

EXCLUSIVELY FOR INTERVAL INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

interval WORLD

ISSUE 2, 2018

SMALL-TOWN APPEAL
IN **BRECKENRIDGE**

AN INSIDERS' TAKE ON
PHOENIX

DISCOVERING THE CARIBBEAN
GEM OF **ST. LUCIA**

TUSCANY'S CHARMING LEGACY

GETAWAYS TO
**LAS
VEGAS**
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per week!

NYC!

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Three different memberships — so you can do it all your way.

One size does not fit all. That's why Interval provides three levels of membership, all offering fabulous perks and benefits, with each tier building upon the one before it. And many benefits can be enjoyed at home or when traveling!



With an Interval International® membership, you can:

- **Exchange** your week or points for a different vacation experience.
- Travel more often and enjoy spacious accommodations, with affordable weeklong **Getaways**.
- Get up to **60 percent off select hotel bookings** — powered by Priceline Partner Network.
- Access great rates — often unavailable to the general public — on cruises, airline tickets, and car rentals — all through **Interval Travel®**.
- And there's more!



Interval Gold® gives you Interval International benefits, **plus:**

- **Save \$25** on every Getaway.
- Enjoy exchange flexibility with **Interval Options®**. Trade your week or points toward a cruise, hotel, tour, golf, or spa vacation, or a unique Interval Experiences adventure.
- Trade for stays of one to six nights, with **ShortStay Exchange®**.
- Get up to **65 percent off select hotel bookings** — powered by Priceline Partner Network.
- **Golf Connection** gives you access to more than 1,000 private courses.
- Enjoy VIP perks at some of the best restaurants in over 30 of the world's top markets, through **Dining Connection**.
- Discover hot restaurants, shopping opportunities, nightlife options, and sightseeing musts, with **City Guides**.
- And there's more with **VIP ConciergeSM** and **Dining and Leisure Discounts** Powered by Entertainment®.



Interval Platinum®, gives you all of the above, **plus:**

- **Save a total of \$50** on every Getaway.
- Get up to **70 percent off select hotel bookings** — powered by Priceline Partner Network.
- Share the gift of travel with **free Guest Certificates**.
- Enjoy periodic, deep discounts on Getaways, through **Platinum Escapes**.
- Book select offers before other members with **priority Getaway viewing**.
- A **complimentary Priority Pass™ membership** delivers access to airport lounges around the world.

Choose the level of membership that's right for you.

Renew or upgrade your membership today at intervalworld.com.



WHAT’S GOING ON IN INTERVAL’S SOCIAL MEDIA WORLD

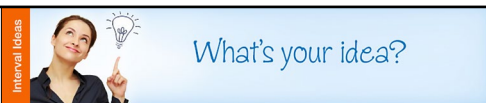
Community 101

There's power in knowledge. And as Interval International's members-only online forum, Community is *the* place where members gather and share travel tips, vacation exchange ideas, and everything else that's important to their vacation ownership experience. It's a wealth of information for all things Interval, provided for — and by — your fellow members. So whether you're new to the forum (welcome!) or need a refresher, here are the essentials of Community.



DISCUSSIONS

Want to trade information about your favorite destinations? Curious as to how you can maximize your Interval benefits? Or maybe you want some member advice on cruises? Whatever you're looking for, Discussions is where you'll find it. Topics run the gamut from Destinations, Exchange, and Getaways to Membership, Cruises, and General Discussions. And there are 20,000 logins per month, so you shouldn't have any trouble finding a fellow member to answer that pressing question about how to beat the Palm Springs heat.



INTERVAL IDEAS

Have any ideas for Interval based on your personal experience with your membership? Here's where to submit them. We want to hear from you!



THE SCOOP

Stay in the know with The Scoop. Get updates on the latest Interval benefits, travel news, and offers, and learn about exciting exchange and Getaway destinations — which could easily become your next Interval vacation.



DOCUMENT LIBRARY

Leave the paperwork behind. Access important information, such as membership benefit tutorials and detailed information on all-inclusive vacations — all in one Document Library.

Be part of Community!
Share your thoughts on
intervalworld.com today.

FOR MEMBERS,
BY MEMBERS

“Since I joined [Community] in 2013, you made it all so clear and I do appreciate how you take the time to help out so many others. You helped me become very appreciative of what we purchased as a first-timer, and how to use this site to an advantage.”
— sydsmom

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Whatever life throws your way, from divorces to name changes to inheritances, we'll make the transfer of your timeshare as easy and as painless as possible.



For more than 25 years, customers have put their trust in Chicago Title Timeshare. Our knowledgeable staff is focused on servicing your vacation ownership needs.

Call 844-259-0327 or visit chicagotitletimeshare.com/intervalworld.

Welcome to Interval International!

Are you
a new
Interval
member?
Read
this first.



Congratulations to those of you who have recently become vacation owners! You've made a smart purchase — one that will provide a lifetime of unforgettable experiences.

Along with your resort week or club points, you now have something that's going to provide even more vacation options and help you save money when you're traveling or at home: We're talking about an **Interval International® membership**. It's the perfect complement to vacation ownership, and you can start using your membership right now! In fact, this magazine, *Interval World*, is one of many Interval perks, and a great resource for information about all of your other membership benefits.

And to even better equip you with everything there is to know about Interval, we've rounded up a list of commonly asked questions and answers to kick-start your membership. So sit back and relax, grab a cup of joe, and read on!

alistairjcootton/Deposit Photos

What is Interval International and what does my membership offer?

Interval is **The Quality Vacation Exchange Network®**, giving you the ability to exchange your resort week or points for a week at one of nearly 3,200 resorts in over 80 nations.

One of the most popular benefits of Interval membership is **Getaways** — low-priced weeklong resort stays. Accommodations are often spacious, with the kitchen, living room, and bedrooms that made you become a vacation owner in the first place. They're also available throughout the world. And since you're probably going to vacation at your home resort or within your club the first year or two, Getaways give you the opportunity to visit your resort *and* enjoy extra vacations. They're also very affordable — starting at \$337 for a week! And as a new member, you get \$25 off all Getaways during your first year of Interval membership. Plus, you can buy a Getaway online at intervalworld.com, or on the **Interval International app**. Want some Getaway ideas? Check out page 72.

You also get the advantage of **Interval Travel®** — a full-service travel agency. Through Interval Travel, you can **book cruises on all of the major lines, buy airline tickets, rent a car, enjoy thrilling experiential tours, save up to 60 percent on select hotel bookings** powered by Priceline Partner Network, and insure your exchange, Getaway, and more. See pages 78 and 82 for an exciting collection of tour and cruise offers selected for you.

Once you're ready to explore the world outside of your home resort or club, it's time to exchange. With **vacation exchange**, you can trade your week or points for a week in Tahoe or Thailand, the Austrian Alps or Australia's Gold Coast. Thinking of exchanging? Read on, then flip to page 10 for more information.

How can I make an exchange?

First, go to intervalworld.com and create a member profile. Next, search for an exchange by destination, or resort and travel date. If the week you want is available, you'll receive an instant confirmation and can pack your bags. If you're a weeks-based member and don't find the week you want, you have two exchange options: **Deposit First** and **Request First**. If you're a points-based member, you'll use Request First. To learn more about each exchange method, turn to page 10.

Can I exchange my week or points toward anything other than a resort vacation?

Yes! Upgrade your membership to **Interval Gold®** or **Interval Platinum®** to take advantage of additional benefits, including **ShortStay Exchange®**, for shorter breaks of one to six nights; and **Interval Options®**, for additional exchange opportunities, including cruises, hotel stays, and experiential travel. Want to learn more? Read page 11.

How can I learn more about my membership?

After you've read *Interval World*, check out the **Travel Planner**, your members-only guidebook, which showcases hundreds of resorts and features essential activities, day-trips, tips for members traveling with kids, and the best weeks to exchange or buy Getaways. It's available in print and at intervalworld.com.

Also, go to intervalworld.com where you'll find resort and destination videos, and membership tutorials on **Interval HD** (which you can also watch on Interval's YouTube channel). While you're there, peruse the Resort Directory, and read The Scoop in **Community**, Interval's members-only online forum. And don't forget to sign up for email updates. These will keep you informed of the latest benefits and special offers.

What are the perks of booking my resort accommodations through Interval?

With Interval, you're getting the best of great brands and top-of-the-line independents, all of which offer you a professionally delivered vacation experience. Our quality commitment is evident in our high affiliation standards. And our multitiered Resort Recognition program — based, in part, on the feedback we receive from your Vacation Evaluation forms (see page 13 to learn more) — takes it to another level, awarding those resorts that exceed our standards. You can view the program in the Resort Directory at intervalworld.com. It will help you find a resort for your next exchange or Getaway vacation that will exceed *your* expectations. ■

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT THE REST OF THIS ISSUE, OR GO TO [INTERVALWORLD.COM](http://intervalworld.com) AND CLICK CREATE PROFILE TO START TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

GETAWAYS

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WORLD

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Matteo Colombo/Getty Images

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Go.

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Again, and again, and again.



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Iowa Travel Agency Registration Number 837.
Interval Travel is exempt from registration as a seller of travel in the State of Florida (ST-10224).

VACATION EXCHANGE: The World Is Your Playground

Your home resort or club is great and you love it. But sometimes it's nice to play somewhere else. With an exchange network of thousands of resorts in countries around the globe, Interval offers every kind of vacation experience imaginable. Look at all the ways you can make the exchange you want with Interval:

Explore Your Interval World

Where to go? When to travel? Good thing you have these fun-filled vacation-planning tools to help you decide your next adventure:

- **Interval World magazine:** Each issue is packed with exchange ideas and opportunities. Go from cover to cover and from ocean to ocean from the comfort of your favorite easy chair.
- **Travel Planner:** This is your go-to vacation dream book that's spilling over with details on destinations, resorts, benefits, and much more. Not sure which resort or area you're interested in? You can also search the **Resort Directory** at intervalworld.com.
- **Interval HD:** Know before you go with resort and destination videos at intervalworld.com and on our YouTube channel. Handy tutorials that walk you step-by-step through every exchange process are also available. And for travel planning on the go, download the **Interval International app** where you can read *Interval World* magazine, peruse the Resort Directory, watch Interval HD videos, and buy a Getaway.
- **Community:** Lean on your fellow Interval members for travel advice, reviews, and tips. And then share your own.

Let's Make an Exchange

The fastest way to exchange is by signing in to intervalworld.com and clicking the Exchange tab. Search for availability, then select the unit you would like to redeem. If what you're looking for is available, you'll receive an instant confirmation. If you don't get an instant confirmation, there are two ways to exchange:

- **Deposit First:** Deposit your week when you know you want to go somewhere other than your home resort. The earlier you deposit — up to two years before your check-in date — the greater your trading power. And you'll have up to two years after the week you own to confirm an exchange. That's a flexible four-year travel window. After you deposit, place a request as soon as you know where you want to go.

The sooner you deposit, the better your chances of getting the exchange you want.

- **Request First:** For members who may still want to use their home resort time, this exchange method lets you tell us where you want to go, and keep your resort time until an exchange has been confirmed. Note: All points-based members will use Request First when making an exchange.

Interval is the only major exchange company that offers the Request First method of exchange systemwide.

Beyond Exchange

Interval is also a one-stop travel shop for all your vacation needs. So if you want to spend time at a resort but don't want to exchange, purchase an affordable weeklong Getaway. And find the perfect cruise (special deals are often available), buy airline tickets, rent a car, get up to 60 percent off select hotel bookings with special Member Deals powered by Priceline Partner Network (see page 12 for even greater hotel savings), and much more!

A Range of Exchanges

While every Interval member can trade their week or points and travel to an exciting new destination, for even more flexibility and opportunities, Interval Gold and Interval Platinum members can take advantage of these additional exchange benefits. Not a member? Upgrade today at intervalworld.com. The value can't be beat.

- **ShortStay Exchange:** Trade your week for two vacations of one to six nights each. That means you can experience the vibrant nightlife of Las Vegas for a few days, and enjoy a weekend coaster hopping with the kids in Orlando. And if you're a points-based member, you can take as many ShortStay Exchanges as your available points allow.
- **Interval Options:** Is sailing the Mediterranean on your bucket list? How about visiting the exotic islands of Thailand? Ever dreamed of taking golf lessons with a pro? Now you can do it all. Trade your resort time toward the purchase of a **cruise, tour, golf, or spa vacation**, or a unique **Interval Experiences** adventure. And with **hotel exchange**, you can trade your week or points toward a hotel stay or condo-style accommodations sourced directly by Interval. Cities such as London, Paris, New York City, and Tokyo are easily accessible with hotel exchange.



Exchange for a change! Visit intervalworld.com or call a vacation advisor today and find your next great escape!

BENEFITS ETC.

NEW! BIG HOTEL SAVINGS FOR INTERVAL MEMBERS

powered by
priceline
partner network.com™

Whether you'd like to add a few nights to your exchange or Getaway vacation, or you'd like to break for a couple of days in the big city, it's never been easier to find the perfect hotel. And with discounts of up to 60 percent off select hotel bookings (Interval Gold members receive up to 65 percent off, and Interval Platinum members get up to 70 percent off) — powered by Priceline Partner Network — you can watch your savings skyrocket. But don't take our word for it. Take a look at these real-life examples. It's OK if you scream out, "Wow!"



SEASONAL CITY ESCAPE New York City, New York

Saturday, Dec. 1, to
Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018
Through intervalworld.com:

**40 hotels from
25% to 70% off!**

Stay in the heart of all the action so you won't miss a thing — with plenty of savings for theater tickets!

PRE-CRUISE MINI-VACAY Miami, Florida

Friday, Nov. 16, to
Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018
Through intervalworld.com:

**50+ hotels from
30% to 60% off!**

Enjoy two days in Miami Beach, then put that extra money toward a 7-night Thanksgiving cruise on the *Norwegian Getaway*. This Caribbean sailing — available at intervalworld.com — departs at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 18.

EXCHANGE OR GETAWAY ADD-ON Los Angeles, California

Sunday, Oct. 21, to
Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018
Through intervalworld.com:

**80+ hotels from
20% to 40% off!**

Extend your vacation in Palm Springs with a few days in Los Angeles! Visit the Santa Monica Pier, the Sunset Strip, and of course, the Hollywood Walk of Fame!

VACATION EVALUATION FORMS: A WIN-WIN FOR EVERYONE

When you go on any Interval exchange or Getaway vacation, you receive a resort confirmation with all the particulars regarding your trip, along with something else that's very important: a Vacation Evaluation form.

Why are Vacation Evaluation forms so vital? They're your chance to tell us what you loved, liked, or disliked about your vacation experience, and an invaluable tool that we use to help improve the quality of resorts in our network.

As an added bonus, for the few minutes that it takes to complete and submit a Vacation Evaluation form (note: it will also be available in your account at intervalworld.com after checkout), you'll have the chance to win a Resort Accommodations Certificate! And what's better than a freebie vacation on us?

Here's a look at recent winners who will be enjoying more away time!

- **April 2018:** Robert and Julie Jacobson of Paxton, Massachusetts
- **May 2018:** Adrian Castano of Sunnyside, New York
- **June 2018:** Thomas and Christi Geist of Fort Collins, Colorado
- **July 2018:** Joseph and Linda Forler of Zionsville, Indiana
- **August 2018:** Joseph and Cynthia Castrovillari of Emmaus, Pennsylvania

Congratulations to our winners!

YOU CAN'T WIN IT IF YOU'RE NOT IN IT!
BE SURE TO FILL OUT AND SUBMIT YOUR VACATION EVALUATION FORM AFTER YOUR NEXT INTERVAL EXCHANGE OR GETAWAY VACATION.



**PREFERRED HOTELS PREFERS
INTERVAL MEMBERS!**

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

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**A VACATION EVERY TIME YOU OPEN
YOUR WALLET**

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:

- Interval membership benefits, including renewals.
- Dining, Getaways, and travel rewards.
- Cash, gift cards, and more.



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Stay and save! Reserve your next hotel stay — powered by Priceline Partner Network — at intervalworld.com today!

Hotel ranges are valid as of April 26, 2018, as provided by Priceline Partner Network.

UPGRADED MEMBERSHIPS

Getaways:

TRAVEL YOUR WAY AND SAVE!

Getaways are one of the most exciting benefits of Interval membership, giving you the ability to vacation more often, in spacious resort accommodations, for less than what you'd pay for a few nights at a hotel. And since Getaways don't involve exchanging your week or points, you can take more vacations. And who doesn't want to enjoy more vacation time? Plus, as an Interval Gold or Interval Platinum member, you receive exclusive Getaway-related benefits and money-saving opportunities! And with our Best Price Guarantee, there's no need to shop around for a better rate.*



Getaway Discounts

How do you make a fantastic bargain even better? By making the savings even greater! Interval Platinum members get \$50 off every Getaway booked (Interval Gold members get \$25 off). And during your first year of Interval membership, you can take an additional \$25 off every Getaway you purchase. That's on top of the savings listed above!



Platinum Escapes

For the ultimate in last-minute travel, enjoy deeply discounted vacation weeks available by email invitation. These amazing Platinum Escapes offers are sent to Interval Platinum members several times a year, so keep an eye on your inbox — you never know when these special deals will show up!

*Best Price Guarantee is available to all members. For terms and conditions, turn to page 76.



Priority Getaway Viewing

With priority Getaway viewing, Interval Platinum members gain exclusive access to Getaways before everyone else. Just watch for the blue priority-viewing icon on a Getaway at intervalworld.com. If you find one, you'll know you've discovered an exclusive opportunity. But act fast: Priority Getaway viewings only last for a short time. So when you see one, grab it before it's gone!



Free Guest Certificates

You can't fit a tropical beach vacation, theme park adventure, or mountain retreat into a wrapped gift box, but with a Getaway Guest Certificate — free for Interval Platinum members — it's virtually the same thing! So, the next time you want to wow a friend or family member, give them the gift of travel.



INTERVAL OPTIONS

SPA | GOLF | CRUISES | TOURS | **HOTELS** | INTERVAL EXPERIENCES

Decisions, decisions, decisions.

Art museum in the morning, and then lunch in the park? Or breakfast in the park, and then a matinee performance? Or let the day take you where it will.

Thanks to hotel exchange, there's plenty of time to do it all.



Upgrade to Interval Gold® or Interval Platinum® today at intervalworld.com or call 800-INTERVAL.

Erickson Productions Inc./SuperStock

Get the best of Getaways!

Visit intervalworld.com to upgrade your membership now!

UPGRADED MEMBERSHIPS

VIP FOR THE WIN

At home or on the go, VIP ConciergeSM is your go-to personalized assistance

service for anything you can think of, from getting tickets to a sold-out show to securing reservations at a trendy restaurant — and beyond! Here are three more reasons why VIP Concierge is such an invaluable benefit:

Time Is on Your Side: Why spend valuable time researching, planning, and booking activities when you can kick back and let someone else do it all? You're busy enough. Become a little less so.

