

Alaska Beyond

Magazine
October
2016

Luly Yang

High-flying fashion

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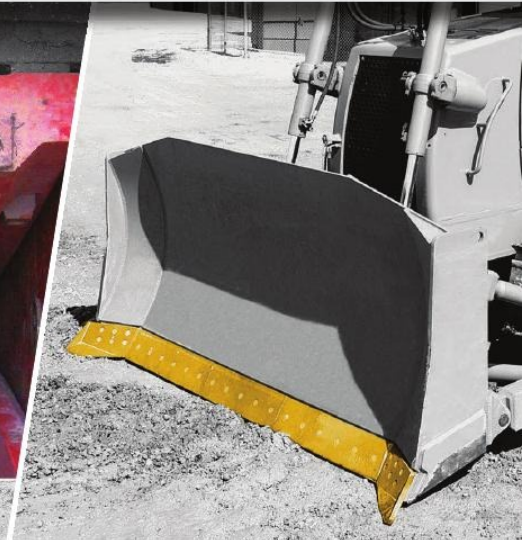
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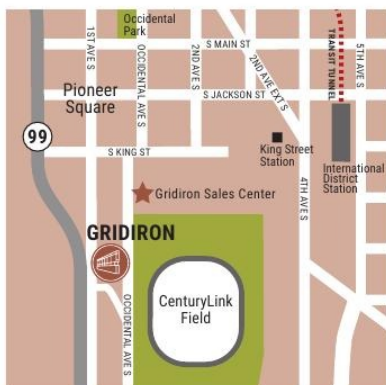
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Assistant Editor **LARA DOUGLASS**

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Contributing Writers

DAVID ARMSTRONG, BARBARA BECKLEY,

RENEE BRINCKS, CANDACE DEMPSEY, BILL FINK, BENGT HALVORSON,

ERIC LUCAS, LINDA HAGEN MILLER, DESTON NOKES, GAIL O'HARA,

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SALES OFFICES

2701 First Avenue, Suite 250, Seattle, WA 98121
phone 206-441-5871; fax 206-448-6939
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Advertising Director **KENNETH J. KRASS, EXT. 11**

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Alaska

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With Luly Yang on the cover, it seems the perfect time to have Andy Schneider, our VP of Inflight Services, tell you about some of the incredible flight attendants who will be donning Luly's designs when our new uniforms debut. —*Brad Tilden*

"Clothes make the person" was a quote I heard growing up. While I certainly have an appreciation for beautifully designed articles of clothing, I've learned, after 28 years with Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air, that it's the heart of the employees wearing the uniforms that completes the ensemble. I take great pride in the employees who don our uniforms every day. Not only do they come to work to deliver warm, caring service to you, but many of them are also wearing various hats outside of work, serving others in need.

I am humbled by the good our employees are doing in the community. Flight Attendant Gail Lopez created a charity to draw more attention to finding cures for childhood cancer, after her own daughter fought the disease. Gail's passion was evident last month when every Major League Baseball team wore a yellow ribbon, bringing attention to the need for research focused on childhood cancer. At Sea-Tac Airport, our inflight, pilot and airport teams regularly support the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, and this year they raised more than \$40,000.

Flight Attendant Chris King approached me after seeing homelessness rates soar in Seattle. Wondering what he could do to be part of the solution, he has organized a sock drive. The outpouring of

support from his peers has been phenomenal. Two more of our flight attendants, Krista Livingston and Bret Haugh, work tirelessly each year at our hubs in Seattle, Portland and Los Angeles to host "Swabbin'" events aimed at growing the National Marrow Donor Program registry. And one of our newest flight attendants, Chael Stenchever, spreads cheer when she dresses up as Snow White to visit patients at Seattle Children's Hospital.

One of the many reasons I am excited that Alaska is partnering with fashion designer Luly Yang, beyond her incredible talents, is her passion for working in the community. From the moment I met Luly, I knew we had found a natural pairing. Like so many of our employees, Luly's beauty runs deep. Luly partners with Strong Against Cancer to design dream garments for young patients, which they model in a fashion show. When we asked if she would design neckwear that supported causes such as the Pink Lemonade Project, Rick's Toys for Kids and the USO, there was never a hesitation.

I am proud that our uniformed employees will have an opportunity to give the public an early preview of Luly's work through the month of October with her elegant scarves and ties for breast cancer awareness. And during December, our employees will be wearing her playful holiday scarves and ties. As you'll see in our article in this issue, we are truly fortunate to work with such an amazingly gifted and compassionate local talent.

I am thrilled that Luly is creating a collection that employees will feel good about wearing from the moment they put their uniform on. Pairing that magic with the Alaska Spirit and Horizon Heart will make our employees shine from the inside out. Be on the watch for more uniform pieces designed by Luly coming soon for our team members.

Thanks for flying with us, and if you get a chance to chat with our employees, you'll find a wealth of goodness behind the uniform. —*Andy Schneider*



Brad Tilden,
Chief Executive
Officer



Andy Schneider,
VP, Inflight
Services



Fashion designer Luly Yang will bring a fresh look to Alaska Airlines uniforms.



Brad Tilden,
Jefe Ejecutivo

Spirit of Alaska

Una pista hacia el corazón

Al tener a Luly Yang en la portada, lo ideal era invitar a Andy Schneider, nuestra Vicepresidenta de Servicios a Bordo, para que les cuente sobre algunos de nuestros increíbles sobrecargos que vestirán los diseños de Luly cuando nuestros nuevos uniformes estén listos. —*Brad Tilden*



Andy Schneider,
VP, Servicios a
Bordo

“La vestimenta hace a la persona” fue una frase que escuché mientras crecía. Si bien es cierto que siento un gran aprecio por las prendas de vestir bellamente diseñadas, después de 28 años con Alaska Airlines y Horizon Air, aprendí que el corazón de los empleados que visten los uniformes es lo que completa el conjunto. Me siento muy orgullosa de los empleados que portan nuestros uniformes todos los días. No solo vienen a trabajar para ofrecerles un servicio cálido y atento, sino que muchos de ellos también desempeñan otros papeles fuera del trabajo, ayudando a quienes más lo necesitan.

Me siento muy honrada por todo el bien que nuestros empleados están haciendo por la comunidad. Después de que una de sus hijas luchó y ganó la batalla contra el cáncer, nuestra sobrecarga Gail Lopez, de San Diego, creó una organización benéfica para atraer más atención a la búsqueda de una cura para el cáncer infantil. Su pasión por aumentar la conciencia sobre la investigación del cáncer infantil fue más evidente el mes pasado, cuando todos los equipos de las Grandes Ligas de Béisbol usaron una cinta amarilla para llamar la atención sobre la necesidad de la investigación del cáncer infantil.

En el aeropuerto de Seattle-Tacoma nuestros equipos de a bordo, de pilotos y del aeropuerto brindan apoyo regularmente a Relay For Life (Relevo por la Vida), y este año recaudaron más de \$40.000.

Y el mes pasado, el sobrecargo Chris King me contactó después de ver los altos índices de personas sin hogar en Seattle. Al preguntarse qué podía hacer para ser parte de la solución, organizó una campaña de recolección de calcetines. El gran apoyo de sus compañeros ha sido fenomenal. Dos más de nuestros sobrecargos, Krista Livingston y Bret Haugh, trabajan incansablemente cada año en nuestros centros de Seattle, Portland y Los Angeles para organizar eventos de “Hisopado” para aumen-

tar la lista nacional del Registro de Donantes de Médula Ósea. Y una de nuestras nuevas sobrecargos, Chael Stenchever, comparte su alegría cuando se disfraza de Blancanieves para visitar a los pacientes en el Seattle Children’s Hospital.

Entre los muchos motivos que me entusiasman de que Alaska colabore con la diseñadora de modas Luly Yang, además de su talento increíble, está su pasión por trabajar en la comunidad. Desde el momento en que conocí a Luly, supe que habíamos encontrado una combinación natural. Al igual que muchos de nuestros empleados, la belleza de Luly viene desde adentro.

Me llena de orgullo el que nuestros empleados uniformados tengan la oportunidad de darle al público un adelanto del trabajo de Luly durante el mes de octubre, con sus elegantes pañuelos y corbatas para generar conciencia sobre el cáncer de mama. Durante diciembre, nuestros empleados usarán sus bufandas y corbatas festivas con alegres diseños. Somos verdaderamente afortunados de trabajar con una persona increíblemente talentosa, compasiva y de nuestra localidad.

Yo, al igual que muchos de nuestros empleados, estoy encantada de que Luly esté creando una colección de uniformes que hará que los empleados se sientan bien desde el momento en que se los ponen. La combinación de esa magia con el espíritu de Alaska y el corazón de Horizon realmente hará que nuestros empleados brillen desde su interior, como debe de ser. Estén pendientes de las nuevas prendas de uniforme diseñadas por Luly que lucirán los miembros de nuestros equipos próximamente.

Gracias por volar con nosotros y, si tienen la oportunidad de hablar con alguno de nuestros empleados, descubrirán la inmensa bondad que hay detrás del uniforme. —*Andy Schneider*

"I'm most happy that many of the practices I learned during the program seem to be sticking months later."



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I've always been active. I would jog on a daily basis, take gymnastics, work with a personal trainer and exercise on a semi-regular basis. But after having my daughter, taking on more responsibility at work, and with all the other things that go on in life, there never seemed to be enough time. Exercise dropped to the bottom of my priority list. When I could no longer fit into my clothes, it became a daily reminder of how out of shape I'd become. And even when I tried to exercise, I knew there was something missing because I couldn't seem to get back to my original size.

I'd never been on a diet so I wasn't sure how to begin one. I not only wanted to learn how to eat right, but I wanted to continue good habits as I got older. So when I learned that there was a program specifically for women who needed a pick-me-up and it included beauty, nutrition and mentoring, I knew it was for me.

The workouts were exactly what I had expected. I was fortunate to have my sessions split between two trainers. Each offered a different approach. One was more structured, while the other designed workouts which were more creative and challenged my body in different ways.

My dietitian was amazing! She answered every question I had and continuously offered suggestions and tips on managing cravings and how to handle various scenarios. This felt like a key piece to my overall success.

I'm most happy that many of the practices I learned during the program seem to be sticking months later. Having had to coordinate schedules with my husband to do the program allowed me to successfully integrate exercise (for him and myself) back into my schedule. It also showed me that I can make time to exercise while maintaining my regular lifestyle. Also, sticking to an easily sustainable eating regimen has worked wonders.

One of the best parts of the program was the pampering. Having an executive locker with a robe, slippers, great spa products, surprise gifts and more was a pleasurable, guilty indulgence. Many times I'd relax with a cup of tea after working out. It felt like a daily spa session.

I lost about 20 pounds and gained two percent muscle mass. I fit into my clothes – but now I have toned arms, which I've never had in my life. The makeover and photo session was the icing on the cake! When I saw myself in the photos, I was amazed. Who knew?



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"It is important for today's patients to understand that the results that can be achieved can look completely natural and amazing when done properly," says Dr. Goertz. But patients should not be

fooled with promises of new machines or instruments doing hair transplants. "The instruments are developed to aid the doctor," says Dr. Goertz. "Ultimately, natural results are achieved by the surgeon who has the surgical and aesthetic skill to create results that are completely natural." When a hair transplant can pass the scrutiny of a hair stylist, you know you have a great hair transplant. "Dr. Goertz has an eye for artistry in making it look natural, which is why I refer my clients to him," says David Cheung, master designer and owner of MARGIDAVID SALON in Seattle.

"My goal is to be sure that my work is completely natural and undetectable," says Dr. Goertz. "I recently had a physician come to me because a mutual patient finally revealed to him that he'd had a hair transplant. When that physician realized that he couldn't detect the transplanted hairs, he decided to come in for his hair transplant. It is a great compliment when a physician chooses me as the hair transplant surgeon for themselves and their patients."

Hair transplantation is not just for men. Many women also experience hair loss or are born with a high hairline that can be treated with hair transplantation. As difficult as it is for men to lose their hair, women often suffer in silence experiencing emotional pain. After all, society tells us that women are not supposed to lose their hair. Hair transplantation can make

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What's new



Extreme makeover

It's a little known fact that Alaska Airlines is the only major U.S. carrier to still operate cargo aircraft. The airline currently flies one all-cargo freighter and five Combi aircraft, which feature a unique split cabin set-up that separates passenger and cargo compartments with a bulkhead located in the middle of the aircraft. All six of these planes are Boeing 737-400s, an aircraft type that the airline is retiring next year as part of its fleet-modernization program. To replace these aircraft, Alaska will convert three, newer Boeing 737-700s into freighters—a process that will take more than six months per aircraft to transform these former passenger-carrying aircraft into cargo-hauling workhorses. Airline geeks should take note: Once the new freighters take flight next year, the venerable Combis will be retired and with them, a truly unique opportunity to share a flight with thousands of pounds of salmon, milk jugs, auto parts or just about anything else needing to be flown to, from and within the state of Alaska.

Instant access to membership cards

Mileage Plan and Board Room members now have access to their membership cards with just a few taps on a smartphone. Apple iPhone and Google Android users can now access their membership cards within the Alaska Airlines app. The new feature is especially helpful for customers traveling on partner airlines, as it allows passengers to simply flash their digital card to receive priority boarding benefits or access to a partner lounge. Customers can download the apps in their respective phone's app store and learn more about airline-partner elite benefits at alaskaair.com/globalpartners.



Twenty flights a day to nine Midwest cities

Alaska Airlines will continue to expand its Seattle hub with the launch of daily nonstop service to Indianapolis and Wichita, Kansas, starting in spring 2017. With the addition of Indianapolis and Wichita, the airline will serve 89 nonstop destinations from Seattle, more than twice as many as Alaska's nearest competitor. What's more, Alaska is the only airline to serve 35 of those destinations from Sea-Tac International Airport. Including the new routes, the airline will serve a total of nine Midwest cities, including Chicago; Detroit; Indianapolis; Milwaukee; Minneapolis; St. Louis; Omaha, Nebraska; Kansas City, Missouri; and Wichita, Kansas.



Coming soon: Premium Class

Work is underway to get ready for Premium Class, a new section of Alaska's main cabin that will feature more room and added perks. To prepare for the official launch of Premium Class in early 2017, Alaska has begun removing seats from its aircraft to make way for 4 more inches of legroom in the first few rows of the main cabin, which will become Premium Class. Customers flying this fall may find themselves lucky enough to be seated in these rows as the airline begins the rollout of the modified aircraft, which will take about 18 months. As each aircraft is refitted, new headrests will be installed to give a visual cue that the aircraft has been upgraded. Once the product is formally launched, Premium Class customers will enjoy not only added legroom, but also priority boarding and complimentary drinks and snacks. More information on Premium Class will be available at alaskaair.com as the official launch nears.



