenty of still-fresh stashes, especially when we dropped into Currie Bowl. Back at the Griz Bar, the base saloon named after the mythical local character who, according to legend, is to thank



Wrap up a day on the slopes at Kimberley Alpine Resort with a toast to Old Man Winter. FACING PAGE: Winter is a great time to spot wildlife in the Canadian Rockies — maybe even an elusive lynx.





for all that great snow, we debated glades versus bowls, both in abundant supply here, while the band picked its way through a Charlie Daniels tune.

Like listening to "The Devil Went Down to Georgia," skiing never gets old, but I curled in Kimberley, so why not try something else in Fernie? My thought was a half-day of ice fishing, but we ended up getting sidetracked (literally).

Most Rocky Mountain wildlife viewing happens during calving season and the long days of summer, but we learned that winter's an ideal time to see elk, big horn sheep, and even wolves and lynx as they travel through the valley. And really, how better to round out a trip to this habitat than to track bobcat paw prints in the snow?

Thoroughly wintered up, I packed my gear, grabbed tea and a croissant at the Loaf Bakery & Restaurant, and then steered back toward Radium. I used to think of ski trips as exactly that, *ski* trips, but now I consider a sojourn to these alpine resorts an opportunity to celebrate all of winter's charm, whether I'm slicing through the trees, strapping into a pair of snowshoes, or preparing another delightful serving of bubbling raclette cheese. ■

Travel writer and photographer Crai S. Bower contributes to more than 25 print and online publications. He also appears as a travel commentator for American Forces Radio and Travel With Rick Steves.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG AND BUSCH GARDENS

Encircled by cerulean sea, this culture-rich Dutch Caribbean isle is unlike any other.

BY CELESTE MOURE



Blue Curaçao

It's another clear, warm night in Willemstad, Curaçao, and I'm sitting with new friends on the outdoor patio of a trendy little restaurant. We've tasted local dishes — each one better than the last — that blend cooking traditions and spices from numerous parts of the world, including the Netherlands and Africa.

The local Creole language, called Papiamentu, also borrows from those countries and, for good measure, sprinkles Spanish, French, Portuguese, and English words. Around us, Dutch colonial-style buildings painted in shades of emerald, pink, turquoise, and purple rise from the ground like giant cupcakes. The cool jazz sounds from a nearby bar and the scent of the sea waft up from the street below. Curaçao, as I've discovered during my visit, is a Technicolor island that seduces all the senses.

Part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the C in the ABC islands chain, 171-square-mile Curaçao (pronounced Kur-uh-sew) and its sister islands, Aruba and Bonaire, sit just atop the Venezuelan coast. Yet the most common response from people I mention my trip to this island country is: "Cure a what?" It may only be a three-hour flight from Miami, but Curaçao looks, tastes, and feels like no other Caribbean island I've been to.

Take, for example, a plate of *keshi yená*. The traditional dish's origins are steeped in Curaçao's slavery past, when kitchen workers would stuff scooped-out Gouda cheese rinds with spices and bits of leftover meats and scraps, then steam it until it was soft again. The chef at Mundo Bizarro bakes the dish with chicken, juicy raisins, peppers, capers, and a dash of hot pepper. Goopy and fiery, it's the proverbial party in your mouth. We eat, then we eat some more, and after dessert, we head over to a nearby bar, Miles Jazz Café, to drink sweet cocktails made with Blue Curaçao, a locally made liqueur flavored with the dried peel of a citrus fruit called *laraha*.

Hanchi Kontentu
Cleto Mercilino
Clarinda
2 Juli 2013

Glori
Ha
30



Celeste Moure

a Thielen Biegel
Madrina di
nchi Kontentu
2 Juli 2014
aña di Bandera

Brewed in neighboring
Venezuela, Polar Beer
is the drink of choice
for many Curaçaoans.



Having experienced some of the island's history on a plate, the next day I venture to the Museum Kurá Hulanda to learn about Curaçao's diverse roots and colorful past. The museum is set within an eight-block historic district in downtown Willemstad, in which lodging, restaurants, bars, and gardens share space with restored Dutch colonial buildings. Walking along the meandering cobblestone lanes that open to courtyards, complete with bubbling fountains and outdoor cafes, I forget for a second that I'm in the Caribbean and not in some tiny village in the Netherlands. After a latte and a croissant, I head inside the anthropological museum, where a handful of somber exhibits feature artifacts and chronicles of the African slave trade. Elsewhere, there are fine examples of Mesopotamian relics, pre-Columbian gold, and Antillean art. When I step outside again, the midday sun is blinding and the rays are beating harshly on my back. So I do the only logical thing: Hit the beach. The island claims to have 38 beaches, and I start with one of its most popular.

Mambo Beach is the kind of sandy spot you go to when you want to sunbathe in style. All along the powder-soft sand are lounge beds and even a swimming pool. A few steps back from the cerulean sea is an open-air shopping mall where boutiques feature chic fashions, beachwear, and accessories by both Caribbean and international designers. Between the shopping, the food, and the dancing on the beach to the Latin rhythms of a local band, it's well past midnight before I realize it.

In the morning, I wake up more sunburned than expected and decide to skip the beach. As it turns out, there are plenty of options for those seeking something a little different. Riding ostriches at a farm? Check. Photographing flamingos? Check. Wine tasting? Check. About 30 minutes northwest of Willemstad is an area called Jan Kok, where the shallow salty waters of a lagoon attract hundreds of flamingos that come here to feed on brine shrimp and algae. Viewing these long-legged ballerinas en masse is a beautiful sight, but without a telephoto lens, snapping a picture turns out to be challenging — the shy pink birds wander farther into the salt pan the closer I inch toward them. I give up and get back in the car for the 20-minute ride to Shete Boka National Park, a wave-

exposed coastline that sits at the bottom of Curaçao's highest peak, Christoffelberg.

Though the name of the park translates to Seven Bays, there are apparently 10 of them and four that can be easily hiked. I park at the gate and walk the dirt road to the top of limestone bluffs, which have been carved over the centuries by the pounding force of huge waves. The contrast between the dark blue sea, the blackened limestone, and the white, crashing waves is spectacular. This, I think again, is unlike anything else I've experienced in the Caribbean. Staring at the sea makes me thirsty, so on the drive back to the city center I stop at a *batido* stand.

Batidos are the island's version of a smoothie, and the perfect beverage on hot days. (Is there any other type in Curaçao?) The woman behind the counter blends mine with coconut milk, guava, passion fruit, and a bunch of other exotic fruits I've never tasted before. I pair my batido with a *pastechi*, a popular fried street food stuffed with cheese, ham, or chicken. It reminds me of an empanada.

Later I stop at Curaçao Winery, the first vineyard on the island. One of the owners, Hermien Visscher, leads me inside the winery's pretty mustard-colored house, past a sitting room and tasting area to the back, where her family has more than 2,000 plants growing on two acres of land. The Visscher family comes from a strong winemaking tradition in the Netherlands, and they've hired German winemaker Lukas Pospiszyl, who is optimistic about the project.

"We've consulted with experts from South America and Europe," says Pospiszyl. "We've done the research, and the conclusion is that the soil on Curaçao is very fertile and suitable for growing crops." They've planted a number of varietals, including sauvignon blanc, cabernet, and tempranillo. "It's a gamble, of course," says Pospiszyl. "We just planted everything to see what would grow. So far it looks like tempranillo is doing quite well." They're hoping to start harvesting later this year. Until then, visitors like me can taste some whites and reds from the family's Netherlands vineyard.

That night for dinner I head to Shore, arguably the best restaurant on the island. Standing in the kitchen, I spot chef Heinrich Hortencia,



Hein van den Heuvel/Corbis/Glow Images



ABOVE: From submerged wrecks to fish-filled reefs, Curaçao is home to plenty of prime snorkeling and scuba spots. **BELOW, FROM LEFT:** Colorful block-lettered art welcomes visitors to Curaçao's capital. You'll know you've reached Willemstad, a UNESCO World Heritage site, when you lay eyes on its iconic multicolored Dutch colonial architecture. "Dushi" is a common Papiamentu term, a positive catchall phrase for anything (or anyone) sweet and good.



Caribbean Immersion

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Getaways start at **\$986** for a studio.

The Getaway price is valid December 1, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

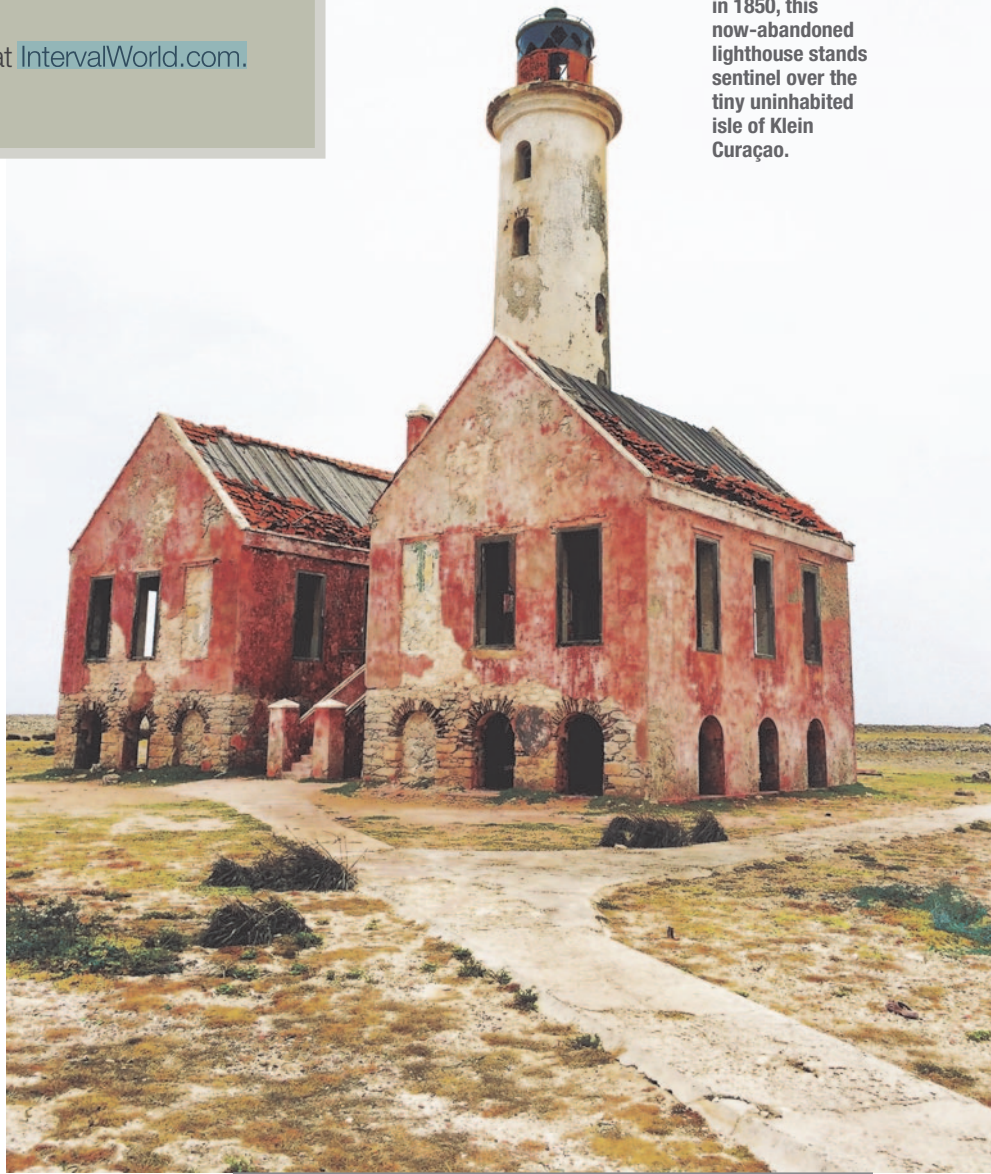


who reinterprets traditional dishes using fresh island ingredients and international cooking techniques he acquired at kitchens across Europe, including the Michelin-starred restaurant La Provence in Driebergen-Rijsenburg, Netherlands. The grilled mahimahi I order comes on a bed of pumpkin puree with beetroot, potato confit, and a balsamic foam. It's delicate, flaky, and perfectly seasoned. For dessert, I treat myself to the piña colada cheesecake with pineapple chutney.

I spend my last day sailing on the *Jonalisa*, a catamaran run by Bounty Adventures that offers day-trips to Klein Curaçao. It takes almost two hours to reach the tiny uninhabited island — but it's worth it. We spend a lazy day on a gorgeous beach from which we snorkel past sea turtles and colorful fish. After a barbecue lunch on the catamaran, I swim back to the beach and claim one of the dozen or so open-air thatched huts for a well-deserved nap in the shade. Later, I walk to the windward side, past an abandoned lighthouse just begging to be photographed, where rusty, ancient vessels have turned the beach into a boat graveyard. The site is at once haunting and beautiful.