Can't Beat the Convenience: VIP Concierge is open and ready to help you 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Unrivalled Expertise: Connect with professional assistants who have extensive experience and bring their knowledge to every request they service.



Visit intervalworld.com and see all the ways VIP Concierge can help you today!

Tasty BENEFITS

Interval Gold and Interval Platinum deliver so many amazing benefits that make your life easier and your playtime more fun. **Golf Connection** gives you access to private courses and equipment discounts, and **City Guides** provide you with the top attractions and must-dos in a host of popular destinations worldwide.



Then there's the foodie fave, **Dining Connection**, which lets you eat like a celebrity, with special amenities such as kitchen tours and table visits from the chef, at a variety of restaurants — from hidden gems to iconic rooms to the trendiest scenes. And the offerings keep growing! Now you have access to **more than 250 partner restaurants in over 30 of the world's top markets!** Here's a sampling of the great eateries you can visit and the extras you'll receive:

- In New York, dine at **Rôtisserie Georgette** near 5th Avenue and Central Park, and enjoy a complimentary order of savory Parmesan madeleines for the table.
- When visiting Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, stop by **Rao's** for dinner and receive a chef's-choice dessert for the table — on the house.
- Enjoy a special dinner in paradise at **Japengo** on Maui, and get a slice of the restaurant's signature Tengu Ka'anapali pie for the table.
- And many more!

Helen Sessions/Alamy Stock Photo; Yuri Arcurs Media/SuperStock

So good you can taste it! Go to intervalworld.com and see all the special perks you can receive right now through Dining Connection!

INTERVAL OPTIONS

SPA | GOLF | HOTELS | CRUISES | TOURS | **INTERVAL EXPERIENCES**

It doesn't get much more romantic than this.

Each winery visited was special. But this one is perfect. The mountains create a painterly backdrop to the seemingly endless rows of vines. The late afternoon's golden sunshine lights up your eyes. And there's still another stop on the tour.

This is the magic of an Interval Options[®] exchange.



Upgrade to Interval Gold[®] or Interval Platinum[®] today at intervalworld.com or call 800-INTERVAL.



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New Orleans, Louisiana LIGHT IT UP

New Orleans knows how to throw a good party — and the city is going all out this year to celebrate its 300th anniversary with the LUNA (Light Up NOLA Arts) Fête in December. This free, nocturnal festival uses the city's iconic landscape as a canvas for outdoor, public artworks and large-scale light installations produced by various artists. The main spectacle is an elaborate light show projected on the walls of the historic Gallier Hall in the Central Business District. The Arts Council of New Orleans drew inspiration from similar European festivals to create this annual event, which is set to conclude after this year's tricentennial celebration — so this may be the last chance to see the city in a different light.



0-Town EATS

East meets West with tantalizing fusion sandwiches and loose-leaf teas at **Pom Pom's Teahouse & Sandwicheria**.

THE SETTING: The walls are painted in a bright fuchsia, with white and teal stripes and black accents throughout the eatery. Patterned drapes hang from the windows, multicolored paper lanterns dangle from the ceiling, and unique local artworks decorate the space. The day's specials are written in various colors on a chalkboard behind the bar counter, and a bright Ganesha, the Hindu deity, is painted on the long, high-top table near the entrance.

THE MENU: Pom Pom's gourmet-pressed sandwiches are full of crazy flavor combinations that actually work quite well together. Take the Fu Man Chu, for example: Asian pulled pork, arugula, goat cheese, ginger-cranberry chutney, and red onions; or the Spicy Elvis: banana, bacon, strawberry jelly, and cayenne peanut butter. With more than 20 sandwiches on the menu, there's quite a variety to choose from. But the all-time favorite is Mama Ling Ling's Thanksgiving, which comes with turkey, Gouda cheese, stuffing, ginger-cranberry chutney, mashed potatoes, and cream cheese, plus a side of gravy. And try one of the house-blend teas. There's an array of black, red, and green teas — available hot or cold — as well as milk teas.

THE PARTICULARS: Pom Pom's Teahouse & Sandwicheria is open seven days a week: Monday through Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 5 a.m.; and around the clock from Friday at 11 a.m. until Sunday at 6 p.m. For more information, call 407-894-0865 or visit pompomsteahouse.com.

STOWE, VERMONT CRAFT CRAZE

Stowe is one of Vermont's favorite destinations for skiers and outdoor lovers, but the town is now attracting craft beer fans, too. Since the legendary Alchemist Brewery opened its newest location in Stowe in mid-2016, the hype hasn't subsided. The brewery is famous for its flagship Heady Topper, a world-class and highly sought-after double IPA. Long regarded as one of the best beers in the world on sites like BeerAdvocate, Heady Topper is only distributed to hyperlocal retailers. You can sample and purchase the popular brew (or its less boozy sister, Focal Banger) inside the 16,000-square-foot facility, with a 30-barrel brewing system and newly painted ceiling mural.

WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA MUSEUM MAKEOVER

The Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery — home to the Smithsonian Institution's Asian art collection — reopened in late 2017 following major renovations. Curators redesigned permanent collections to better showcase the connection between Asian and American art, and added new installations including *Resound: Bells of Ancient China*. This interactive exhibit features several touchpads that guests can use to hear modern interpretations of ancient Chinese songs with the recordings of a 2,500-year-old bell set — also on display. Admission is free at the Freer and Sackler galleries, as it is at all Smithsonian institutions.

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NEWS & NOTES

Chicago, Illinois
LIGHTS, CAMERA, LAUGHTER

Chicago has long been the breeding ground for *Saturday Night Live* cast members and writers. So the Windy City was the obvious next stop for the *Saturday Night Live: The Experience* traveling exhibit, after wrapping up a two-year stint in New York City. The 12,000-square-foot display at the Museum of Broadcast Communications outlines the history of the late-night sketch comedy show — which debuted in 1975 — and takes visitors through the show's fast-paced weekly schedule. You'll see original costumes, props, and scripts, as well as replicas of the writer's room, control room, and some sets. The exhibition runs until Dec. 31, 2018.



PALM SPRINGS AND PALM DESERT,
CALIFORNIA
THE TOTAL PACKAGE

Animal lovers can now get more bang for their buck at The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens in Palm Desert with the new Total Adventure Package (TAP). For a flat rate of about \$18, visitors get a TAP bracelet that grants them unlimited access to many of the extra activities at the zoo. You can take a selfie with a herd of giraffes and feed them carrots, mingle with lorikeets flying freely inside the aviary, or go on a camel ride as many times as you want for the day. To further enhance the experience, The Living Desert also launched its smartphone app with an interactive audio tour that features overviews for each animal, GPS real-time mapping, and more. It's available for iOS and Android devices.

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NEW MEXICO
MYSTERY FUN HOUSE

There's a sci-fi mystery to be solved at the Meow Wolf arts complex in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Visitors explore the surreal set of rooms and secret passages that make up the interactive art expo, *House of Eternal Return*, to investigate what happened to the fictional Selig family who vanished after conducting some kind of experiment inside their Victorian estate. After two weeks of renovations in early 2018, the reopened exhibit has new rooms to discover and other smaller-scale improvements. A new installation, *Light Boxes*, is a wall of colorful boxes that light up when tapped and hold the code to a nearby safe with clues to solve the mystery.

Brian Ach/AP Images for Premier Exhibitions; Wanna Bee Pono



Big Island
BUZZ ABOUT BEES

Wanna Bee Pono has recently set up a brick-and-mortar shop in Kealahou after five years of selling pure, raw, unfiltered Hawaiian honey online and in farmers markets. Priscilla Basque, beekeeper and co-owner, started maintaining her own bees and harvesting their honey after learning how critical the decline of the honeybee population is to the human food chain. The honey flavors are seasonal, based on the flowers that are blooming at the time. Popular options include rich Kona coffee blossom, lilikoi orange, and lychee. Honey jars come in various sizes and make delightful souvenirs.

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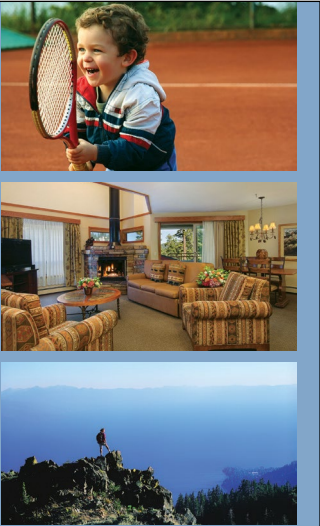
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SOUTH BAJA ART WALK

You don't have to be an art connoisseur to enjoy San José del Cabo's Art Walk, which takes place every Thursday evening from November to June. The galleries clustered behind the city's main square stay open late so that visitors can learn more about the works on hand and meet the artists. The main street is closed to traffic during this time, so you can stroll the neighborhood's cobblestone streets and wander in and out of the different galleries at your own pace. Sip a glass of wine, take in the laid-back atmosphere, and admire paintings, sculptures, and other pieces by some of Baja's finest artists.

Cancún MAYAN RELICS

Cancún may be the perfect setting to relax and clear your mind, but the thought-provoking exhibitions at the Museo Maya de Cancún are well worth a visit. The museum has a total of 3,500 artifacts, with some 350 pieces on display at a time. Two permanent exhibition halls take visitors through an extensive timeline of Mayan history and culture. A third gallery features rotating and traveling exhibits, and behind it is the noteworthy *La Mujer de las Palmas* (The Woman of the Palms): skeletal remains that date back about 10,000 years, found in a cenote near Tulum. After strolling through the indoor installations, step outside to explore the San Miguelito archeological site, which includes a 26-foot-tall pyramid and around 40 ancient structures.



Michael Dwyer/Alamy Stock Photo; Nickolas Murray Photo Archives

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LONDON, ENGLAND

ALL ABOUT FRIDA

Locked away for some 50 years, Frida Kahlo's personal belongings are now being showcased at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The exhibit, *Frida Kahlo: Making Her Self Up*, chronicles the iconic Mexican artist's life through her intimate possessions, from her stylish clothes and bold jewelry to her plaster corsets and red leather-booted prosthetic leg. Unsealed from her house outside of Mexico City in 2004, the collection of 200 or so objects has never been displayed outside of Mexico until now. The show, which runs until Nov. 4, also includes photographs of Kahlo, as well as some of her artwork.

FOR MORE ON FRIDA KAHLO,
TURN TO PAGE 36.

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CRUISE NEWS

Symphony in Fun Major

The newest — and world’s biggest — Royal Caribbean ship hits all the high notes.



WHO’S IT FOR?

Through most of the 21st century’s first decade, Royal Caribbean encouraged travelers to “Get out there.” And while the company’s official tagline has changed over the years, ultimately, this cruise line is still for passengers who want to do exactly that, whether *getting out there* means taking part in exhilarating onboard activities, or seeking active dry-land adventures while in port.

WHAT’S FOR DINNER?

The *Symphony of the Seas* joins Royal Caribbean’s Oasis-class ships, so you’ll find many of the line’s already-popular eateries, such as Chops Grille steakhouse, Izumi Hibachi and Sushi den, and Jamie’s Italian bistro. Some additional options, however, are brand new to *Symphony*. For something a little spicy, try the made-to-order burritos, tacos, and more at El Loco Fresh, an open-air spot with a casual Mexican menu. At Hooked Seafood, fresh New England-style fare — including oysters shucked just for you — is the “catch of the day” every day.

HOW TO SPEND THE DAYS AT SEA?

Symphony of the Seas is the world’s largest cruise ship, home to a mind-blowing array of seagoing diversions. There are the standard Royal Caribbean highlights: the lush Central Park district (one of seven neighborhoods aboard the *Symphony*), two FlowRider surf simulators, the Royal Promenade shops, the 10-story Ultimate Abyss waterslide, and, of course, the rock climbing wall (actually, *Symphony* has two 40 feet above deck). But a new ship isn’t complete without new attractions — and this vessel

has plenty. The Boardwalk quarter is now anchored by Playmakers Sports Bar & Arcade, a laid-back spot to catch the game. Live entertainment includes a dazzling, time-traveling ice-skating performance called *1977*, and *HiRo*, the line’s latest high-flying AquaTheater production. Finally, if your traveling companions want to engage in some imaginative competition between the forces of good and evil, join the Battle for Planet ZSM, a glow-in-the-dark laser tag adventure.

HOW TO SPEND THE DAYS IN PORT?

Stroll the streets of Philipsburg, St. Maarten, in search of unique souvenirs (homemade hot sauce and guavaberry liqueur are highlights) and delicious street-side snacks, such as lobster bites and barbecue skewers. Spend your day on St. Thomas snorkeling off Sapphire Beach. Check out the legendary swimming pools, casino, and other entertainment at Atlantis Paradise Island in Nassau. ■

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INTERVAL WORLD ■ Issue 2, 2018 27

CRUISE NEWS BRIEFS

EVOLUTIONARY DESIGN

Celebrity Cruises' new 100-passenger *Celebrity Flora* is arguably the most unique cruise ship ever conceived. Yes, innovative design concepts (more outward-facing spaces, modern cocoon loungers) were incorporated to ensure guest comfort, but what truly makes *Flora* so distinct is that it was purpose-built for one of the world's most singular destinations: the Galápagos Islands. Indeed, every detail of the ship — from the anchorless sea-positioning system to the Observatory's floor-to-ceiling windows to the multiple Zodiac boat tenders — allows passengers to more fully experience this unspoiled environmental wonderland, without interfering with the daily habits of the archipelago's natural residents.



LIGHT SABERS OR SPIDEY SENSES?

Whether your family leans to a galaxy far, far away or prefers our current universe (albeit one patrolled by a band of rambunctious superheroes), Disney has an immersive cruise experience for you in early 2019. *Star Wars* Day at Sea is back for nine *Disney Fantasy* trips departing from Port Canaveral, Florida, between January and March. During the same time period, the *Disney Magic* will host Marvel Day at Sea on 10 itineraries sailing from Miami, Florida. Daylong festivities include character interactions (with both heroes and villains), themed activities, special food and beverage options, and more.



BIG ACCOMMODATIONS, BIGGER VIEWS

Alaskan cruises — through the Inside Passage, among wilderness reserves, and alongside dramatic glaciers — might be the most visually striking itineraries in the industry. Yet, the coastal scenery really is just the tip of the iceberg, so to speak. Alaska is as stunning inland as it is along the shore. Holland America Line's Land+Sea Journeys provide wonderful opportunities to experience both regions, and starting in 2019, the company will add 99 rooms — including 55 spacious junior suites — to its Denali accommodations. The junior suites will all have a balcony so guests can soak up the mesmerizing views for the duration of their excursion.



THE SHOW MUST GO ON

In addition to fun itineraries, MSC Cruises has always been known for top-notch onboard entertainment. And now, the performance offerings on the *MSC Seaside* are set to exceed even those standards. The ship's 934-seat Metropolitan Theatre is home to seven new and original Broadway-style spectacles, including *My Life in Music*, based on popular movie soundtracks, and *The Wizard*, focused on jaw-dropping illusions. There's also a new improvised comedy show staged by the BeerProv troupe that promises to have audiences rolling in the aisles. And that's not all — with Lego rooms for young cruisers, an F1 racing simulator, and more, it's time to get the show on the road!



QUICK — CONVENIENT — ESCAPE

The secret is out regarding quick cruises: They make for delightful long weekends or serve as hassle-free extensions to land-based vacations. Which is why Carnival's short cruise program — mostly four- and five-night voyages — has become more popular. So, beginning in May 2019, Carnival will reposition two grand vessels — *Carnival Dream* and *Carnival Valor* — to sail from Galveston and New Orleans respectively, to fun Mexico destinations year-round. The bottom line is a greater selection of quick cruises. Not to mention incredibly affordable. Many of the short program itineraries are similar in price to a few nights at a nice hotel — except food and certain activities also are included!



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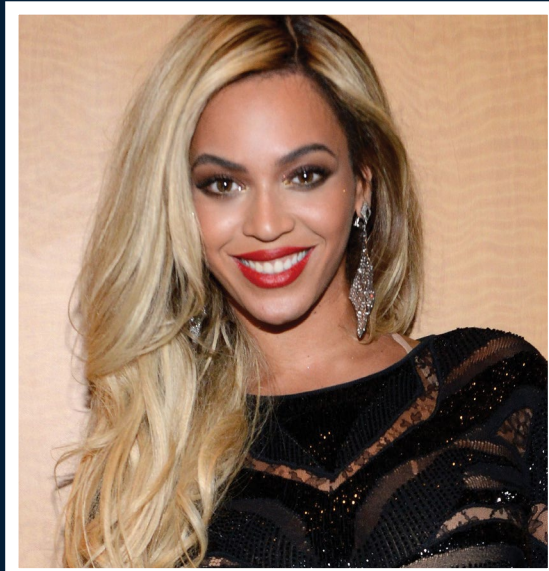
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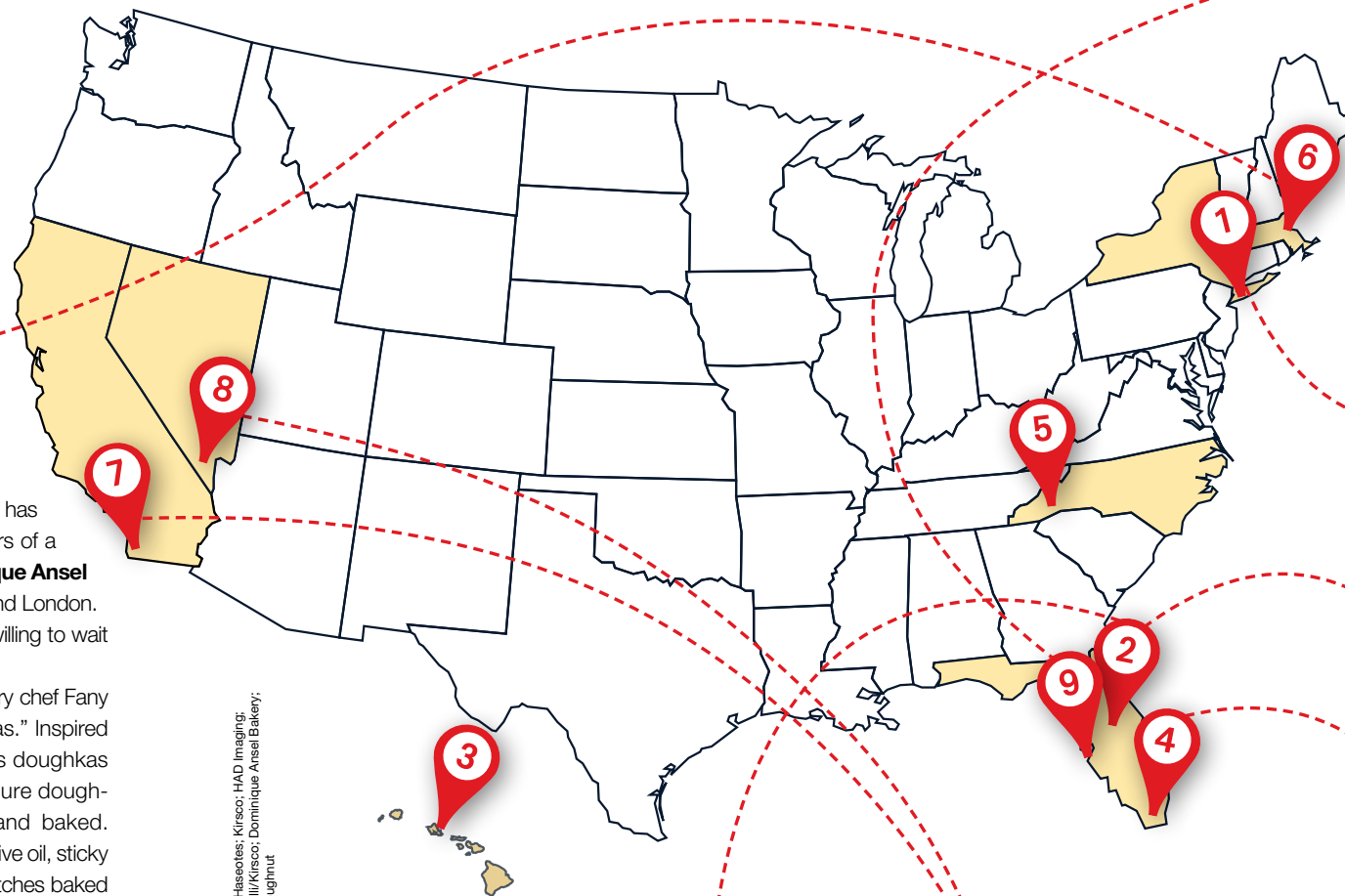
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Nuts for Dough

WARNING:
THERE MAY BE HOLES IN THIS STORY.