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Spreading smiles

FLIGHT ATTENDANT SHARON HOLLOWAY

Kids are always important for Sharon Holloway, particularly those who are flying alone. On one flight, two young sisters had been escorted from the gate to their seats, but when Sharon came by to check on them, the older of the two was crying. Between sobs, she told Sharon that she was sad to be leaving her father behind. Sharon asked the girl if she would feel better if she talked with her father. Sharon went to the back of the plane and got her own cellphone from her purse so that the girl could talk with her father until the plane was ready to depart. By then, the girl was all smiles.

Sharon thrives on bringing out a smile. In fact, she can lift the mood for an entire plane. She flies a lot of routes within the state of Alaska, where village school basketball, hockey, volleyball and other teams often travel by air for competitions. Sharon likes to give shout-outs on the PA system. She reports scores and congratulates players. The teams love the recognition; the rest of the passengers appreciate the gesture. Sharon likes nothing more than an entire cabin bursting into applause.

Whether she's serving elderly or special-needs travelers, or mothers taking their newborns to their home village for the first time, Sharon makes a special connection. "I look them in the eye and say, 'I'm here with you for the whole flight. Just let me know what you need.'"

That same caring attitude and selfless spirit extends to co-workers, as well. For many years,

Sharon has volunteered to work holiday flights so that others can take that time to be with family.

Sharon grew up in Fairbanks, went to the local high school and joined Alaska Airlines in 1985 as a security agent. She moved to the Fairbanks ticket counter and then the air cargo operation—all jobs she loved, she says, interacting with customers and delivering great customer service.

But Sharon also had a passion for travel. She had watched how flight attendants worked, and she knew she had the skills and personality to excel at the job, so she took to the skies—that's been the last 10 years of her 31 years with Alaska.

Travel continues to be important for Sharon, whose goal is to visit all seven continents—and she's getting close. Travel for Sharon is not just a list of places she's been, but the experiences and the opportunities to immerse herself in the lives of people around the world. This month she visits New York with a friend: When they travel together, they look forward to a special adventure, and this time they'll walk the Brooklyn Bridge. In March, she sets off for a trip to Antarctica.

Still, it's the connections on board the planes, making kids smile or celebrating a couple's anniversary over the PA, that matter most. "You get to meet so many passengers along the way and be part of some of the incredible moments in their lives. I couldn't ask for anything more." —Paul Frichtl



Each year, Alaska Airlines recognizes employees, such as Flight Attendant Sharon Holloway, as Legends of Customer Service, the airline's highest honor.

Focus on sustainability

SAYING GOODBYE TO PAPER FLIGHT ATTENDANT MANUALS

In 2012, Alaska Airlines pledged to cut operational paper use in half by 2020, and this fall the airline reached another major milestone toward accomplishing this goal. Alaska's flight attendants will now receive electronic bulletins and flight-manual revisions on their iPhone inflight mobile devices rather than receiving paper copies. Flight attendants currently receive two to three manuals



revisions a year, and up to 40 emergency bulletins. The transition to electronic editions of these documents will save more than 1.5 million sheets of paper annually. That is 180 trees saved each year.

A paper Flight Attendant Manual is retired to a recycling bin at Alaska Airlines.

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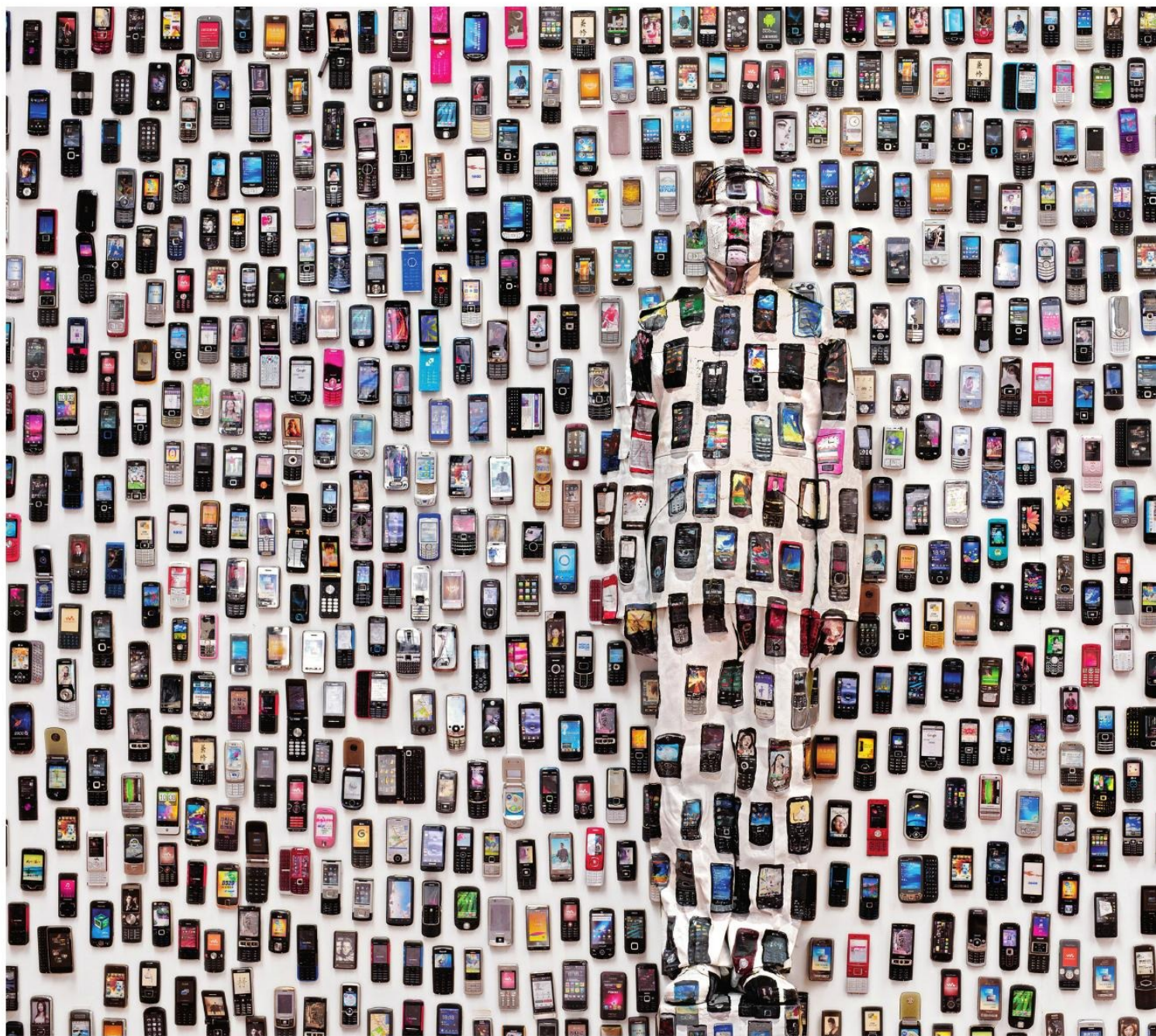
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ANCHORAGE, AK

Now You See It ...

A REFLECTIVE DESIGNER SCARF that foils paparazzi's flashes; art by a photographer who paints himself to blend into backgrounds; an examination of ways in which animals have evolved disguises—these elements and more are included in **"Camouflage: In Plain Sight,"** at the Anchorage Museum, October 28–February 5. The exhibition explores the theme of concealment through historical objects, items from popular culture, natural

specimens, and major works by modern and contemporary artists such as Andy Warhol, Jasper Johns and Cindy Sherman. Visitors can delve into topics such as differences between complete concealment and animal mimicry (in which an animal looks like another animal or object) and how makeup can either hide flaws or turn heads. For more information, call 907-929-9200 or visit anchagemuseum.org. —Meagan Wehe

Chameleonlike artist Liu Bolin used paint to conceal himself within Hiding in the City—Mobile Phone (2012), part of a photo series in which Bolin blends into selected surroundings.

COURTESY OF THE KLEIN SUN GALLERY



TOP: COURTESY OF THE BPW COLLECTION, DENVER, COLORADO / PHOTO © 2016 MICHAEL FURMAN; BOTTOM: COURTESY: NORTHWEST CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL / HILARY McMULLEN



Chrysler Thunderbolt, 1941.

RALEIGH, NC

Art Deco Autos

For Ken Gross, the curator of “Rolling Sculpture: Art Deco Cars from the 1930s and ’40s,” classic automobiles give the impression of “moving while standing still”—making them exceptional subjects for an art exhibition. The 14 cars and three motorcycles in this show—running October 1 through January 15 at the North Carolina Museum of Art—feature the futuristic, streamlined, sleek curves that defined

an era of now-rare Art Deco cars.

Included is the only 1934 BMW R7 Concept Motorcycle ever made. Built to illustrate the future of BMW bikes, it was hidden in a crate in 1935 and rediscovered 60 years later. The 1933 Pierce-Arrow Silver Arrow on display, one of two remaining models, represents the era’s extravagance and glamorous designs. Learn more at ncartmuseum.org. —Kaitlynn Mann

Also at the NCMA:
“Human/Nature,”

Oct. 15–Feb. 26, displays photos from the museum’s archives that visually and metaphorically compare humans and subjects from nature.



SEATTLE, WA

CHOCOLATE DECADENCE

On November 12 and 13, chocolate aficionados can indulge in a cacao-fueled fantasy come to life on Pier 91 in Seattle. The eighth-annual **Northwest Chocolate Festival** will feature 100 chocolate artisans from more than 20 countries as they exhibit and share delectable treats at one of the world’s largest gatherings of chocolate lovers. Festival attendees will be able to shop for holiday truffles, meet cocoa bean farmers and learn how artisanal chocolate is made. The festival’s “Chocolate Education Program” will feature more than 80 workshops and seminars for chocolate lovers. Exhibitors include local favorites, such as Seattle Chocolate Company and Fran’s Chocolates, as well as chocolatiers from around the world.

Chocolate fans can also take part in **Northwest Chocolate Week**, November 1–14, as 40 Seattle restaurants showcase special chocolate-infused culinary masterpieces. Learn more at nwchocolate.com.

—Jeevika Verma

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HONOLULU, HI

Honoring the Past

An annual pilgrimage to the historic Pearl Harbor area of O'ahu will be made even more significant this year with a variety of public events and memorials as the country marks 75 years since the start of World War II in the Pacific. Nearly 60 survivors and World War II veterans, including two "centennials" (100-plus-year-olds), are expected to return for the remarkable milestone.

The **75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration** will take place December 1–11, with the focal point being the National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Commemoration on December 7. Events will include films on Waikiki

Beach, tribute ceremonies for survivors and World War II veterans, and military-band shows. Programming will close with a concert on December 10 pledged to "inspire the future," and a commemoration-themed running of the Honolulu Marathon on December 11.

Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of the 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration and is providing a special discount code for those traveling to Honolulu for the events. For more information, visit pearlharbor75thanniversary.com or call 877-589-8898. —Tyler Hillis



World War II veterans and survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack will be honored in public events this December.



Coffee-tasting events at the Kona Coffee Cultural Festival allow visitors to sample various brews made fresh from locally sourced beans.

KONA, HI

COFFEE ON THE COAST

The smell of coffee will waft through the warm Hawaiian air as festivalgoers enjoy events and offerings along the Kona Coast of Hawai'i Island next month.

Guests at the **Kona Coffee Cultural Festival**, November 4–13, can sample distinctive, freshly brewed coffee made from beans sourced at local Kona-area farms. They can also try picking ripe coffee berries, pounding taro, making flowers into lei and numerous other cultural and culinary activities.

The celebration, billed as Hawai'i's

oldest food festival, honors the legacy and traditions of nearly 200 years of coffee-bean growing and harvesting. More than 40 events will take place over the festival's 10 days. Alaska Airlines is a festival partner and the presenting sponsor of the Lantern Parade on November 11.

To learn more, call 808-990-6511 or visit konacoffeefest.com. —Janel Crouch

ON NOVEMBER 12, **ALASKA AIRLINES** WILL LAUNCH SEASONAL NONSTOP FLIGHTS DAILY BETWEEN **BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON** AND **KONA, HAWAII**.

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Down the hall, your son is brandishing his 3D light saber, taking on archenemies from around the globe while seamlessly streaming the action to his followers on Twitch — notorious for its high bandwidth requirements.

At the same time, your wife attaches an otoscope to her smartphone and sends a 3D video of your infant's eardrum to the pediatrician. The video is sent clearly and quickly over a HIPAA-compliant secure network. The physician quickly diagnoses an ear infection and sends a prescription to your pharmacy. With a tap of the screen, your wife approves its delivery from the pharmacy to your house by autonomous drone.



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Head of Ericsson North America & Chief Strategy Officer



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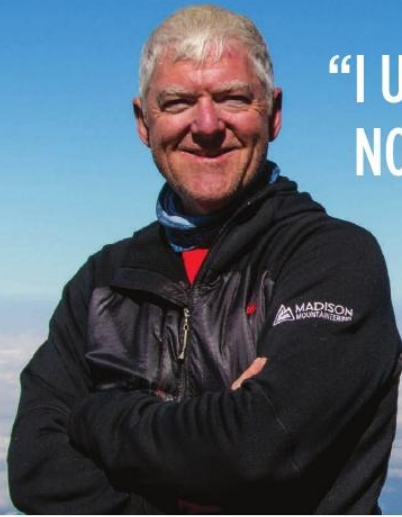


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“MY COMPANY PUT ME THROUGH 20/20 LIFESTYLES AND IT SAVED MY LIFE.”

At age 40, I had enjoyed life with no real sense how to take care of myself. I ate whatever I wanted, played a little golf and considered myself normal until one day I found myself to be 310 pounds – off the charts for a man six feet tall.

When I eventually decided that I needed to lose weight, I thought I'd start a popular low-carb/high protein diet. So I went to my doctor for a blood test to establish a baseline. The next day, my doctor ordered another blood test and diagnosed me with not only high blood pressure and high cholesterol but also, most alarmingly, with Type 2 diabetes. He told me that unless I changed my lifestyle and started medication for all three disorders, my lifespan may be shortened by up to 10-15 years with a progressive decrease in high quality of life. Complications I could experience would include heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney disease, numbness of hands and feet, increased risk of infection and more.

I also had recently learned that Type 2 diabetes not only affects your body, but also your brain, turning into what some scientists call Type 3 diabetes or Alzheimer's. Since 20/20 LifeStyles could help normalize my blood sugar, help me lose weight and stop my diabetes before it creates any damage, it became more certain that I needed to make some serious lifestyle changes. I certainly didn't want my body to suffer from serious health conditions. Plus, I'm too young to be that old.