Back on the main island, my visit ends much like it started, dining on a rich and spicy beef *stobá* (stew) and trying to keep up with my polyglot friends, who switch between languages as fast as they drink potent concoctions in cheerful colors. Tanned bodies on the dance floor sway to the rhythm of salsa and merengue, and I hear someone at the bar ordering another Blue Curaçao martini. I get one, too. ■

Originally from Buenos Aires, Celeste Moure has written for *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Travel + Leisure*, *National Geographic Traveler*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and various other publications. She currently lives in Vancouver, British Columbia. Follow her adventures on Instagram and Twitter @ontippytoes.



First constructed in 1850, this now-abandoned lighthouse stands sentinel over the tiny uninhabited isle of Klein Curaçao.

fastFACTS

RESORT DIRECTORY:

IntervalWorld.com

CLIMATE:

Curaçao has warm, sunny weather year-round and average

temperatures in the mid-80s.

Short and sudden showers

occur during the rainy season,

October to February.

DON'T MISS:

The Queen Emma after dark. Take a stroll

across this floating wooden

pontoon bridge, aglow with

festive lights at night, and

watch as it swings open to let

ships sail through.

CURRENCY:

Netherlands

Antillean guilder. U.S. dollars

are widely accepted.

SALES TAX:

6% to 9%

TIPPING:

Most restaurants

include tip in the final bill. Add

an extra 5% to 10% for

exceptional service.

INTERVAL TRAVEL:

IntervalWorld.com

RENTAL CAR:

The best way

to get around the island is with

a rental car. Taxis are quite

expensive, and rides are on a

flat-rate basis.

VISITOR INFORMATION:

Curaçao Tourist Board

+5999.434.8200

curacao.com



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Winter's Bounty

DON'T LET THE IDYLIC
SNOWY SETTING FOOL YOU:

**NEW ENGLAND'S
BERKSHIRE MOUNTAINS**

ARE CHOCK-FULL OF
ENTICEMENTS FOR EVERY
INTEREST.

BY BARBARA RADCLIFFE ROGERS

It's the picture-perfect ideal of American wintertime.

Leafless trees stretch across a light sky as mountains loom above. A dusting of snow frosts the streets, cars, and rooftops of classic New England structures, their windows warmly aglow from the lights within. No one captures classic Americana quite like Norman Rockwell, and it doesn't get much more charming than his painting of the Berkshires in winter, *Stockbridge Main Street at Christmas* — so much so, the town reenacts the scene each December.

When snow blankets the Berkshires, these mountains and towns in western Massachusetts retain the same cozy, beloved appeal — but there's so much more to do than huddle indoors. The hills are as alive in winter as they are in summer, and whether you love snow sports, edgy art, history, Bach, Shakespeare, haute cuisine, or a classic diner breakfast, you'll find that winter in the Berkshires has it all.

FACING PAGE: It may be best known as a summer destination, but winter in the Berkshires is a whole other level of beautiful. **BOTTOM:** Zipping across the snow in tandem is the perfect way to bring the whole family together — nonskiers included — for some exhilarating outdoor fun.





Whether in town or on a quiet country road, you won't have to look far for New England architecture framed by natural beauty.

Play Outdoors

With five downhill ski mountains, three tubing parks, and miles of cross-country and snowshoe trails, there are plenty of places to play in the snow. Ski the region's longest run on **Catamount's** 2.5-mile route; 40 percent of Catamount's terrain is for beginners, but its Catapult trail is the steepest in the Berkshires. Seeking a range of trails? **Jiminy Peak** has 45, which include beginner terrain, challenging expert trails, and three terrain parks; or **Butternut** — its entire 110 acres of trails are covered with state-of-the-art snow-making. For after-dark skiing, opt for **Berkshire East**.

The best ski areas for kids include **Bosquet**, offering all-day ski and snowboard programs for children that include lunch, a lesson, and a lift ticket; and **Notchview** in Windsor, where young skiers have the Kinderloop to themselves. Experienced skiers can explore Notchview's backcountry terrain for spectacular views.

Prefer to zip across the snow *sans* skis? Butternut, Berkshire East, and Bosquet also have tubing parks.

For snowshoeing (and cross-country skiing), head to the 316-acre **Field Farm** in Williamstown, which offers one of the best views of Mount Greylock from its flat, gentle terrain. While you're there, admire snow-covered art in the sculpture garden, and tour the youngest house museum in New England, a landmark of modernist architecture. And if you're up bright and early, **Canterbury Farm** in Becket offers Sunday morning nature tours on snowshoes or skis to habitats of beaver, otter, moose, bear, and small

mammals, along with ski trails and a skating rink.

There are plenty of other places to ice-skate, too: Monterey, Dalton, and several other towns offer public outdoor rinks.

Admire Art

World-famous Tanglewood puts the Berkshires on the summer arts map, but winter visitors still find plenty of culture. Williamstown is home to the outstanding **Clark Art Institute**, best known for impressionists and post-impressionists, with more than 30 Renoir paintings and multiple works by Manet, Monet, and Degas. Other highlights include premier Winslow Homer paintings and works by Goya and Tiepolo. The museum's Café Seven is a good lunch stop.

Also in Williamstown, the nearby **Williams College Museum of Art** is a cultural powerhouse, with excellent Egyptian, Greco-Roman, and pre-Columbian art, as well as monumental stone reliefs from the Palace of Ashurnasirpal II.

For modern-day marvels, visit the **Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art** (Mass MoCA), a rambling series of galleries that fill a former North Adams textile mill with installations and exhibits that explore vision and sound, challenging everything you thought you knew about art. A child-focused gallery, Kidspace, engages young viewers with curated works and a hands-on studio. Check the museum's events calendar before your visit: Mass



Opened in 1999, Mass MoCA's expansive setting in a former factory is the ideal canvas for large-scale paintings and installations.



LEFT: The Norman Rockwell Museum houses more than 570 of the artist's works and his original Stockbridge studio, furnished much as he left it with an easel, art supplies, and books.

MoCA's robust offerings include live concerts, dance performances, film screenings, and kids' programs.

And of course, any Berkshires arts roundup would be incomplete without mention of America's favorite midcentury illustrator, Norman Rockwell. The artist lived and worked in Stockbridge, and the **Norman Rockwell Museum** exhibits the world's largest collection of his originals, including covers for *The Saturday Evening Post* and his iconic *Four Freedoms*. While there, you might even meet local people who were his models.

Take in a Show

You might find anything from a magic show to a samba party at the **Spectrum Playhouse** in Lee, and an equally varied schedule

at **The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center** in Great Barrington. This year-round venue presents frequent live music, theater, and dance, along with family programs, film screenings, and *The Met: Live in HD*. It also often hosts local groups, including the Berkshire Bach Society, whose winter performances might include large choral works with full orchestra, and Close Encounters with Music, which presents world-class musicians and chamber music.

For theater performances, there are **Shakespeare & Company's** shows in Lenox, and opera, cabaret, and other often-edgy performances at the **Whitney Center for the Arts**, housed in a historic mansion in Pittsfield.

And if you're in town February 12 to 22, Pittsfield's 10x10 Upstreet Arts Festival includes an impressive lineup of performing-arts events. Previous years' fests have included 10-minute plays, comedy acts, and concerts.

Explore the Past

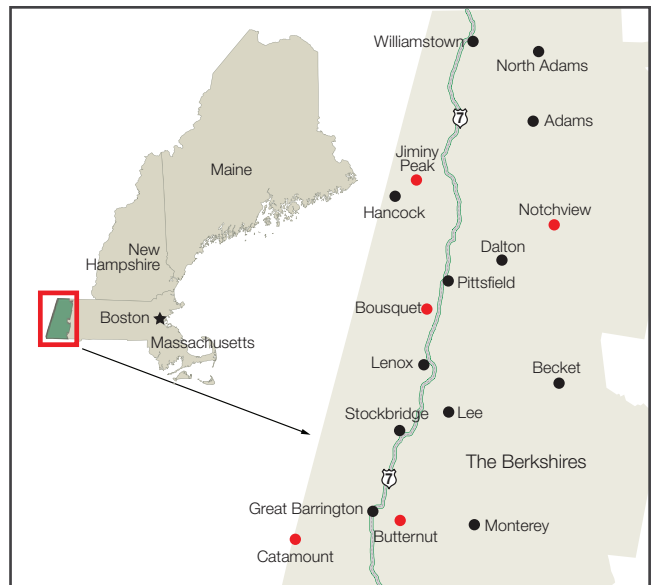
Step back into the fabled Gilded Age at **Ventfort Hall**, a mansion built in 1893 for the sister of financier J.P. Morgan. Ventfort Hall was among approximately 75 late-19th-century "cottages" built in Lenox when the town was a favorite of the ultrawealthy. As you tour the soaring Great Hall and the elegant salon, dining room,



Each year, maple trees across New England are tapped through their bark into buckets to yield maple sap, which is boiled down into thick, sweet maple syrup. It takes about 40 gallons of sap to produce a gallon of syrup.

library, billiard room, and even a bowling alley, the house and its contents illuminate the extravagant lifestyles of privileged Berkshires society in that opulent era.

A far simpler way of life is revealed at the **Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum** in Adams, home of the pioneering feminist and abolitionist who is credited with the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, even though it was passed years after her death. Susan's father ran a small rural store out of the Anthony family home, recreated to its 1817 appearance. Museum displays



highlight family and regional influences on her life and work.

To explore two centuries of local industry and try your hand at making paper, pay a visit to the free **Crane Museum of Papermaking** in Dalton, housed in an 1844 stone mill. The low-key museum fascinates kids as much as adults with its hands-on exhibits and facts about the history of America's oldest paper company, Crane's fine cotton stationery, and money.

Feel Good

If your idea of a vacation is to just kick back and be pampered, the Berkshires is the place to do it. Treat yourself to a day at the hilltop **Cranwell Resort** in Lenox, home to one of the largest spas in the northeast. Choose from a la carte treatments or six spa-day package options such as The Revitalizer, which combines a Swedish massage, luxurious facial, pedicure, and a cafe lunch with full use of all the spa's facilities. And at **Body & Soul Day Spa** in Great Barrington, you can indulge with a warm herbal neck pillow followed by a massage, or make a day of it with The Great Escape package: massage, facial, body polish, manicure, pedicure, and spa lunch.

fastFACTS

RESORT DIRECTORY:

IntervalWorld.com

CLIMATE: Daytime average temperatures are 31°F in December, 27°F in January, and 30°F in February.

DON'T MISS: The Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield. Everyone loves the moving toys, early works of mobile artist Alexander Calder, who

employed wheels, levers, and cranks to make whimsical animals waddle and bounce as they are pulled.

INTERVAL TRAVEL:

IntervalWorld.com

RENTAL CAR:

Recommended

VISITOR INFORMATION:

The Berkshire Visitors Bureau
413.743.4500

berkshires.org

Go Farm-Hopping

The Berkshires' long agricultural heritage spills over into today's farm-to-table mindset, as many area chefs craft their signature dishes using local products. You can visit some of the farms even in winter, sampling their treats and buying some to take home, with Berkshire Farm & Table maps (berkshirefarmandtable.org/taste-trails). Three taste trails (cheese, charcuterie, and beer and cider) point the way to area cheese farms, breweries, and other producers. In Williamstown, for example, you can visit **Cricket Creek Farm** to see the cows, pigs, and hens, and choose from several cow's-milk cheeses. In Monterey, family-run **Rawson Brook Farm** welcomes you to read informational signs, watch at milking time, and try Monterey Chevre. Nearby, **Gould Farm** sells its cheddar and fresh-baked breads, along with granola and jams. Beer enthusiasts can learn about brewing and sample the products at **Wandering Star's** micro-brewery in Pittsfield or **Big Elm Brewing** in Sheffield, both open on Saturdays.

And if you're visiting in mid-February through early April (dates vary based on temperatures), you're in luck. It's maple-sugaring season in the Berkshires, and you can watch the whole process from tree to syrup at **Ioka Valley Farm** in Hancock. While the sap boils, taste syrup on hot blueberry pancakes, waffles, or French toast in the cafe.

New England Escape

Make an exchange or buy a Getaway at IntervalWorld.com.
Getaways start at **\$367** for a one-bedroom unit.

Getaway price is valid December 1, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

Eat Local

It's easy to find restaurants whose chefs are passionate locavores, and you'll often see sources listed on the menu. Two such establishments are **John Andrews** in South Egremont and **Allium** in Great Barrington, both serving New American cuisine. **Mezze Bistro + Bar** in Williamstown makes everything from scratch, including bacon and sausage from meats sourced at local farms. And the chef at **Nudel Restaurant** in Lenox makes his own ricotta with milk from High Lawn Farm in Lee.

Whatever you choose, you won't want to miss an old-fashioned New England diner breakfast, and the place to go is **Joe's Diner** in Lee. It was a local favorite even before Norman Rockwell made it famous as the setting for *The Runaway*. You'll recognize the same counter and feel as if you've stepped right into a Rockwell illustration. ■

Barbara Radcliffe Rogers is the author of several books about New England, and is a regular contributor to *Global Traveler*, *Destinations*, and a number of websites. When she's not traveling, she's likely to be skiing or kayaking in the White Mountains or the Berkshires.