BY REBECA PICCARDO



Alexandra Haseotes; Kirsco; HAD Imaging;
Maria Fanelli/Kirsco; Dominique Ansel Bakery;
Voodoo Doughnut



There's a certain nostalgia about eating a doughnut: With just one bite, you're suddenly a kid again, holding a warm, puffy ring of dough in your hands. It was a similar feeling of comfort and familiarity that made this sweet confection an American food staple. Originally introduced to the U.S.

by Dutch settlers as *olykoeks* (oil cakes), the fried dough changed in shape and ingredients as different families crafted their own recipes and variations. The doughnut craze truly began after World War I, when Salvation Army volunteers served the scrumptious pastry to soldiers in the trenches. When the war was over and the soldiers returned home, the love for them stuck.

Nowadays, doughnuts are everywhere, with massive chains selling them by the dozen on every other street corner. But America's favorite treat is evolving once again, as innovative bakers across the country elevate this unassuming fried dough into a culinary delicacy. These gourmet doughnuts, handmade in small batches with fresh ingredients in new, ingenious flavors, are as far removed from a box of Krispy Kreme as a Belgian saison is from a bottle of Bud. So keep an eye out for these local bakeries making weird-yet-wonderful creations — all within an hour drive of Interval resort vacation areas.

NEW FORMS, NEW FLAVORS

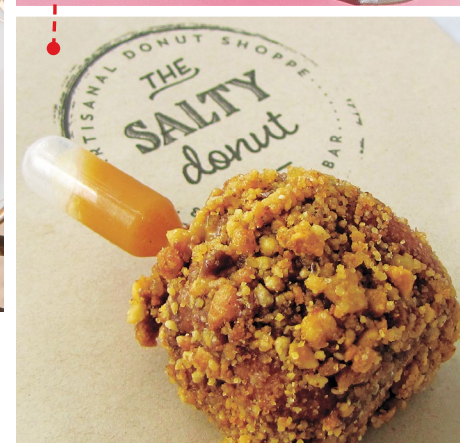
There are only a few places in the world where you can get your hands on a "cronut," the mythical croissant-doughnut hybrid invented by French pastry chef Dominique Ansel in his SoHo bakery in **New York City** 1. It takes three days to make, using laminated dough fried in grapeseed oil, filled with cream,

rolled in sugar, *and* glazed on top. The end product has a traditional ring shape with the flaky, delicate layers of a croissant. The official cronut is only sold at **Dominique Ansel Bakery** locations in NYC, Los Angeles, Tokyo, and London. They're about \$6 each — you just have to be willing to wait in line for them!

Also in New York City, **Dough** owner and pastry chef Fany Gerson created her own food mashup: "doughkas." Inspired by her Mexican and Jewish heritage, Gerson's doughkas are babka loaves made from the bakery's signature doughnut dough that is then rolled, cut, braided, and baked. Flavors include Mexican chocolate, lemon and olive oil, sticky banana, and apple cinnamon. There are limited batches baked daily in Dough's Flatiron District location, but you can reserve an order by calling a day in advance.

Portland-based **Voodoo Doughnut** opened its first East Coast shop at Universal **Orlando** 2 this spring. Of its offbeat, eclectic menu, the fried dough bearing the business namesake is also one of its most interesting offerings: a voodoo doll stuffed with raspberry jelly, topped with chocolate frosting, and, for (edible) authenticity, stuck with a pretzel stake in place of a pin. They also roll blunts, but don't expect to indulge in any cannabis here: This maple blazer blunt doughnut is dusted in cinnamon sugar, and the top is dipped in maple frosting and red sprinkles. In addition to the 50 flavors of yeast, cake, and vegan options listed on the menu, the shop's "doughnut artists" can create unique, custom creations for special occasions, upon request.

The doughnut of choice in **Hawaii** 3 is the *malasada*, which was brought over to the islands by early Portuguese settlers. And **Leonard's Bakery** in Oahu has been making



them since 1953. These are egg-size balls of deep-fried yeast dough, coated in granulated sugar or cinnamon, and filled with custard, chocolate, or *haupia* (a Hawaiian coconut pudding). For a different take on the fried dough with distinct Hawaiian flair, head over to **Kamehameha Bakery** to try their *poi* (mashed taro root) glazed doughnuts.

BOOZY CONFECTIONS

From its humble beginnings as a pop-up food truck, **The Salty Donut** has had crowds flocking over to **Miami's** ⁴ Wynwood neighborhood for a taste of their unique spin on dough (the bakery's cannoli doughnut won the Cooking Channel's *Sugar Showdown* in 2016). One of the reasons this artisanal doughnut shop, now a brick-and-mortar business set to open a second location in South Miami this summer, continues to sell out almost daily: their alcohol-charged treats. Spiked doughnut holes with a rotating shot of liquor reductions served in a pipette, peach brioche drizzled with bourbon, limited-edition batches with rosé- and prosecco-flavored jelly — the list goes on. The Salty Donut creates new flavors often, but one of their year-round fixtures, the maple-bacon doughnut, is made with a dark, porter-style beer reduction from nearby J. Wakefield Brewing. The porter drizzle adds a sweet and smoky taste to the bacon's flavor. Try one — you won't be sorry.

Over in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, it appears that **Asheville's** ⁵ burgeoning beer culture has spilled over into the pastries. **Vortex Doughnuts** uses local brews to flavor the caramel sauce in their “rotating tap” signature doughnut, topped with peanuts, pretzels, and beer-malt crumble. On the other side of town, **Hole Doughnuts** experiments with booze-infused glazes for seasonal flavors such as bourbon, rum, brandy, wine, Champagne, and eggnog. Their doughnuts are made-to-order, served fresh out of the fryer.



NO SWEET TOOTH? NO PROBLEM

The fact that stars such as Adele and John Mayer frequent **Blackbird Doughnuts** whenever they perform in **Boston** ⁶ is reason enough to stop by. But here's another: the everything bagel doughnut, filled with whipped cream cheese and topped with toasted garlic, onion, sesame, and poppy seeds. This South End bakery is constantly coming up with interesting flavor combinations and trying out savory ingredients such as Buffalo sauce, blue cheese, chips and dip, and pepperoni.

Another Boston shop, **Union Square Donuts**, received rave reviews for creating the “chicken n donuts” pastry to celebrate last year's National Doughnut Day. The treat — brioche dough with a mirror-smooth maple glaze, topped with fried chicken skin — pays a tasty homage to chicken and waffles. Another flavor they've incorporated into their doughy delights: curry spice. The seasonal coconut masala flavor is glazed with yellow curry and sprinkled with shredded coconut.

This trend isn't confined to New England, though. Over on the West Coast, **Donut Bar** in **San Diego** ⁷ and downtown **Las Vegas** ⁸ offers a doughnut rendition of a grilled cheese sandwich. Picture this: Two cinnamon sugar doughnuts with the ends cut off, doused in butter, and then toasted on a griddle with American and Havarti cheese. The dough and cheese are perfectly proportioned, and the sweetness of the cinnamon and sugar complements the melted cheeses — with an added kick from the spicy sauce it's served with. You can eat it whole or sandwich style, sliced in half.

VEGAN GOODIES

Finding a delicious, eggless, dairy-free doughnut is not such a far-fetched idea — especially if you're visiting the Orlando area. **Valkyrie Donuts**, located next to the University of Central Florida, offers vegan-friendly varieties of their cakey squares that are two to three times the size of a regular doughnut. You even have the option to turn yours into an ice cream sandwich using Irie Cream, a vegan ice cream made locally by DaJen Eats.

Orlando-based baker Liz Doerr may not have her own food truck or storefront, but her **Orlandough** craft doughnuts are all over town. You can find her handmade, small-batch sweets at the weekly College Park Farmers Market, Orlando Brewing's monthly beer pairings, and other pop-up events announced on Orlandough's Instagram and Facebook accounts. Doerr also takes private orders and offers customers different types of dough — from buttery brioche to gluten-free baked vegan.

FUN-SIZE AND CUSTOMIZED

In Florida's **Tampa Bay** ⁹ area, the **Mini Doughnut Factory** is the authority on bite-size indulgences. Their doughnut rings are approximately one-third the size of a regular doughnut — and come in 16 different flavors. You can order a pack, get them blended in a milkshake, or served in a vanilla bean sundae.

The shop also offers the opportunity to create your own miniature doughnut. There are four types of dough, 14 icings, 19 toppings, and seven drizzles to choose from. Chocolate-bacon-Sriracha? Vanilla-mint-espresso? It's totally up to you. ■

Maria Fanelli/Kinco



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SHOPPING

¡Viva los Muertos!

FESTIVE FINDS CELEBRATING TRADITION

NO *DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS*, OR DAY OF THE DEAD, FESTIVITY IS COMPLETE WITHOUT A FEW BRIGHTLY PAINTED SUGAR SKULLS, WHIMSICAL SKELETONS, VIBRANT GARMENTS, AND OTHER CELEBRATORY WARES.

BY SAMANTHA MONAHAN



traditionally Mexican holiday originating with the Aztecs, *Día de los Muertos* is fast becoming a part of mainstream U.S. culture. Every year, on Nov. 1 and 2, festivals and parades take place in cities across North America and Mexico, attracting those who wish to honor departed loved ones and celebrate life, as well as those who want to learn more about Mexican culture. As the name suggests, Day of the Dead memorializes deceased ancestors through parties, food, drinks, and fun activities (especially those that the dead enjoyed in life). If you've seen Pixar's 2017 *Día de los Muertos*-themed children's film, *Coco*, Mexico's all-time highest-grossing movie and the 2018 Academy Award winner for Best Animated Film, you'll know that the holiday is also about family and community togetherness, and exploring one's ancestral heritage.

And with every festivity comes specific decor, accessories, and other essentials that have traditional value or symbolic meaning such as handcrafted candles and marigolds — the popular holiday flower. Common themes during celebrations include *calacas* (skeletons) and *calaveras* (skulls), as well as bright colors and quirky designs. Here, we feature the top must-have Day of the Dead souvenirs and collectibles — all available for purchase within Interval resort areas — to complete your *Día de los Muertos* experience.

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CALACAS AND CALAVERAS

The most iconic accessory you'll see during Day of the Dead is the sugar skull. True sugar skulls are decorative *ofrendas* (offerings placed upon altars for the dead) molded from a granulated white sugar mixture (an ingredient that was plentiful when the art form originated in the 17th century), and embellished with icing, colored foil, feathers, rhinestones, sequins, beads, and more. Typically inscribed on the forehead of the skull is the name of the individual being honored. Today, however, the term *sugar skull* commonly applies to anything resembling or in representation of the traditional sugar skull, regardless of what it's made of. The sugar skull is incorporated in almost everything — from artwork and home decor to jewelry, clothing, and face paintings. Hand-painted ceramic skulls are sold in stores and by street vendors year-round. These bold, one-of-a-kind creations come in a range of different styles, and make a great souvenir and conversation piece.

Whether on posters or apparel, or in the form of petite figurines, skeletons also symbolize the holiday. You're sure to spot traditional Día de los Muertos skeleton dolls — which vary in size and are decked out in fun, festive clothing — or handmade devotional dioramas, another popular ornamental item featuring miniature skeleton scenes that are made of clay and paper-mache, and enclosed in a glass-front wooden box.

WHERE TO SHOP: Happy Hookah in New Orleans, Louisiana, offers a variety of ceramic skulls, as well as other Day of the Dead-themed keepsakes. And in Riviera Maya, Mexico, explore the eclectic Mexican Folk Art Museum in Xcaret Park, famous for its collection of Día de los Muertos dolls. happyhookahnola.com
xcaret.com/mexican-folk-art-museum.php



ART AND CRAFTS

Day of the Dead includes a rich history of folk art, which encourages self-expression and portrays traditional elements in colorful and dynamic ways. Portraits of revered folk art-style painter Frida Kahlo, who incorporated calacas and calaveras in much of her artwork, are ubiquitous throughout the holiday. Kahlo is widely celebrated in Mexico, especially during Day of the Dead, for embracing her indigenous roots, inspiring popular culture, and promoting social and political reform by exploring questions of identity, gender, class, and race. Many artists since Kahlo have continued to influence Mexican culture with works that range from vibrant paintings and pottery to quirky masks, dainty wooden figurines, and unique glassblown objects.

Perhaps the most intricate of handmade items is *papel picado*, a decorative craft made from paper that is cut into elaborate designs and strung together to form beautiful, festive banners. Papel picado adorns homes, stores, and the altars of the deceased, and is meant to represent the fragility of life.

WHERE TO SHOP: For Día de los Muertos-inspired artwork and artisan goods, stop by the Craft Crypt at the Day of the Dead Celebration in downtown Fort Lauderdale, Florida (see sidebar). Check out The Lost Barrio in Tucson, Arizona, for fine art, and San Francisco, California's Casa Bonampak for a vast assortment of papel picado creations. dayofthedeadflorida.com/craft-crypt
thelostbarrio.com | casabonampak.com

DRESS TO IMPRESS

In addition to sugar-skull face paintings and skeleton costumes, party-goers will often don traditional Mexican clothing. Look for the typical Chiapas dress, which includes a silk, off-the-shoulder blouse, and a long, embroidered floral skirt. While original versions of the Chiapas dress were once an everyday garment, today it's considered more sophisticated and is reserved for special occasions. If you'd rather keep it casual, choose a cozy serape, a blanket-like shawl with multicolored stripes and fringed ends. Beyond being worn, these vibrant pieces have a variety of decorative uses — from furniture throws and window treatments to tablecloth and wall hangings. Complete your look with a beaded statement necklace, Frida Kahlo earrings, or a colorful embroidered handbag.

WHERE TO SHOP: Visit Casa Bernal on Los Angeles' Olvera Street in California for an array of traditional Mexican attire, or browse the Tucson Thrift Shop for classic Day of the Dead formal wear, stunning sugar-skull masks, and feathered accessories. In Riviera Maya, you'll find Frida Kahlo merchandise, jewelry, clothing, bags, and more at any of the three MexiCarte locations. tucsonthrifthshop.com
mexicarte.shop ■

Int: St Clair/Getty Images; VNY Media AS/Alamy Stock Photo; Lightworks Media/Alamy Stock Photo



RIGHT: At the Frida Kahlo Museum in Mexico City, known as *La Casa Azul* (The Blue House), explore the home where the artist lived and admire some of her most important works.



A Matter of Life and Death

One of the most important holidays in Mexico, Día de los Muertos was recognized in 2008 by UNESCO, when the festivity was added to its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Through the decades, this joyous way to honor the dearly departed continues to increase in popularity. Want to join the revelers? Buy your own calacas, calaveras, and other Day of the Dead essentials, don a costume and makeup, and partake in one of these lively Día de los Muertos celebrations.

Fort Lauderdale, Florida: Join the processional of musicians, stilts walkers, puppeteers, and more at the annual Day of the Dead Celebration in downtown Fort Lauderdale. **Nov. 2** | dayofthedeadflorida.com

New Orleans, Louisiana: The Voodoo Music + Arts Experience is all about music, art, community, and cuisine — but mostly music, with more than 65 bands performing over the three-day celebration. **Oct. 26 – 28** | voodooofestival.com

Tucson, Arizona: Don't miss Tucson's 29th annual All Souls Procession Weekend, attracting more than 150,000 participants and offering altars, entertainers, and installation art. **Nov. 1 – 3** | allsoulsprocession.org

San Francisco, California: Add to the altars and take part in the walking procession at the Festival of Altars, held every year in the Mission District's Garfield Square. **Nov. 2** | dayofthedeadsf.org

Los Angeles, California: Olvera Street's nine-day-long procession is fun for the whole family, with Aztec dancers, live music, and nightly parades. **Oct. 25 – Nov. 2** | olveraevents.com

Riviera Maya, Mexico: Enjoy delicious Mexican fare, hands-on activities, art exhibitions, and concerts at Xcaret Park's annual Festival of Life and Death Traditions. **Oct. 30 – Nov. 2** | xcaret.com

Follow in the footsteps of a local and venture beyond popular Manhattan attractions to different **New York City** experiences in Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx.



LEFT: Dubbed “the Woodstock of eating” by *The New York Times*, Smorgasburg is the largest weekly open-air food market in the U.S., attracting anywhere from 20,000 to 30,000 people every weekend from April to October. RIGHT: Founded in 1971 by Alanna Heiss, one of the originators of the alternative spaces movement in New York City, MoMA PS1 is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit arts centers in the U.S. devoted to contemporary art.



The Big(ger) Apple

By Jessica Colley Clarke

I can't remember the last time I was in Times Square. As a New Yorker who has lived in Manhattan for the last 10 years, the closest I usually get to those neon lights is underground as the subway zips downtown from my home in Harlem.

When friends come to visit, we might go to the top of the Empire State Building or hop the ferry to the Statue of Liberty, but we also feast on barbecue in Brooklyn and wander the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx. My goal is for them to leave with a more complete picture of the beautiful diversity that makes up this unique and exciting city.

In upper Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx, here's where I bring visitors who are looking to experience something a bit different.

BEYOND MIDTOWN IN MANHATTAN

There's much more to Manhattan than the skyscrapers and theaters of midtown. When travelers explore past this familiar area, they often venture downtown to the charming (some still cobblestone) streets of the West Village or prime shopping in SoHo. But there's also a lot to see in the opposite direction, heading north toward Central Park and beyond into upper Manhattan.