That's when my company made me an offer I couldn't refuse – they would pay for me to go through the 20/20 LifeStyles program, due to its impressive success record for curing disease and long-term weight loss.

Faced with my own mortality, I agreed. I joined 20/20 LifeStyles, which immediately impressed me because it's more than just a weight loss plan. The main reason I'm healthy today is because the 20/20 LifeStyles program is so complete. The full spectrum of the psychological, medical, nutritional and exercise expertise combined together allowed me to reach my highest goals, create new friendships, and open doors to experiences I never dreamed possible.

Curing my disease also helped me to gain more energy and be more productive at work. It's my understanding that I've saved my company over \$13,000 per year, just to control my diabetes.

Not only that, but my productivity has doubled and I feel more engaged, at work, than ever before.

After completion of the program, I lost 110 pounds, cured my diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure – all without taking a single medication.

I went from a guy who had trouble climbing the stairs to climbing some of the highest mountains in the world, including Mt. Rainier and Mt. Kilimanjaro. I never dreamed in my life that I'd be taking on a physical and mental challenge that

would literally put me on the same playing field as world class athletes.

20/20 LIFESTYLES SAVES COMPANIES HEALTH CARE DOLLARS.

FACT: 20% of employees' with metabolic disorders cost companies 80% of their total health care dollars.

FACT: 32% of benefit dollars are spent on soft costs such as medical claims, absenteeism, short-term disability, etc.



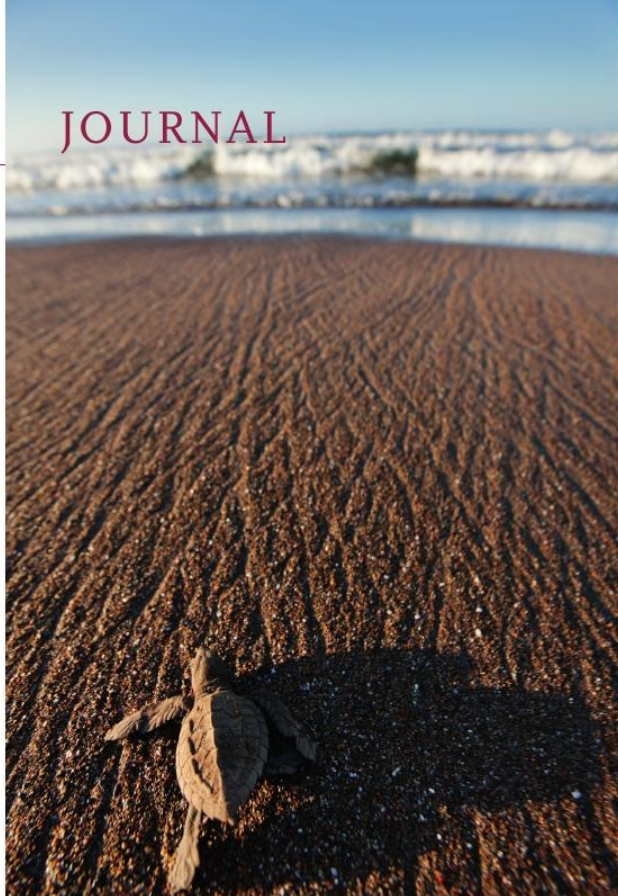
BEFORE



AFTER



Call (425) 376-3333 or visit 2020lifestyles.com/wellness-program to learn more about proven techniques for lowering corporate health care costs.



COSTA RICA

TURTLE POWER

Shrouded in darkness with only the dim glow of a waning moon lighting their way, hundreds of thousands of olive ridley sea turtles come ashore to lay eggs on Costa Rica's Ostional Beach, on the Nicoya Peninsula, during the months of August through December. This biological marvel is called an *arribada*, meaning "arrival," and is one of the largest of its kind. It usually takes place just once per lunar cycle.

The lives of baby sea turtles born on this beach are filled with danger, but individuals that survive to maturity will return annually, gather in a huge group just offshore, and land on the beach to lay more eggs, before returning to sea.

To control the impact of large numbers of people, the Ostional Wildlife Refuge (about 60 miles southwest of Liberia; 150 miles northwest of San José) requires visitors to sign in and pay an entrance fee. Learn more at costarica-nationalparks.com/ostionalwildliferefuge.

—Matthew Gulick

Thousand-pound pumpkins will serve as watercraft for costumed characters at the 13th-annual **West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta** held near Portland in the city of Tualatin, October 15. Other highlights will include a giant pumpkin weigh-off, a 5K Regatta Run and a pumpkin-bowling event. Call 503-691-3061 or visit tualatinoregon.gov/pumpkinregatta. —Jeevika Verma

SAN DIEGO, CA

Cheers for Beers

For the eighth consecutive year, San Diego County is dedicating a week to the hoppy, liquid goodness that is beer. And for good reason, as some of the nation's most respected craft breweries call the area home, including Stone Brewing Co., Mission Brewery and Green Flash Brewing Co.

San Diego Beer Week, organized by the San Diego Brewers Guild, begins on November 4 with Guild Fest, a two-day event for brewers and guests to swap stories and enjoy brews together. Throughout the week, 100 breweries will host beer-week events, demonstrations, classes and tastings.

Guild Fest and the closing event, Beer Garden at the Lodge at Torrey Pines, on November 13, require tickets. Learn more at sdbw.org. —Tyler Hillis



ALSO OF NOTE ...

La Jolla Art & Wine Festival, Oct. 8–9; works by 150 artists, gourmet food and drink; Girard Avenue, La Jolla Village; ljawf.com.

San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival, Nov. 14–20; 150 wineries, 60 local restaurants, culinary classes; Downtown San Diego; sandiegowineclassic.com.



CALENDAR

Through Jan. 8, Journey to Space: The Exhibition, interactive experiences about space and living in space; Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, OR; 503-797-4000; oms.edu

Through Jan. 9, "Wish Upon a Star: The Art of Pinocchio," behind-the-scenes of the classic film; The Walt Disney Family Museum, San Francisco, CA; 415-345-6800; waltdisney.org

Oct. 7–Nov. 11, Earshot Jazz Festival, more than 50 concerts and events citywide; multiple venues, Seattle, WA; 206-547-6763; earshot.org

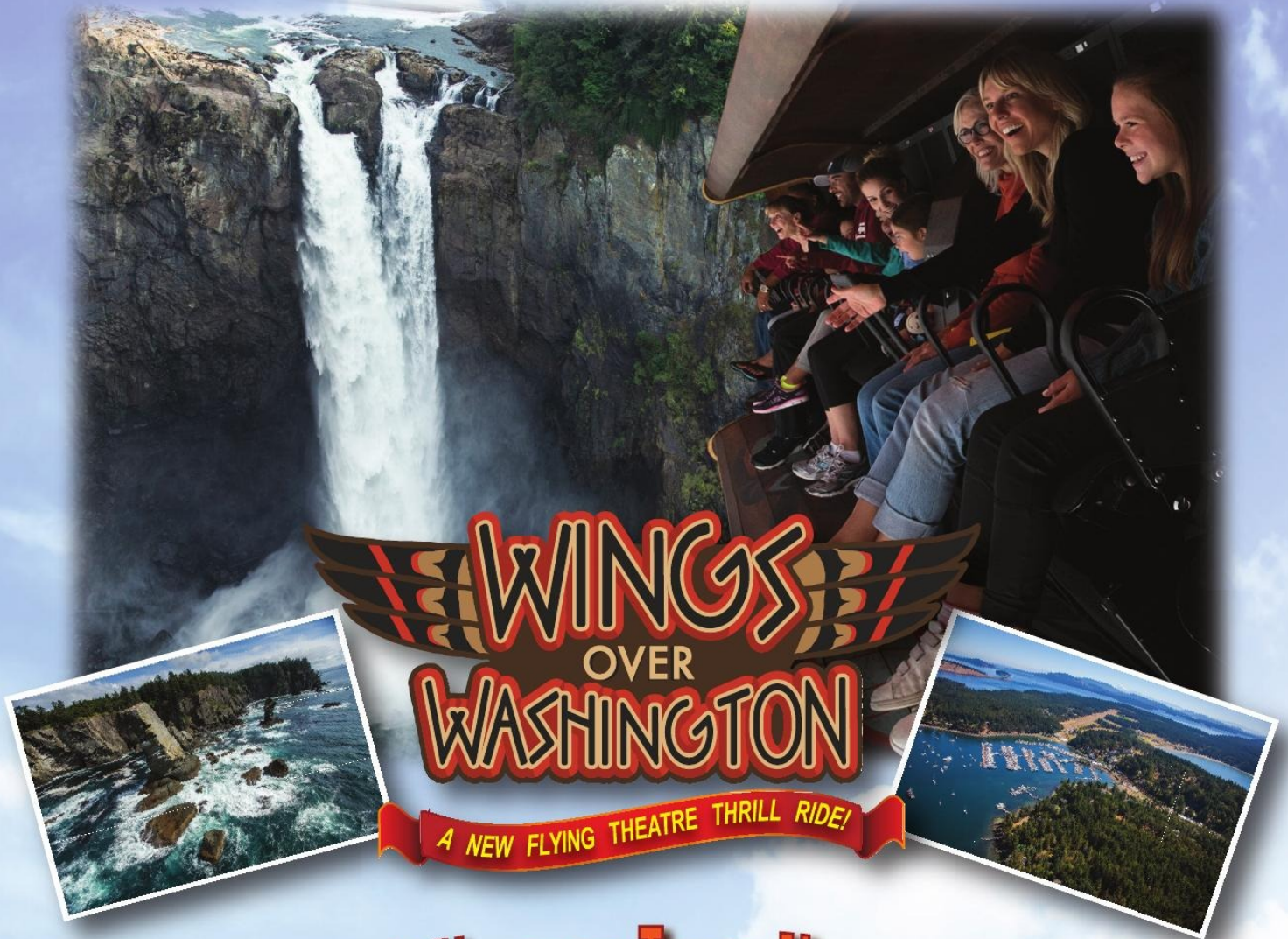
Oct. 16–Jan. 29, "Monet: The Early Years," about 60 works showing the artist's young genius; Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, TX; 817-332-8451; kimbellart.org

Nov. 4–12, Denver Arts Week, hundreds of events celebrating art citywide; multiple venues, Denver, CO; denver.org/denver-arts-week

Nov. 9–13, Napa Valley Film Festival, culinary demonstrations, wine-tastings and about 120 independent films; multiple locations, Napa Valley, CA; nvff.org

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FIELD GUIDE

Strings of Aloha

The 'ukulele is having a resurgence on and off the Hawaiian Islands, a trend that is being boosted by the popularity of the recent *America's Got Talent* winner and 12-year-old 'ukulele star, Grace VanderWaal.

The relaxing melodies of the uke might inspire you to learn more about the instrument, or even to take one home, but where to begin the search? 'Ukulele come in a variety of sizes, shapes and tones. There are four basic 'ukulele sizes: soprano, concert, tenor and baritone. Throw in the renowned pineapple-shaped 'ukulele, and you have a real banquet of options. —Deston Nokes



Soprano is the smallest 'ukulele. It is the model most beginners choose to strum.



Tenor 'ukulele are the choice of many professionals, such as Pali Ka'aihue and Jake Shimabukuro. "The larger fretboard provides more space for chording and allows me to explore various lead techniques, which would be quite a challenge on the smaller uke types—especially with my gorilla fingers," Ka'aihue says. He plays a KoAloha brand tenor. Shimabukuro, who recently released the album "Nashville Sessions," plays a Kamaka tenor. "Kamaka is the oldest manufacturer of the modern 'ukulele," he says.



Concert 'ukulele are slightly larger than sopranos. This is a great instrument for those interested in playing regularly, due to its louder sound and increased fretboard space. Concert models are very popular because they offer a balance of cost, comfort and sound.



Baritone is the largest 'ukulele. Similar to a mini classical guitar, the baritone is often preferred by guitar players. Jake Shimabukuro says he's added baritones to his repertoire.



Pineapple-shaped 'ukulele are almost the same size as sopranos, but provide a deeper sound due to their slightly larger bodies.

►► Visitors can tour the KoAloha and Kamaka 'ukulele factories in Honolulu. Visit their websites—koaloha.com and kamakahawaii.com—for more information.

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DATE SMARTER

Dating can be fun and invigorating – from that instant attraction you feel the first time you meet to jumping in the car for an impromptu weekend getaway. Unfortunately, it can take a lot of work to get to that stage of dating.

From spending hours sorting through online profiles looking for a good match to trying to connect via pokes, winks and email, dating can suddenly feel like a full-time job. Wouldn't it be nice if you could just fast forward to the fun part of dating? That's exactly what Desirée and Michael Schlitt say It's Just Lunch, a dating service for busy professionals, did for them. The matchmakers at It's Just Lunch took the time to learn what they were looking for in a partner and then delivered.

With so many dating options out there, why did you choose It's Just Lunch?

D: I travel a lot for work, so I'd read about It's Just Lunch in airline magazines, and then I ran into a friend who was attending the wedding of an attorney in town who'd met her husband through IJL – the fact that those two events happened so close together, I thought I should call them. At the end of my work day I didn't want to come home and go look at profiles online. I felt like it was a waste of my time.

What would you tell a friend who was apprehensive about investing the money on IJL?

M: I'd ask, "Are you looking for a relationship

or not?" With online dating you never know who's on the other side of the line. IJL had better quality people who were interesting. It truly was an experience that was tailored for me.

Tell us about your first date with one another.

D: I never went on lunch dates because I was always busy at work so I met Michael after work at a downtown restaurant. The conversation just flowed. I was attracted to him from the start. I remember it turned into dinner.

What was your favorite part about dating through IJL?

D: I met my husband, so I guess I would say that! It's Just Lunch – it's just a lot of fun. I remember I'd get off a plane and have a voicemail from the matchmaker saying she had a potential date for me. With online dating, you can go back and forth and waste a month with someone and not really get to know them. With IJL, you go meet your match and if you like them, you see them again, and if you don't, you're done.

Find out what an It's Just Lunch matchmaker can do for you by calling 800.858.6526 or visit ItsJustLunch.com.



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1 IN 3

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Of singles think talking politics is sexy.