Beantown Bound

It would be a shame to be two hours from Boston and not spend at least a day enjoying its historic attractions or visiting its museums. Walk the Freedom Trail to follow the events and personalities of the American Revolution. It's also a good way to see Boston's highlights, including the shops and pushcarts of Faneuil Hall Marketplace (right) and the colorful Italian neighborhood in the North End, where you'll find The Paul Revere House and restaurants for all budgets. Traveling with kids? Take them to the New England Aquarium and Museum of Science, and to see the mummies at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.





PASTORAL

Considered one of the U.K.'s best-kept secrets, Mid Wales is a land of incredible rural beauty and hundreds upon hundreds of years of storied history.

Rolling hills and verdant swathes as far as the eye can see are hallmarks of the Mid Wales landscape.



PERFECTION

Its stunning landscapes are the stuff of dreams, a fairy-tale backdrop for a rich tradition of folklore. Dramatic coastline, windswept beaches, rugged mountain peaks, and vast green plains are sparsely populated with picturesque small towns, each bearing a personality all its own. If venturing off the beaten tourist path appeals to you, you'll find that an exploration of Mid Wales yields many rewards, from seclusion and a slowed-down pace to friendly locals — and arguably the most authentically Welsh experience around. Read on for 10 reasons to visit, and one travel writer's journey to the heart of a fabled Welsh tale.



This bronze monument depicts national hero Owain Glyndwr at the turn of the 15th century.

LAND OF LEGENDS

By David Atkinson

In Wales, people talk of a legendary man in reverential tones. He was a folk hero, military tactician, and the last native Welshman to hold the title Prince of Wales. To many outside Welsh borders, the name Owain Glyndwr is unfamiliar. But within those boundaries, he is a source of national pride, even a figure of popular culture.

Glyndwr's story centers around the Mid Wales town of Machynlleth. This year marks the 600th anniversary of the local hero's death, and I've come here to discover Glyndwr's cultural legacy, as well as the town's vibrant community of artists, writers, and thinkers, and the area's outstanding natural beauty.

Where the Story Begins

I start out at Machynlleth's historic heart, the Owain Glyndwr Centre. The museum was established at the site where, at the turn of the 15th century, Glyndwr was proclaimed Prince of Wales and instigated the Welsh revolt against Henry IV of England. He held the crown only briefly; he was ultimately defeated.

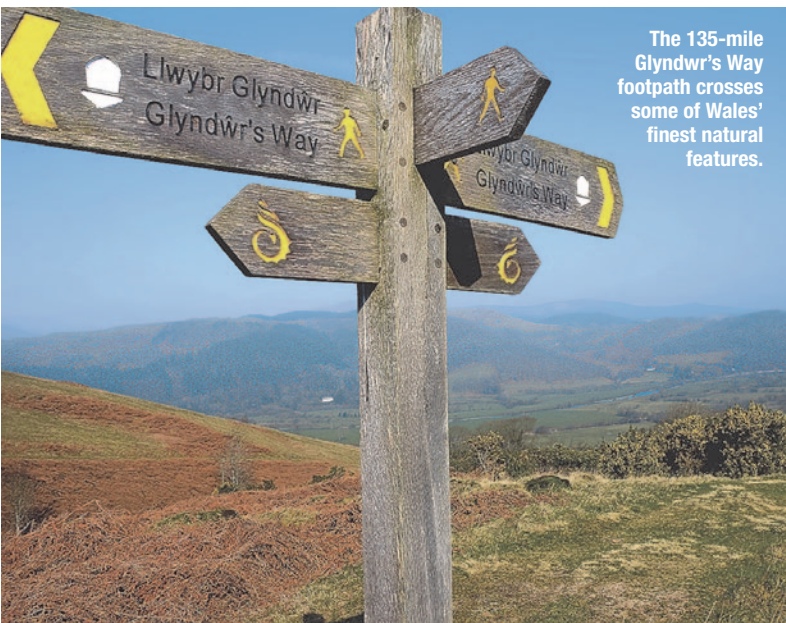
"There are few surviving clues [as to] Glyndwr's movements, but he remains an icon to the Welsh people,"

10 REASONS to Visit Mid Wales



1 Explore centuries-old castles. Among Mid Wales' most noteworthy are Powis Castle, a onetime medieval fortress that overlooks famed garden terraces; and Harlech Castle (shown at left), constructed by Edward I in the late 13th century.

2 Ride the rails. What better way to view Mid Wales' stunning scenery than by train? Rheilffordd Talylyn Railway charts the Snowdonia countryside behind historic steam locomotives, and the Vale of Rheidol Railway takes passengers from the coast of Aberystwyth to the natural wonders of Devil's Bridge.



The 135-mile Glyndwr's Way footpath crosses some of Wales' finest natural features.

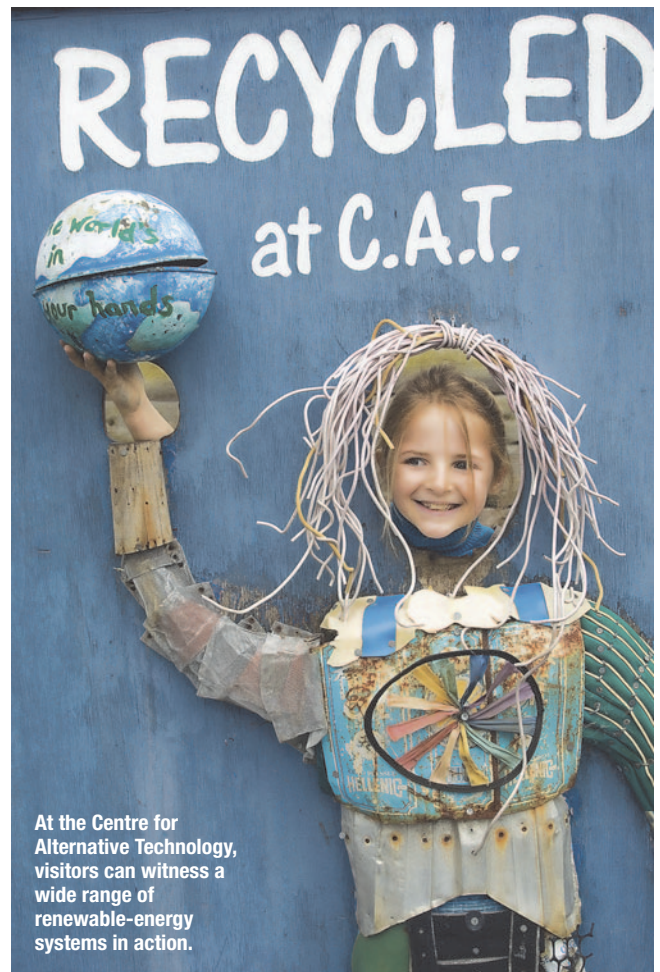
explains Allan Wynne Jones of the center's management committee while showing me around the displays. "His passion for Welsh language and culture kept the flame of independence alive."

The center follows the iconic figure's rip-roaring struggle for independence with timelines, interactive exhibits, history-rich displays, and theatrical video reenactments.

Follow the Trail

Glyndwr's Way is a National Trail noted for its wandering through spectacular moorland, forests, and farms. As part of the anniversary preparations, the 135-mile walking route has enjoyed a revamp with new signage. It traverses landscape where Glyndwr fought several major battles and connects landmarks associated with his myth-shrouded story. It carves a picturesque loop through the undulating countryside, tracing a path from Knighton on the Welsh/English border across the gentle hills around Machynlleth to Welshpool.

Over the next few days, I'll be trekking parts of the trail. It's divided into sections and can be accessed at various points. Today I pick up the route outside Machynlleth and follow a portion that traverses miles of scenic woodland. Canary-yellow daffodils dot the trail, and flowering tufts of bracken line the path as I finally descend a set of old Roman steps late morning to stroll into town along the main thoroughfare, Maengwyn Street.



At the Centre for Alternative Technology, visitors can witness a wide range of renewable-energy systems in action.

Green Living

Six hundred years after Glyndwr's struggle against the status quo, the town of Machynlleth is still forward-thinking. Since the 1960s, it has been a haven for hippies, artists, and fans of healthy, sustainable living. It's also home to the Centre for Alternative Technology, a 40-acre woodland site that has been raising awareness of green issues since 1974. Interactive displays cover topics such as organics and recycling. The center offers a burgeoning range of short courses open to the public, which are held at the Wales Institute for Sustainable Education, a learning space that exemplifies green architecture. Among many others, courses in earth-oven building, horse logging, and sustainable woodland management are popular.

3 Peruse all manner of museums. MOMA Wales showcases modern works by Welsh artists, the Clive Museum overflows with more than 300 extravagant items procured in India and the Far East, and the National Cycle Collection features an array of vintage bicycles.

4 Dine at a Michelin-starred restaurant. In Montgomery, The Checkers serves local ales and French cuisine in a former coaching inn, and near Machynlleth, Ynyshir Hall, set in a Georgian mansion, shapes its fine-dining menu around Welsh lamb, foraged mushrooms, and other local ingredients.

5 Learn how the Welsh make their whiskey. Though not technically in Mid Wales, for liquor aficionados, the Penderyn Distillery is worth the day-trip. Tour the distillery, take a master class, or simply sample its five fine whiskeys.





Known as the ancient capital of Wales, the historic market town of Machynlleth has developed a modern-day reputation as a bohemian haven.

Works by local and international artists decorate the shore along the Lake Vyrnwy Sculpture Trail.



Love Is in the Air

After a vegetarian lunch in the on-site cafe, I drive on to the Dyfi Osprey Project, located along the road from Machynlleth to Aberystwyth on the coast. The project has become a hive of romantic drama in recent years, with one of just three breeding pairs of ospreys in Wales making their home in the Dyfi Valley. Ospreys became extinct in the U.K. in 1916, but returned to Mid Wales in 2008. Two baby ospreys hatched here in 2011; the first to do so in this valley in more than 400 years.

Watching the action relayed from high-definition nest cameras, I learn that the leading man in this blockbuster action movie is Monty, who now spends his winters in West Africa, but returns each spring to his Mid Wales home. After this surprisingly interesting visit, I just may follow the annual avian drama of mating, hatching, and fledging a little more closely. (Local media and the BBC cover the ongoing story, and the Dyfi Osprey Project offers live streaming on its website.)



Market Town

I spend a day strolling leisurely around Mach (as it's affectionately referred to) to check out the interesting boutiques and independent galleries. The small yet bustling market town acts as a hub for the community of artists, writers, and thinkers grown up around Glyndwr's story. In fact, it was to a cottage just outside of Machynlleth where legendary rock band Led Zeppelin retreated in 1970 and wrote their influential album *Led Zeppelin III*.

I stop for lunch in Siop Alys, a former temperance cafe converted into a funky vintage shop and tearoom. Afterward, I browse the temporary exhibition at the nearby Museum of Modern Art (MOMA Wales), housed in the historic neoclassical Tabernacle, a former Methodist chapel. The museum displays rotating exhibitions from the permanent collection of predominantly modern Welsh works.

That evening I enjoy a pint of local real ale at the cozy Wynnstey Arms pub, followed by a huge, tasty dinner at Number Twenty One,

John Morrison/Alamy; Andrew Fox/Alamy; The Photlibrary Wales/Alamy

6 Visit a Victorian spa town. In its heyday, Llandrindod Wells drew visitors with the purported healing qualities of its springs, who would "take the waters" in pump rooms. Admire the town's ornate architecture and visit Rock Park, home to the historic pump rooms and outdoor bowling greens.

7 Sift through bookstores galore. The market town of Hay-on-Wye (shown at right) is known as the largest secondhand bookselling center in the world. Explore its numerous bookstores (there are almost 40), visit the nearby ruins of Llanthony Priory, and sample sheep's-milk ice cream at Shepherds.





The Wonders of Wales

Make an exchange or buy a Getaway at IntervalWorld.com.
Getaways start at **\$659** for a one-bedroom unit.

Getaway price is valid March 26 through October 22, 2016.

fastFACTS

RESORT DIRECTORY:

IntervalWorld.com

CLIMATE: Weather is generally mild, though unpredictable, and can be quick to change. Rain falls evenly throughout the year.

DON'T MISS: A visit to the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth.

INTERVAL TRAVEL:

IntervalWorld.com

CURRENCY: British pound sterling (£)

TIPPING: Not mandatory, but typically allow 10% for restaurants with table service.

RENTAL CAR:

Recommended

VISITOR INFORMATION:

visitwales.com

visitmidwales.co.uk

a restaurant with strong local flavor and a low-food-miles ethos. The eatery is owned by a local couple with a passion for the produce of Mid Wales. Indeed, most of the ingredients come from within a 12-mile radius of the kitchen. The meat of my slow-cooked lamb shank glides elegantly off the bone, while the seasonal vegetables are crunchy and earthy.

Back to the Trail

The next day, I'm back on Glyndwr's Way. I'm joined by a guide, Romy Shovelton, who will escort me through some of the more rugged landscape of Mid Wales. We've picked up the path after a fortifying coffee and lemon-drizzle cake at the Machinations Cafe in the village of Llanbrynmair.