Claudia Urpos/eStock Photo; Lumiere/eStock Photo

One of the best ways to see Central Park is on two wheels. A paved 6.1-mile loop winds through the park, passing familiar landmarks like Sheep Meadow and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, along with less familiar attractions including the Conservatory Garden and the Harlem Meer lake. The summer is a particularly action-packed time to visit the park, with special events including the film festival in August, Shakespeare in the Park, and outdoor concerts.

The vibrant neighborhood of Harlem begins at the northern stretch of Central Park, on 110th Street. During Sunday morning brunch hours, restaurants come to life with live music and drink specials. When out-of-towners make their way to the Big Apple, I let them choose between a few favorites: classic soul food at Sylvia's Restaurant, Somali fare at Safari for a taste of the local African cuisine, or Neapolitan pizza at Sottocasa Pizzeria.

If the sun is shining and I'm not in Central Park, odds are I'm on the banks of the Hudson along the Hudson River Valley Greenway. This waterside path continues all the way north along the waterfront in Manhattan to the George Washington Bridge and beyond. One of my favorite views of the Manhattan skyline is from the pedestrian walkway (cyclists are welcome, too) on the top level of the crossing.

Upper Manhattan is also home to the Met Cloisters, a branch of The Metropolitan Museum of Art focused on medieval art that's set in a former monastery. After wandering through the galleries, I always bring visitors to Fort Tryon Park. Perched above the Hudson, it offers wide river views and a garden complete with more than 500 varieties of plants and trees.

EXPLORING BROOKLYN

Around the world, Brooklyn has become an adjective — it's a substitute for cool. The constantly changing borough is actually a collection of neighborhoods (if separate from the rest of New York, it would still be the fourth largest city in the U.S.) that all have their own character.

Brooklyn is known for its maker culture, and in Williamsburg, this is evidenced by the many choices for food and drink. The district is home to staples like the Brooklyn Brewery (stop in to taste beer brewed at the source) and Smorgasburg (an outdoor food market with skyline views, open Saturdays from April through October; the Prospect Park location is open Sundays), as well as destination restaurants such as Lilia for pasta, Maison Premiere for oysters and cocktails, and Diner for one of New York's best burgers.

For some exercise after a Williamsburg feast, the Ocean Parkway Bike Path offers a 5-mile trail from Prospect Park out to Coney Island (dating to 1894, it's actually the country's oldest bike path). Located on a sandy beach, Coney Island's amusement rides, boardwalk, and aquarium feel worlds away from the bustling city streets.

Exploring Brooklyn is also a reminder that New York City is a metropolis surrounded by water. From the tip of lower Manhattan, you can board the Ikea Express ferry for a journey to the Red Hook quarter. As the boat crosses the East River and hugs the Brooklyn coastline, you gain a different perspective on the skyscrapers of the Financial District. Once you disembark in Red Hook, follow the hungry crowds to Hometown Bar-B-Que, an unfussy smokehouse known for its finger-licking brisket, pulled pork, and ribs.

Of all the vantage points looking back at the Manhattan skyline, my favorite may be the view from the Brooklyn Heights Promenade, a nearly 2,000-foot walkway perched above the East River. The esplanade flanks charming Brooklyn Heights, a historic neighborhood with cobbled streets and envy-inducing brownstones. Especially around sunset, there's no place in New York I'd rather be.

THE MANY SIDES OF QUEENS

Brooklyn may get all the love in movies and TV shows set in New York today, but Queens is a worthy destination for art, books, food,

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1. Named after the legendary Harlem speakeasy that attracted the likes of Nat King Cole, James Baldwin, and other prominent figures of the 20th century, Red Rooster is a favorite neighborhood joint where cocktails pay homage to its past.
2. A Coney Island staple, Paul's Daughter has been serving frankfurters, corn dogs, and other carnival-food essentials to hungry parkgoers for more than 50 years.
3. Set on 4 acres overlooking the Hudson River, the Met Cloisters hold a collection of more than 2,000 pieces of art and architectural elements from medieval Europe.
4. With penguin feedings, seasonal camel rides, and cheetah encounters, the Bronx Zoo is an exciting must-see for the entire family.

events, and more. Long Island City, located across the East River from midtown Manhattan, is a common entry point to the borough. Many people climb aboard the 7 local train with MoMA PS1, a contemporary art museum, in mind (The Noguchi Museum, dedicated to the work of sculptor Isamu Noguchi, is also in the neighborhood). In addition to exhibitions by emerging artists, the gallery is known for its weekend summer Warm Up series, an afternoon of outdoor music and dancing.

Formerly an industrial neighborhood, Long Island City has recently experienced an explosion in its food scene. People now line up for a bowl of noodles at Mu Ramen, pack into communal picnic tables to eat brisket and burnt ends at John Brown Smokehouse, and endure growling stomachs to wait for a table at Casa Enrique (independent bookstore Book Culture, located about a mile up the road, is a nice place to kill some time). For me, a Long Island City visit isn't complete without a cocktail at Dutch Kills, a dark and cozy den where bartenders mix creative drinks in a relaxed environment.

SIMEIS/Stock Photo



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The borough of Queens is one of the most ethnically diverse places on the planet. One of the best ways to experience this melting pot of cultures is through its food, including Greek cuisine in Astoria (try Gregory's 26 Corner Taverna), Chinese favorites in Flushing (Guan Fu Sichuan received a three-star review from *The New York Times* last year), Thai dishes in Woodside (SriPraPhai has a big back garden), and Uzbek fare in Rego Park (bring your appetite to Taste of Samarkand).

Queens is also the host of the U.S. Open, one of four annual Grand Slam tennis tournaments, held at the end of August through early September at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. Here, you can drink Champagne and eat oysters between matches.



Considered among New Yorkers as the city's *real* Little Italy, Arthur Avenue is chock-full of artisan delis, pastry shops, and eateries.

the jarred spicy peppers), the Arthur Avenue Retail Market (an indoor market home to The Bronx Beer Hall), and DeLillo Pastry Shop (grab some biscotti for tomorrow's breakfast).

Before a stroll down Arthur Avenue, I often begin a day in the Bronx at the New York Botanical Garden. The 250-acre park has something blooming in all seasons, with popular annual events including the Holiday Train Show, where mini-locomotives zip past miniaturized New York landmarks like the Brooklyn Bridge. Families may also want to explore the Bronx Zoo, home to more than 600 species of animals including lions, baboons, giraffes, and sea lions, and a special exhibit dedicated to the wildlife of Madagascar.

When you see a different side of New York, it will probably feel less like sightseeing and more like trying someone else's lifestyle for a while. Once you explore beyond the popular attractions, it may be some time before you return to Times Square. ■

Freelance writer Jessica Colley Clarke has written about travel and food for *The New York Times*, *AFAR* magazine, and *Saveur*. Follow her travels on Instagram @JessicaColleyClarke.



The Pulse of the City

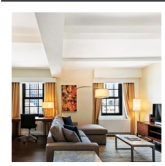
There's much more Manhattan to discover after you've visited the Statue of Liberty and Empire State Building. Learn about New York's immigrant history at the Lower East Side's **Tenement Museum**, home to apartments restored to reflect immigrant life between the 19th and 21st centuries. Don't leave the neighborhood without exploring the **Essex Street Market**, serving wallet-friendly bites, from Greek comfort food to freshly made smoothies. The market, which opened in 1940, is set to move down the street before the end of 2018, so now's your chance to enjoy a bit of culinary history.

For a different perspective of the city, climb aboard the only aerial cable car in New York, the **Roosevelt Island Tramway** (above), which rises 250 feet above the East River, with views back toward the midtown Manhattan skyline (board at Second Avenue

and 60th Street). To combine sightseeing and some of New York's best eats, check out the **Great Northern Food Hall** in Grand Central Terminal, known for its Danish-influenced baked goods, grain bowls, and cocktails. Join film lovers at the **Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center** at Lincoln Center where lectures, panels, and festivals are held in addition to regular film screenings.

To catch a glimpse of a watering hole from another era — 1884, to be exact — grab a seat at the bar of **P.J. Clarke's** and order some oysters followed by the signature burger. After a walk in Central Park, take a quick culinary trip to Tokyo by climbing the stairs to **Yakitori Totto**; the grilled skewers here are affordable and addictive. Shoppers on the hunt for a bargain may want to explore the **Bloomingdale's Outlet** on Broadway and 72nd Street. And to experience New York's off-Broadway theater scene, check out the award-winning **Irish Repertory Theatre**.

AREA RESORT



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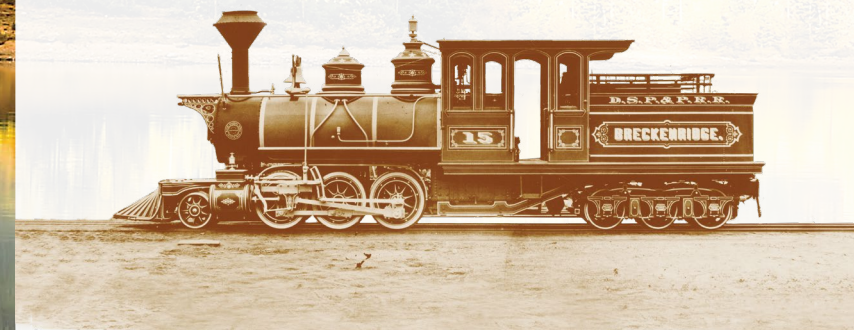
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GOLD STANDARD



Breckenridge has evolved from a rugged mining camp to one of the American West's most inviting and quintessential mountain towns.

BY J.B. BISSELL

With rolling mountains, rows of pine trees, and 26 miles of shoreline, Lake Dillon, located 12 miles north of Breckenridge, paints the perfect backdrop for any Rocky Mountain vacation.

RIGHT: With 121 fully enclosed cabins, each carrying up to eight passengers, the Breckenridge Gondola is a popular — *and free* — attraction that transports riders to the top of Peak 8. INSET, TOP RIGHT: The Denver, South Park, and Pacific Railroad, which became part of the Union Pacific rail system in 1880, was one of the main tracks that ran through Summit County into Breckenridge and other neighboring towns.



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A century and a half ago, you likely would *not* have wanted to visit Breckenridge. There were no comfortable resorts or funky souvenir shops. There was no skiing. Hiking was done out of necessity, not as an enjoyable recreational activity. And a can of beans with bacon was about the best meal you could come by.

Breckenridge was born as a mining town, and if you've seen any Hollywood versions of late 1800s-era Western frontier outposts, you have an idea of what was going on during this hamlet's initial historical heyday. The promise of gold in the area's rivers and mountains enticed fortune seekers and lovable scoundrels (lovable in those Hollywood movies) to journey across the plains and over the foothills, and into some treacherous alpine terrain that's now known as the Tenmile Range — which tops out at 14,265 feet above sea level at the summit of Quandary Peak. Once here, they spent hard days panning or mining for precious metal, and even harder nights tossing back white lightning in one of the 18 local saloons.

It wasn't a glamorous life back then, but all that gritty history

is exactly what makes Breckenridge such a cool place to visit nowadays. It's a *real* town, with real community roots. A few rough-and-tumble folks who were facing potentially dire stakes founded Breckenridge in 1859. Their stories and mythology are a permanent piece of this place.

A place that has become a perfect mountain destination, a combination of gorgeous scenery, endless recreation, and the type of Old West charm most people only see in movies.

MAIN STREET

Things have changed a bit, of course. For starters, there's now a collection of nearly 100 restaurants and bars, so you've got plenty of choices when it comes to deciding where to throw back whatever your favorite version of white lightning might be.

Plan a fancy night out (as fancy as things get in the mountains) at Hearthstone Restaurant. The artisan cheese plate and organic mushroom soup are top-notch, but the true highlights are the

Glenn Ross Images/Getty Images; Colorado Historic Society/Breckenridge Tourism Office; Krista Long/Getty Images



Comprising one of the largest historic districts in Colorado, Breckenridge's Main Street embraces its past and present with just as many historic structures as 21st-century storefronts.

Colorado lamb and elk steak entrees. Empire Burger is a great lunch — or casual dinner — spot. You can get wings, nachos, and fried zucchini chips, and you can't go wrong with the Western burger.

Other delicious options include breakfast at the Columbine Cafe, pizza at Giampietro, fish tacos at Angel's Hollow, and Vietnamese soups at Pho Real.

No matter where you decide to eat, be sure to sidle up to the bar at one of the town's original drinkeries. According to local lore, a watering hole called Long's Saloon opened its doors (figuratively speaking, since it probably didn't have much in the way of actual doors) on Main Street in 1861. It was most likely a large A-frame structure with canvas walls and ceiling, a simple wooden bar, maybe a few tables with chairs, and some random tree stumps on which weary miners could relax. Eighteen years later, a permanent building was constructed in place of the ramshackle tent. The establishment, now called the Gold Pan, remains a fixture of downtown Breckenridge, and was recently declared a local historic landmark.

In addition to the beverages and cool, old-timey bar, the Gold Pan is essentially the starting point to one of Colorado's largest — and most visually striking — nods to yesteryear. More than 200 structures scattered around town rank on the National Register of Historic Places. And when you first arrive, it will seem as though the vast majority are all right on Main Street — because many of the storefronts seem out of place without a horse or two lingering at a hitching post.

About a block from the Gold Pan, you'll find the Breckenridge Welcome Center. Stop by for information about regional museums — including Victorian homes, a sawmill, and more — and to join one of the guided walking tours hosted by the Breckenridge Heritage Alliance,



Located in the 125-year-old Victorian-style Kaiser House, Hearthstone Restaurant has been a Breckenridge staple since 1989, offering a selection of naturally raised beef and game dishes, and sustainably caught seafood items.

many of which are offered year-round and run the subject-matter gamut from saloon excursions to paranormal investigations.

If you want to live a bit of history, consider a jaunt to the Country Boy Mine. Through October (depending on the weather), there are all sorts of family-friendly mining-camp activities available, including panning for your own gold. The can't-miss attraction is a hard hat-required mineshaft expedition that takes you some 1,000 feet into a mountain, where you'll see a jackleg drill demonstration, experience a moment of utter darkness when the lights go out (simulating conditions when candles were inadvertently extinguished), and acquire

a basic understanding of the sacrifices early settlers made in their attempts to hit the mother lode.

WHITE GOLD

Breckenridge's modern-day mother lode isn't found in dark mountain tunnels or roaring rivers. It falls from the sky in the form of light, fluffy snow. Some 300 inches or so per year. Indeed, the majority of intrepid travelers who make their way across the plains and into the high country these days do so for the world-class skiing and snowboarding.

The season typically kicks off in mid-November, and once it's in full swing, the resort area becomes a winter wonderland with 187 runs spread out across 2,908 acres and five mountains (peaks 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 from the aforementioned Tenmile Range).



Take a Breckenridge Haunted Tour of the William H. Briggie home, where the ghost of Katie Briggie, William's wife and one of Breckenridge's well-known socialites, is rumored to live.

Beginners — whether you're brand new to the sport or feel as though some more practice would be a good idea — might want to consider enrolling in a day or two of lessons. Options include age-specific children's classes for 3-year-olds and up, adult tutorials, family sessions, and women's-only programs. After you've mastered your "pizza" and "french fries" turns, head to wide-open, easy-going green runs such as Springmeier on Peak 8 or Lower Lehman, Frontier, and Silverthorne off of Peak 9's Quicksilver SuperChair.

While the bottom portion of Peak 9 is about as good as it gets for beginning skiers and snowboarders, the backside of the mountain is a secret stash for advanced riders. Over the past few years, the ski management team at Breckenridge has worked diligently to open new and more expert terrain. The majority of this is found in bowls and chutes above tree line on peaks 6, 7, and 8. Some of it is hike-to only, and some is accessible after a quick ride on the Imperial Express SuperChair, which was installed in 2005 and remains the highest chairlift in North America.

The backside of Peak 9, however, is old territory and seems to have been nearly forgotten by most Breckenridge visitors. But veteran skiers and snowboarders continue to make their way up

the Mercury SuperChair and then a skier's left to the ridgeline where trails with ominous names, such as Inferno, Hades, and Mine Shaft, begin. The runs are tight and steep, and are often embellished with moguls big enough to play hide-and-seek behind. When you get to the bottom, simply hop on the E-Chair and it will transport you right back to the top.

And if you find yourself wanting something between the slow-going Lower Lehman and rush-of-adrenaline Inferno, don't worry — about 31 percent of Breckenridge is dedicated to intermediate runs. Some of the most fun are the gentle rolling slopes on Peak 7, such as Monte Cristo and Claimjumper.

A century and a half ago, back when Breckenridge was not nearly as hospitable as it is today, claim jumping would most likely have landed you in some serious trouble. Fortunately, things have changed quite a bit since then. So go ahead, have some fun on Claimjumper, and then head to the Gold Pan for happy hour. Because this mountain town truly has grown into a wonderful place to visit. ■

AREA RESORTS



Grand Timber Lodge (GTR)
Nestled between the Snowflake Chairlift and the Beaver Run SuperChair, Grand Timber Lodge offers ski-in/ski-out access, and is just a short walk from downtown Breckenridge. Enjoy the on-site Lodgepole Bar and Grill, Refresh Spa, video arcade, ski equipment rentals, and courtesy shuttle.



Grand Lodge on Peak 7 (GP7)
This Breckenridge Grand Vacations resort offers wintertime ski-in/ski-out convenience to Breckenridge Ski Resort, and in summer, access to hiking and biking. Amenities include a family game room, movie theaters, an après-ski bar, and an indoor/outdoor aquatics area.



Grand Colorado on Peak 8 (GP8)
Grand Colorado on Peak 8 is a Breckenridge Grand Vacations resort, located just steps from the Colorado SuperChair and Summer Fun Park. A lobby bar, family entertainment center, movie theaters, and an extensive indoor/outdoor aquatics area are on-site.



Hyatt Residence Club Breckenridge, Main Street Station (HMS)
Overlooking Maggie Pond, Hyatt Residence Club Breckenridge, Main Street Station is located on Main Street at the base of Breckenridge Ski Resort. Surrounded by snowcapped mountains, the resort is within walking distance to the ski lifts and the nearby shops and restaurants.

To view all of the Breckenridge resorts in Interval's network, go to intervalworld.com.

Breckenridge Tourism Office; Breckenridge Tourism Office; Liam Doran/Breckenridge Tourism Office



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The Local Take:

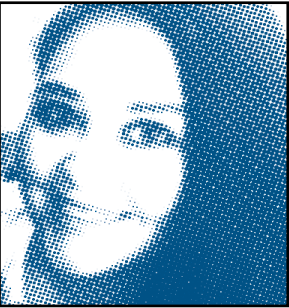
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

BY BETSY SHELDON

From dazzling desert scenery to a buzzing downtown scene, the Phoenix area's mix of natural wonders and cosmopolitan charm are an open invitation to urban enthusiasts and adventure-seekers. In the last few months of the year, searing temperatures drop to a mild range for indoor and outdoor activities alike. And what a variety of happenings! Golf, art walks, museum-going, shopping, stargazing — there's something for every interest. For the coolest hotspots, we asked four in-the-know locals who live, work, and play in Phoenix to weigh in.