1 IN 2

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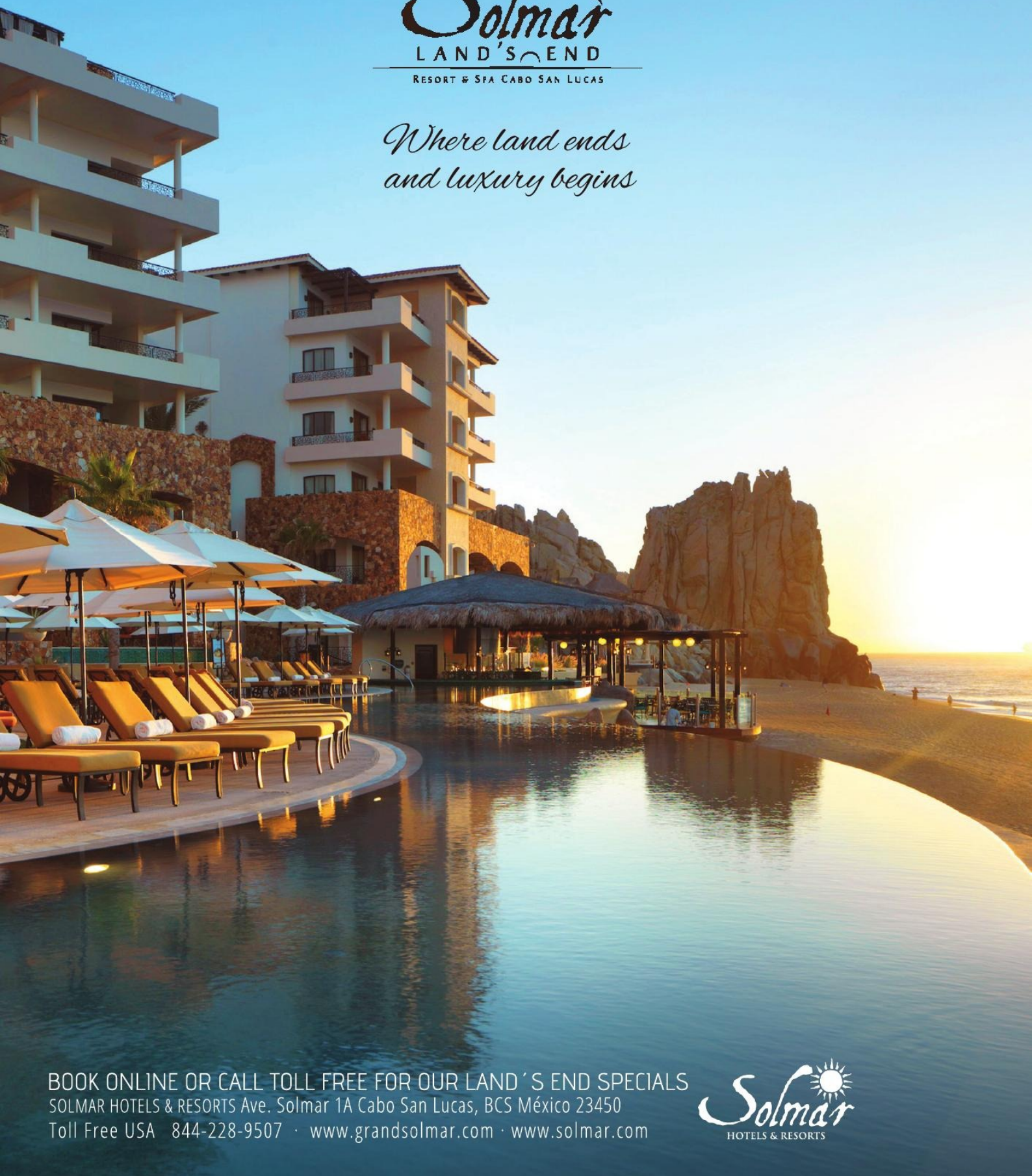


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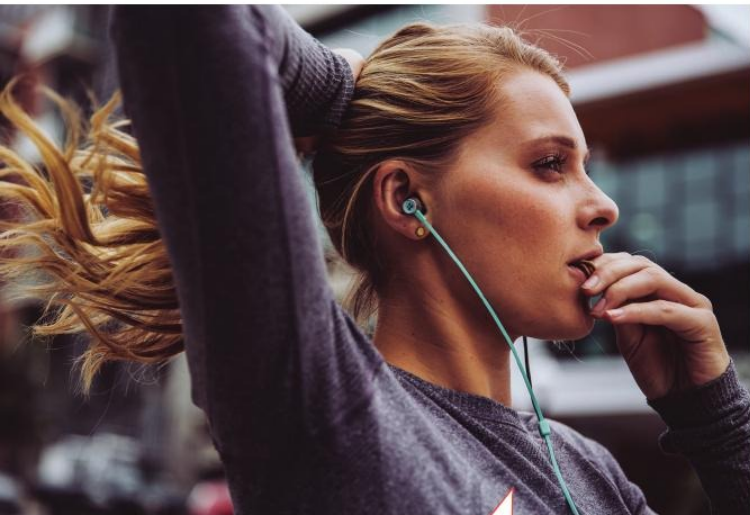

Solmar
HOTELS & RESORTS

GEAR

Audio on the Go

Headphones for your next flight, workout or time alone **BY TYLER HILLIS**

Different headphones serve different purposes. Some are designed to cancel out the sounds around you. Others double as fashion accessories or provide lightweight, stay-in-your-ear convenience for exercise. The following headsets and earbuds provide a variety of options. Except where noted, these devices have plug-in options in case Bluetooth use is ever restricted.



ZIPBUDS SLIDE SPORT EARPONES

Zipbuds tackles a common problem: tangled wires. A zipperlike slider quickly connects the wires for each ear, for easier storage. Included: three sizes of ear tips, built-in mic, carrying case (zipbuds.com; \$79.95).



ETYMOTIC MK5 ISOLATOR EARPONES

These ear-fitting, "noise-isolation" buds form a tight seal to create more private listening with sound pumped in and noise kept out. Included: three styles of ear tips, clip, carrying case (etymotic.com; \$59).



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Alaska
AIRLINES

ART IN FOCUS

Geographical Dreamscapes

A bird's-eye view inspires abstract artist Ben Joyce **BY LINDA HAGEN MILLER**

The walls of Ben Joyce's Spokane, Washington, art studio are covered with kaleidoscopic mixed-media abstracts. Oversize wood canvases are layered with gels, resins, oils, cloth and acrylics. Some paintings contain monochrome blocks, others a medley of tones. Some have splatters of paint, others are filled with graffiti-like swirls and grids. Intriguingly, a chunk is missing from one or more edges, as though it has been bitten off.

The abstractions feel familiar. Then it hits you: That one, over there? That's an aerial view of Seattle. There's the floating bridge, the waterfront, the lakes. This one here? Of course: It's New York City. Manhattan and the East River come into focus within blocks of color.

The artist's goal with what he calls "abstract topophilia" (the love of place) is to create visuals that encourage viewers to relive and study their connection to locations, viewed from above. "Place is one of the earliest fundamental cores of who we are and who we become," Joyce says.

He became intrigued by aerial perspectives while painting and studying art in Florence through a Gonzaga University year-abroad program. "I kept thinking, 'What's beyond this canvas? What does this scene connect to?'" He feels that views from above convey the vastness of the world and give viewers the chance to insert themselves into the paintings.

As for the frames with missing pieces? "I had to expand and break open the scene, to emphasize what's beyond," says the 38-year-old artist.

In the mid-2000s, Joyce's work was beginning to sell in the Inland Northwest, but he says his big opportunity came in 2010, when he was juried into the highly competitive Sausalito Art Festival in the Bay Area. Soft-spoken, articulate and personable, Joyce was working his booth at the festival the way he always



does at such events, chatting with visitors, explaining his art. A group of 20-something guys dressed in jeans and flip-flops liked Joyce's work so much they convinced their boss to purchase several pieces for their offices. Those offices happened to belong to Google, and today, between 20 and 30 Ben Joyce pieces rotate through corporate headquarters at a time.

Joyce's work has also been acquired by private collectors ranging from entrepreneurs in the Inland Northwest to actor John Travolta and musician-producer Pharrell Williams. Public installations include a 75-foot-long piece depicting the Spokane River, at the Spokane Convention Center, and 36 separate 5.5-by-8-foot outdoor pieces at transit stations in Las Vegas.

Joyce's abstract topophilia will come to Seattle this month for a one-night showing on October 21. The Piranha Shop will unveil Joyce's Seattle Collection, with works that depict the Northwest, as well as San Francisco and Maui.

Visit benjoycestudios.com to learn more about the artist, places to see his art, and upcoming shows.

▲ **Artist Ben Joyce**, pictured here in his Spokane studio, uses aerial views, colors and abstract forms in his representations of places. The Seattle area is depicted on the wall to the right. A San Juan Islands piece is up on stools to the left.

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INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

Deep Dives

A student team constructs and races submarines while blending high-tech and historic boatbuilding **BY BEN RAKER**

DOMINIC FORBUSH learned to love cycling while piloting a submarine. Forbush, a Ph.D. student in mechanical engineering at the University of Washington, was recruited by fellow UW engineering student Bentley Altizer to become a pilot for the **UW Human Powered Submarine Team**, a roughly 40-member group of multidisciplinary students that designs, builds and races pedal-driven underwater vehicles.

The team, which has operated as a club activity at the UW since 1989, has placed highly in several recent national and international competitions. In July, the UW placed third overall at the European International Submarine Races (eISR) in Gosport, England. At this event, teams are judged on criteria such as speed and maneuverability, safety and reliability. The UW craft was named *What Sub Dawg* to honor the school's mascot, the Husky.

Altizer, who captained the team last year and played key roles in fundraising and sub design, recalls recruiting Forbush because of his compact, powerful build—and because he was already a scuba-certified scientific diver (helpful since the competition's subs are filled with water, and the pilot breathes from a tank).

"There might have been manipulation there," says Altizer, who admits that at first he didn't show Forbush how small the sub was.

Forbush took turns racing at eISR with female pilot Carol Nishikawa, a psychology major who recently graduated. Nishikawa

reached the highest speed for female pilots, 4.5 knots.

The competition did not start smoothly. A design tweak the team had made before shipping the sub to England turned out to have made the sub hard to control. During test runs, the pilots were running into the side of the giant tank used for competition.

The students faced a scramble to fix the vessel—but also an opportunity to prove their mettle. "That's what these competitions are all about," explains Andy Stewart, faculty adviser to the team and a principal engineer at the UW Applied Physics Lab.

"It's not about designing the sub ahead of time and having it work perfectly when you get there. It's about the team coming together and overcoming challenges."

Stewart sees great value in the club—for helping develop expertise for a maritime industry that needs skilled employees, as well as for teaching the students (who come from many UW departments and fill

Above: A pilot (in the sub) and a diver from the University of Washington Human Powered Submarine Team test the *What Sub Dawg*, in a trial run. **Below:** A student examines a mold for the team's new wooden sub, a craft that draws on Northwest boatbuilding tradition.



INNOVATING FOR THE PLANET ▶▶ Student teams are forming this fall for another creative competition—one that inspires new businesses and technologies to benefit the earth. **The Alaska Airlines Environmental Innovation Challenge**, an annual contest put on in March by the UW Foster School of Business, provides motivation and guidance for entrepreneurial students, many of whom also take related UW coursework. The competition, now in its third of 10 pledged years of Alaska Airlines sponsorship, is open to teams from schools around the Northwest. It calls for contestants to define an environmental problem, find a clean-tech solution, develop a business plan and prototype, and present market opportunities. Last year's \$15,000 grand-prize team, **AgriC**, shown at left, is developing **biodegradable plastics derived from crustacean shells**, for use in agriculture. Visit eic.washington.edu. —B.R.

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JOURNAL

many team roles). “They dream big, but then they also have to figure out what they can accomplish in a limited amount of time with a limited amount of resources.”

Up next for the team is a new challenge: an innovation that uses old technology. In a move that ties their work to a proud UW boatbuilding tradition—highlighted in the best-selling book *The Boys in the Boat*—the team opted this year to create a new, two-pilot sub with a hull frame made of western red cedar (combined with fiberglass and a veneer of *khaya*, an African mahogany wood).

To craft the hull, the team formed a partnership with the Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building. Craftspeople there became excited by the project and helped the students execute the design.

“There’s quite a heritage of wooden boatbuilding and craftsmanship in the Pacific Northwest,” Stewart notes.

“Pairing this high-tech engineering—which is part aerospace, part marine engineering—with wooden boatbuilding and craft is really inspiring. It’s traditional boatbuilding with a modern twist.”

The result—though there is still much work to do—is a wooden craft that resembles a work of art.

Altizer, for one, feels that the wood hull will also give the team a competitive advantage—not to mention aesthetic clout—when the team races next June. He notes that wood is naturally buoyant, so the team won’t need to add foam as other boats often do.

“I don’t feel that we’ve made any sacrifices with the structural integrity of the hull,” he says. “For me there’s just an allure with wooden boats as a traditional art and a part of Northwest heritage. On top of that, having something that is going to be stunningly gorgeous when you show up for competition is definitely a motivating factor.”

For updates about the UW Human Powered Sub Team and videos of the team and competition footage, visit the team’s page at facebook.com/uwhps.