Today's walking route takes us past gurgling brooks, yellow flowering gorse, and stoic, stone-built barns defiant against the elements. "I love the landscape of Mid Wales," Romy tells me as we hike. "I moved here from an urban life in London. I first came as a visitor, but then I felt like I was supposed to be here, caring for this land."

As we cross the coniferous Dyfnant Forest, elegant red kites soar overhead on their long wings. We reach the Royal Society for the

Protection of Birds (RSPB) at placid Lake Vyrnwy, a nature reserve with a visitor center, bird-watching blinds, and nature trails. Kingfishers show off their vibrant colors and hunting skills under the arches of the stone dam. There are several color-coded, forested nature walks around the lake, and they're all alive with regular sightings of redwings, bramblings, and siskins.

End of the Road

The final stage of Glyndwr's Way leads on toward Welshpool, where walkers can celebrate the end of their pilgrimage with a pint of local ale, and make train connections back across Mid Wales. The tangible traces of Glyndwr's story are scant at this end of the trail. It's as if they have long since faded into the swirling mists of time. Historians believe that Glyndwr's last battle was fought, and lost, at Shrewsbury in 1410. There is no recorded grave, but rumors persist that he evaded capture and lived out his days quietly in Hereford. Some speculate that the rebel is not, in fact, dead, but merely resting. Six hundred years after his (supposed) death, the legacy of Owain Glyndwr lives on. ■

David Atkinson is a travel writer and blogger based in northwestern England. Read more stories at atkinsondavid.com; follow him on Twitter @atkinsondavid.

8

Check out a Welsh university town. Aberystwyth is Mid Wales' largest community, home to Aberystwyth University, an arts center, the National Library of Wales, and beaches along its bay.

9

Lose yourself in natural beauty. Go bird-watching in the Cambrian Mountains, mountain bike in Snowdonia and Brecon Beacons national parks, and stare at the sea along the Cardigan Bay Coast.

10

Chart a National Trail. There are 15 designated National Trails in the U.K., walking routes that pass some of Britain's best scenery, and two are in the heart of Mid Wales. The Offa's Dyke Path traces the English/Welsh border for 177 miles from Prestatyn to the Sedbury Cliffs, and Glyndwr's Way, described in the story above, spans 135 miles from Welshpool to Machynlleth to Knighton.



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IntervalWorld.com

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Looking for a last-minute break? Through Flexchange®, you can request an exchange from 59 days to 24 hours before check-in. The list of available destinations changes often, so sign in to IntervalWorld.com to get the latest, and make an exchange.



Williamsburg, Virginia

Prepare to be transported to a time long gone. Williamsburg is a history buff's dream come true, with plenty of family-friendly attractions to keep you busy all week long.

What to do: Get a taste of what life was like in the 18th century. Tour exquisitely preserved historic buildings and interact with actors who don traditional colonial clothing and recount stories of life in the 1700s. Kids can get in on the playacting, too, dressing up in their pick of period garb for the day.

Where to do it: Colonial Williamsburg is the world's largest outdoor living history museum, and it delivers something different around every corner. For further reflecting on days of yore, explore

the other nearby points that complete America's Historic Triangle: Jamestown and Yorktown.

Why go now: The temperature may be starting to drop, but it's perfect for all the outdoor walking you'll be doing. (Plus, you'll be avoiding the busy summer crowds.) Not to mention, while Colonial Williamsburg is open year-round, if you visit after the new year you may encounter the annual construction projects that take place to keep the old buildings in tip-top shape.

Insider's tip: At night, stop by Chowning's Tavern for a pint of ale and hours of *gambols*, classic games and songs popular in 1700s taverns.

 September – November
Average High: 70°F
Average Low: 55°F

ADDITIONAL ANTICIPATED destinations in the East

- Maine, Coast
- Massachusetts, Cape Cod
- New Jersey, Atlantic City
- New York, Catskills
- Pennsylvania, Poconos

- Virginia, Virginia Beach
- Florida, Orlando
- Florida, Daytona Beach Area
- Florida, Cocoa Beach

Exchange from **59 days to 24 hours** before check-in with Flexchange.

Park City and Snowbird, Utah



Explore the natural splendor that is synonymous with the Rocky Mountain town of Park City, located about 30 miles east of Salt Lake City.

What to do: Take to the great outdoors. This time of year, the cool temperatures are perfect for excursions outside. There are biking and hiking trails suited for just about any skill level, and you don't even need to bring your own bike; plenty of rental spots, such as Silver Star Ski & Sport, are dotted throughout the city. When you're not working up a sweat, take advantage of the ample shopping options available.

Where to do it: With more than 400 miles of nearby trails, the whole area is your oyster. Two paths worth noting are the 2.9-mile Donut Falls Trail, which features a photo-worthy waterfall, and the 7.3-mile Red Pine Lake Trail. And you'd be remiss if you didn't peruse some of the 70-plus retail stores along and around Park City's historic Main Street.

Why go now: Moderate temperatures aside, this time of year is one of the two shoulder seasons in Park City, meaning you'll be faced with far smaller crowds than you would when traveling in the summer and winter months.

Insider's tip: Grab a bite and enjoy people-watching at No Name Saloon and Grill, a staple hangout for locals for more than 100 years.

 September – November
Average High: 57°F
Average Low: 30°F

ADDITIONAL ANTICIPATED destinations in the West & Canada

Arizona, Phoenix Area
Colorado, Breckenridge
Colorado, Vail, Avon, and Beaver Creek
Nevada, Las Vegas

California and Nevada, Lake Tahoe
California, Palm Springs and Palm Desert
British Columbia, Eastern

Scott Markewitz/Alamy

**ADDITIONAL
ANTICIPATED
international
destinations**

Bahamas, Freeport
Mexico, South Baja
Mexico, Nuevo Vallarta and
Riviera Nayarit
Mexico, Cancún
Mexico, Riviera Maya
Mexico, Central
Costa Rica

Argentina, Mar del Plata and Pinamar
Argentina, Patagonia and Cuyo
Spain, Canary Islands, Fuerteventura
Spain, Balearic Islands
Italy, Coast
Austria, Alps
Egypt, Red Sea
Tunisia

Margarita Island, Venezuela



Discover the top-notch beaches and laid-back South American lifestyle on this lower Caribbean island. While the western side of the island remains largely undeveloped, outdoor activities are plentiful on the eastern end, particularly around La Asunción, Pampatar, and Porlamar.

What to do: Beach, beach, and more beach! Margarita Island's position just off the coast of mainland Venezuela puts it outside the path of hurricanes that can interrupt Caribbean life this time of year, and makes it ideal for year-round oceanfront activity. Whether it's a quiet afternoon soaking up the rays or something a little more exhilarating — windsurfing is a trendy water sport here — options abound.

Where to do it: You'd be hard-pressed to find a beach that doesn't deliver in full here. If a lively scene both on and off the sand is what you're looking for, one of the city beaches in Porlamar, the

island's most populous area, is ideal. Or if you want to take a crack at windsurfing, plan a day-trip to Playa El Yaque; the near-constant sea breezes found here make it the ideal spot for this popular activity.

Why go now: Margarita Island may deliver ideal beach temperatures year-round, but as the mercury begins to drop up north, sunny island life is a welcome respite.

Insider's tip: Book a daylong charter with Magic Tours & Travel to nearby Cubagua Island. The mostly uninhabited island was once a hub for extensive (and excessive) pearl mining, and the ruins of 16th-century port city Nueva Cádiz can still be explored.



September – November
Average High: 91°F
Average Low: 73°F

WIN ONE WEEK OF FREE ACCOMMODATIONS

Here's how: Send us the details of your exchange, along with some photos, your contact information, and your membership number. If we select your story for publication, you'll get a free Resort Accommodations Certificate good for a one-week stay at an Interval International member resort! After all, one great week deserves another.



One With Nature

JANIS HALL

BANFF, ALBERTA



Looking to escape the Texas heat, Janis Hall, her husband, and her son relished the experience of an exchange to the cooler temperatures and incredible nature of Banff, Alberta. "The natural beauty around Banff is truly amazing," Janis says. "We saw brown bears, hoodoos, mountain goats, waterfalls, steaming springs, glaciers, views from the top, hiked around Moraine Lake and Lake Louise, and took hundreds of nature-inspired photos." And they didn't go hungry, either, whether cooking in their unit or enjoying dinner at a Greek restaurant, savoring high tea, or sampling craft beers and fondue. The Halls were also able to spend quality time with their son, who was on break between semesters of law school, and to get together with a Canadian friend they hadn't seen in years. "Our cozy condo made it easy to have the time of our lives traveling a unique part of the world," Janis says.

Second Time's a Charm

LUCY JERUE

PHOENIX AREA, ARIZONA

Rather than take their typical winter trip to Florida, New Jerseyans Bob and Lucy Jerue exchanged for a week in Arizona's Phoenix area. Having been once before, the pair was able to spend two full days "just enjoying the beautiful pool at our timeshare resort" and taking in attractions they'd missed during their previous visit. Together, the Jerues relished gorgeous scenery during a narrated ride on the Verde Canyon Railroad, toured a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home, and ate lunch in Apache Junction. The icing on the cake: When their week was almost over, Lucy posted a picture on Facebook of her and her husband enjoying their trip, and quickly received a message from a friend who happened to be in the area. "The next night, we enjoyed dinner in downtown Phoenix with my friend Margie and her husband, Rick," Lucy says. "It was the perfect way to cap off the perfect week."



Create your own dream vacation!

“Our cozy condo made it easy to have the time of our lives traveling a unique part of the world.”

— Janis Hall

Request and Receive CHUCK AND JENNIFER HENRICH

ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Every year, Chuck and Jennifer Henrich place an exchange request for the first week of April, a highly demanded travel time. “To our delight, Interval came through,” Chuck says. “But this time, I actually did a couple fist pumps when we read the exchange notification email because we landed the Marriott’s Frenchman’s Cove in St. Thomas.” To plan their trip, the Henrichs browsed postings on Interval’s Community forum for fellow members’ recommendations. Joined by their two best friends, the four explored St. Thomas in their rental car, hopping over to the beaches of St. John one day via car ferry. When they weren’t enjoying the amenities at their resort, the group spent time strolling the narrow alleys, unique stores, and open-air market in Charlotte Amalie. “We even got to sit outside and eat on an alley patio,” Chuck says, “admiring the [old] stone walls.”



Ages-Old Wonders

CALVIN G. LYONS

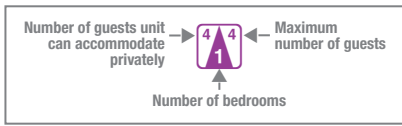
MOUGINS, FRANCE

Looking to maximize their time in Europe, Calvin and Helen Lyons capped off a cruise on the Rhône River with an Interval exchange to the French Riviera village of Mougins. Situated between Grasse and Cannes, Mougins proved a delightful spot to explore. “The narrow, winding streets in Old Mougins are home to artists, jewelry stores, clothing boutiques, restaurants, and an excellent hotel,” Calvin says. “The village architecture has not changed in centuries.” The couple enjoyed viewing images of Picasso (who spent his final days in Mougins) at the local photography museum, perusing art galleries and antique stores, and taking in the view from the church tower of Église St. Jacques-le-Majeur, which stretched all the way to the Bay of Cannes. “In short, our river cruise was great, as we expected, but our exchange to Le Club Mougins was a fantastic added week only made possible by Interval International.”

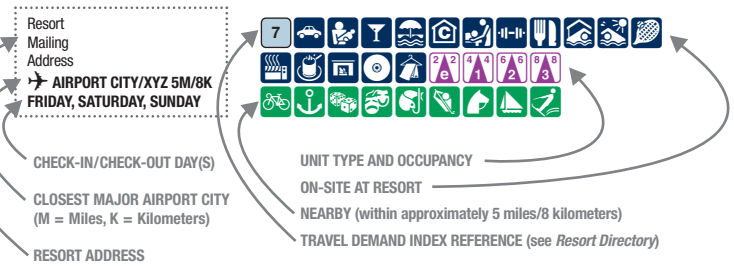


Go to IntervalWorld.com to make an exchange.

Resort Example



This text identifies the unique attributes of each resort. You'll find a brief description that may include information about the resort's environment, location, amenities, facilities, and area attractions located on-site or near the resort. Each feature is designed to help you select a resort that will provide the vacation experience you're looking for.