The Insiders



SHALIYAH BEN
MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Shaliyah Ben is director of public programming at the Heard Museum.

Place to Park “Papago Park is Phoenix’s own Central Park, where you can escape the city and unwind — for free! Lots of easy desert trails, great for family hikes. It’s also home to the Desert Botanical Garden and the Phoenix Zoo.”

Heard About Heard? “I am biased, of course, but the Heard Museum ❶ is the place to go to learn about American Indian art and culture. And admission is free from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on First Fridays [each month].”

Phoenix Suns “The home team basketball games have been a staple in Phoenix for 50 years! Home games are at the Talking Stick Resort Arena.”

Family Fun “OdySea Aquarium is the largest aquarium in the Southwest — I’ve never heard a kid say anything bad about it!”

Prickly Take-Home “A miniature cactus is the perfect souvenir from Phoenix. It makes a great houseplant — it’s hard to kill a cactus!”



TATO CARAVEO
ARTIST

Tato Caraveo’s murals grace the outside walls of many downtown buildings. ❷

Local Flavor “Every Saturday morning, you can find more than 100 growers, producers, and artisans selling unique goods at the Phoenix Public Market.”

Selfie Portraits “The Roosevelt Row Arts District (RoRo) is a great spot for a selfie, with tons of outdoor murals. Its street scenes have put the district on the map as a popular hashtagged destination.”

Jump-Start “Lola Coffee Bar is the place to start the day with great espresso drinks and breakfast. The coffee shop has a beautiful outdoor patio located right along Roosevelt Row.”

Shopping Blues “The Melrose District is a historic area with plenty of vintage and antique shops, along with long-standing music venue Char’s Has The Blues, which is a must-see on its own.”

Once Upon a Time “Mystery Castle, in the foothills of South Mountain Park, is a unique dwelling built in the 1930s.”

Can’t-Be-Beat Brunch “Every Sunday, Jobot Coffee & Bar offers its Beats & Brunch, featuring DJs and guest musicians, plus drink specials on mimosas, bloody marys, and the signature beer punch.”



JIM MEYERS
GOLF PRO

Jim Meyers is head golf professional at Moon Valley Country Club. ❸

Standout Sunsets “I never tire of them. They are super colorful and spectacular to look at, especially with the mountain backdrops.”

Whole-in-One “The Topgolf entertainment center is fun for golfers and nongolfers alike — with more than 100 hitting bays, lessons, games, a kid zone, restaurants, and more.”

View From the Top “A hike to the top of Camelback Mountain is for the most intrepid, but worth the effort. Others can enjoy viewing the camel-shaped landmark from the ground.”

Golfer’s Delight “A tour of the factory that makes Ping golf clubs [Karsten Manufacturing Corporation] is a must for golf enthusiasts.”

ZooLights “The Phoenix Zoo is all lit up with millions of lights from the end of November through December, with special activities, performances, and displays.”



ANUSHA MOORE
YOGA INSTRUCTOR

Anusha Moore teaches at Urban Yoga.

Night at the Museum “The Phoenix Art Museum has great exhibits, and if you go on Wednesday [afternoons], admission is free. It’s fun to go with friends and family, and enjoy dinner at their restaurant.”

Sweet Souvenir “Prickly pear jelly is made of the prickly pear cactus fruits you see all over Phoenix. My mom used to take it to our relatives in Sri Lanka and they always loved it.”

First Fridays Art Walk “It’s rare to find things that teens and parents will enjoy together, but this is one of them. I love to go there with my teenagers and check out the arts scene. They block off the streets, so it’s easy to get around on foot.” ❹

Day- or Night-Trip “Flagstaff [about a two-hour drive away] is an interesting college town with lots of cute boutiques and shops. It also has the Lowell Observatory, which is a great place to go stargazing.”

Date Night “Bar Bianco in downtown Phoenix is in the historic Thomas House, and right next door to Pizzeria Bianco. It offers some great local selections. Sit back with a glass of vino — or better yet, get a bottle and take it to have with your dinner at the pizzeria.”

Jennifer Mack/Alamy Stock Photo; Tato Caraveo; Visit Phoenix; Jill Richards Photography

See Phoenix Rising.

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AREA RESORTS



Scottsdale Links Resorts (SDK)
Nestled between the TPC Desert Golf Course and Fort McDowell Mountains, Scottsdale Links Resort is within a 30-minute drive of more than 100 championship courses. Beyond golf, the property is conveniently located near numerous outdoor plazas and enclosed shopping malls. At the resort, a heated swimming pool and hot tub are adjacent to a well-equipped fitness center.



Sheraton Desert Oasis (SDI)
Surrounded by the Sonoran Desert, Sheraton Desert Oasis offers stunning sunsets, towering saguaros, and first-rate amenities, including a 4,500-square-foot swimming pool with cascading waterfalls, and a secluded spa grotto. The resort also features Splash, a poolside bar and grill; a fitness center; and plenty of fun for children. Enjoy all the comforts of home in one- and two-bedroom villas that have a kitchen or kitchenette, living/dining room, and a master bedroom.

To view all of the Phoenix area resorts in Interval’s network, go to intervalworld.com.

BY LON WINTERS

If you've traveled to the Caribbean, chances are you have a favorite island. And when it comes to planning your next sun-drenched vacation, it's easy — and understandable — to simply schedule a return trip. After all, it's your favorite for a reason. Maybe because of a delicious dinner at a restaurant overlooking the water, or thanks to an abundance of outdoor adventures. Or perhaps you simply love the local beach vibe.

Part of the magic of traveling, though, is experiencing new places, and if you're looking for something different, St. Lucia is a standout Caribbean destination on its own merit. The geography alone — the shark-tooth Pitons, the nearly impenetrable rain forest, the picturesque bays and sandy beaches — is the stuff of which tropical vacation dreams are made. There's good food, too. As well as plenty of activities and fun celebrations that visitors are encouraged to attend.

Still not sure about skipping out on your favorite restaurant, marine-flavored pastime, or stretch of palm-shaded shore? Our handy try-this-for-that guide will help you find St. Lucian replacements for your more familiar Caribbean vacation diversions.

Just don't be surprised if after a week on St. Lucia you head home with a *new* favorite island.

You've certainly heard of **St. Lucia**. And if "the fairest isle of all the Earth" isn't one of your favorite Caribbean islands, it very well should be. There are myriad attractions to bring it right to the top of your must-visit list.

Trading Places



Get Sun-Kissed
on **St. Lucia**.

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maximum occupancy.



ABOVE: Locals gather to sell homegrown produce and spices, as well as handcrafted souvenirs at the Castries Market. LEFT: The Pitons are the most iconic sight in all of St. Lucia, easily spotted from many places on the island.



ABOVE: Rows of palm trees, anchored boats, and white-sand beaches make Marigot Bay an idyllic retreat. BOTTOM LEFT: One of the most unique experiences at Sulphur Springs Park is diving into a warm mud bath in the mineral-rich pools. CENTER: Visitors can witness the bubbling lagoons and hissing fumaroles of Sulphur Springs Park from observation platforms. BOTTOM RIGHT: Dasheene offers diners an eclectic menu that includes traditional St. Lucian fare alongside sweeping views of the Pitons.



I simply love the food on St. Maarten/St. Martin.

TRY THIS FOR THAT: There's no doubt that seaside dining is taken to a different level on St. Maarten/St. Martin, but while the best of that island's cuisine is based heavily on French influences, St. Lucian fare is a mix of flavors that range from European to Asian and Indian to Caribbean. And you'll find an equally assorted collection of restaurants at which to try it.

If fine dining is your priority, understand that the Jade Mountain Club is probably the toughest table around. It's considered exclusive to guests staying at the associated property, but visitors typically can arrange for a reservation ahead of time. Once you're seated, your extra effort will be rewarded with a delectable seasonal menu and divine views over Soufriere Bay to the Pitons.

Just because it's not quite as difficult to secure a seat at Dasheene or The Coal Pot doesn't mean they're any less satisfying. Both offer as-fresh-as-it-gets fish cooked in your choice of mouthwatering sauces, along with a nice selection of entrees, such as refreshing salads, rich soups, and hearty steakhouse-style plates.

Finally, be sure to take advantage of the much more casual eateries, too. Especially the little roadside stands where a basket of homemade barbecued pork and an order of *accra* (fish fritters) often are on offer.

I'm a scuba diver, so Grand Cayman is the place for me.

TRY THIS FOR THAT: There are enough dive sites off the west coast of St. Lucia to keep you happily busy beneath the waves for the duration of your vacation. Get in touch with a local operator — Dive Saint Lucia and Dive Fair Helen provide comprehensive packages — to check daily schedules and decide what sort of aqua adventure you'd like to have. Options range from the peaceful Pigeon Island spot, which provides a relatively shallow dive to a maximum of about 59 feet with resident eagle rays and barracuda, to the more advanced Superman's Flight wall dive, to the ghostly Bone Yard, where you can explore a fascinating World War II wreck.



Beaches are great, but I really love exploring Aruba's unique rugged interior.

TRY THIS FOR THAT: You don't even have to travel inland to witness the Pitons, St. Lucia's most distinguishable landscape feature. Together, Gros Piton and Petit Piton make up a beautiful, unspoiled UNESCO World Heritage site — and are easily the most recognizable peaks in all of the Caribbean. In other words, no trip to St. Lucia is complete without viewing them up close.

There are numerous excursions — both on land and sea — that will transport you to the base of the coastal mountains, as well as set you up at scenic overlooks in order to take some impressive wide-angle photos.

If you're up for some vacation activity, though, sign up with an outfitter to trek to the summit of one of the peaks (or both, if you're exceptionally motivated). Gros Piton rises in dramatic fashion to an elevation of nearly 2,625 feet. It's a strenuous walk, but it's not technical, and local guides do a good job of catering the pace to the group's overall fitness level. It's possible to climb Petit Piton, but the key word is *climb*. It may not be as tall, but it's a much more involved endeavour.

For me, it's just not a vacation without a stop at a natural wonder such as Jamaica's Dunn's River Falls.

TRY THIS FOR THAT: St. Lucia's Sulphur Springs Park is dubbed the "only drive-in volcano in the world," so if natural wonders are your thing, well, it doesn't get much more wondrous than that. This is an interactive attraction, though, so driving there is merely the beginning. The true *raison d'être* is to soak in the mineral-rich pools and mud baths. Proponents claim the fortified earthen ooze can detoxify your body and help heal all sorts of ailments, from simple sunburns to more advanced arthritis. Maybe, maybe not, but playing in the mud is a lot of fun, so it's definitely worth a shot.

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AREA RESORTS



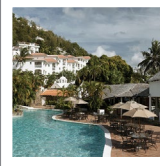
Bay Gardens Beach Resort All Inclusive* (BG1)

Bay Gardens Beach Resort All Inclusive features one- and two-bedroom suites complete with a full kitchen, and living and dining areas. Its neoclassical Caribbean architecture and ultra-modern conveniences make the resort an ideal escape for a dream St. Lucian vacation.



St. James's Club Morgan Bay All Inclusive* (SJB)

St. James's Club Morgan Bay All Inclusive offers a romantic beachfront setting overlooking the Caribbean Sea. With an array of accommodations, activities, and amenities, it is ideal for couples and families seeking a fun, relaxing vacation.



Windjammer Landing Villa Beach (WJ1)

Situated along a hillside, Windjammer Landing Villa Beach Resort overlooks the crystal-blue waters of the Caribbean Sea, and offers an array of on-site amenities including a beach, tennis, swimming pools, a playground area, and a wide range of water sports.

To view all of the St. Lucia resorts in Interval's network, go to intervalworld.com.

*All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.

Accommodations at BG1, SJB, and WJ1 are available for purchase through the Getaway program and generally will not be available for exchange.

Shopping is the name of my game, and for my money, it doesn't get better than Bermuda.

TRY THIS FOR THAT: You won't find the breadth of upmarket items — such as notable pieces of art and designer fashions — at the Castries Market that you can on Bermuda, but there's a good chance you'll have a better story to tell about your purchase. Castries Market has been around for more than a century and is still the liveliest place on the island to buy fresh produce, souvenirs, and other interesting trinkets. It's open every Monday to Saturday. For the full experience — including more animated buyers and sellers, and the largest selection of goods — plan your shopping trip for Saturday morning.

Actually, after giving it some thought, a good beach, on any island, is all I really need for a perfect Caribbean vacation.

TRY THIS: Like its Caribbean counterparts, St. Lucia has numerous strands that can keep all manner of beach lovers happy. Reduit is the island's most bustling shoreline. It's energetic and vibrant, and popular with both visitors and residents. There are restaurants, bars, and shops nearby, and plenty of water activities available. If peaceful better suits your sandy preferences, try Marigot Bay. Tucked into a protected cove, the water is typically placid and the palm trees appear to sway in slow motion. Bring a book and plenty of sunscreen, and you can easily laze away an entire afternoon here. ■

Currently based in the Caribbean — though not on one island in particular — Lon Winters balances out his freelance writing schedule with scuba diving and sundowners, and is currently learning the finer points of sailing.

LA VERA ITALIA



Towering cypress trees punctuate the rolling Tuscan countryside. RIGHT: Alabaster handicrafts are an integral part of Volterra's history and pride.

Tuscany, rich with rolling landscapes, artistic legacy, signature cuisine, and an unparalleled reverence for high culture, exemplifies the romantic Italy of daydreams. Yet, in its dynamic small towns, earthy vineyards, and unpretentious seaside resorts, Tuscany also epitomizes the *true* Italy.

BY PAULA HARDY

Huber/Sime/eStock Photo; WALTER ZERLA/Cultura Limited/SuperStock

As the birthplace of the Renaissance, this lovely corner of central Italy could be said to have had more of an impact on European culture than any other region. In other parts of the world, culture may be considered an optional extra. Not so in Tuscany, where it is at the root of everything. Ask around in any small Tuscan hamlet and you'll be surprised at the number of people who care deeply about the floral aftertastes of sheep cheese, the correct way to cut marble, and the nuances of a Gregorian chant. This dedication to beauty and quality earned the relatively unknown Tuscan town of Pistoia the country's highest accolade — Capital of Culture — in 2017. Pistoia spends almost double the national average



on local cultural initiatives, and it's this obsessive attention to life's finer points that the award recognizes, and which small towns in the area display in abundance. It comes from the region's close-knit, competitive past, when each *comune* (municipality) would conspire to outdo its rivals, resulting in an embarrassment of cultural riches.

A FLOURISH OF ART

Take the town of Arezzo, 51 miles southeast of Florence and home to a treasure trove of works by early Renaissance painter Piero della Francesca. Until recently, Piero was seen as a lesser Italian master, his naive, minimal style appearing primitive when compared with

Enchanted **Tuscany**

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Montepulciano's elegant Piazza Grande represents a study in Renaissance architecture. **FACING PAGE, LEFT:** A wine butler carefully filters out sediments while pouring. **FACING PAGE, RIGHT:** First Etruscans, then Romans, and now generations of happy beachgoers occupy the coastline at Talamone.

bigger Florentine names such as Botticelli and Michelangelo. But gaze at his most famous work, the 12 frescoed scenes of *The History of the True Cross*, in Arezzo's basilica, and you'll find his simple geometry and honest humanism startlingly modern.

From Arezzo, you can follow the artist's trail to Sansepolcro, where he was born, and to Monterchi, where you'll find the moving *Madonna del Parto* (Madonna of Childbirth). Or head farther south to the Val di Chiana and pretty Cortona, a slice of loveliness made famous by the 2003 romantic comedy *Under the Tuscan Sun*, in which American divorcee Frances Mayes finds love in its hills.

THE ETRUSCAN ADVENT

With its crumbling *palazzi* (palaces), medieval traditions, and Girifalco Fortress, it's easy to get lost in time in Cortona's walled labyrinth. Perhaps nowhere is this truer than at the Etruscan Academy Museum of Cortona (MAEC). It chronicles the history of Tuscany's original inhabitants, who farmed these fertile lands between the eighth and third centuries B.C., long before the Romans started dreaming of a hilltop escape.

No one knows exactly why the Etruscans settled in Tuscany, but artifacts at MAEC give clues as to why they might have stayed: dinner. The wild boar roaming these hills were a favorite part of the Etruscan diet, and boar hunts are a recurring theme on their ceramics, tomb paintings, and even bronze hand mirrors. In case the odd truffle shaving headed down the windpipe while eating, Etruscans washed down their meals with plenty of wine, thereby introducing viticulture to Italy.

IDYLIC HILLTOPS

The taste for wine lingers in the town of Montepulciano, which sits on a high tufa ridge overlooking the unfolding valleys, as if positioned

by a painter mindful of the picturesque effect. No major construction has taken place here since 1580. The steep cobbled streets still snake up to cozy restaurants, such as Osteria Acquacheta, and to age-old wine cellars, where vaulted brick walls frame towering barrels of the internationally renowned *Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*, a classic red deserving of its name.

From this perch you can cast your eye down the length of the Val d'Orcia and marvel at how it still matches Renaissance frescoes. Nestled in its hills are the homes of celebrities and artists, including John Voigtman, who left his career as a music executive in New York to open a countryside retreat, La Bandita Townhouse. The boutique hotel and modern Tuscan restaurant are housed in a 15th-century convent in the town of Pienza, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Pienza is a gorgeous place to spend a day eating, browsing artisanal shops, and stocking up on slabs of pecorino cheese, for which the town is most famous.

From here, it's a 14-mile drive to Montalcino, another lofty hill town with views over the Asso, Ombrone, and Arbia valleys. More famous than Montepulciano, Montalcino produces one of Italy's finest red wines, Brunello di Montalcino, a Super Tuscan made from the sangiovese grosso grapes grown only within the 94-square-mile comune. Come here in the fall to taste the very best from the tiny town's 200 producers and to enjoy the Sagra del Tordo (Festival of the Thrush), when neighboring factions battle in medieval archery competitions.

SUMMER BY THE SEA

While the hill towns steal the show in the golden glow of autumn, Tuscany's warm summers are best spent at local seaside resorts in Talamone, Alberese, Cala Violina, and Popolonia, to name a few. The beaches here in the southernmost reaches of the region,



unlike the better-known towns farther north, are inhabited entirely by local sunseekers who religiously make their pilgrimages to the same cabanas and loungers as their parents and grandparents before them. The strands remain pristine and tranquil, and the towns preserve an easy, laid-back charm.

This coastal stretch is known as Maremma, and it encompasses a national park. The unspoiled area protects the habitat of thousands of migrating birds, and is also home to the hard-working *butteri*, skilled cowboys who preserve a 250-year-old tradition of breeding horses, and tending cattle and sheep.