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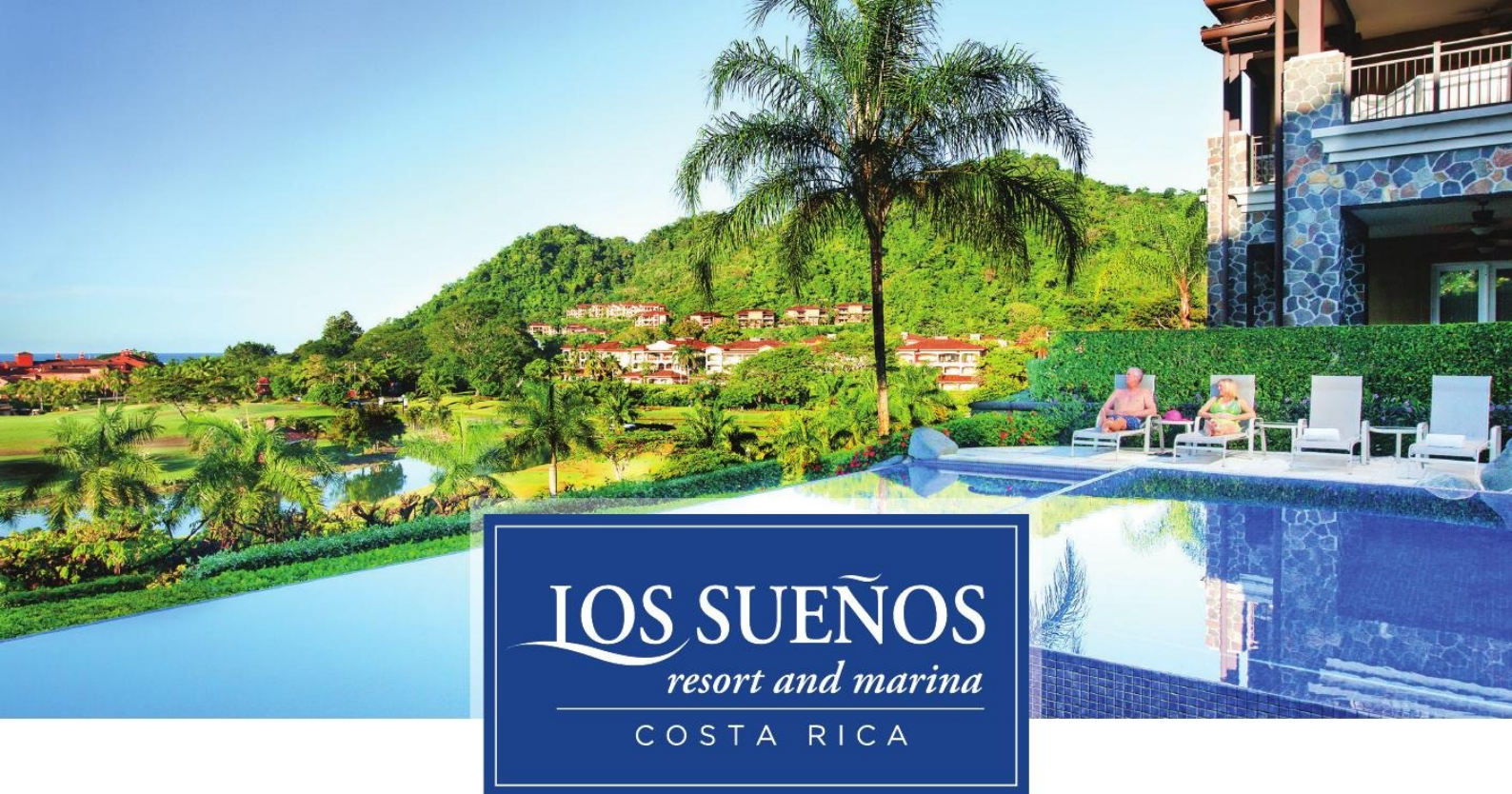


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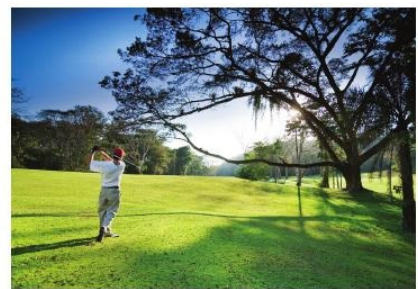
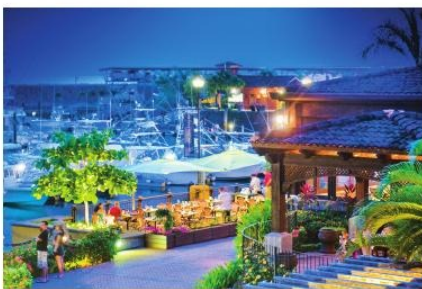


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PROFILE

Surrounded by Sound

The conductor of the Seattle Symphony finds music in many forms **BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ**

Ludovic Morlot, conductor and music director of the award-winning Seattle Symphony, considers himself a fan of all musical genres. He also appreciates music in quieter moments.

"There's always so much music in my head that is evolving from rehearsal to rehearsal. So I don't actually need to listen to music to have music in me," Morlot says.

The French-born conductor became the 15th music director of the Seattle Symphony in 2011, and he has since guided the ensemble of about 90 musicians to one acclaimed season after another. A recording of the Seattle Symphony performing *Become Ocean*, commissioned from composer John Luther Adams, earned the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Music and the 2015 Grammy for Best Contemporary Classical Composition. The 2016 Grammy Award for Best Classical Instrumental Solo went to violinist Augustin Hadelich, with Morlot conducting, for a performance released on the Seattle Symphony Media label.

Morlot, born in Lyon, trained as a violinist before studying conducting in London. He has conducted around the world, including with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. For all his international involvement, Morlot calls Seattle home.

"The first thing that brought me here is the quality of its orchestra," Morlot says. "Seattle is also one of those few cities where there is such a direct link between the city itself—the urban life—and complete wilderness and nature. It's what seduced me. You jump on the ferry, and an hour later you're in complete wilderness."

Seattle's rich musical tradition—which has made contributions to jazz, rock, indie pop and rap—also suits Morlot's wide-ranging musical tastes.

"I'm curious about all music," Morlot says. "I have two teenage daughters who introduce me to a lot of things. I listen to jazz; I listen to hip-hop; I listen to rock-and-roll."

The Seattle Symphony has continued to incorporate multigenre influences and collaborators during Morlot's tenure. In 2015, the orchestra performed with members of the rock bands Pearl Jam, Soundgarden and Guns N' Roses. A more recent event, in September, had the symphony play music from *The Legend of Zelda*, accompanied by projected visuals from that video game. And a



Seattle Symphony
Music Director Ludovic Morlot.

Seattle Pops series opens this month with the symphony's October 7–9 performances of blockbuster film scores accompanied by acrobatics from Cirque de la Symphonie.

More-conventional highlights of the 2016–17 season, which continues into June 2017, will include violinist Hilary Hahn on October 30. Morlot notes that, in addition to Hahn's performance, she will be involved with community and educational projects. The new season also includes Morlot and the orchestra completing a two-year cycle of all of Beethoven's symphonies and piano concertos, featuring guest pianists Inon Barnatan and Emanuel Ax.

Morlot seeks to bring more fans into the classical-music fold and acknowledges that some perceive classical music as too intimidating or complicated to understand. He recommends an open mind and direct experience: "The greatest start is to come completely unprepared to listen to live performances. Music is about emotions. Close your eyes; open your heart; and see what it does to you."

To learn more about Morlot and upcoming Seattle Symphony performances, visit ludovicmorlot.com and seattlesymphony.org.




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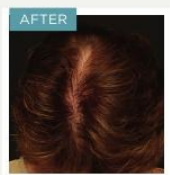
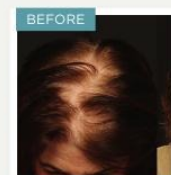
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Fashion designer
Luly Yang.

HIGH- FLYING FASHION

Acclaimed Seattle couture designer brings a new sense of style to airline uniforms, in the air and on the ground

Alaska Airlines pilots like sturdy fabrics because cockpit seat harnesses rub against their shirt fronts and fray the cloth. Female flight attendants want skirts whose length and fit allows for easily reaching into overhead bins. Baggage handlers in Fairbanks, Alaska, bundle up in the cold, while in Los Cabos, Mexico, their counterparts need cool fabrics in the hot sun. Many airline employees prefer uniforms with deep pockets, to carry the tools of their trades. Everybody wants to look good, feel comfortable and represent Alaska Airlines with pride.

Luly Yang, a Seattle-based couture designer, knows what is important to airline employees. She's spent many months participating in focus groups and talking with employees as she embarks on a custom uniform makeover for more than 12,000 Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air employees in 13 different work groups. The possibility of this project growing even larger arose in April when Alaska announced its intent to purchase Virgin America. That acquisition will make the Seattle-based carrier the fifth-largest U.S. airline and the West Coast's premier airline.

When you meet Yang in her boutique at Seattle's Fairmont Olympic Hotel, you know immediately that she's up to the challenge. A petite, elegant woman with long black hair and a warm, open manner, she is both incredibly chic and refreshingly practical. She knows how to create excitement, to deliver a look

BY CANDACE DEMPSEY
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOSÉ MANDOJANA

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---- **Luly Yang**, above, drapes a gown for her new collection in her Seattle studio. Yang's signature **Monarch butterfly dress**, upper right, helped launch her fashion career.

that people will appreciate and remember.

Indeed, Yang is her own best advertisement. She's wearing a blue cashmere sweater dress from her collection and crystal-studded earrings. Such dresses are a uniform of sorts for busy women, she says. "They're easy to travel with and easy to care for, which I love in all of my designs. I love how sweater dresses are easy to transition from day to night, and have that flexibility."

Yang is also a whiz at packing and can tell you the best way to wedge everything you need for a two-week trip through Europe into a single carry-on bag. Long before she was chosen for the uniform project, she was a fan of Alaska and flew it frequently.

"I'm a Seattleite," she says. "Alaska is our hometown airline. I love it. I've watched it grow, and I want to be part of its success."

Many in Seattle feel the same about Yang's business. Visitors and locals alike stop to gaze at the storybook bridal dresses and couture ballgowns displayed in the windows of Yang's boutique.

The true showstopper is the signature dress she patterned after monarch butterfly wings, its silk taffeta skirt embellished with ostrich feathers and dotted with Swarovski crystals.

Yang has also designed uniforms for the Pan



SHERMAN CHU

Pacific Hotel, costumes for Teatro ZinZanni and red-carpet looks for celebrities. At annual fashion shows, an international clientele snaps up Yang's ready-to-wear and couture dresses, skirts, sweaters and accessories.

Designing uniforms, Yang says, is one of the most exciting challenges for a designer. Born in Taiwan into a family of designers, architects and engineers, Yang has been surrounded by creativity her whole life. She moved to Bellevue, Washington, when she was 10, and design was one of her first loves. "I sketched dresses at age 6," she recalls. "My grandmother was very fashionable. She designed and made her own clothes, and was very well-dressed. I remember watching her sew when I was really little."

Yang earned a design degree from the University of Washington. She began her career as a graphic designer for an architecture firm in Seattle, and taught fitness on the side. As part of a fundraising event, she entered a fashion contest for graphic designers. Having always loved butterflies, she played with the idea of a monarch butterfly emerging from its chrysalis and morphing into something new and beautiful and dramatic.

That fabulous butterfly dress became a metaphor



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for Yang's own life. She saw a way to live out what her website calls "The Monarch's Tale," a "soaring flight of transformation." She realized she could still do what she loved, but in a different medium—fashion instead of graphics. She began to build her business, opening her first couture boutique in downtown Seattle in 2000 with 12 bridal gowns. Now, Luly Yang Couture is an international brand with clients all over the world.

Her past as a world traveler, graphic designer, fitness instructor, couture designer and successful business owner will certainly help Yang meet the challenge for Alaska Airlines. Her collection of uniform designs will be extensive, addressing the unique functionality and performance needs for a wide variety of job categories. Within a single group, she'll need to create diverse garment options—slacks to skirts, blazers to blouses—that take into account complex factors such as petite, curvy and slim body types. She'll even design maternity wear.

"This uniform project is the most rewarding project a designer could be asked to partake in,"

RIBBONS IN FLIGHT

As Luly Yang works through the initial designs of Alaska Airlines' extensive uniform makeover, she has one piece ready to fly. During October, flight attendants, pilots and customer service agents will wear new scarves and ties to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"I'm really honored that I could make this the first piece," she says. "It's a cause my employees and I all support. It's a small piece, but very significant to those who choose to wear it."

The new silk neck pieces, in shades of pink, were inspired by the iconic pink ribbons that many people wear to call attention to the disease, the second most common cause of cancer deaths among U.S. women.

Yang has worked on projects that helped raise money for the Susan G. Komen organization, and has designed many gowns and dresses for breast cancer survivors.

"These women are both amazing and inspiring," she says.

For more information on the fight

against cancer, visit the American Cancer Society at cancer.org.
—C.D.



----- The urban streets of Seattle near Yang's downtown studio are an inspiration to her design work.

Yang says. "I am honored to be a part of this, and view myself as a partner in Alaska's success."

It's a partnership that Yang fully embraced from the start. Well before Alaska announced her appointment in February 2016, she spent months flying around the airline's route system, listening, observing and exploring the challenge. She spoke with flight attendants, customer service agents, pilots and other employees about how their uniforms impact their roles.

Even now, when she travels to Europe and Asia on other business, she finds herself looking at how the crews are dressed, observing how the different pieces they're wearing perform in their environment, and taking notes.

Yang wants the new uniforms to be beautiful and also functional.

In choosing Yang, Alaska is following in a glamorous airline-industry tradition. Some fashionistas credit Oscar-winning costume designer Edith Head with creating the Jet Age's dazzling, colorful flight attendant uniforms way back in 1959. Now, Yang joins Christian Lacroix, Vivienne Westwood, Prabal Gurung and other well-known designers in presenting more modern versions.

Alaska's uniform project is an important piece of the airline's first big brand update in 25 years. The brand's visual enhancements include bolder colors (bright green, three shades of blue), a sleek new logo and even a more youthful visage for the iconic Eskimo image on the plane tails. "I love the organic curves of the Alaska brand aura, and I like the fact that the Eskimo is smiling more," Yang

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says. "It's refreshing and smart."

As the airline completes its rebranding, Sangita Woerner, Alaska's vice president of marketing, says the focus is on building upon successes rather than conducting a total makeover. "The new colors are more exciting, more visible. They show our character. We're caring and approachable. There's this assurance when you board our planes that you are going to be taken care of."

Woerner says the uniform project is crucial to the way employees—those who see and interact with customers—feel about their jobs. "Employees are the biggest representatives of our brand," she says. "So this rebranding isn't complete without the uniforms. We want our frontline employees to look like Alaska when they're walking down the concourse, to immediately be recognizable."

Choosing Yang was the easy part, Woerner says. "We met at her boutique in downtown Seattle, and not only is she warm, approachable and friendly, but she asked a lot of smart questions, and she expressed such a passion for Alaska that within 15 minutes we knew that she was the one."

Employees are extremely excited about having Yang design their uniforms. They draw up lists of suggestions and some have even dropped into her boutique.

That enthusiasm is shared across the airline. "To say that our employees are thrilled to be getting new uniforms is an understatement," says Andy Schneider, vice president of inflight services at Alaska. "They take pride in their work and in our company, and they want to feel that same pride in how they look. Many know Luly and love her designs and her style. She has already invested much of herself in this project, and our employees are really excited to see her work."

What's on their wish lists? "Fit and function are always important features of a uniform, but I think what our employees are looking for now is something that sets them apart from the crowd," says Schneider. "They want something that aligns with our brand and makes them feel proud to be part of Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air."

In designing the uniforms, Yang can draw upon the understanding of the human form that she developed as a fitness instructor for many years. She's always been fascinated by how people move.



---- **Wedding gowns** remain a big part of Yang's couture work, and she enjoys the interaction she has with her customers.



When she talks about a particular uniform, she bends and sways, as if imagining how it will look when someone puts it on.

"The fun part for me," she says, "is when my clients finally put the garments on. That's my reward. Clothes come alive when people wear them."