Guide To Symbols

On-site Nearby Unit Type and Occupancy

	Babysitting Referral		Golf		Skiing (Downhill)		Lock-Off		00 Travel Demand Index Chart Number
	Bar/Cocktail Lounge		Grocery or Convenience Store		Swimming Pool (Indoors)		Wheelchair Accessible		
	Beach		Horseback Riding		Swimming Pool (Outdoors)				
	Bicycle Trails		Lake		Tennis		Hotel Room (Usually no cooking Private sleeping capacity maximum occupancy)		
	Boat Marina/Launching		Playground		Waterskiing				
	Car Rentals		Racquetball		Whirlpool Spa or Hot Tub		Efficiency/Studio (Usually with cooking facilities) Private sleeping capacity/ maximum occupancy		
	Casino Gambling		Restaurant		Air Conditioning (In Units)		One Bedroom Private sleeping capacity/ maximum occupancy		
	Clubhouse		Sailing/Rentals		Cooking Facilities (In Units)		Two Bedrooms Private sleeping capacity/ maximum occupancy		
	Day Spa		Sauna or Steam Room		DVD or VCR (In Units)				
	Entertainment (Live)		Scuba Diving		Fireplace (In Units)				
	Exercise Room (Equipped)		Skating (Ice)		Laundry Facilities				
	Fishing		Skiing (Cross-Country)		Pets Allowed				

EXCHANGE/AMENITIES AVAILABILITY
Many new member resorts have a limited number of vacation units available to the exchange system. Resorts shown as "UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION" are currently in various stages of construction or are in the process of making improvements in accommodations or facilities. No amenities symbols are shown for these resorts.

Usage fees may be imposed by some resorts. Certain amenities, facilities, and activities may not be available at all times of the year.

The availability of specific amenities and the continued affiliation of resorts shown in this magazine are subject to change without notice.

For resorts under construction, the architect's rendering shown may vary significantly from the appearance of the resort upon completion. Interior photographs are of typical vacation units and are not necessarily representative of every unit at the resort.

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of photograph identification, resort descriptions, and resort amenities symbols. Interval International expressly disclaims any liability in the event of error.



BEACHWOODS • BEW

A Gold Key Resort
KITTY HAWK, NORTH CAROLINA • 252.261.4610
goldkeyresorts.com

Beachwoods is located in a private wooded setting, nestled amid 100 acres of maritime forest and adjoining nearly 700 acres of wildlife preserve. Accommodations are spacious and feature full kitchens and upscale appointments. Amenities on-site are plentiful and designed for the entire family, including indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a lake, and a sports complex with a fitness center, tennis, basketball, and volleyball courts. Formerly Barrier Island Station, the resort offers a great vacation experience on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

1 Cypress Knee Trail
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949
✈ NORFOLK/ORF 76M/122K
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY



LAKE PLACID LODGE • LKP

WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA • 604.962.0220
whiskijackresorts.com

Lake Placid Lodge is nestled in beautiful Whistler Creekside, in close proximity to the Creekside Gondola. The lodge offers a balance of local services, mountain access, and the activity of the main village. Accommodations are one-bedroom, one-bedroom plus loft, and two-bedroom condominiums with spacious, tastefully decorated rooms and fully equipped kitchens. The outdoor heated pool, hot tub, and sauna are perfect for your après ski gatherings, and HD cable TV and Wi-Fi add to your entertainment options.

2050 Lake Placid Road
Whistler, British Columbia V0N 1B2
Canada
✈ VANCOUVER/YVR 84M/134K
SUNDAY



VACATION INTERNATIONALE – PANORAMA RESORT • PNM

PANORAMA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA • 250.342.6941
vioresorts.com

Panorama Resort's setting near the Canadian Rockies is rich with rugged natural beauty. Surrounded by creeks, lakes, forests, and mountains, the resort features outdoor activities on-site including downhill, cross-country, and heli-skiing in winter. Summer offers golf, tennis, rafting, hiking, and cycling. Special events for the entire family, and children's programs, are available on a seasonal basis. Guests enjoy amenities such as seasonally operated restaurants and lounges, a pub, pool, hot tubs, saunas, and massages.

Panorama Mountain Village, Bag 7000
Panorama, British Columbia V0A 1T0
Canada
✈ CRANBROOK/YXC 85M/136K
SATURDAY, SUNDAY



VACATION INTERNATIONALE – ROSEDALE ON ROBSON • VRR

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA • 604.689.8033
vioresorts.com

This vibrant urban resort is in the heart of Yaletown, in the center of the Robson Street shopping mecca. Accommodations are condominiums with panoramic views of a city bordered by mountains and ocean. Each unit has a galley kitchen with a mini refrigerator. Enjoy the resort's indoor pool and restaurant/bar, or relax on the garden terrace after a day of adventure in Vancouver.

838 Hamilton Street
Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 6A2
Canada
✈ VANCOUVER/YVR 9M/14K
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SUNDAY





VACATION INTERNATIONALE – PACIFIC SHORES RESORT • PSH
 NANOOSE BAY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA • 250.586.7262
viresorts.com

Vacation Internationale – Pacific Shores Resort is a tranquil and secluded island retreat nestled on the shore of picturesque Craig Bay. Accommodations are upscale two-bedroom suites with fireplaces and whirlpool spas. Vancouver Island offers sandy beaches and a number of diverse ecosystems to explore. Its rain forest, meadows, mountains, ocean, river, and lake create protected habitats for a multitude of wildlife species, making this a premier location for whale- and bird-watching, and salmon and trout fishing.

1-1600 Stroulger Road
 Nanoose Bay
 British Columbia V9P 9B7
 Canada
 ✈️ VANCOUVER/YVR 91M/146K
 MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
 THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
 SUNDAY



VACATION INTERNATIONALE – ROSEWOOD INN • RWI
 VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA • 250.384.6644
viresorts.com

The English-style Rosewood Inn is situated in one of Victoria's historical preservation buildings, on the southern tip of Vancouver Island. Each unit is unique in style and furnishings, and the inn's turn-of-the-20th-century decor takes you back in time. Reminiscent of old England, the city charms with its quaint ambiance, formal gardens, inner harbor, and 150 years of history. Flower baskets hang from lampposts, and shops sell fine English china, Irish woolens, and Scottish tartans, imparting a feeling that you're in the British Isles.

595 Michigan Street
 Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1S7
 Canada
 ✈️ VICTORIA/YYJ 18M/29K
 MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
 THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
 SUNDAY



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DIVI DUTCH VILLAGE BEACH RESORT • TDV
 ORANJESTAD, ARUBA, DUTCH CARIBBEAN • 297.58.35000
diviresorts.com

Nestled in a lush, tropical garden and surrounded by freshwater pools, Divi Dutch Village Beach Resort is a serene piece of paradise. The tiki-inspired cafe is perfect for lunch and a cocktail, and the resort is just steps away from beautiful Eagle Beach and its clear turquoise water. Many of the amenities available at the nearby Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort are also available to guests.

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 47
 Oranjestad, Aruba
 Dutch Caribbean
 ✈️ ARUBA/AUA 5M/8K
 SATURDAY



DIVI HERITAGE BEACH RESORT • DIV
 ST. JAMES, BARBADOS • 919.419.3484 • 800.367.3484
diviresorts.com

Divi Heritage Beach Resort is an intimate resort overlooking lovely St. James Beach in Barbados. Twenty-two elegant suites inspired by the architecture of the colonial great houses feature private verandas with sweeping views. This small Caribbean hideaway offers tennis courts and a full-service activity coordinator. The resort caters to travelers seeking quiet and privacy, and welcomes adults 16 years of age or older.

Sunset Crest
 St. James
 Barbados
 ✈️ BARBADOS/BGI 16M/26K
 SATURDAY



DIVI SOUTHWINDS BEACH RESORT • SWH
 CHRIST CHURCH, BARBADOS • 246.428.7181
diviresorts.com

Barbados is home to sweeping stretches of shoreline, lively festivals, swaying palm trees, a British heritage, and a colorful culture. Divi Southwinds Beach Resort is located on the southwest side of the island in the famous St. Lawrence Gap area, in the heart of Barbados' most popular district for shopping, eating, entertainment, and nightlife. At the resort, you'll experience outstanding on-site amenities, including delicious dining options, three freshwater pools, an upscale spa, lighted tennis courts, a miniature golf course, a kids' club, and so much more.

St. Lawrence Gap
 Christ Church
 Barbados
 ✈️ BARBADOS/BGI 7M/11K
 SATURDAY



SIVORY PUNTA CANA BOUTIQUE HOTEL • SYP
 PUNTA CANA, LA ALTAGRACIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC • 809.333.0500
sivorypuncacana.com

Experience a quieter side of Punta Cana at Sivory Punta Cana Boutique Hotel, an adults-only hideaway located on a stretch of secluded shoreline. Modern accommodations feature elegant East Asian and Caribbean design elements. Imagine restful days spent lounging by the infinity pool or by the water's edge. Embrace the tranquility of this intimate resort, which is designed to transport you to a state of complete relaxation with its attentive staff, holistic spa treatments, and distinctive restaurants.

Playa Sivory, Uvero Alto
 Punta Cana, La Altagracia
 Dominican Republic
 ✈️ PUNTA CANA/PUJ 25M/40K
 SATURDAY





GRAN HOTEL COCHABAMBA • GHB
 COCHABAMBA, CERCADO, BOLIVIA • 4.448.9520
granhotelcochabamba.com

Gran Hotel Cochabamba is a three-minute drive from the city center of Cochabamba, which lies amid a fertile emerald valley in central Bolivia. Accommodations are spacious and furnished with modern decor. Amenities on-site include a daily breakfast buffet, a restaurant, spa, swimming pool, landscaped garden with fountains, Wi-Fi, and parking. The Alalay Lagoon is a 15-minute drive away.

Plaza Ubaldo Anze Nº 415 –
 La Recoleta
 Cochabamba, Cercado
 Bolivia
 ✈️ COCHABAMBA/CBB 4M/6K
 FRIDAY



ALTUM BAHÍA RESORT-VILLAGES & MARINE • ABE
 GUATAPÉ, ANTIOQUIA, COLOMBIA • 4.444.8942
gruopoblado.com

Altum Bahía Resort-Villages & Marine is located in the quaint town of Guatapé, which features cobbled streets and houses with colorful tiles covering their facades' lower walls. The resort is situated amid an attractive setting framed by the Guatapé dam, with a beautiful view toward the gigantic La Piedra del Peñol (the Peñol monolith). Accommodations are suites and villas. Amenities include a common area for social and recreational activities and a marina on a vast bay, overlooking the dam.

Vereda Los Naranjos
 Guatapé, Antioquia
 Colombia
 ✈️ MEDELLÍN/MDE 33M/53K
 FRIDAY

58 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



BD CARTAGENA • BCB
 CARTAGENA, BOLÍVAR, COLOMBIA
bdcartagena.com

BD Cartagena boasts a beachfront location along Cartagena's coast. The resort units feature a living/dining area, two bedrooms, and two bathrooms. On-site amenities include freshwater pools, an equestrian center, tennis courts, a spa, gym, restaurants, themed bars, kids' and youth clubs, snack bars on the beach, and dry dock. Fishing, golf, sailing, scuba diving, and waterskiing are all available nearby. This is an all-inclusive resort, requiring the purchase of a meal plan payable to the resort.

Caseño de Punta Canoa
 La Boquilla, Distrito turístico
 Cartagena, Bolívar 130007
 Colombia
 ✈️ CARTAGENA/CTG 10M/16K
 SATURDAY

107 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



JACANA AMAZON WELLNESS RESORT • JAW
 PARAMARIBO, PARAMARIBO, SURINAME • 597.531.000
jacanaresort.com

Conveniently located in the middle of the residential Zorg en Hoop area of Paramaribo, this upscale resort is surrounded by lush tropical landscaping. Amenities on-site include a family friendly swimming pool, excellent restaurants, well-stocked bars, and valet parking services. The spa and gym facilities are designed to provide the high standard of well-being for which the Jacana concept is known. The resort offers guests an enjoyable Suriname vacation experience.

Commewijnestraat 35
 Paramaribo, Paramaribo
 Suriname
 ✈️ ZANDERIJ/PBM 28M/45K
 SATURDAY

58 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



GALZIGNANO TERME SPA GOLF & RESORT • GLZ GALZIGNANO TERME, PADOVA, ITALY • 049.9195665 *galzignano.it*

Located in the spa town of Galzignano Terme near Padova, the resort offers panoramic vistas across the Euganean Hills. Accommodations feature free Wi-Fi and LCD TV, and some have a private balcony or terrace with views of the hills, golf course, or tennis courts. Amenities on-site include Naiades Mediterranean restaurant and a 9-hole golf course with driving range. Guests enjoy free parking and complimentary access to thermal indoor and outdoor pools and relaxation areas with a sauna, hot tub, and Turkish bath. Venice is less than 40 minutes away by car.

Ville delle Terme 84
 Galzignano Terme
 Padova (PD) 35030
 Italy
 ✈️ VENICE/VCE 36M/58K



RESIDENZIALE SERRA DEGLI ALIMINI 1 • SEN OTRANTO, LECCE, ITALY • 0836.803316 *serradeglialimini1.it*

Serra degli Alimini 1 is close to the beach and is surrounded by greenbelt. The resort offers a wide range of sports with qualified instructors, including windsurfing, canoeing, soccer, beach volleyball, horseback riding, and mountain biking. Many shops and services are on-site, such as a hairdressing and beauty salon, jewelry store, supermarket, and perfumery. The heart of the village is ideal for relaxing, where you can enjoy a cocktail at the Bikini Beach Bar or sample typical Salento cuisine in the restaurant. Evening entertainment features concerts and shows.