AGE-OLD CRAFT

Just two hours southwest of Florence is the ancient alabaster-mining town of Volterra. Since the Etruscan era, artisans here have sculpted the white stone into all manner of decorative objects. The calcareous material is softer than marble, lending the pieces an extraordinary, luminous quality.

The town is seemingly oblivious to the allure of tourism income, and retains a rustic vitality and connection with the past that is palpable. Its Guarnacci Etruscan Museum is filled with rare artifacts, while the stone gateway, Via Porta all'Arco, is lined with traditional craft shops that produce incredible alabaster works. At the top of the street is Volterra's main square, which is dominated by the Palazzo dei Priori, built around 1200 and thought to be the oldest town hall in Tuscany. There's also a fine art museum, which showcases Florentine paintings, and a Roman theater. More ruins can be seen in Volterra's archaeological park. An acropolis stood here from 1500 B.C. to 1472 A.D., when Florence conquered the

rival city, burning the historic center to the ground and building a Medici fortress, which still does duty as a prison.

A VINOUS LEGACY

It is this effortless bridging between the past, present, and future that makes Tuscany's tapestry of small towns so fascinating. Nowhere typifies this more than the high-tech Antinori winery in Chianti. One of the area's most distinguished wine-making families, the Antinoris have been producing Chianti Classico since 1385. But rather than rest on the laurels of this impressive legacy, they unveiled a stunning piece of modern architecture in 2013 — a 540,000-square-foot cantina that is embedded in the rolling Tuscan landscape, with vines growing over its deeply cantilevered roof.

Designed by Florentine architecture firm Archea Associati, the winding, modern interior is characterized by COR-TEN steel, tinted concrete, glass, and terra-cotta, and houses huge subterranean cellars, a library, 200-seat auditorium, museum, tasting rooms, and a restaurant with breathtaking views over the vineyards. The project took nearly a decade and more than twice the original budget to complete, but it perfectly demonstrates how culture here isn't frozen in time. Instead, it is lived every day through traditions and innovations that root locals in the region's history, while lending them the tools for a dynamic future. The Antinori winery just goes to show that Tuscans are still in the business of making history. ■

Paula Hardy is a London-based writer and editor. She has been researching and writing Lonely Planet's Italian guides for more than 15 years, and is the author of numerous guidebooks and features covering the length and breadth of the country, from Venice to Sicily.

AREA RESORT



Residence La Ferriera (FRA)*
Located right in the heart of Tuscany, within easy reach of Arezzo, Siena, and Florence, Residence La Ferriera is a historic property that dates to the 19th century. Indulge in the area's history, and enjoy the multitude of amenities and facilities offered at the resort including summer swimming in the outdoor pool, tennis, cooking lessons, tastings of local products, and organized tours of the region.

To view all of the Florence and Tuscany resorts in Interval's network, go to intervalworld.com.

*All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.
Accommodations at FRA are available for purchase through the Getaway program and generally will not be available for exchange.

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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.



Orlando, Florida

Orlando hardly needs an introduction. It's the unequivocal Theme Park Capital of the World, and home to countless other attractions, restaurants, and activity centers. Simply put, an Orlando vacation is essentially a rite of passage for families and children around the globe.

What to do: Journey to Antarctica, take a magical ride on the Hogwarts Express, and explore Pandora – The World of Avatar. And believe it or not, that's just the beginning. Traveling to Orlando isn't necessarily about visiting *Orlando*. It's about being transported to other worlds and alternate universes, most of which are otherwise only accessible in our wildest imaginations.

Where to do it: Start with the big three: SeaWorld, Universal Orlando, and Walt Disney World. Each has its own atmosphere (underwater creatures, Hollywood hits, fairytales) and a range of corresponding rides and activities. Keep in mind, though, there are even more possibilities. Consider a jaunt to Legoland or smaller attractions, such as Gatorland, WonderWorks, and Extreme Dinosaurs: The Exhibition.

Why go now: With new attractions opening on a regular basis, there's never a bad time to drop by Orlando. For example, a Voodoo Doughnut shop (see page 32 for more information) and new *Fast & Furious* ride recently opened at Universal Orlando.

Insider's tip: Take a break from the frenetic pace of the theme parks. From a quiet float amid magnificent cypress trees with Peace of Mind Kayak Tours to a casual round of putt-putt at Pirate's Cove Adventure Golf, there are plenty of ways to have a world of fun beyond the mega attractions.

ADDITIONAL ANTICIPATED destinations in the U.S.:

Florida, Cocoa Beach
Florida, Vero/Treasure Coast
Virginia, Williamsburg
New Jersey, Atlantic City
Pennsylvania, Poconos
Missouri, Branson
Arizona, Phoenix Area
Nevada, Reno
California and Nevada, Lake Tahoe

Southern Coast, Dominican Republic

Santo Domingo's cosmopolitan shopping and dining — not to mention the notable architecture that dates to the 16th century — combined with the beaches, golf courses, and natural attractions around La Romana, make the southern coast of the Dominican Republic a Caribbean smorgasbord of activities and amenities.

What to do: Take an island expedition. Yes, the mainland has nice beaches, but they simply can't compare to the blindingly white sand found on the coast of Isla Saona, a 42-square-mile island that's widely considered the prettiest place in all of the Dominican Republic. Activities range from building sandcastles to waterside dance parties to dozing off beneath a palm tree.

Where to do it: The best way to get to Isla Saona is to join one of the many day tours that typically depart from Bayahibe. There are plenty of options. Most travel by means of catamaran or speedboat, which includes a buffet lunch, beverages (adult and otherwise), and a bit of sightseeing along the coast of the National Park of the East.

Why go now: The transition from summer to fall is one of the least busy periods in the Dominican Republic, so those unspoiled Isla Saona beaches will feel even more secluded.

Insider's tip: Isla Saona isn't the only game in town. Plan a different day to cruise out to Isla Catalina. The vibe here is more snorkeling and scuba diving than relaxing and reveling on the beach. There's colorful history, too. Captain William Kidd's pirate ship was discovered just offshore in 2007.



ADDITIONAL ANTICIPATED international destinations:

Bahamas, Freeport
St. Maarten and St. Martin
Venezuela, Margarita Island
Mexico, Cancún
Mexico, Riviera Maya
Mexico, South Baja

Mexico, Mazatlán
Mexico, Nuevo Vallarta and Riviera Nayarit
Mexico, Puerto Vallarta
Mexico, Acapulco
Mexico, Mérida
Colombia, Cartagena and Santa Marta
Venezuela, Central Coast
Venezuela, Andes
Brazil, Goiás
Argentina, Buenos Aires
Argentina, Mar del Plata and Pinamar

Argentina, Patagonia and Cuyo
Argentina, Entre Rios
Italy, South
Austria, Alps
Tunisia
The Gambia
New Zealand, Paihia
Malaysia, Beaches
China, Beijing Area
China, Yunnan Province
China, Hainan Island

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CAROLINE MISNER FINKL AND JONATHON FINKL
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

After a recent move from Chicago, Illinois, to Charlotte, North Carolina, Caroline Misner Finkl and Jonathon Finkl wanted to explore their new area, so they exchanged their week for a resort along the coast. "This was a particularly special trip, as our 3-year-old daughter, Evelyn, had never actually been on a beach or seen the ocean," says Caroline. The couple was ecstatic when they received a confirmation for Marriott's Barony Beach Club on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. "The resort was perfect — from the rooms to the pools and, of course, access to the beach!" says Caroline. The family was impressed with the friendly and accommodating staff, and enjoyed some of the resort activities, including tasting delicious s'mores — another first for Evelyn. The Finkls made lasting memories playing in the sand, soaking up the sun, and splashing in the pool. "What a special vacation! We had a wonderful time and are planning on making this an annual family trip. We want to thank Interval for having such great properties and for making life's moments truly special."

Change of Scenery

KIRSTI LIVINGSTON | MORSCHACH, SWITZERLAND

Kirsti Livingston usually exchanges for ski resorts in the Western U.S., but last year, she decided to mix it up and put in a request for Apart Holidays – Swiss Holiday Park in Morschach, Switzerland. "Much to our delight, we got the exact week that we wanted and we had a fabulous time," says Kirsti, who traveled with her daughter and granddaughter. Using the resort as a home base, the family visited Lucerne, a mountain city known for its preserved medieval architecture, and explored the Bernese Alps in the Berner Oberland region. "We even took the train down to the south of Switzerland to the city of Lugano, where a friend drove us over to Italy for a day," says Kirsti. "It was a vacation that my daughter, granddaughter, and I will never forget."



Summertime in Stateline

CHRISTINE AND MATT RHOADS | STATELINE, NEVADA

Christine and Matt Rhoads, along with their children, Autumn and Adam, enjoyed the mountain scenery while vacationing at The Ridge Tahoe in Stateline, Nevada. "Not only did the resort have breathtaking views of the Sierra Nevada ridge and Carson Valley, it had multiple hot tubs, pools, excellent amenities, and activities for children and teens, all the while being very convenient to the lake itself," says Christine. From the property, the family ventured to different areas nearby, including quaint towns and villages, and beaches at state and federal parks. Everyone enjoyed hiking and spotting the native mule deer, and Autumn and Adam had a blast paddleboarding for the first time. Christine and Matt hope to visit again with their kids in the winter. "I will absolutely encourage any person or family wanting a safe, easily accessible mountain vacation to experience Lake Tahoe in the summer for themselves — they will have memories and experiences that will last a lifetime," says Christine.



A Dream Come True

ERIKA AND STAN OWENS | ANTIGUA

There's nothing like a tropical island vacation, and Erika and Stan Owens have vowed to take as many as possible. "[Exchanging] with Interval International has allowed us to make it to at least two per year," says Erika. The couple traveled with their children, Cade and Savannah, to the Village at St. James's Club on Antigua, offering golden strands, crystalline waters, and all-day fun in the sun. The family snorkeled on Cades Reef, took a Segway tour of St. John's (the capital), joined a party at Shirley Heights Lookout, and visited some of the island's 365 beaches. While Stan enjoyed the on-site gym, tennis courts, and restaurants, Cade and Savannah went paddleboarding and kayaking, and played table tennis, beach volleyball, and other resort-arranged activities. "The Village at St. James's Club met everyone's dream of the perfect vacation," says Erika. "If the property is with Interval, it's going to be nice."

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Interval World
P.O. Box 431920
Miami, Florida 33243-1920
Attn: Samantha Monahan

or email

samantha.monahan@intervalintl.com

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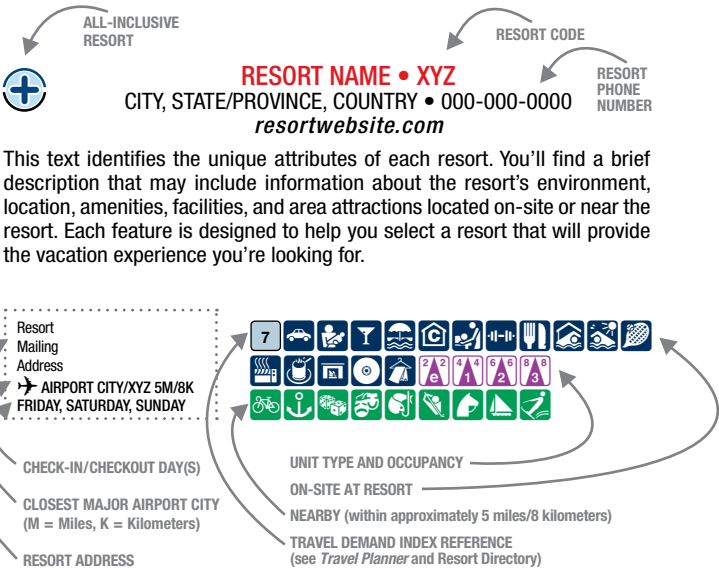


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Community and our social media accounts!**



GUIDE TO SYMBOLS

Resort Example



Guide to Symbols

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

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.

NEW MEMBER RESORTS



WESTGATE COCOA BEACH RESORT • WKL
COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA • 321-783-2230
westgateresorts.com

Located in the heart of Cocoa Beach, Florida, Westgate Cocoa Beach Resort offers a tropical atmosphere, modern appointments, and beachside fun. Enjoy convenient ocean access, a beach concierge, and complimentary trolley to the popular Cocoa Beach Pier. The resort features a 75,000-gallon water park with a lazy river, splash pad and waterslide, and a huge pool for the whole family to get wet, wild, and relaxed.

3550 North Atlantic Avenue
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
ORLANDO/MCO 49M/79K
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY



PINK SHELL BEACH RESORT & MARINA • PIK
FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA • 239-463-6181
pinkshell.com

Located on Estero Island, Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina sits on a 12-acre private beach, offering beautiful views of the Gulf of Mexico. Guests can relax by the ocean on complimentary lounge chairs with umbrellas, savor farm-to-table fare and tropical cocktails at the property's restaurants, and make a splash at the three outdoor heated pools. Other on-site amenities include a fitness center, kayaks and paddleboards, bike rentals, and a full-service spa. The resort is within walking distance of a variety of shops and restaurants.

275 Estero Island Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
FORT MYERS/RSW 20M/32K
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
SUNDAY



INNSBROOK VILLAGE • IVI
A VRI Managed Resort
RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • 575-257-7641
innsbrookcondos.com

Innsbrook Village is part of a country club community with amenities including tennis, a swimming pool, and playground. Two- and three-bedroom accommodations are air-conditioned and have a DVD player and Wi-Fi. Nearby, see a horse race (in season), try your luck at the casinos, and explore museums and historical sites. Ruidoso's climate is ideal for year-round activities such as fishing, picnicking, horseback riding, and hiking. A car is recommended to enjoy all that the area has to offer.

146 Geneva Road
Ruidoso, NM 88345
EL PASO/ELP 136M/219K
SATURDAY



RUIDOSO DOWNS AT CHAMPION'S RUN • RUI
A VRI Managed Resort
RUIDOSO DOWNS, NEW MEXICO • 575-378-8080

Ruidoso Downs at Champion's Run provides two- and three-bedroom accommodations next door to a premier quarter horse racetrack. An outdoor swimming pool is on-site, and guests can go hiking and fishing at the nearby mountains and lake. Enjoy the excitement of a horse race, or take a trail, carriage, or sleigh ride (depending on the season) from Grindstone Stables, located within a 10-minute drive of the resort.

26303 U.S. 70
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346
EL PASO/ELP 135M/217K
FRIDAY



NEW MEMBER RESORTS



EAST CANYON RESORT • ECN
A VRI Managed Resort
MORGAN, UTAH • 801-359-9030
eastcanyon.com

East Canyon Resort is a 9,600-acre retreat with miles of wilderness and mountain terrain providing a tranquil setting for guests to unwind and enjoy nature. There are many fun on-site activities and amenities available for all ages, including pickle ball, tennis, minigolf, swimming pools, hot tubs, and 64 miles of ATV and snowmobiling trails (depending on the season). Salt Lake City International Airport is less than a one-hour drive from the resort.

88965 Highway 65
Morgan, UT 84050
✈️ SALT LAKE CITY/SLC
37M/60K
SATURDAY



AHNVEE RESORT & SPORTS • AHN
PUERTO PLATA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC • 809-571-2826
ahnveeresort.com

The all-inclusive Ahnvee Resort & Sports is located in Sosúa, in the province of Puerto Plata. Accommodations have air conditioning and satellite TV, and amenities include a spa, bar, restaurant, and two outdoor swimming pools. Wi-Fi and private parking are also available. The area offers a range of fun activities, from boating, biking, and horseback riding to fishing, golfing, and lounging on the beach — located within walking distance of the property. All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.

Calle Pedro Clisante S/N
El Batey, Sosúa
Puerto Plata 57000
Dominican Republic
✈️ PUERTO PLATA/POP 5M/8K
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY



HEAVENLY VALLEY TOWNHOUSES • HVT
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CALIFORNIA • 530-541-4755
heavenlyvalleytownhouses.com

Heavenly Valley Townhouses is a cozy home away from home in South Lake Tahoe. Accommodations are two- and three-bedroom units, with cooking facilities, fireplaces, and Wi-Fi. The stunning Sierra Nevada Mountains provide a breathtaking backdrop for back-to-nature activities in the area, from biking and hiking to sledding and skiing, depending on the season. Nearby, guests can enjoy a variety of bars and restaurants, as well as golfing, fishing, ice-skating, horseback riding, and lounging at the Lake Tahoe beaches.

1455 Keller Road
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
✈️ RENO/RNO 58M/93K
SATURDAY



LE BLANC LOS CABOS • LBK
An All-Inclusive Palace Resort
SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO, BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO
leblancsparesort.com

Just steps from the beach, Le Blanc Los Cabos is situated in charming San José del Cabo. Accommodations include a minibar, 24-hour room service, and a comfort menu offering aromatherapy, bath salts, and specialty pillows. On-site are several restaurants and the state-of-the-art Blanc Spa. All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.

Km. 18.4 Carretera Transpeninsular
SJC-CSL San José del Cabo
Baja California Sur 23400
Mexico
✈️ SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO/SJD
22M/35K
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
SUNDAY



MOUNTAIN RETREAT • MNE
ARNOLD, CALIFORNIA • 209-795-4447
mtretreat.com

Located in the heart of Gold Country, just 30 miles northeast of Bear Valley ski resort, Mountain Retreat's scenic setting offers a range of exciting outdoor activities. Nearby, visitors can enjoy hours of tubing and sledding during the winter, and golfing, hiking, and rock climbing in the warmer months. Explore the area wineries, visit Calaveras Big Trees State Park and Mercer Caverns, and learn about the California Gold Rush era at Columbia State Park.

936 Cypress Point Drive
Arnold, CA 95223
✈️ SACRAMENTO/SMF
112M/180K
SATURDAY



HACIENDA LA PURÍSIMA • HPU
IXTLAHUACA DE RAYÓN, STATE OF MEXICO, MEXICO
712-2830028, 712-2831123
vacationworld.com.mx

Once the estate of actor Mario “Cantinflas” Moreno, Hacienda La Purísima is located in Ixtlahuaca de Rayón, about a one-hour drive north of Toluca. Studio accommodations have a fireplace, and the property offers an 18-hole golf course, tennis courts, an indoor pool, and game room with table tennis and billiards. Guests can also enjoy the on-site restaurant, bar, and garden with barbecue grills.

Autopista Toluca Atlacomulco
Km. 29.5, Ixtlahuaca de Rayón
State of Mexico 50740
Mexico
✈️ TOLUCA/TLC 28M/45K
SUNDAY



CLUB VACANCES TOUTES SAISON • CTF
BEAUPRÉ, QUÉBEC • 418-827-8347
condosvacances.com

Located in Beaupré, just a 30-minute drive from Québec City, Club Vacances Toute Saison provides cozy accommodations with a fireplace and Wi-Fi. There is a swimming pool, tennis court, and playground on-site, as well as a restaurant, bar, and laundry facilities for guests' convenience. The surrounding area offers a range of exciting outdoor activities: Go fishing, golfing, horseback riding, skiing, and more, all while enjoying the beautiful mountain scenery.