Because Yang's shop is busy, with customers trying on dresses and salespeople bustling about, she does her actual designing in a private studio. Her team will

complete the Alaska project in that location, which is filled with swatches of fabric and inspiration boards with photographs of dramatic landscapes and flight-crew uniforms from all eras. Dress forms are clad in old captains' jackets and hats, and clothing racks are filled with Alaska's current wardrobe—everything from suits for pilots to the orange vests worn by ramp workers.

Yang's listening skills came in handy this year when she participated in focus groups with Alaska employees who were flown in from all over the route system. They represented all work groups: flight attendants, pilots, customer service agents, aircraft and maintenance technicians, and more.

Yang's favorite focus group moment came when

"The fun part for me is when my clients finally put the garments on. That's my reward."

“My goal is to design a uniform that reflects the brand and soul of Alaska Airlines. I want employees to be proud of wearing their uniforms.”

she traveled to the state of Alaska to meet with employees. There, she peered into the belly of a 737 with ground crews and observed firsthand how employees load luggage.

From such focus groups, Yang learned just how important fit will be. “Every body is different, and we are designing for a range of body types and sizes. In all of my design work,” she says, “I’ve learned that no two bodies are the same. It’s an exciting challenge to design for such a diverse group with many diverse job functions.”

Now that the focus groups are finished, Yang is working on the conceptual design and development of the uniforms. In terms of fabrics, she says her goal is to use high-quality materials, and to use what’s best for job-specific needs.

“We want to improve breathability and function

by using more technology in fabrics, drawing inspiration from sportswear and athletic wear.”

Yang has set a high bar for the new uniforms. “We all have pieces in our closet that we love to pull out,” she says. “I’d like the uniforms to be like that. My goal is to design a uniform that reflects the brand and soul of Alaska Airlines. I want employees to be proud of wearing their uniforms.”

How will Yang measure the success of her uniform project?

“I want Alaska employees to look forward to putting their uniforms on every day,” she says. “I wish for them to care for their uniforms as if they were precious. Then I will know I have succeeded.” ▲

Candace Dempsey is a freelance writer living in Seattle.

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A man with a goatee and long hair, wearing a black wetsuit, is smiling and holding a large green surfboard. The background is a solid blue color.

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Wired Drive

The view ahead: Here are nine tech features you should consider for your next vehicle **By Bengt Halvorson**

Applications such as Apple CarPlay, above, integrate your vehicle's infotainment system and many of your favorite phone apps.



e're in the midst of a automobile revolution—one in which the tremendous advances in personal electronics and

connectivity are filtering into our vehicle cabins, helping us get to our destinations quicker and more securely, and truly transforming the driving experience.

Mobility is a buzzword, and new cars are brimming with technology features that, at the very least, keep us connected and, at their best, are well on the way to the day when cars will drive themselves.

So as we dive into the 2017 model-year lineup, we're wowed not so much by the usual sheetmetal and trim changes, or by what's under the hood, but by the technological aspects. With the following innovative automotive features, you'll find the best of the present, and a taste of the future.

■ Apple CarPlay and Android Auto

What it is These systems project a version of your smartphone's screen to your vehicle's infotainment touch screen, allowing you to use the touch screen, steering-wheel toggles or voice controls to access phone functions or apps, and to use sound systems for seamless play of podcasts, music libraries and streaming audio.

Why you want it Just as with iOS versus Android, the experience is a little more consistent and predictable with CarPlay than with Android Auto, but the latter allows greater customization.

What it costs It's a few hundred bucks. At BMW, for instance, it's a \$300 option across nearly all models. A growing number of mainstream models include it—even

the Chevrolet Spark, with its standard 7-inch touch-screen system and base price under \$15,000.

Which car does it best The latest LG infotainment system in many Hyundai and Kia models does a great job; so do the latest GM products.

Pros You can use Siri and Google Now, plus your smartphone's navigation app—some phone apps are superior to vehicle nav systems.

Cons Both protocols require a cable connection; not all apps are compatible.

■ Embedded LTE data connections

What it is A high-speed (4G LTE) data transceiver/modem and router that's always there and always on.

Why you want it It allows more seamless integration of some services—such as live traffic info, remote unlocking and vehicle diagnostics—that work better on systems separate from the vehicle.

What it costs These systems are being built right into the cars that offer it, but the data plan costs from about \$10/month to \$40/month for what you'll want (10 GB) if you enjoy Pandora or have kids in the back streaming movies.

Which car does it best GM and Audi both introduced 4G LTE embedded data connections last year; several other automakers are phasing in 4G LTE speeds.

Pros Because the transceiver is hard-mounted with a fixed antenna, you'll get good service where you might not have otherwise. Real-world data speeds are typically faster than what you'll see from a phone or mobile hot spot.

Cons It's yet another data fee/subscription-based device.



DAVID PARR, Senior Vice President, Regional Team Lead; Commercial Lending
david.parr@homestreet.com 253-850-9817

Focus on a Partnership that Works – Fremont Brewing Company and HomeStreet Bank

Matt Lincecum was done. He'd had it with banks. And that was a problem, because, as the founder and owner of Fremont Brewing Company, Matt felt that it was time to grow his business.

Matt had built Fremont Brewing Company into a thriving Seattle craft brewery. He also built a community gathering spot and urban beer garden where locals could grab a handcrafted beer and enjoy life. He knew it was time for more.

But he couldn't get a banker to understand his new vision.

"I was told by several banks that they would only work with me if I put up my own home as collateral," Matt said. "They looked at my business and tried to fit into a prefabricated loan product instead of bothering to learn about the industry or my business."

That is when he met with lending expert David Parr, a commercial lender from HomeStreet Bank.

"David was different from other lenders," Matt said. "He came down to the brewery and he asked the right questions about the business, about the neighborhood, and about my vision for what the brewery could be. I was impressed—it was like the way you thought banking should be. It was old-school, no doubt. No one else had ever done that before."

David dug in. He started to learn about the craft beer sector. The dialogue with Matt went back and forth over the days and weeks following their first meeting.

"David and his team were a solid group of people," explained Matt. "They came through and I made my first significant expansion."



But the relationship didn't end with the first deal. David and Matt continued to talk, and Matt found himself turning to David for advice on a regular basis.

"David was always willing to share his thoughts and perspective. I was surprised at how much work he did learning about craft brewing. There was a growing level of trust."

That level of trust was important. Like many small business owners, Matt was heavily involved in the actual running of the business. He left the financials to a bookkeeper. But as time went on, Matt was concerned that he couldn't trust his own books. Most business owners wouldn't think of taking such concerns to the lender that held their loan, but Matt trusted his lending team.

"I was in a hard place, but I called David, his team made some recommendations, and the situation was worked out. That was when I knew they believed in me

and believed in what my team was trying to do."

Since 2013, HomeStreet Bank and Fremont Brewing Company have been working together. Several more deals were done, the brewery was busy and business was expanding. In September 2015, Fremont Brewing Company broke ground on a new production facility to expand their operations. Construction was completed in July 2016 with new and expanded brewing equipment, office space for all administrative staff and ample storage for raw materials and finished inventory. Matt is in awe of the "hundreds of hours" of work that HomeStreet did in preparation for financing the deal.

Today, Fremont Brewing Company is one of the best craft brewers on the West Coast. One of their hand crafted beers, Interurban, is the best-selling craft beer in Washington State.

"We make craft beers," Matt said. "It's what we do and we're good at it. It's good because we take the time to get it right. And our customers love it. I think of HomeStreet in the same way. Looking back, I see that my relationship with David and HomeStreet was a major turning point for Fremont Brewing Company. I'm grateful for their help, but more than that, I trust them."

■ Parental controls

What it is Parents can check up on the driving style of a new driver in the family.

Why you want it Teen drivers are more distracted than ever, especially when smartphones are involved.

What it costs On the Chevrolet Malibu LT, for example, it's \$895; it's standard on the more expensive Malibu Premiere.

Which car does it best Ford's MyKey launched in 2010; new Teen Driver technology in some Chevrolet models (now including the 2017 Camaro and Volt) is a step ahead in that it lets parents check up on drivers, rather than flat-out limit them.

Pros The system can spot telltale signs of reckless driving, perhaps giving you time for a serious pre-emptive talk.

Cons Features focus on speeding and overt recklessness, whereas central issues today involve distraction.

■ Smartphone app owner's manuals

What it is Replaces or supplements the traditional paper owner's manual.

Why you want it Because we do everything with our phones.

Hyundai provides owner's manuals, right, as an augmented-reality mobile app. Adding 4G LTE capabilities to cars such as the Chevy Malibu, below, helps integrate systems that are typically independent of the car.



What it costs Free, through the Apple App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android).

Which car does it best So far it's Hyundai vehicles and their new augmented-reality app that lets you point your smartphone or tablet camera toward a vehicle part or feature and get details, or video tutorials.

Pros You get to the information you need faster; it's easier to read in the dark.

Cons Some features rely on a data connection. Vehicles typically last 12 to 15 years, while smartphones are replaced every couple of years; will automakers support these apps over the long term?

■ Automatic emergency braking

What it is Using advanced camera systems that are sometimes supplemented by radar or laser sensors, these systems not only warn you about a potential collision ahead, but can then apply the brakes to prevent it, or at least lessen the impact.

Why you want it AEB systems add an extra margin of safety if attention slips.

What it costs The price per vehicle for the hardware is estimated at \$250 to \$400, but AEB features remain wrapped into pricey option packages for many models. Earlier this year, 20 automakers agreed to make AEB a standard feature on new passenger vehicles by September 2022.

Which cars do it best For several years, Subaru has had some of the most affordable vehicles with AEB, with its EyeSight system. AEB is now available on a rapidly growing number of vehicles, such as Volvo, Mercedes-Benz, Acura, BMW, Tesla, Toyota and other manufacturers.

Pros In many cases, when the speed (or the closing rate) is less than 25 mph, AEB can completely avoid a collision.

Cons These systems are strictly safety nets, and not to be relied upon.

■ Multiview backup camera systems

What it is When you shift to reverse, the latest backup camera systems show—via your car's infotainment screen—an up-close (or better yet, panoramic or over-



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head) view of what's in your path.

Why you want it It could save lives. The ultrasonic (beeping) sensors that some luxury models have offered for a decade or more are useful for getting into tight parking spots, but adding the camera brings you an additional safeguard to help make sure you spot kids or pets behind the car, or toys left in the driveway.

What it costs Generally just a few hundred dollars, if it's not already included. All new vehicles (under 10,000 pounds) produced after May 1, 2018, for the U.S. market are required to have one.

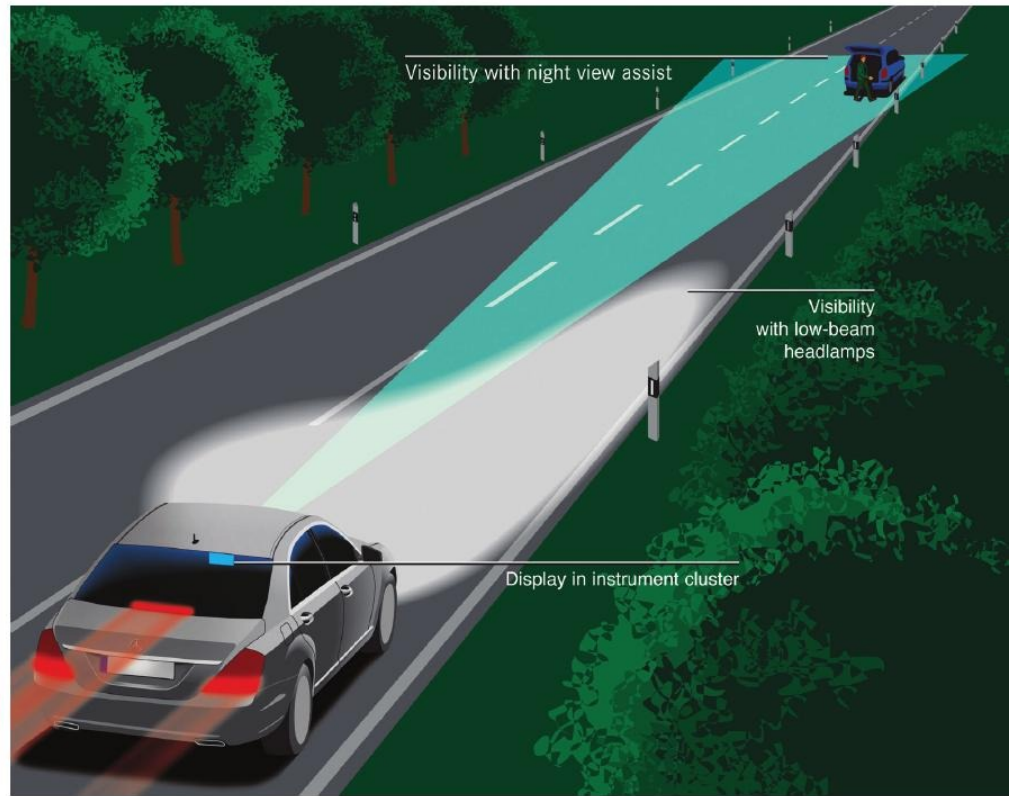
Which car does it best Range Rover products have a system that lets you toggle between different camera views; BMW vehicles offer a system that combines audible warnings, color-coded ultrasonic-sensor warnings, and rearview-camera trajectory advice; and the new Volvo XC90 and S90, with the Sensus Connected Touch system, have an awesome simulated overhead view, combined via the various cameras.

Pros Parking and backing are definitely less stressful.

Cons Some systems aren't as useful in the dark, or in rain, snow and sleet.

■ Fatigue sensors

What it is An algorithm carefully studies patterns in your steering inputs that



Mercedes-Benz's Night View Assist system, above, senses objects in a car's forward path. A variety of Volvo systems, below, combine to give the driver a 360-degree view of what's around the car.

indicate your attention is flagging.

Why you want it In this always-connected, increasingly busy day and age, our focus can be stretched a little thin.

What it costs It's standard equipment with Volvo and Mercedes-Benz lineups.



Which car does it best Volvo has offered a system called Driver Alert Control since 2007, while Mercedes-Benz introduced its Attention Assist in 2009. Both systems offer very few false warnings.

Pros You and your passengers stay safer.

Cons There really aren't any here.

■ Adaptive cruise control

What it is Also called smart cruise control or traffic-aware cruise control, these systems incorporate radar sensors (and often camera sensors) to maintain a set following distance from traffic ahead, slowing to a stop if necessary and, in many cases, starting back up on their own.

Why you want it Because it really cuts fatigue in congested freeway conditions.