Localita Serra degli Alimini
 Otranto, Lecce (LE) 73028
 Italy
 ✈️ BRINDISI/BDS 51M/82K
 SATURDAY



SECRET GARDEN • PMG MARRAKECH, MOROCCO • 52.433.4343 *palmeraiemarrakech.com*

Located in the heart of the renowned Palmeraie of Marrakech and overlooking the golf course, Secret Garden offers well-appointed villas comprising three large bedrooms, a full kitchen, private pool, flat-screen television, and air conditioning. The Palmeraie resort features a 27-hole golf course, restaurants, pools for adults and children, a full-service spa and fitness center, concierge service, and 24-hour security.

Circuit de la Palmeraie
 Marrakech 40000
 Morocco
 ✈️ MARRAKECH/RAK 10M/16K
 SATURDAY



PAVILLON DU GOLF • PDU MARRAKECH, MOROCCO • 52.433.4343 *palmeraiemarrakech.com*

Located in the heart of the renowned Palmeraie of Marrakech and overlooking the golf course, Pavillon du Golf offers spacious apartments with a kitchen, flat-screen television, and air conditioning. The Palmeraie resort features a 27-hole golf course, restaurants, pools for adults and children, a full-service spa and fitness center, children's facilities, and 24-hour security.

Circuit de la Palmeraie
 Marrakech 40000
 Morocco
 ✈️ MARRAKECH/RAK 10M/16K
 SATURDAY





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With modern amenities, breathtaking views, and sophisticated decor, eLan L'Ermitage Chateau & Villas is situated just a short walk or drive from the main road of the village. French-inspired cobble streets, fountains, and exquisitely maintained gardens form the backdrop of one of the most picturesque settings in the Cape. Chateau and the villas offer the convenience of self-catering facilities and can comfortably accommodate families, business people, and couples alike. This is an ideal place for a relaxing and indulgent vacation.

Lambrechts Road
 Franschhoek, Western Cape
 South Africa
 ✈️ CAPE TOWN/CPT 47M/75K
 FRIDAY

100 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



ANANTARA VACATION CLUB SANYA • ASY
 SANYA, HAINAN, CHINA • 0898.8888.5088
anantaravacationclub.com

Nestled between sandy beaches and scenic mountains, Anantara Vacation Club Sanya is located on Hainan Island's southern coast, and is just a 15-minute drive from Sanya City and a 25-minute drive from Sanya Phoenix International Airport. Guests can arrange activities and cultural excursions through its nearby sister resort, Anantara Sanya Resort & Spa, and also enjoy access to that property's dining venues, spa facilities, main pool, and gym. Venture into the forest to explore exotic flora and fauna, and visit an ethnic Li community village for a truly immersive experience.

No. 15 Xiaodonghai Road
 Hedong District, Sanya
 Hainan 572000
 China
 ✈️ SANYA/SYX 13M/21K
 MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
 FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY



ANANTARA VACATION CLUB BOPHUT KOH SAMUI • AKH
 KOH SAMUI, SURATTHANI, THAILAND • 077.428.321
anantaravacationclub.com

Anantara Vacation Club Bophut Koh Samui is an elegant beachfront resort set on a northern curve of the island, alongside Bophut Bay, close to the charming Fisherman's Village. Guests enjoy a relaxed ambiance, an escape from the bustling environment of nearby Chaweng Beach. Unwind under the warm sun, amid lush gardens and clusters of coconut palms. The neighboring enclave is full of traditional wooden shops and pleasant cafes. The property is conveniently located only a few minutes away from Koh Samui International Airport.

99/9 Bophut Bay
 Thailand
 ✈️ KOH SAMUI/USM 4M/6K
 MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
 THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
 SUNDAY



ANANTARA VACATION CLUB BANGKOK SATHORN • ANS
 BANGKOK, THAILAND • 02.210.9000
anantaravacationclub.com

Anantara Vacation Club Bangkok Sathorn is a stylish 38-floor, twin-tower resort located next to Bangkok's business hub, and is close to shops, upscale restaurants, and vibrant nightlife options. It offers seclusion from the bustling city, providing a relaxing urban experience. Stretch out on a lounge chair and unwind at the sun deck, go swimming in the 105-foot-long infinity-edge pool, re-energize in the fitness center, and either play a match on the tennis court or request a lesson from a professional instructor.

36 Narathiwart-Ratchanakarin Road
 Yannawa, Bangkok 10120
 Thailand
 ✈️ BANGKOK/BKK 19M/30K
 MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
 FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY







DISCOVER YOUR NANEA

Nanea, a Hawaiian word, means to be in a state of relaxation; to be at ease and having a good time. We invite you to find your *nanea* at DiscoverNanea.com, where you'll find everything you need to know about the creation of the newest Westin resort on Kā'anapali Beach, The Westin Nanea Ocean Villas, opening July 2017.

Designed with the rich traditions and unique cultural elements of Hawai'i, and guided by the philosophy of the Westin brand, this inspiring resort has been designed to help you feel at your best.

Stay up-to-date on the resort's progress, amenities, cultural touchstones and local experiences at DiscoverNanea.com

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KĀ'ANAPALI, MAUI

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Punta de Mita, Mexico

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Nightly Average From \$54

Interval Platinum From **\$327** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$352** Per Week

Studio Accommodates Up To 2

Add A Rental Car For \$143

One island, two distinct identities. But no worries: Everyone gets along just fine. On the Dutch side, known as St. Maarten, fantastic duty-free shopping and casinos are the main attractions. Hungry? Head over to French St. Martin, renowned for its gourmet and casual offerings alike. The entire island is blessed with pristine beaches, warm temperatures, and a sophisticated European vibe suitably mellow for the Caribbean.

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Guarantee**
on GETAWAYS

Riviera Maya* FROM \$229 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$33

Interval Platinum From **\$179** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$204** Per Week

Studio Accommodates Up To 2

Add A Rental Car For \$23

Presenting ocean, jungle, caves, freshwater canals, and more, the Riviera Maya is a top ecotourism destination showcasing some of Mother Nature's most impressive handiwork. Start with the beach, where powdery white sands meet water so clear that underwater visibility is regularly at least 40 feet — perfect for viewing the vast array of marine life swimming by. Get a bird's-eye view of the canopy on a thrilling zip line ride. Swim and trek through a massive underground system of rivers and caves. Paddle along canals past mangrove islands. And when you're ready to sit back and relax, just head back to that sand.



CARIBBEAN

	St. Croix*	St. Kitts	Turks and Caicos
WEEKLY RATE FROM	\$329	\$649	\$899
NIGHTLY AVERAGE FROM	\$47	\$93	\$129
WEEKLY PLATINUM RATE FROM	\$279	\$599	\$849
WEEKLY GOLD RATE FROM	\$304	\$624	\$874
SIZE, ACCOMMODATES	Studio, 2	Studio, 2	Studio, 2
RENTAL CAR	\$257	\$272	\$296
LAND	Tour the Cruzan Rum Distillery to learn how the island liquor is crafted, and sample the final product.	Ride in The Sugar Train's double-decker cars along a scenic route, traversing rails once used to transport sugar from the local plantations.	You must try conch, an island specialty, and Da Conch Shack is the place to do it. Choose from a variety of preparations, plus other fresh fish and seafood.
SEA	Embark on an evening kayak trip at Salt River Bay to experience the wonder and beauty of bioluminescence.	Spend a day at the beach along South Friar's Bay. It's a favorite among residents and offers plenty of bars and restaurants.	Charter a boat for a day of island-hopping among the 40 islands that make up the archipelago.

*All-inclusive resort requiring the purchase of a meal plan payable to the resort.



OUT WEST

Las Vegas, Nevada FROM \$317 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$46

Interval Platinum From **\$267** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$292** Per Week

Studio Accommodates Up To 2

Add A Rental Car For \$263

In a city that celebrates novelty, it's nice to know that the past isn't completely forgotten. Before there was gambling in Nevada, even before there was mining, ranching was the way of life for most residents. And today, the cowboy culture of the Old West is still alive and kicking just minutes outside of Las Vegas. The wranglers at Red Rock Ranch and Bonnie Springs lead daily horseback trail rides, and you can even try your hand at herding at Sandy Valley Ranch.

	Breckenridge, Colorado	Park City, Utah	Phoenix, Arizona
WEEKLY RATE FROM	\$277	\$267	\$267
NIGHTLY AVERAGE FROM	\$40	\$39	\$39
WEEKLY PLATINUM RATE FROM	\$227	\$217	\$217
WEEKLY GOLD RATE FROM	\$252	\$242	\$242
SIZE, ACCOMMODATES	1-Bedroom, 4	Studio, 4	Studio, 4
RENTAL CAR	\$280	\$163	\$240
EXPLORE	Navigate 2,500 feet of track through the forest and above ski runs on the Gold Runner Alpine Coaster.	Go snowmobiling at Utah's largest — and highest — private ranch, Thousand Peaks.	Peruse the galleries, studios, shops, and eateries of downtown's Roosevelt Row Arts District.
INDULGE	Before you hit the slopes, fuel up with a tasty bagel sandwich at Clint's Bakery & Coffee House. For a real post-activity extravagance, get a s'mores brownie to go.	Let your spirits soar with a hot-air balloon ride and post-flight Champagne celebration.	Retreat to the day spa at the aptly named Sanctuary resort for breathtaking views and an expansive selection of restorative treatments.

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FAMILY

Fort Myers, Florida FROM \$416 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$60

Interval Platinum From **\$366** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$391** Per Week

1-Bedroom Accommodates Up To 4

Add A Rental Car For \$240

For a family vacation destination that's enjoyable for all generations, look no further than Fort Myers. Seven miles of soft, fine sand provide ample opportunity for both frolicking and relaxing while watching others in your party paddleboard or ride the waves on an aqua cycle. Other ways to enjoy the water: Kayak along Estero Bay, where you're almost certain to spot a few members of the resident dolphin population; cast a line from the causeway known as "the fishingest bridge in the U.S."; and cruise with the comedic crew of Salty Sam's buccaneers. On land, rent bikes or, for extra togetherness, a covered surrey.



	Berkshires, Massachusetts	Atlantic City, New Jersey	The Palm Beaches
WEEKLY RATE FROM	\$377	\$307	\$719
NIGHTLY AVERAGE FROM	\$54	\$44	\$103
WEEKLY PLATINUM RATE FROM	\$327	\$257	\$669
WEEKLY GOLD RATE FROM	\$352	\$282	\$694
SIZE, ACCOMMODATES	2-Bedroom, 6	Studio, 4	Studio, 2
RENTAL CAR	\$354	\$264	\$369
CHILD'S PLAY	Examine nature dioramas, aquarium tanks, and a collection of rocks and minerals at the Berkshire Museum.	Check out the spectacular — and free — nightly 3-D sound-and-light shows projected onto the outside of Boardwalk Hall.	Rocket through twisting flumes and raging rapids, float down a lazy river, and recline in the zero-entry pool at Rapids Water Park.
FOR YOU	Linger over a weekend wine tasting at Balderdash Cellars.	Laugh until it hurts at the Borgata Comedy Club, where both up-and-coming and well-established entertainers perform.	Toast the good life at the glamorous HMF restaurant. Go as much for the social scene as for the delectable dishes and sumptuous surroundings.

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Phuket, Thailand FROM \$459 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$66

Interval Platinum From **\$409 Per Week**

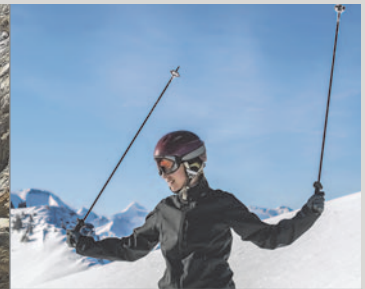
Interval Gold From **\$434 Per Week**

Studio Accommodates Up To 2

Add A Rental Car For \$165

White sands and warm, blue waters have long attracted jet-setters and international travelers to this top Asian vacation destination. But despite its wealth of spas, restaurants, and other amenities, much of Phuket remains undeveloped, presenting a veritable playground for adventure lovers. Follow jungle trails in an ATV, hang on tight for a river-rapids ride, or embark on a wildlife tour atop an elephant. The sea presents its own ways to get an adrenaline rush: parasailing, kayaking, and kitesurfing, to name a few. And if you're not spent by the end of the day, check out the island's buzzing nightlife, from cabaret performances to clubs.

ACTIVE



	Santa Catarina, Brazil	Acapulco, Mexico	Austrian Alps
WEEKLY RATE FROM	\$329	\$259	\$317
NIGHTLY AVERAGE FROM	\$47	\$37	\$46
WEEKLY PLATINUM RATE FROM	\$279	\$209	\$267
WEEKLY GOLD RATE FROM	\$304	\$234	\$292
SIZE, ACCOMMODATES	1-Bedroom, 6	Studio, 2	Studio, 2
RENTAL CAR	\$147	\$93	\$197
REV UP	Sandboard on dunes that reach up to 100 feet high, depending on wind and movement of the sand.	Dance into the wee hours at Baby'O, a long-established favorite in this city famed for its nightlife.	Rocket down Ski amadé's 400-plus miles of downhill terrain.
RELAX	Soak your weary muscles in the mineral-rich hot springs of Santo Amaro da Imperatriz.	At La Quebrada, watch cliff divers plunge elegantly into the waves more than 100 feet below.	Savor a mug of whipped cream-topped hot chocolate at the KristenAlm.