355 Rue Dupont
Beaupré, Québec G0A 1N0
Canada
✈️ QUÉBEC/YQB 40M/64K
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY



THE PLACENCIA VACATION BEACH CLUB • PLF
PLACENCIA, STANN CREEK DISTRICT, BELIZE • 501-533-4110
theplacencia.com

The Placencia Vacation Beach Club is within a 4,000-acre community featuring beachfront accommodations and amenities that include a tennis court, spa, activities center, three restaurants/bars, exercise facilities, and a saltwater infinity pool with a swim-up bar. On-site, soak up the sun at the beach, go scuba diving, and try your luck at the casino. Relax and play in comfort and style at this tropical resort paradise.

Mile 13
Placencia, Stann Creek District
Belize
✈️ BELIZE CITY/BZE 119M/192K
SATURDAY



NEW MEMBER RESORTS



GREEN 9 SAME SPA & BEACH RESORT • GRF
SAME, ESMERALDAS, ECUADOR • 06-247-0193, 09-965-37711

Located in Same, Esmeraldas, Green 9 Same Spa & Beach Resort is surrounded by nature and within walking distance of Same Beach. Enjoy delicious food with fresh, local ingredients at the on-site restaurant, and relax at the spa and outdoor pool. The town of Atacames, home to a water park, is less than a 30-minute drive from the resort, and the Colonel Carlos Concha Torres Airport is about an hour away.

Via a Tonchique, Avenida Principal
Same, Esmeraldas 170516
Ecuador
✈ ESMERALDAS/ESM 35M/55K
FRIDAY

107 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



HOTEL GALAPAGOS PLANET • HGP
SAN CRISTÓBAL ISLAND, GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS
05-252-0419, 05-252-0514
galapagosplanet.com.ec

Hotel Galapagos Planet is situated on San Cristóbal Island, the oldest of the enchanted Galápagos Islands, off the coast of Ecuador. Accommodations are air-conditioned, have a refrigerator and Wi-Fi, and complimentary breakfast is included. Enjoy the area's natural beauty and diverse wildlife. Go snorkeling or scuba diving in the crystalline waters, catch some waves in the world-class surf, and observe the resident sea lions and marine iguanas on Loberia Beach.

Alsacio Northia y Alberto Spencer
200150 Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
San Cristóbal Island
Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
✈ SAN CRISTÓBAL ISLAND/
SCY 1M/2K
FRIDAY, SATURDAY

107 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



TERROIR PLAZA RESIDENCE • PTJ
Plaza Hotéis
GARIBALDI, RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRAZIL • 51-3330-7776
terroirplazaresidence.com.br

Terroir Plaza Residence is located in the heart of Rio Grande do Sul, about 63 miles from the capital, Porto Alegre. Comfortable one-bedroom units are air-conditioned with Wi-Fi access. On-site, guests can swim in the indoor pool, dine at the restaurant, and delight in live entertainment. Nestled in Vale dos Vinhedos, Brazil's main wine region, the resort is surrounded by beautiful landscapes and the strong tradition of sparkling wines.

Rua Tenente Coronel Fabricio Pillar
cj #501, Garibaldi
Rio Grande do Sul 90450-040
Brazil
✈ PORTO ALEGRE/POA
66M/106K
SATURDAY

106 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



ST. DAVIDS VACATION CLUB • DVD
ST. DAVIDS, PEMBROKESHIRE, WALES • 01437-720704
stdavidsvacationclub.co.uk

St. Davids Vacation Club, located in Pembrokeshire, is within close proximity to the cathedral and castle, and is a great base for vacationers who are looking to explore the natural beauty of Wales. The famous Pembrokeshire coastal path is a half-mile from the resort, and meanders along the wild and rugged coastline, making a superb hiking trail for intrepid ramblers. Guests can visit the nearby village, which is home to quaint shops, restaurants, tea rooms, pubs, and galleries.

High Street
St. Davids
Pembrokeshire SA62 6SB
Wales
✈ CARDIFF/CWL 115M/185K
SATURDAY

40 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



PLAYA ROMANA PARK • PYK
ALCOSSEBRE, CASTELLÓN, SPAIN • 964-412492
playaromanacub.com

Situated in the heart of Castellón's Costa del Azahar, in a tranquil area surrounded by beautiful landscaped gardens, is Playa Romana Park. On-site amenities include two outdoor pools, a whirlpool, children's pool, and restaurant serving regional and international cuisine. The resort is convenient to the beach and the Old Town of Alcossebre, with its many restaurants and shops, making it an ideal place to enjoy a great vacation.

Playa Romana S/N
12579 Alcossebre
Castellón
Spain
✈ VALENCIA/VLC 77M/124K
SATURDAY

19 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



RESIDENCE ALBARE • RAA
MEZZANA, TRENTINO, ITALY • 0463-796545
albare.it

Set in the mountain resort area of Marilleva 1400, next to ski slopes, Residence Albare has a prime location. There is a wide range of apartments, from studios to two-bedroom units. A warm welcome awaits after a day full of outdoor adventure, and an on-site shopping center provides guests with ample opportunity to stock up on hiking and ski gear. Nearby activities include skiing and sledding in winter months, and kayaking, rafting, and mountain biking come summer.

Localita Marilleva 1400
Mezzana, (TN) 38020
Italy
✈ VERONA VRN 105M/169K
SATURDAY, SUNDAY

73 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



HOLIDAY CLUB HÉVIZ VILLA • HVL
HÉVIZ, HUNGARY • 06-83-340620
holidayclubhevis.hu

Holiday Club Héviz Villa is located on a quiet street, in the neighborhood of a large natural thermal water lake that is suitable for year-round bathing. The spacious, fully furnished units feature an en suite and a kitchen. In a prime location for golf enthusiasts — with numerous greens nearby — and close to restaurants, shops, entertainment venues, and several impressive castles, the resort is ideal for couples and families.

Attila u. 15
Héviz 8380
Hungary
✈ VIENNA/VIE 118M/190K
FRIDAY

44 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION



ANANTARA VACATION CLUB AVANI RIVERSIDE • BVI
BANGKOK, THAILAND • 66-476-0022
anantaravacationclub.com

Situated in bustling Bangkok, on the west bank of the Chao Phraya River, is the contemporary resort Anantara Vacation Club Avani Riverside. With panoramic views across the city and a neat, stylish finish, the spacious units provide guests with a memorable urban escape. Resort amenities include a spa, swimming pool, fully equipped gym, and numerous restaurants. There is a variety of cultural attractions and shopping outlets nearby.

257/1-3 Charoenakorn Road
Thonburi, Bangkok 10600
Thailand
✈ BANGKOK/BKK 29M/47K
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
SUNDAY

94 UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION

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Barbados
FROM \$1,429 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$205

Interval Platinum From **\$1,379** Per Week
Interval Gold From **\$1,404** Per Week

The tropical greens of Barbados Golf Club in Christ Church are sure to impress any golf enthusiast. Surrounding two lakes and dotted with trees, the 18-hole, par-72 course features rolling hills and wide-open fairways that accommodate players of every skill level. Get set to unwind as you enjoy world-class golfing and admire the beautiful Caribbean backdrop.



Riviera Maya, Mexico

FROM \$259 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$37

Interval Platinum From **\$209** Per Week
Interval Gold From **\$234** Per Week

Explore Riviera Maya's plethora of shopping opportunities, and discover items such as wood carvings, and handmade jewelry and clothing. Wander the local markets to see what treasures you'll find, or browse the area's many shopping malls. Quinta Alegria is three stories and located right on Fifth Avenue — the perfect place to stroll, even if you're not in need of a souvenir.



Oahu, Hawaii

FROM \$799 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$115

Interval Platinum From **\$749** Per Week
Interval Gold From **\$774** Per Week

Waikiki's crescent-shaped shore is ideal for sunbathing, and its surrounding seas beckon swimmers, surfers, and snorkelers galore. When you've had your fill of toes-in-the-sand fun, venture to the beach's east end to explore Kapiolani Park, which encompasses the Honolulu Zoo, Waikiki Shell entertainment venue, soccer fields, tennis courts, jogging paths, and picnic sites.



Eastern Coast, Dominican Republic*

FROM \$249 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$36

Interval Platinum From **\$199** Per Week
Interval Gold From **\$224** Per Week

Caribbean Dream Punta Cana Tours offers a variety of exciting outings. Go zip lining above the lush forest canopy, swim with playful dolphins, or take a speedboat ride in the waters off Playa Bávaro. If total relaxation is the goal, indulge in the Dr. Fish Ocean Spa excursion, which includes massages, skin treatments, and tranquil stretching and breathing exercises.

*All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.



Phuket, Thailand

FROM \$1,179 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$169

Interval Platinum From **\$1,129** Per Week
Interval Gold From **\$1,154** Per Week

A must-see while in Phuket is the nearly 148-foot-tall Big Buddha — visible from half the island — that sits high atop the Nakkerd Hills. Surrounded by tropical rain forest, the white-marble statue is an important religious symbol and is accompanied by a charming golden shrine. The site offers an incredible 360-degree view of southern Phuket.

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Williamsburg, Virginia

FROM \$417 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$60

Interval Platinum From **\$367** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$392** Per Week

Get your thrill on at Busch Gardens, where family fun ranges from carousel to coasters. Brave the Loch Ness Monster, a double-looping steel roller coaster that stands 13 stories tall, and takes passengers soaring over water and through a dark cave. Then get behind the wheel of a bumper car, climb aboard The Flying Machine, and take a relaxing riverboat ride.



Naples, Florida

FROM \$649 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$93

Interval Platinum From **\$599** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$624** Per Week

Join Manatee Eco-Tours for a chance to meet some of Florida's beloved sea cows. The 90-minute guided boat excursion embarks from Port of the Islands Marina, home to an incredible ecosystem that boasts a variety of native wildlife. An encounter with these gentle giants is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and the operator has a no-see, no-pay guarantee policy.



Sedona, Arizona

FROM \$657 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$94

Interval Platinum From **\$607** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$632** Per Week

Admire Sedona's incredible landscapes from above on a hot-air-balloon ride with Red Rock Balloon Adventures. Watch the sunrise as you drift over the sweeping canyons and narrow rock spires, and spot wildlife below. When your feet are back on the ground, indulge in a picnic as your pilot shares the exciting history of ballooning.



Las Vegas, Nevada

FROM \$299 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$43

Interval Platinum From **\$249** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$274** Per Week

Don't leave Las Vegas without visiting CityCenter, a complex of grand hotels, entertainment venues, shopping and dining opportunities, nightclubs, and more. People-watch and window-shop, and explore the variety of acquired art pieces scattered about the South Strip side of the 67-acre property, with works that range from sculpture and painting to drawing and mixed-media.

Atlantic City, New Jersey

FROM \$337 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$49

Interval Platinum From **\$287** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$312** Per Week

Its position on the coast means Atlantic City boasts numerous superb seafood restaurants. Harry's Oyster Bar & Seafood dishes out the ocean's freshest fare, from lobster and crab to tuna tartare and, of course, oysters. The eatery combines fine dining with a relaxed sports bar atmosphere, and indoor/outdoor seating provides ample opportunity to enjoy the fresh ocean air.

Fort Lauderdale Coast, Florida

FROM \$1,099 PER WEEK

Nightly Average From \$157

Interval Platinum From **\$1,049** Per Week

Interval Gold From **\$1,074** Per Week

Escape the hustle and bustle of the city and explore Hugh Taylor Birch State Park, located between the Atlantic Ocean and Intracoastal Waterway. See resident turtles and osprey as you canoe, kayak, or paddleboard on a freshwater lagoon. If you'd rather stick to dry land, enjoy a picnic, then go biking or take a hike along a nature trail.

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Crete, Greece*
FROM \$309 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$45

Interval Platinum From **\$259 Per Week**
Interval Gold From **\$284 Per Week**

Crete's Rethymno is one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Greece, and the stunning architecture of its churches, mansions, and stone arches delights. Immerse yourself in the Old Town's charm and history as you stroll its cobbled paths, then visit the nearby 16th-century, Venetian-era Fortezza of Rethymno, a massive oceanfront fortress situated on a hillside.

*All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.



Nassau, Bahamas*
FROM \$199 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$29

Interval Platinum From **\$149 Per Week**
Interval Gold From **\$174 Per Week**

Have a wild time at the Ardastra Gardens, Zoo & Conservation Centre, which features about 4 acres of lush tropical gardens and houses more than 135 exotic animals. Feed the lory parrots and observe the ring-tailed Madagascar lemurs. Then watch the world-famous marching flamingos put on a show, and don't miss a photo opportunity with these beautiful birds.

*All-inclusive/meal-plan purchase is mandatory; it may be based on a 7-night stay and maximum occupancy.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
FROM \$447 PER WEEK
Nightly Average From \$64

Interval Platinum From **\$397 Per Week**
Interval Gold From **\$422 Per Week**

Puerto Vallarta is world-renowned for its fishing, particularly for the popular marlin that draw deep-sea fishermen from across the globe. Set out on an adventure with Mike's Fishing Charters & Tours to reel in your big catch. The sport fishing fleet is the largest in the area, with knowledgeable captains and crew who provide a top-notch saltwater experience.

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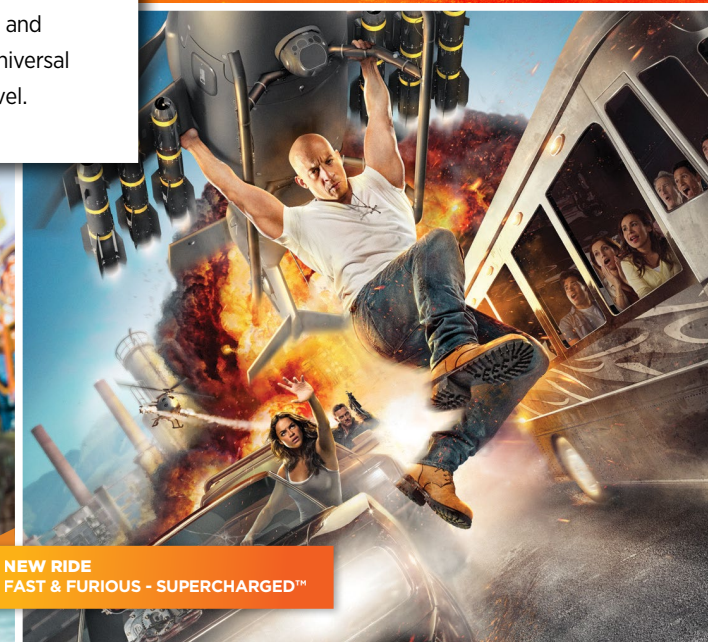
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tour PACKAGES

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13-Day Thailand Experience VALID DECEMBER 2018 From \$1,349 per person

TOUR OPERATOR: Cosmos

ITINERARY: Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, Ayutthaya, Phitsanulok, Sukhothai, Chiang Rai, and Chiang Mai, Thailand

WHAT'S INCLUDED: 12 nights of accommodations, 12 breakfasts, seven lunches, two dinners, private air-conditioned motor coach transportation

THE BEST OF

- Visit Bangkok's historic temples: Wat Traimit, Wat Pho, and Wat Phra Kaew, part of the Grand Palace, which houses Thailand's most sacred Buddhist sculpture, The Emerald Buddha.
- Trek along well-marked walking trails inside Sai Yok National Park, a beautiful preserve comprised of mountains, waterfalls, and underground caves.
- In Chiang Mai, spend a morning at the Elephant Jungle Sanctuary to interact with these majestic creatures.

THE DRILL DOWN

- Explore Sukhothai Historical Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site with ruins of royal palaces, Buddhist temples, and homes from the ancient Sukhothai Kingdom.
- Soak your feet in the warm, mineral-rich waters at Mae Kachan hot springs, a popular rest stop between Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai.
- Buy a souvenir at the world-famous Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, where traders sell all kinds of items from their boats.



SUKHOTHAI HISTORICAL PARK

Classic Fall Foliage 9-Day New England VALID OCTOBER 2018 From \$2,549 per person

TOUR OPERATOR: Globus

ITINERARY: Boston, Massachusetts; Bar Harbor, Maine; North Conway, New Hampshire; Killington, Vermont; Southbridge, Massachusetts; Newport, Rhode Island; Boston

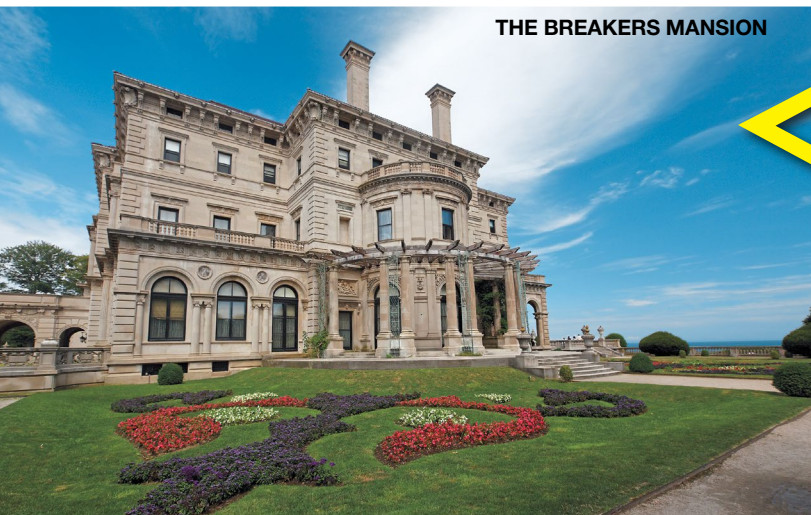
WHAT'S INCLUDED: Eight nights of accommodations, eight breakfasts, four three-course dinners, private motor coach transportation with free Wi-Fi

THE BEST OF

- Take a drive along Kancamagus Scenic Byway through the White Mountain National Forest, one of the best areas to see the autumn colors on the surrounding trees.
- Tour the Vanderbilt family's The Breakers mansion, a designated National Historic Landmark built at the turn of the 20th century.
- Visit the Norman Rockwell Museum in the heart of the Berkshires to see the American illustrator's masterworks.

THE DRILL DOWN

- In Bar Harbor, indulge in a traditional lobster-bake dinner.
- Enjoy a scenic carriage ride in Acadia National Park.
- Check out the shops and eateries at Boston's Quincy Market.



THE BREAKERS MANSION

11-Day Spain's Classics VALID SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2019 From \$2,399 per person

TOUR OPERATOR: Collette

ITINERARY: Madrid, Seville, Granada, Valencia, and Barcelona, Spain

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Nine nights of accommodations, nine breakfasts, one lunch, four dinners

THE BEST OF

- Tour Madrid's Royal Palace, a beautiful baroque structure with more than 3,000 rooms, a royal armory, and an impressive courtyard.
- Explore the City of Arts and Sciences, Valencia's ultra-modern cultural complex housing the largest aquarium in Europe, an Imax cinema, science museum, opera house, and garden esplanade.
- In Barcelona, visit Antoni Gaudí's architectural masterpieces, including La Sagrada Família church, Casa Milà, Parque Güell, Palacio Güell, and Casa Batlló — all UNESCO World Heritage sites.