What it costs Several thousand dollars, and generally part of a package.

Which car does it best Mercedes-Benz and its Distronic Plus system.

Pros Improved safety wherever there's traffic congestion.

Cons These systems often make you follow at too much of a gap for urban freeway driving, which means you'll frequently be cut off by other drivers.

DOES YOUR RENTAL CAR HAVE GPS?



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CAR VENT
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Probably not! Most rental cars don't come with in-dash GPS. You could pay an additional fee to rent a stand-alone GPS, but why would you when you already have GPS on your smartphone? The answer is simple: in most states it is illegal to touch your phone while driving. With Jelly-Grip Car Vent Mount, that problem is solved.



DURABLE METAL
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How the Jelly-Grip is different

Other mounts rely on plastic grips or friction to hold the mount in place. With Jelly-Grip, the sturdy metal vent hook working in conjunction with the clamping action of the screw makes it virtually impossible for the mount to be come loose or fall off.

Designed by an engineer

Engineers never stop thinking about how to make something work even better. Square Jellyfish introduced its first car vent mount in 2014. Now, the third generation Jelly-Grip Car Vent Mount is the one that takes the level of engineering sophistication to new heights.

Unbelievable range of position

The pivot ball has long been known as the gold standard for positioning flexibility. That's why the engineers at Square Jellyfish have strategically placed the pivot ball at the center of the Jelly-Grip allowing you to tilt and rotate your smartphone to virtually any angle.

Multi-function snap on/snap off attachments

The spring mount claws can accommodate smartphone screens up to 6" in diagonal. With a simple turn of the ball joint release knob, the pivot ball becomes free to attach your Garmin GPS with 17 mm ball joint socket.



For
smartphone
screens up to 6"



For Garmin GPS
with a 17 mm ball
joint socket



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or diagonal
positioning



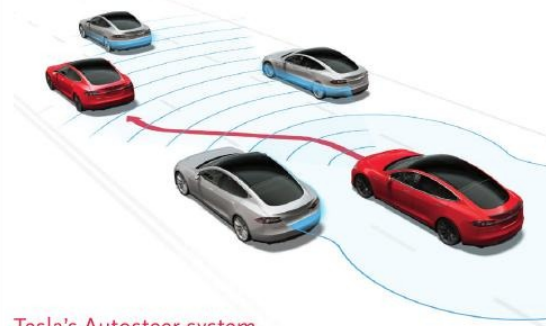
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Tesla's Autosteer system offers a glimpse of fully autonomous driving.

Automatic-steering systems

What it is Lane-departure warning systems chime a warning or shake the driver's seat when you veer out of your lane without signaling, and lane-keep systems actively intervene, by giving the steering wheel just the right nudge when your attention lapses. Automatic steering systems take that a step further, with the capability to study the road ahead and keep the car centered in your lane.

Why you want it Automatic steering systems are at the forefront of semi-autonomous driving, and give us a glimpse of fully autonomous driving that could permit us to program a destination and fully surrender control to the vehicle.

What it costs Several thousand dollars, and generally part of a premium technology package. It's now standard on some Mercedes-Benz S-Class models. Tesla's Autosteer package costs \$3,000 when new, but it can be software-enabled on some existing models for \$3,500.

Which car does it best Tesla and its Autosteer system allow a wider range of hands-free driving than any other automaker as of yet. Mercedes-Benz's Steering Assist (or Active Lane-Keeping Assist) is also very smooth and consistent.

Pros It's a major fatigue-reducer; and it helps keep you in your lane.

Cons It's just a driver's aid; the driver is still ultimately responsible. ▲

Bengt Halvorson writes from Portland.

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Traditional metal implants often show through the gums giving you that grey displeasing appearance. In today's health conscious world, people are more mindful about what they put in their body, and there are valid concerns about metal implants.



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Zirconia metal-free implant

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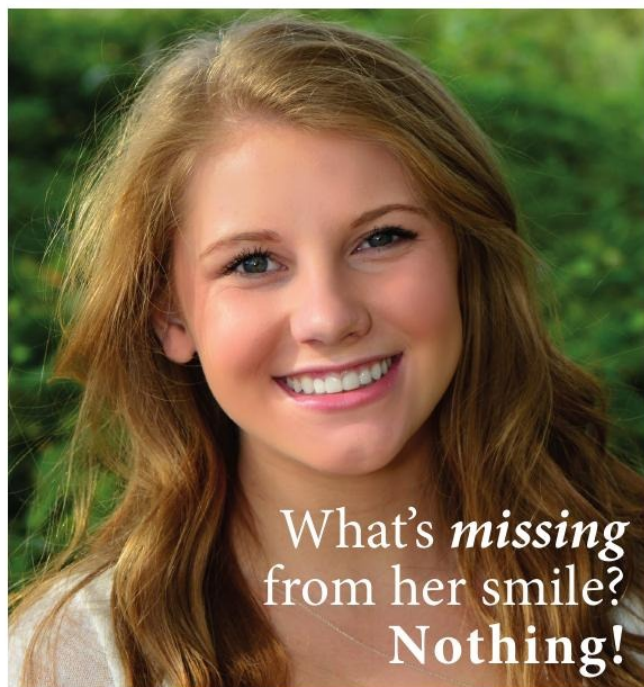
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Jordan's Story

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Then she learned about Dr. Shawn Keller, the first dentist in Washington to offer CeraRoot metal-free implants. These ceramic zirconia implants are 100% metal-free and are as strong as they are beautiful. She was hesitant, having seen traditional implants with dark lines at the gum that did not look natural. She also heard implants could be painful, took many visits and over 6 months to heal, and were expensive. Then she met with Dr. Shawn Keller. With many options offered, treatment was made affordable with a payment plan. Jordan wanted to improve the look of the rest of her smile and with Dr. Shawn's advanced sedation, she had the implant placed and cosmetic rejuvenation done at one visit, all while she slept peacefully. Thanks to the stem cell therapy used during the procedure, she had no discomfort and her beautiful smile was completed in the same day. Now Jordan is proud to smile with the peace of mind that her healthy new teeth will last a lifetime.



"Dr. Keller changed my life!"
- Jordan

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Jennifer Johnson | 425.305.9400 | RSIR.com



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Colin Foote | 907.378.9236 | RSIR.com



ORCAS ISLAND, WA

40+ acres of natural shoreline with 10,000 sq. ft. main house comprising 4 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms. Extraordinary craftsmanship in reclaimed timbers, natural materials and artisan details, this private compound integrates with its native surroundings. Adjacent to the historic Rosario Resort.

Offered at: \$10,000,000 | Madroneagle.com

Jennifer Johnson | 425.305.9400 | RSIR.com



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Dennis Paige | 206.920.3824 | dennispaige.com



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Lori DeVore | 253.332.8354 | loridevore.rsir.com



CAMANO ISLAND, WA

Panoramic views of Saratoga Passage Olympic Mountains. Natural light and vaulted ceilings offer a seamless flow. Master suite exudes tranquility as it occupies the north wing. Large shop, sunset and community beach. Pacific Northwest waterfront. Living at its best! Offered at: \$749,950 | MLS# 1020487

Kathy Weber | 425.772.2214 | kathy.weber@rsir.com

KathyWeberRealEstate.com



CHELAN, WA

Vintage based community centered in the heart of Washington's Wine Country situated next to Bear Mountain Ranch Golf Course. Upon entry to this opulent home, find light filled spaces, hardwood floors and soaring ceilings with views of Lake Chelan and nearby vineyards. In-ground pool. Second master on lower level (5 total bedrooms). 3 car garage.

Offered at: \$1,199,950 | MLS# 1018432

Brian Hopper | 425.201.5115 | hoppergroupre.com



KIRKLAND, WA

Stunning Craftsman home built with timeless finishes, this 4 bedroom + den + bonus room home with over 3,600 sq. ft. boasts an entertainment backyard with garden space that backs to greenbelt. Gourmet kitchen, family room and dining areas. Spa master bath with heated floors and bonus room with wine cellar and wet bar complete this home. Situated with a neighborhood park and great LW schools. Offered at: \$875,000 | MLS# 1025930

Catherine Ferrera | 206.579.1077 | catherineferrera.com

**POULSBO, WA**

Gentleman's Farm. Lovely two plus acre property offers classic three stall barn and generous parking for cars and boats. Beautifully appointed home with space for home business. Five minutes from Historic old town Poulsbo. Offered at: \$699,999 | MLS# 926979

Meg Burkett | 360.271.7426

Meg.burkett@sothebysrealty.com

**MERCER ISLAND, WA**

Maison des Volets - Exceptional west facing Mercer Island waterfront estate of exquisite design detail and material integrity. A synergy of structure and site on shy half-acre with 60 feet of waterfront, the residence evokes a casually elegant European ambience. With rare permanently protected views and privacy, the home looks over its landscape of native plants and exuberant perennial gardens. This unique location and distinctive home combine to create a one-of-a-kind property. 6 bedroom, 5 bathroom, 5,776 sq. ft. main house, 331 sq. ft. cabana, a quick 15 minutes to both downtown Bellevue and Seattle. Offered at \$6,600,000 | MLS# 935289

Jay Kipp | 206.853.9153 | jay@jaykipp.com | JayKipp.com

**SEATTLE, WA**

Romantic cottage-style shingled hideaway in the heart of the charming village of Madison Park! One level living on the main floor plus a 2,000 sq. ft. finished lower level. Fantastic indoor-outdoor flow is perfect for the entertainer. Offered at: \$2,275,000 | MLS# 1013460

Laura Halliday | 206.399.5842 | laurahalliday.com

Leslie Dickinson | 206.200.2174 | lesliedickinsonhomes.com

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA**

Stunning Northwest lodge beautifully sited on 1.4 acres in a quiet equestrian neighborhood. Park-like grounds with a pond and cascading waterfall, the home showcases quality & fine craftsmanship throughout! Offered at: \$1,595,000 | MLS# 933841

Dennis Paige | 206.920.3824 | dennispaige.com

**VASHON, WA**

Over 900 feet of exotically landscaped beachfront and its own lighthouse, this spectacular shingle-style estate is the ultimate expression of Vashon Island grandeur. Lavish use of stone, river rock and timber create a majestic elegance that evokes the Mt. Rainier vistas and native surroundings on view through its walls of windows.

Offered at: \$18,000,000 | MLS# 882661 | DeniseSeavitt.com

Denise Seavitt | 206.841.8788 | Denise.Seavitt@rsir.com

**QUILCENE, WA**

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Meg Burkett | 360.271.7426

Meg.burkett@sothebysrealty.com

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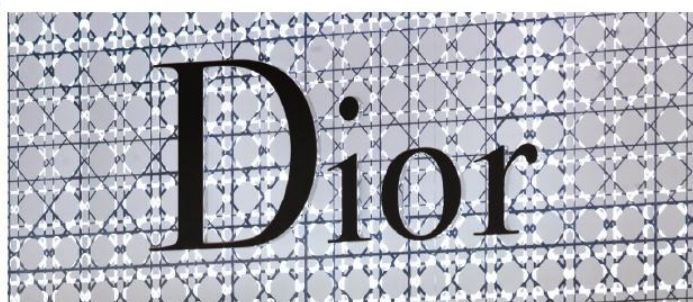
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By ARCHANA RAM, BARBARA BECKLEY,
BILL FINK and MATT VILLANO



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MARIDAV / ISTOCKPHOTO; BB.L1 / ISTOCKPHOTO; IMAGE SOURCE / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO



SUP yoga on Mission Bay is one of San Diego's many fresh takes on the ancient practice.

SUP, San Diego

BY ARCHANA RAM

I was moving from downward-facing dog to high lunge when the waves from a passing boat rolled toward me. For a second, I considered a daring slide into warrior-one pose. But my legs wobbled, and I thought better of it, dropping to my hands and knees.

I was in the middle of San Diego's Mission Bay, practicing stand-up paddleboard

(SUP) yoga, which transports yoga class to a floating board, using a minianchor to keep everyone from drifting too far.

With the palm trees gently swaying around me and the sun beaming above, it felt like a quintessential Southern California experience.

San Diego is the eighth-largest city in the U.S. and has enjoyed a recent urban

renaissance. However, it still stays true to its laid-back beach-town identity, a paradise where the perennially pleasant climate makes surfing, biking and other outdoor pursuits popular year-round.

With 70 miles of coastline and more than 1,000 miles of hiking trails in the county, San Diego is a playground for locals and visitors, whether that means a surfing



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: PAUL OBLEAS / KICKSTAND STUDIO; LYUDMILA ZOTOVA; LYUDMILA ZOTOVA

session at Black's Beach, hiking Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve or biking around Mission Bay. Even the dining and drinking scene is alfresco-focused. Brunch with a beach view, happy hour by the bay, dinner at La Jolla Cove—this is a community that loves to be outside.

My SUP yoga session, though, was about more than just sun worshipping. It

Where to Refuel

» The relaxed, beachy neighborhood of Bird Rock is an ideal setting for the classic warm-weather food at **Seaside Smoothie & Juice Bar**. Acai bowls come with unique toppings such as bee pollen and ground flaxseed, and the acai base can be blended with kale for a green boost.

» **Carnitas' Snack Shack** specializes in carnivore delights, such as braised pork belly and rib-eye steak sandwiches. The new Embarcadero location offers a breezy all-alfresco space, a bayside view and live music on weekends.

» **Galaxy Taco** in La Jolla Shores is elevating San Diego's Mexican culinary scene with healthier ingredients, such as tortillas made with non-GMO heirloom corn. Pair the tacos with Galaxy's popular carrot margarita. —A.R.

A New Dining Scene

San Diego's Little Italy neighborhood, a one-time fishing village with deep Italian roots dating back to the 1920s, is now a foodie enclave. Much of the action takes place on **Kettner Boulevard**, where *Top Chef*er Brian Malarkey wood-fires meats and vegetables at the chic **Herb & Wood**. Don't miss the dessert menu, including a high-end spin on a Twix.



Herb & Wood Roasted Carrots.

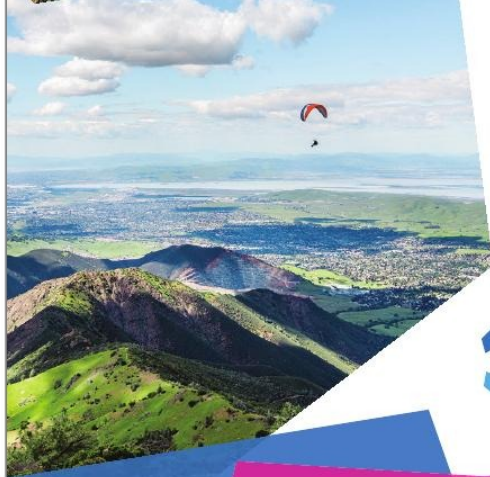
At **Bracero Cocina de Raiz**, Baja is the theme. In an upscale setting with an open terrace that lets diners embrace the perfect San Diego weather, Bracero serves craft Mexican cuisine featuring fresh produce.