GETAWAY prices shown are representative, in U.S. dollars, and vary according to unit size, resort location, and occupancy date. Use of the Getaway program is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Individual Membership and Exchange set forth in the current *Interval International Resort Directory*. Getaways are subject to availability, and holidays and highly demanded weeks, when available, may be priced differently. You do not relinquish the timeshare period that you own, and all Getaway confirmations are final and nonrefundable. Certain regional restrictions may limit your available destinations. Selected resorts may not be eligible for this promotion. Getaways are subject to local taxes where applicable. Car rental prices are based on low season, weekly rental of an intermediate-class car, subject to change, and exclude tax, gasoline, insurance, daily surcharges, and/or fees where applicable, and car rental payment must be made at the car rental counter. Car rental pick-up location may vary from Getaway destination. Effective through December 31, 2015. For Best Price Guarantee, find a lower price for the stay you booked with Interval, and Interval will refund the difference. The lower price must be found within 24 hours of booking your Getaway, for the same unit size and resort, for the same time reserved. For complete terms and conditions of the program, go to IntervalWorld.com.



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ISTANBUL



7-Night Eastern Mediterranean From \$1,288

DATES: June 11; July 9, 2016

SHIP: Celebrity Cruises' *Celebrity Equinox*

ITINERARY: Piraeus (Athens; embark),
Santorini, Rhodes, and Mykonos, Greece;
Kusadasi (Ephesus) and Istanbul, Turkey
(overnight; disembark)

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$85 per person are additional.

This Mediterranean voyage focuses on two of the region's most captivating countries: Greece and Turkey. With its striking whitewashed homes, all of Santorini is a visual spectacle, but be sure to see the remarkable village of Oia up close. Fall in love with sunny Rhodes at the Temple of Venus, and get your walking shoes ready for your stop on Mykonos, where shopping is a bona fide pastime and attractions range from the Maritime Museum of the Aegean to the island's iconic windmills. Ephesus, home to the temples of Hadrian and Artemis — as well as many other historic landmarks — is a veritable time warp to ancient civilization.



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These featured sailings aren't all. We'll find you a cruise to match your family's fantasy voyage — from the Caribbean to the South Pacific. Interval Platinum and Interval Gold members can trade their week or points toward these or any other cruises through Interval Options.



SUNSHINE

8-Night Southern Caribbean From \$623

DATES: March 12; April 9, 2016

SHIP: Carnival Cruise Line's *Carnival Breeze*

ITINERARY: Miami, Florida; Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos; La Romana, Dominican Republic; Curaçao; Aruba; Miami

Start this trip with a "fun day at sea" — and when Carnival says fun, they mean it. Spend your time aboard the *Breeze* splashing about WaterWorks, the top-deck aqua park, and laughing yourself silly at The Punchliner Comedy Club. Of course, the merrymaking doesn't end when you arrive at Grand Turk; it just shifts to the beach, where sun lounging and snorkeling are on the agenda. Enjoy a dolphin and sea lion show, followed by handicraft shopping, in La Romana. And then, on Curaçao and Aruba, consider taking in a slightly different side of the Caribbean with visits to an ostrich farm and a Jeep safari.



Also

8-Night Eastern Caribbean From \$812

4th of July
Sailing

DATES
July 4, 20,
2016



ITINERARY
New York City, New York; San Juan, Puerto Rico; St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos; New York City

BY THE BEACH
After the sun sets, paddle your kayak into the calm lagoon and channels of Puerto Rico's Las Cabezas de San Juan nature reserve. The night sky is amazing, but the true marvel is beneath you: the otherworldly bioluminescent organisms glowing in the water.

5-Night Western Caribbean From \$400

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$100 per person are additional.

DATES
March 7;
April 4, 18,
2016



ITINERARY
Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Labadee, Hispaniola; Falmouth, Jamaica; Fort Lauderdale

BY THE BEACH
Walk the grounds of Jamaica's Good Hope Estate, a 2,000-acre sanctuary of flourishing plant life, complete with an aviary and overlook on the Martha Brae River. Cap your plantation visit with a sample of Appleton Estate Jamaica Rum and Walkerswood Jerk Seasoning.

5-Night Western Caribbean From \$906

DATES
April 8, 22,
2016



ITINERARY
Miami, Florida; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Castaway Cay, Bahamas; Miami

BY THE BEACH
Reserve a beach cabana on Castaway Cay, then partake in all manner of fun on this tropical paradise. Activities include plenty of water sports, the Pelican Plunge and Spring-a-Leak play areas, and the always popular Lilo and Stitch dance party.

SEVEN NIGHTS



7-Night Alaska From \$849*

DATE: May 14, 2016

SHIP: Princess Cruises' *Star Princess*

ITINERARY: Vancouver, British Columbia; Sitka, Glacier Bay (cruising), Juneau, and Ketchikan, Alaska; Vancouver

BONUS: \$50 per stateroom onboard credit.

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$210 per person are additional.
*Based on category IF

There isn't a more scenic or more majestic cruise than a voyage to Alaska. The seaside forests are lush and never ending, and the soaring coastal mountain peaks plunge directly into the ocean. And nowhere is all of this natural beauty on better display than while sailing through Glacier Bay, gateway to the more-than-3-million-acre namesake national park. To ensure your viewing pleasure, local rangers will come aboard and provide details about the massive tidewater glaciers and point out wildlife. Round out your Alaska experience in Juneau and Ketchikan with visits to a sled-dog kennel, salmon hatchery, and a native village.

 **PRINCESS CRUISES**
come back new™

Also

7-Night Eastern Caribbean From \$699*

New Ship!

DATES

January 24;
February 14,
2016

SHIP

 **PRINCESS CRUISES**
come back new™
Regal Princess

ITINERARY

Fort Lauderdale, Florida;
Princess Cays, Bahamas;
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands;
St. Maarten; Fort Lauderdale

SIGHTSEEING

Enjoy the *Regal's* magnificent seagoing innovations, such as The SeaWalk, a glass-enclosed — and, most importantly, glass-*bottomed* — walkway positioned on the vessel's exterior that allows guests to stroll seemingly beyond the confines of the ship for splendid ocean views.

7-Night Mexican Riviera From \$429

January 10, 31;
February 7,
2016

 **NORWEGIAN**
CRUISE LINE™
Norwegian Jewel

Los Angeles, California; Cabo
San Lucas, Mazatlán, and Puerto
Vallarta, Mexico; Los Angeles

Marvel at the yachts of the rich and famous docked in Marina Vallarta, and then drive to the countryside for a stop at the Hacienda Doña Engracia tequila factory before returning to explore the shops in the heart of Puerto Vallarta.

7-Night Alaska From \$949

June 5,
2016

 **Holland America Line**
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ms Amsterdam

Seattle and Puget Sound
(cruising), Washington; Tracy
Arm Fjord (cruising), Juneau,
Sitka, and Ketchikan, Alaska;
Victoria, British Columbia;
Seattle

Pick up souvenirs along Ketchikan's memorable Creek Street, and visit the Tongass Historical Museum. Or, if you'd prefer to witness a portion of Alaska's most pristine coastal wilderness, consider a flightseeing adventure to Misty Fjords National Monument.

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SEAPLEX

FAMILY FUN

5-Night Bermuda From \$668

DATES: April 30; May 28, 2016

SHIP: Royal Caribbean International's *Anthem of the Seas*

ITINERARY: Bayonne, New Jersey; King's Wharf, Bermuda; Bayonne

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$189 per person are additional.

New Ship!

Anthem of the Seas is one of the newest ships in Royal Caribbean's lineup, and her 21st-century amenities and latest-and-greatest attractions will keep families entertained for days on end. Active cruisers can still scale the rock climbing wall and get gnarly on the FlowRider surf simulator, and now you can experience high-flying, free-fall action, too, in the RipCord by iFly skydiving simulator. Head to the SeaPlex for a day of trapeze lessons, or join a friendly bumper car battle. There's plenty to do in port as well, including meandering around Bermuda's Royal Naval Dockyard and playing a round of golf.



Also

	DATES	SHIP	ITINERARY	ADVENTURES
7-Night Western Caribbean From \$561 New Ship!	March 6; April 3, 2016	NORWEGIAN <small>CRUISE LINE</small> <i>Norwegian Getaway</i>	Miami, Florida; Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Cozumel, Mexico; Miami	Take the whole family to Grand Cayman's Stingray City Sandbar for a date with dozens of wild southern stingrays. You can stand and watch from above the waves, or, better yet, don a mask and snorkel to observe the animals underwater.
3-Night Baja Mexico From \$182	February 19; March 4; April 15, 2016	Carnival <small>FUN FOR ALL. ALL FOR FUN.</small> <i>Carnival Inspiration</i>	Los Angeles, California; Ensenada, Mexico; Los Angeles	Journey to an underground cheese cellar in Ensenada — reportedly the only such facility in all of Latin America — for a sublime tasting that consists of seven diverse and delectable cheeses paired with local vino and a loaf of homemade bread.
3-Night Bahamas From \$465	January 22; February 5, 2016	Disney CRUISE LINE. <i>Disney Dream</i>	Port Canaveral (Orlando), Florida; Nassau and Castaway Cay, Bahamas; Port Canaveral	Head to Atlantis on Nassau's Paradise Island for a day of wet-and-wild adventures highlighted by some serious thrill rides, including the Abyss, a 200-foot-long slide that begins with a heart-pounding drop into darkness and ends in a waterfall-fed cenote.



GLOBE TROTTER

7-Night Galápagos From \$5,299

DATE: October 30; November 13, 2016

SHIP: Celebrity Cruises' *Celebrity Xpedition*

ITINERARY: Baltra, Daphne Island, Gardner Bay (Española), Punta Suárez, Cormorant Point, Post Office Bay, Punta Moreno (Isabela), Urvina Bay (Isabela), Punta Espinoza, Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela), South Plaza Island, Dragon Hill, Puerto Ayora, and Baltra, Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$120 per person are additional.

The Galápagos Islands make up what is undoubtedly one of the world's most singular ecological destinations. And you'll get to see much of Mother Nature's creations — iguanas, sea lions, turtles, and countless birds — during this outer-loop voyage to 12 scenic points of interest. What's more, your home away from home for this once-in-a-lifetime experience is the *Celebrity Xpedition*, a vessel as unique as the Galápagos itself. More mega-yacht than cruise ship, the *Xpedition* accommodates just 98 passengers at a time, and has been specially outfitted to ensure the absolute comfort of those guests while minimizing her impact on the fragile Galápagos environment.



Royal Caribbean International; Heeb Photos/eStock Photo

Also

	DATES	SHIP	ITINERARY	EXPLORATIONS
7-Night Rhine From \$2,456	August 7, 2016	 <i>Viking Longship Hlin</i>	Amsterdam (embark) and Kinderdijk, Netherlands; Cologne, Koblenz, Rudesheim, Heidelberg, and Speyer, Germany; Strasbourg, France; Breisach, Germany; Basel, Switzerland (disembark)	Release your inner Ansel Adams during this scenic river cruise. Capture the windmills in Kinderdijk, snap a shot of the Marksburg Castle, and pose for a family portrait in front of blooming flowers in Strasbourg.
14-Night South America From \$1,380	January 16; February 13, 2016	 <i>Norwegian Sun</i>	Valparaiso (Santiago; embark), Puerto Montt, Puerto Chacabuco, Patagonic Channel (cruising), Chilean Fjords (cruising), Strait of Magellan (cruising), Punta Arenas, and Beagle Channel (cruising), Chile; Ushuaia, Argentina; Cape Horn (cruising), Chile; Stanley, Falkland Islands; Puerto Madryn, Argentina; Punta del Este, Uruguay; Buenos Aires, Argentina (disembark)	Gain a greater appreciation for the legendary Strait of Magellan while navigating this natural sea passage aboard a smaller boat, then relax in the company of playful penguins at the outstanding Magdalena Island Penguin Reserve.
10-Night Tahiti From \$3,999	March 25, 2016	 <i>Marina</i>	Papeete (Tahiti), Moorea, Raroia, Fakarava, Rangiroa, Bora Bora, Raiatea, Huahine, and Papeete (Tahiti), French Polynesia	Bora Bora's beauty is positively breathtaking, and the scenery is just as lovely underwater. To see for yourself, sign up for a shark and stingray snorkel safari.