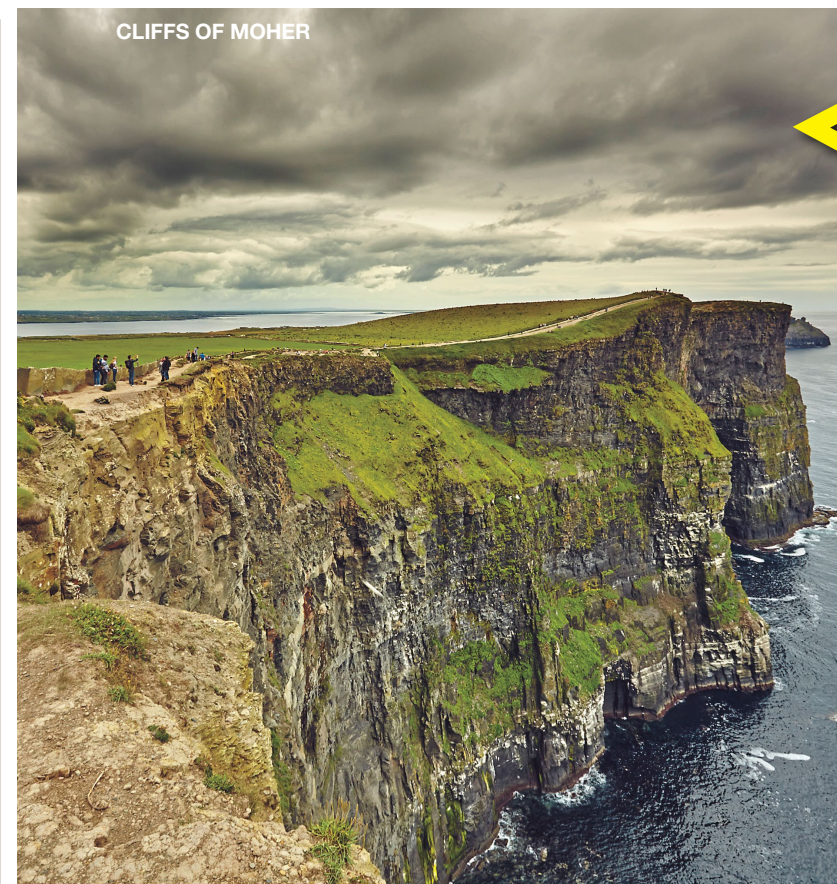


CITY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

THE DRILL DOWN

- Feel the rhythm and energy of a live flamenco performance, featuring Seville's top dancers.
- Participate in a paella-making demonstration and lunch while in Valencia, the birthplace of this delicious rice dish.
- Wander around the beautiful Generalife gardens, located on the grounds of Granada's Alhambra palace, full of exotic flowers, fountains, courtyards, and smaller secret orchards.

CLIFFS OF MOHER



9-Day Irish Explorer VALID OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2018 From \$999 per person

TOUR OPERATOR: Cosmos

ITINERARY: Dublin, Ireland; Belfast, Northern Ireland; Sligo, Limerick, Killarney, Tramore, and Dublin, Ireland

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Eight nights of accommodations, eight breakfasts, three three-course dinners, private air-conditioned motor coach transportation

THE BEST OF

- See the spectacular Cliffs of Moher, which descend 668 feet into the North Atlantic Ocean on the island's west coast.
- Enjoy dinner and a pint at the Guinness Storehouse inside the legendary St. James's Gate Brewery in Dublin.
- Go on an excursion around the Ring of Kerry, a 100-mile coastal road with spectacular views of the Lakes of Killarney.

THE DRILL DOWN

- Visit Ireland's oldest handweaving mill in Avoca to see weavers at work, making throws, rugs, and scarves.
- Delve into the past at the interactive visitor attraction of Titanic Belfast, and explore the city where the infamous ship was built in the early 1900s.
- Tour the House of Waterford Crystal to see first-hand the different stages of high-end crystal making.

TOUR PACKAGE prices are per person, double occupancy (unless otherwise indicated), in U.S. dollars, and do not include airfare unless specified. Airport departure taxes are additional, if applicable. Interval Travel acts only in the capacity of agent for participants in the offers above and assumes no responsibility for injury, loss, or damage to person or property in connection with any service over which it has no control. Offers are subject to availability and to change without notice. Certain restrictions apply. Prices are effective as of Aug. 1, 2018.

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SAILING THE HIGH SEAS:

A Q&A WITH INTERVAL TRAVEL COORDINATOR CARLOS O'BARRIO

Chocolate parades. Broadway-style entertainment. One-of-a-kind shore excursions.

These are just *some* of the reasons to take a cruise. Here, we explore why members should book a cruise with Interval. Carlos O'Barrio, an Interval Travel® coordinator who's been sending travelers on dream vacations for nearly 12 years, fields our questions.

Welcome aboard!

Let's start with the big picture. Why should anyone go on a cruise?

It's one of the best ways to see the world. Think about it: You only unpack once and you get to see multiple destinations. It's an exceptional value when you factor in the food and entertainment that's included. Oh, and you have the freedom to do as much as the cruise offers, or to just kick back by the pool with a book.

What do you like most about the onboard experience?

I consider myself a foodie. The culinary experience aboard cruise lines is quite impressive and can feature a wide range of fare, from savory burgers and deli sandwiches to five-star meals including escargot and lobster. And the majority of cruise lines now offer open dining, so you're free to eat and sit when and where you want. You can also expect a great wine experience: Most cruise lines have sommeliers who know which wines to pair with your burger. Or your escargot.

Why should members book their cruise through Interval?

First off, the price is right. We offer great rates, at many times unavailable to the general public, and you won't pay a booking fee. All cruises are backed by our Best Price Guarantee, and if you're an Interval Gold or Interval Platinum member, we offer up to \$100 cash back on select cruises. We also provide exciting perks, such as free onboard credit on select sailings. Second, and just as important, you're booking with experts. All of our associates are certified with major cruise lines. On top of that, the average tenure of our cruise specialists is 12.7 years, so we can tell you which ships have the best spas, and which excursions are worth your shore time.

OK, let's get specific. A first-time cruiser calls you. Itineraries, please.

A short three- to five-day sailing to the Caribbean, Bahamas, or Mexico. These short cruise experiences are readily available on Royal Caribbean and Carnival Cruise Line out of multiple ports in Florida, and on Carnival out of California.

Next scenario: multigenerational travelers. How do you keep everyone happy?

Here's the thing: Grandparents often prefer a more high-end cruise vacation, while adult children and grandkids are often interested in a more mainstream experience. So I point members toward cruise lines that have created a ship-within-a-ship feel. For example, The Haven on Norwegian Cruise Line and MSC Yacht Club on MSC Cruises offer the luxury and exclusivity of a private club, while providing access to all of the onboard activities and entertainment. In addition, most cruise lines offer programs for children, from toddlers to teens.

Switching gears, what do you say to members who've sailed all over the Caribbean, climbed all of the rock walls, and surfed all of the simulators. What's next?

It's time for a river cruise, which offers an intimate experience on a smaller vessel and daily interaction with locals, as well as access to off-the-beaten-path destinations inaccessible by ocean liners. Expect complimentary wine with meals, and courtesy excursions alongside resident guides. I recommend AmaWaterways and Viking River Cruises sailings on the Danube or Rhine.

Ocean or river, how do members book through Interval?

Call us at 800-622-1540 or 305-668-3496. Or you can also sign in to intervalworld.com and click Cruises under the Travel tab.

Anything else that members should know about cruising through Interval?

Upgraded members have even more choices in how they can book. Interval Gold or Interval Platinum members can buy a cruise, *and* they can trade their week or points toward a cruise.

How can I trade toward a cruise?

Easy. Sign in to intervalworld.com and click Cruise Exchange under the Exchange tab, or call 888-335-9366. Book online and save!

Thanks, Carlos.

Bon voyage.

One-on-One With Carlos

Years in the Cruise Industry: 15

Past Sailings:

41 cruises aboard Carnival Cruise Line, Royal Caribbean, Norwegian Cruise Line, Celebrity Cruises, MSC Cruises, and Princess Cruises.

Bucket List:

Top on my list is the 7-night Dreams of Tahiti sailing aboard Windstar Cruises, and a Romantic Danube river excursion with Viking Cruises.

Favorite Onboard Activity:

Sitting on my private balcony with a glass of pinot noir and watching the waves go by.

Top Excursion:

A Sky Walk tour in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, where we walked on very high bridges throughout the jungle.

Best Meal at Sea:

Sushi lollipops at Qsine, a specialty restaurant aboard the *Celebrity Reflection*, where typical small plates are served with a whimsical spin.

Carlos O'Barrio poses on deck 16 of the *Norwegian Escape* on March 3, 2018.

Edward Gallardo

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Norwegian Cruise Line's President's Club (2012 – 2017)

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7-Night Mexican Riviera From \$609

DATES: Nov. 17; Nov. 24, 2018

SHIP: *Ruby Princess*

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

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$125 per person are additional.

Based on an IF interior cabin.

You'll find delicious local food and various markets at each port of call on this voyage to the best of Mexico's west coast, but each destination has its own personality, too. Cabo San Lucas is an environmental playground, with numerous beach and oceanic activities. An action-packed day of sport fishing or bird-watching is on offer in Mazatlán. And Puerto Vallarta is a treasure trove of cultural experiences, such as an excursion to San Sebastián to walk among centuries-old buildings and a visit to a tequila distillery. While at sea, catch one of Princess' famed Movies Under the Stars, and book a massage at the Lotus Spa.



FORT SHIRLEY,
CABRITS NATIONAL PARK

7-Night Southern Caribbean From \$549

DATE: Nov. 24, 2018

SHIP: *Celebrity Summit*

ITINERARY: San Juan, Puerto Rico; St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; St. Maarten; Dominica; Barbados; Grenada; San Juan

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$77 per person are additional.

This trip aboard the *Celebrity Summit* is not your typical sun-and-sand Caribbean itinerary. For starters, passengers have the opportunity to join a half-day San Juan excursion to assist with hurricane relief. Tasks include planting trees, serving food, and reading to children — and at the end of the day, you'll enjoy a private, typical Puerto Rican meal. Distinct ports of call and unique activities are next. Kayak to Columbus Landing, a site where Christopher Columbus touched down on St. Croix, at the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve. Take a culinary tour on St. Maarten. Venture off to Cabrits National Park on Dominica and explore the 18th century Fort Shirley. Go spelunking in Harrison's Cave outside Bridgetown, Barbados. And learn about the spice trade in Grenada.



Jad Davenport/Getty Images

intervalworld.com

PLAZA DE LA REVOLUCIÓN



4-Night Cuba From \$639

DATES: Nov. 5; Nov. 12, 2018

SHIP: *Norwegian Sky*

ITINERARY: Miami, Florida; Havana, Cuba* (overnight); Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas; Miami

Free open bar.

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$168 per person are additional.

*Cultural immersion experiences in Cuba require travel documentation. The cruise line will facilitate this process for guests.

An overnight stop in Havana allows you ample time to soak up multiple Cuban experiences. Various city tours are available, and you'll want to be sure to visit the Malecón seafront and Plaza de la Revolución (Revolution Square), in addition to some of the capital's numerous churches and forts. El Floridita bar is another must-see — and a highlight of a Hemingway-inspired tour, during which you'll also stop by the author's local residence, Finca Vigía. After all that sightseeing, a solid beach day is in order — and Great Stirrup Cay is the perfect place for it. Go snorkeling, or simply splash about in the crystal-clear waters and then relax in a comfortable cabana.



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Additional SAILINGS

7-Night Eastern Mediterranean From \$699

DATES: Oct. 20; Oct. 27, 2018

SHIP: *Costa Luminosa*

ITINERARY: Venice and Bari, Italy; Piraeus (Athens) and Katakolon (Olympia), Greece; Kotor, Montenegro; Split, Croatia; Venice

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$91 per person are additional.

The *Costa Luminosa* — a delightful mix of elegance and comfort — is the perfect vessel for your Mediterranean vacation. Test your mettle in the Grand Prix Simulator, rejuvenate with a Turkish bath, sit down to a meal of Pacific-fusion cuisine at the reservations-required Samsara Restaurant, indulge your sweet tooth at the Chocolate Bar — or do it all. When you arrive to Piraeus and Katakolon, you'll witness important landmarks, including the Acropolis and Parthenon, ruins of the very first Olympic games, and temples dedicated to Zeus and Hera. Bari, Kotor, and Split, with their blends of ancient structures and breathtaking scenery, are equally fascinating.



7-Night Paris and Normandy From \$2,699

DATE: Nov. 1, 2018

SHIP: *AmaLyra*

ITINERARY: Paris, Les Andelys, Le Havre, Caudebec-en-Caux, Rouen, Vernon, Conflans, and Paris, France

Begin and end this river journey in the spellbinding City of Light, but make no mistake — you'll be just as enthralled with the scenic beauty of the French countryside. The purpose-built *AmaLyra* — a comfortable river vessel with different dining venues and an inviting sundeck — will transport you along the Seine to fascinating Normandy locations such as Le Havre, Vernon, and Conflans, where bicycle tours and tasting menus are activities du jour. Some of the trip's spotlight excursions include a jaunt to Château Gaillard, Richard the Lionheart's former citadel, outside Les Andelys; an all-day visit to Omaha Beach sites near Caudebec-en-Caux; and a stroll through medieval Rouen.



NEW SHIP

6-Night Western Caribbean From \$449

DATES: Nov. 11; Nov. 25, 2018

SHIP: *Carnival Horizon*

ITINERARY: Miami, Florida; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Cozumel, Mexico; Miami

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$128 per person are additional.



7-Night Western Mediterranean From \$699

DATES: Oct. 21; Oct. 28, 2018

SHIP: *Norwegian Epic*

ITINERARY: Barcelona, Spain; Naples, Civitavecchia (Rome), and Livorno (Florence and Pisa), Italy; Cannes, France; Palma de Mallorca and Barcelona, Spain

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$109 per person are additional.



16-Night Eastern Seaboard Explorer From \$3,699

DATE: Nov. 2, 2018

SHIP: *Insignia*

ITINERARY: Montreal (embark), Québec City, and Sept-Îles, Québec; Halifax, Nova Scotia; Bar Harbor, Maine; Boston, Massachusetts; New York, New York (overnight); St. George, Bermuda (overnight); Charleston, South Carolina (overnight); Port Canaveral (Orlando) and Miami, Florida (disembark)



7-Night Canada and New England From \$899

DATE: Oct. 20, 2018

SHIP: *Regal Princess*

ITINERARY: New York, New York; Newport, Rhode Island; Boston, Massachusetts; Bar Harbor, Maine; Saint John (Bay of Fundy), New Brunswick; Halifax, Nova Scotia; New York

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$195 per person are additional.

Based on an IF interior cabin.



9-Night Southern Caribbean From \$949

DATE: Nov. 30, 2018

SHIP: *Celebrity Silhouette*

ITINERARY: Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Aruba; Curaçao; Bonaire; Fort Lauderdale

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$109 per person are additional.



4-Night Very Merrytime Bahamas From \$976

DATE: Dec. 3, 2018

SHIP: *Disney Dream*

ITINERARY: Port Canaveral (Orlando), Florida; Nassau and Castaway Cay, Bahamas; Port Canaveral

Taxes, fees, and port expenses of \$74 per person are additional.



3-Night Baja Mexico From \$194

DATES: Dec. 6; Dec. 13, 2018

SHIP: *Carnival Imagination*

ITINERARY: Long Beach (Los Angeles), California; Ensenada, Mexico; Long Beach

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



7-Night Rhine River From \$3,049

DATE: April 20, 2019

SHIP: *Viking Longship Tialfi*

ITINERARY: Amsterdam (embark) and Kinderdijk, Netherlands; Cologne, Koblenz, and Heidelberg, Germany; Strasbourg, France; Breisach, Germany; Basel, Switzerland (disembark)



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We have 10 portable smartphone chargers with a built-in LED flashlight 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 to:

WHERE IN THE WORLD? CONTEST <i>Interval World</i> P.O. Box 431920 Miami, Florida 33243-1920 Attention: Rebeca Piccardo	Entries must be postmarked no later than Nov. 1, 2018. If your correct answer is one of the first 10 selected in our random drawing, you win! See rules below.
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CLUES

- Built in 1914, this colonial-style building was constructed as a police station. Though it no longer serves as such, the structure — which is earmarked for a public museum — has been refurbished and repainted in recent years, and its roof still resembles the shape of a traditional police cap from that era.
- The four-story edifice was the city's first clock tower, a useful service since most people could not afford to buy a timepiece back then. Unfortunately, the clock wasn't installed until more than 60 years later because the ship transporting it sank.
- Among the world's finest beach destinations, the surrounding region is known for its bustling street markets, majestic temples, and exciting nightlife.

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. Contest is open only to U.S. residents who are 18 years of age or older. Void where prohibited by law in Canada. Entries must be postmarked no later than Nov. 1, 2018, and will not be returned to members. Winners will be the first 10 correct answers selected in a random drawing. By entering the contest, you understand that you provide Interval International the right to use your name and hometown if you are a selected winner. Winners will be selected Nov. 15, 2018. Prizes will be mailed directly to winners, and winning members' names and hometowns will be published once a year on this page of the magazine. No purchase is necessary. There is no cash equivalent to the prizes.



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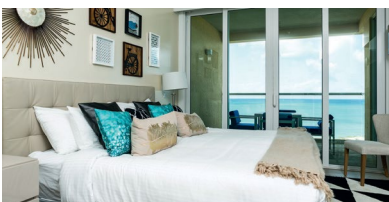
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IN FOCUS

AN UP-CLOSE LOOK AT GEORGIAN BAY, ONTARIO'S
FATHOM FIVE NATIONAL MARINE PARK



spanning more than 40 square miles, Ontario's Fathom Five National Marine Park encompasses towering cliffs topped by sprawling forest, and 20 islands dotted about Lake Huron and the Georgian Bay. And resting beneath the water's surface is the park's most unique feature — the 22 historical shipwrecks that lie scattered across the rugged 420-million-year-old dolomite lake floor.

Consisting of vessels dating to the 19th and early 20th centuries, these sites offer excellent visibility and draw around

8,000 divers per year. The sunken ships — some located just offshore and easily accessible by boat — range from schooners, passenger steamers, and tug boats (ideal for snorkeling). And while a few were deliberately sunk as contributions to the underwater playground, most have a tragic story to tell. The eroded hulls and fallen masts are evidence of an unfortunate fate. The wrecks are time capsules, giving visitors a glimpse of the area's seafaring past and keeping its maritime history alive.

HP Canada/Alamy Stock Photo

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