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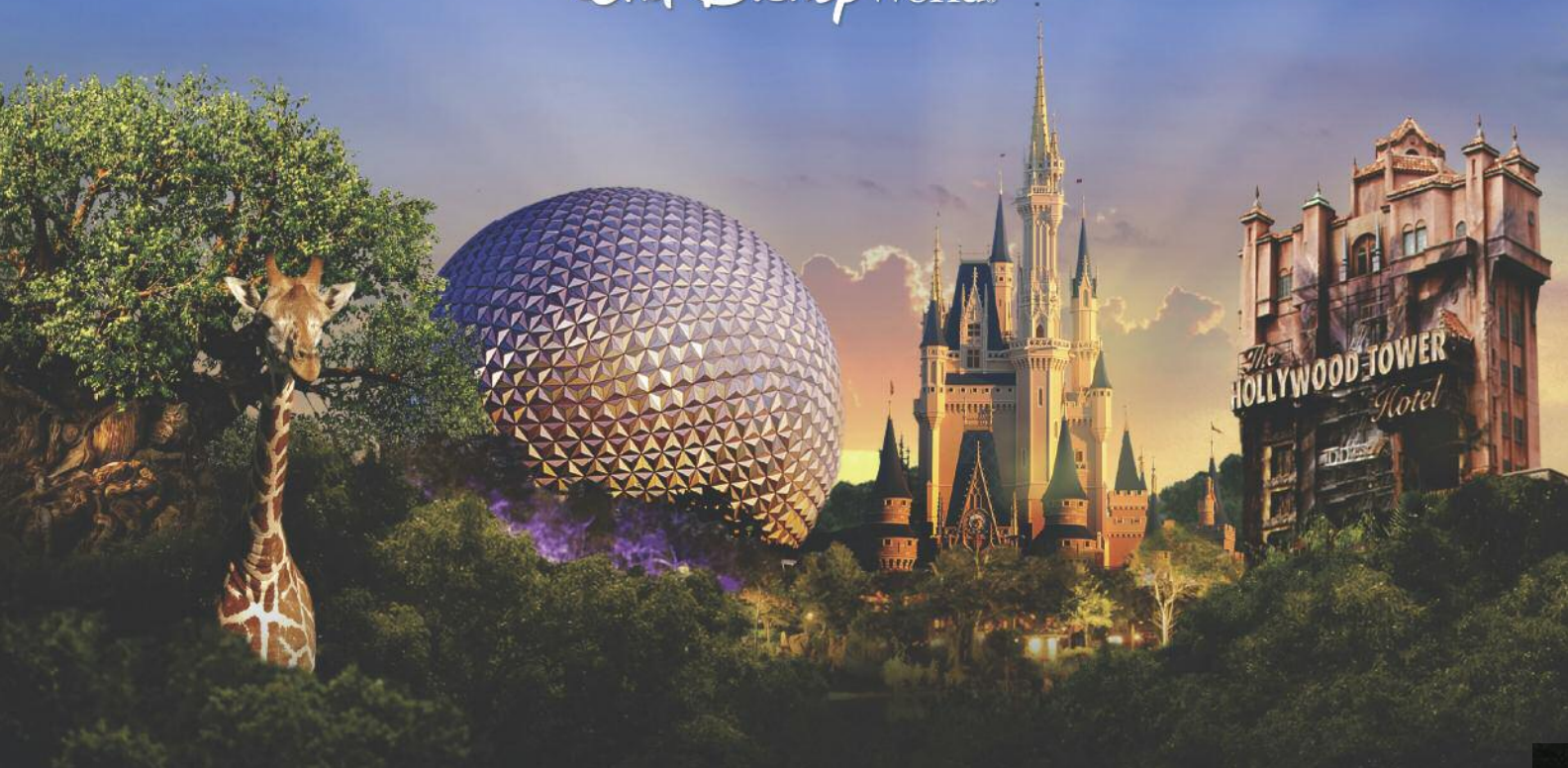
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or download the *My Disney Experience* app** to let the fun begin.

*Valid Theme Park admission and online registration required. *Disney FastPass+* attractions and entertainment experiences, the number of selections you can make and available arrival windows are limited.

**Availability subject to device limitations and features may vary by device or service provider. Message and data rates may apply. Coverage and app store not available everywhere. If you are under 18, get your parents' permission first.

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tour PACKAGES

11-Day Italian Treasures
VALID JANUARY – MARCH 2016
From \$2,564 per person

ITINERARY: Rome, Pisa, Lucca, Cinque Terre, Siena, San Gimignano, Florence, Verona, Venice, Ravenna, Assisi, Orvieto, and Rome, Italy

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Ten nights of accommodations, daily buffet breakfasts, one lunch with wine, and five three-course dinners with wine (including welcome and farewell dinners in Rome)

THE BEST OF

- Explore Siena, Florence, Verona, Venice, and Assisi by guided walking tour
- Visit the Sistine Chapel, Colosseum, Piazza del Campo, and St. Mark's Square
- Transport yourself to another time in Verona, the setting of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*

THE DRILL DOWN

- Taste pastries from a historic Italian bakery
- Watch an expert glassblower create works of art using traditional methods
- Tour Cinque Terre, a UNESCO World Heritage site

Leave the planning to our tour providers and turn your attention to the magnificent sites you'll be visiting. Book today. **877.273.7737**

VERONA



Deposit Photos/Glow Images

Interval Platinum and Interval Gold members: You can purchase these tour packages or use your week or points toward an Interval Options tour exchange.

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tour PACKAGES

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Interval Platinum and Interval Gold members can trade their week or points toward these or any other tours through Interval Options.

8-Day America's Music Cities

VALID MARCH – MAY 2016

From \$1,999 per person

ITINERARY: Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee; New Orleans, Louisiana

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Seven days of accommodations and 11 to 12 meals

THE BEST OF

- Tour RCA Studio B, the oldest studio in Nashville, where legends such as Elvis and Dolly Parton once recorded music
- Spend an evening walking Memphis' Beale Street and visit one — or more — of its many music venues
- Learn about the history and wildlife of Louisiana's swamps on a guided cruise

THE DRILL DOWN

- Enjoy a live performance at the 90-year-old Grand Ole Opry
- Stroll the 14-acre Graceland compound, onetime home to rock 'n' roll legend Elvis Presley
- Devour a plate of hot, powdered sugar-topped beignets at the famed Café Du Monde

MEMPHIS



9-Day Affordable Israel

VALID JANUARY – MARCH 2016

From \$1,199 per person

ITINERARY: Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Beit She'an, Jordan River, Capernaum, Tiberias, Nazareth, Haifa, Caesarea, and Tel Aviv, Israel

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Seven nights of accommodations, seven breakfasts, four dinners, and all standard-itinerary entrance fees

THE BEST OF

- See Mount Zion, Church of the Nativity, Knesset (Israel's parliament building), the Sea of Galilee, and the Bahá'í Gardens
- Journey to the Jordan River, among the world's most sacred
- Spend an evening ambling the narrow streets of Jerusalem's Old City

THE DRILL DOWN

- Dine at a kibbutz, then attend a tasting at a local winery
- Float in the Dead Sea, believed to have special healing powers
- Learn about Israel's expansive diamond industry



BAHÁ'Í GARDENS

Walter Bibikow/Stock Photo; Eye Ubiquitous/Robert Harding; Yacidi Levy/Robert Harding; Christin Gilbert/Robert Harding

12-Day Brazil, Argentina, and Chile

VALID JANUARY – MARCH 2016
From \$2,349 per person

ITINERARY: Rio de Janeiro and Iguazú Falls, Brazil; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Santiago, Chile

WHAT'S INCLUDED: 11 nights of accommodations, 11 breakfasts, and four dinners

THE BEST OF

- Enjoy breathtaking views of Iguazú Falls from both the Brazilian and Argentine sides
- Traverse the rain forest of Argentina aboard a train
- Take part in a morning tour that covers some of Santiago's best sites

THE DRILL DOWN

- While the afternoon away relaxing on Rio de Janeiro's pristine beaches
- Pay homage to Eva Perón at her burial site in Buenos Aires' Recoleta Cemetery
- Tour San Cristóbal Hill and see the famed towering Virgin Mary statue



SANTIAGO

6-Day First Passage to the West

VALID APRIL – OCTOBER 2016
From \$2,600 per person

ITINERARY: Vancouver and Kamloops, British Columbia; Banff, Lake Louise, and Calgary, Alberta

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Five nights of accommodations, two breakfasts, two lunches, three days of car rental, and two days of GoldLeaf- or SilverLeaf-level service on the Rocky Mountaineer train

THE BEST OF

- Take advantage of free time to stroll about the city of Vancouver
- Take in the scenery as you travel onboard the Rocky Mountaineer
- Wander Yoho National Park and explore attractions such as the Spiral Tunnels and Emerald Lake

THE DRILL DOWN

- Marvel at the majestic peaks of the Canadian Rocky Mountains
- Enjoy nature while hiking one of the many trails around Lake Louise
- Get an aerial view of Calgary from the Calgary Tower's 360-degree observation deck



YHOHO NATIONAL PARK



Where
IN THE
World?
CONTEST

WIN A GREAT PRIZE!

We have 10 umbrellas with LED lights to give away to lucky *Interval World* readers. Correctly identify the place in the photograph by name (using the clues to help you). Then send your answer, membership number, name, and address on a postcard to:

Where in the World? Contest

Interval World
P.O. Box 431920
Miami, FL 33243-1920
Attention: Jacquelyn Kalis

Entries must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2015. If your correct answer is one of the first 10 selected in our random drawing, you win! See rules below.

clues

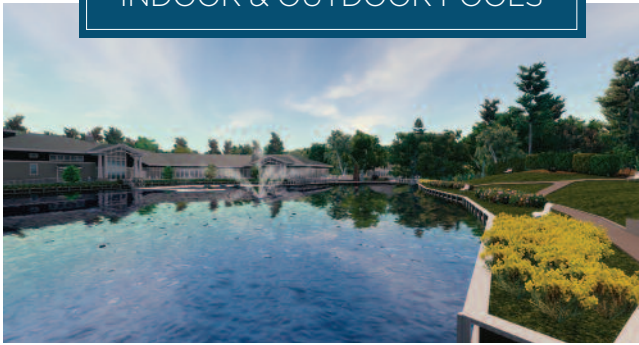
- Believed by the Mayans to be portals to the underworld, thousands of subterranean freshwater swimming holes can be found across the Yucatán Peninsula. These deep limestone sinkholes, known as cenotes, formed when caves collapsed and were flooded by the waters of an extensive system of underground rivers.
- The limestone acts as a filter, leaving the water amazingly clear and ideal for swimming, snorkeling, and diving. Stalactites and stalagmites decorate the thrillingly mysterious caves.
- The name of the cenote shown in the photo refers to the fact that it's one of a pair of sinkholes found close together. While this pool is set in nearly total darkness, sunlight floods the blue water of its mate, creating two entirely different, yet altogether ethereal experiences.

RULES: Entrants must be active members of Interval International. Employees of Interval International, its subsidiaries, parent companies, and affiliates, and the families of each are not eligible to participate. More than one entry per member family is prohibited. Entries must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2015. Winners will be the first 10 correct answers selected in a random drawing. No purchase is necessary. There is no cash equivalent to the prizes.

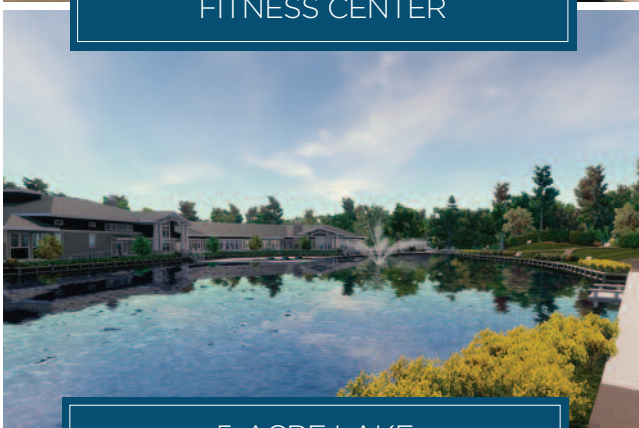
The answer to Where in the World? in the Spring 2015 issue of *Interval World* is Vancouver, British Columbia. The winners of the travel manicure sets are Michael J. and Barbara A. Boday of Cumberland, Rhode Island; Douglas Boyce of Franklin, Virginia; Holly Anne French of Palm Desert, California; Beverly Gallow of Lafayette, Louisiana; John Harvey of Big Flats, New York; Lorna Hoare of Surrey, British Columbia; Beth Hovanec of Clinton, Pennsylvania; Kim McLean of Calgary, Alberta; David Walker and Brenda McClellan of Salmon Arm, British Columbia; and James Yardley of Iowa City, Iowa.



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AN UP-CLOSE LOOK AT

Central England's New Forest



T

he colorful cultural heritage of the New Forest stems from the area's long, rich history. In 1079, William the Conqueror set aside this stunning expanse of wooded pastures, heaths, and bogs as a royal hunting ground. Activities that could restrict hunting, such as enclosing land, were prohibited, leaving local inhabitants (called

commoners) to pasture their livestock in the open forest. Residents continue the practice of commoning today. New Forest ponies are the best-known of the grazing creatures, though numerous cattle, donkey, sheep, and pigs roam freely in season as well. The area is now a national park, and visitors can explore and enjoy a multitude of outdoor activities.

simonbyrne/Corbis

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2



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