Carnitas' Snack Shack Triple Threat sandwich.

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California

was a challenging workout, too.

Maneuvering from asana to asana while bobbing on the water was a true test of core strength. There are adjustments for beginners, such as a warrior-two alternative on your knees, but instructor April Walker of Bliss Paddle Yoga reminded us that part of the fun is



North Park is great for shopping, dining and craft beers.

San Diego Spots

» Restaurants, boutiques and nightlife venues converge in the historic 16-block **Gaslamp Quarter**, which also includes interactive exhibits at the New Children's Museum.

» The hip **North Park** area, anchored by the intersection of 30th Street and University Avenue, is great for craft-beer lovers, and it also boasts trendy restaurants and shops offering locally made home decor and gifts.

» Chicano culture is the focus of **Barrio Logan**, an emerging community east of downtown. Scope out galleries lined with local art, or walk to Chicano Park and discover outdoor murals adorning the base of the San Diego–Coronado Bridge.

» Tucked between the bay and downtown, **Seaport Village** is a 14-acre shopping, dining and entertainment complex that includes a kite shop, a classic candy store and The Headquarters, which is a retail venue and restaurant housed in the former San Diego Police headquarters built in 1939. Visitors can tour a fully restored eight-cell jail block. —A.R.

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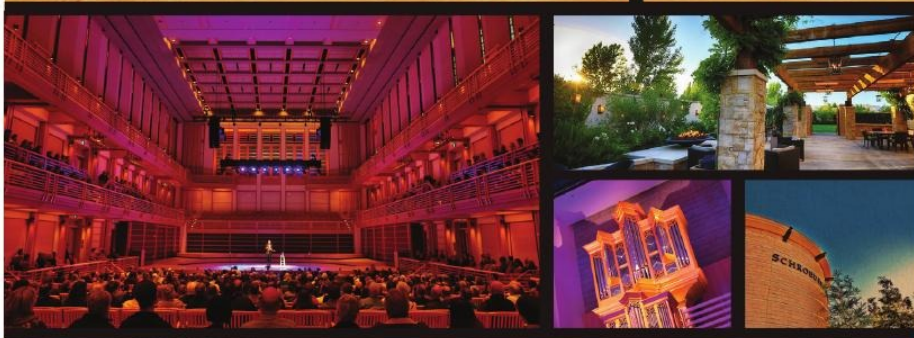
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California

ending up in the water. “We build up so much fear of falling in,” she says, “that sometimes it’s better to get it over with so you realize it’s not so bad!” Next time, I might have to listen.

San Diego’s long-standing love affair with yoga gained momentum in the 1970s when revered guru Pattabhi Jois introduced his Ashtanga practice to

There’s a weekly hip-hop yoga class in which yogis can down-dog to hip-hop and R&B music.

America north of San Diego in the city of Encinitas. Since then, thanks to San Diego’s health-focused ethos and its year-round gorgeous weather, yoga has been a fixture of daily life.

And SUP yoga is just one of San Diego’s many takes on the ancient practice. At Spirit Yoga, a hot-yoga studio in the coastal neighborhood of Pacific Beach, there’s a regular hip-hop yoga class in which yogis can down-dog to hip-hop and R&B music. Spirit Yoga also hosts blacklight yoga, a fun and light-hearted monthly class that’s performed in the dark with glowsticks and body paint. Restaurants are getting in on the trend, too. In San Diego’s South Park community, The Rose Wine Bar hosts a monthly Yoga Mosa event, during which yogis take a class before indulging in brunch and mimosas.

And The Wine Pub and Restaurant, a bar in the Point Loma area, runs a monthly Vinyasa, which includes a one-hour session followed by a glass of wine. So you can have your Pinot, and flow with it, too. ▲

Archana Ram lives in San Diego. For more on the region: sandiego.org.

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Cocktails with a View

Sipping cocktails on a cloud. That's how I feel at the revamped **Peaks** restaurant at the top of the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. Happy



Peaks seen from above.

hour is a way of life in the desert, and stunning vistas can turn casual drinks into memorable occasions.

The lights of town and starry nights make for scenic sipping at **The Edge** steakhouse at the Ritz-Carlton, Rancho Mirage.

Mountains fill the sky at the **Outdoor Vista Bar and The Terrace at Desert Willow Golf Resort** in Palm Desert.

Golf greens and the San Jacinto Mountains pair well at the **Escena Lounge & Grill** in Palm Springs.

—B.B.

Palm Springs Perfect Fits

BY BARBARA BECKLEY

My eyes are riveted on a pair of killer Prada heels marked \$100. "Is this a typo?" I ask.

Normally, the shoes cost nearly 10 times as much. "Nope. That's the price," says Mark Welch, manager at YOLO Clothing Consignments in Cathedral City. I slip them on and ... hallelujah. They fit. "Sold!" I shout.

Resale shopping is a perfect fit in greater Palm Springs because the desert area is known as a playground of the rich and famous—and, for the most part, the rich and famous don't wear the same thing twice.

Of course, discount shopping is just one of many games in town. The region is filled with legendary golf courses, the world's finest Midcentury Modern architecture, collectors' art galleries, and restaurants ranging from sidewalk cafes to French haute cuisine bistros.

Visitors and locals can also enjoy outdoor adventures that range from hiking to helicoptering.

But if you're a fashion and bargain lover

like me, finding designer and other fun clothing at a big discount is as much a desert attraction as golfing, hiking or relaxing by the pool.

Almost every desert city boasts several consignment and thrift boutiques worth a

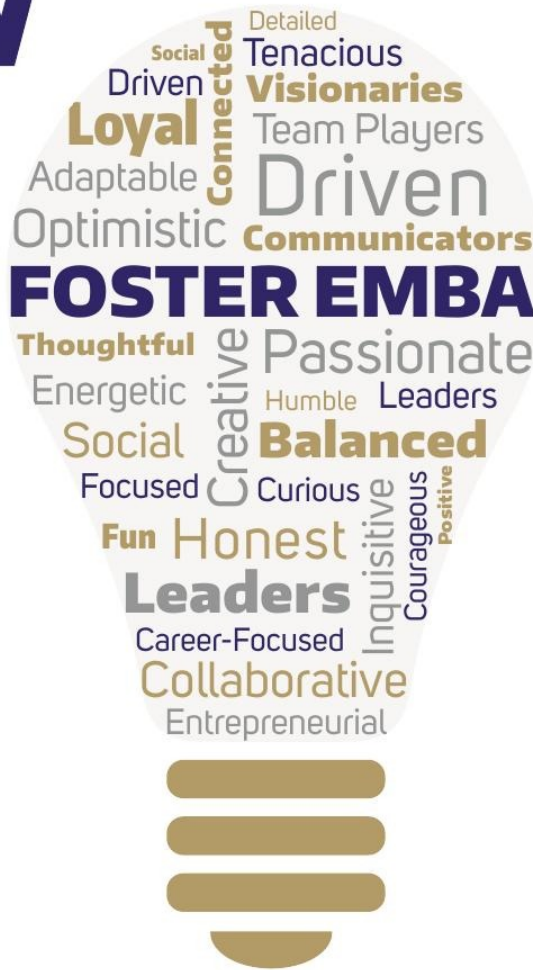


Mitchells stocks vintage designer wear.

shopping spree. If you're new to the hunt or know what you want, I recommend beginning with the following five options.

The Angel View Prestige Boutique on Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs is on most residents' must-shop list. It overflows with men's and women's apparel from tank

W



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tops to formals. During Hollywood award season it's not unusual to see industry folks hunting for ballgowns and tuxedos.

For vintage designer wear, Mitchells is a must. Owner Mitchel Karp specializes in glamour apparel, sunglasses and shoes from the 1970s, '80s and '90s for women and men.

"My vibe is totally Studio 54. It's all about sexy and creating the look," he says. Think Christian Dior butterfly sunglasses and outfits worthy of a Barbra Streisand movie.

YOLO is packed with designer labels—I've found St. John, Trina Turk, Fendi and Lilly Pulitzer in addition to Prada.

YOLO is packed with designer labels—I've found St. John, Trina Turk, Fendi and Lilly Pulitzer in addition to Prada—and department-store outdoor and cocktail wear, purses, shoes and jewelry for guys and gals.

The Revivals Resale Mart locations in Cathedral City, Palm Springs and Palm Desert offer many treasures and cast-offs. It's definitely a hunt-and-gather situation. Like the time I scored a 1960s duster-style turquoise coat for \$29.

Re-Deux in Rancho Mirage is the go-to for fine women's contemporary designers—Judith Leiber, Chanel, Hermès, Escada, Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Dolce & Gabbana, and more. Check out the sale racks for up to an extra 70 percent off.

What about resale furniture, accessories and Midcentury Modern? That's another story. But it's all out there. ▲

Barbara Beckley writes from Alhambra, California, and her second home in Palm Springs. For more information on the region, including great places to shop: visitgreaterpalmsprings.com.

Exceptional Exhibits

Sure, LA has **The Getty** and other fine institutions. But it also boasts unexpected discoveries.

» Ever wonder where all the velvet paintings went? They're here—at **Velveteria** in Chinatown. About 1,000 are displayed in rotation from a collection of 5,000.

» In Culver City, see busts of Lenin and other art and memorabilia from 1945 to 1991 at **The Wende Museum**.

» **The Hollywood Museum** displays A-list costumes, props, photos and cars from Hollywood's Golden Era to the present in the historic Max Factor Building.

» Near South Coast Plaza, Southern California's largest mall, **California Scenario** is an outdoor sculpture park designed by Isamu Noguchi. —B.B.



Totally Tiki in LA

BY BARBARA BECKLEY

Welcome home," says the 60-something regular. He's sipping from his vintage hula-girl mug as my two friends and I take seats in the legendary Tiki-Ti. It's our first time at one of Los Angeles' oldest tiki bars, but the friendly vibe makes us feel as if we've been coming here since this tiny watering hole opened—in this same Hollywood location with the same Polynesian pop tchotchkes—back in 1961.

"Thank you," we answer, admiring the hula-girl mug. Apparently, true regulars bring their own tiki drinking vessels and leave them behind the bar for next time. It's a cool touch and one more reason to start any LA Polynesian pub crawl at Tiki-Ti.

A South Seas reflection of the mid-century cocktail culture, tiki establishments were big in greater LA in the 1950s and '60s. By the '70s, though, many had closed their bamboo doors. Now, they're back—hipper than ever—in old and new settings with fantasy-island decor and fishbowl cocktails that turn your evening into a tropical adventure.

Above: In Hollywood since 1961, Tiki-Ti is one of LA's oldest tiki bars. Regulars at this popular spot bring their own tiki mugs and leave them behind the bar for the next visit. **Right:** Actress/writer/comedian Lily Tomlin is featured in an exhibit at The Hollywood Museum.



Free in LA

» Take a hike through **Griffith Park**, one of the nation's largest urban wildland parks, with a City of Los Angeles park ranger, who can share the history and ecology of the area.

» Listen to live music at **Mariachi Plaza** in Boyle Heights. For more than 80 years, mariachi bands have been gathering to play and be hired for parties and restaurants.

» Appreciate art downtown at **The Broad**, a new contemporary art museum.

» Stop and smell the flowers in the gorgeously landscaped grounds of **Greystone Mansion & Gardens** in Beverly Hills.

» Explore the **Venice Canals**, an oasis of serenity, waterfowl, picturesque bridges and waterfront homes in busy Venice Beach.

» See forever from the 27th floor **observatory deck** of Los Angeles City Hall.

California

The Original Farmers Market in LA has been held in the Fairfax District since 1934.

That tiki bars are now a big part of the cocktail scene is no surprise, because greater LA is famous for being trendy—as well as for moviemaking, celebrity sightings, world-class museums and art galleries, designer shopping, theme parks and beaches.

For the full LA experience, pair your tiki tasting with the Universal Studios Hollywood Studio Tour; look for celebrities at the Wolfgang Puck at Hotel Bel-Air restaurant; view The Getty Center's art collection; peruse the shops along Rodeo Drive; ride the Ferris wheel on the historic Santa Monica Pier; take a trip to Disneyland; and play volleyball on Manhattan Beach.



LEYAL NAHMIA / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

Fabulous Farmers Markets

Whether you visit the city's oldest—**The Original Farmers Market** held in the Fairfax District since 1934—or the Saturday morning market in the downtown **Arts District**, you'll get a taste of LA's unique culture along with the farm-fresh produce.

Celebrity sightings are common at the Sunday morning **Brentwood Farmers Market**, and foods from acclaimed restaurants, cooking demos and live entertainment make **Santa Monica's Sunday Main Street Farmers Market** an event to remember.

In addition, ocean views and a surfer vibe flavor the Thursday morning **Redondo Beach Farmers Market**.

—B.B.

Tiki-Ti serves drinks only—the rum-laden Ray's Mistake is my favorite—so it's a good before-dinner stop.

Order the Blood and Sand, made of blood-orange juice and brown scotch and named after the 1922 silent film about a bullfighter, and cheer as the bartender clangs a bell and a flashy-eyed bull wind-up toy prances on the bar.

It's also drinks-only at the Tonga Hut, a blast from the past, circa 1958, in artsy North Hollywood (aka NoHo), which is home to the Academy of Television Arts

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and Sciences. Cozy booths and a midcentury metal fireplace add a touch of sophistication at Tonga. For a fun photo, order the multiperson Tonga Punch Bowl, with a tiki totem spewing fire in the center.

For dinner, Mai Tai Mondays are a fun tradition at Damon's Steak House, which

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canoe hanging
from the ceiling,
fish tanks and
Hawaiian murals.**

opened in Glendale in 1937 and has been at its current spot since 1980. You'll feel transported to the South Pacific, with an outrigger canoe hanging from the ceiling, fish tanks and Hawaiian murals. The beef tenderloin and salad tossed tableside with creamy French garlic dressing have long been favorites.

Luau Larry's, with windows open to the harbor, is the Polynesian pop star on Catalina Island, where after just an hour's ferry ride off the Los Angeles coast you can relax on beautiful beaches and easily sink into the island lifestyle. Order the rum and brandy Wiki Wacker, and wear your free straw hat with pride.

With the popularity of tiki in LA, it seems there are always new places to try. Next up for me? El Segundo's Purple Orchid Tiki Lounge, where the blowfish lanterns are calling my name. ▲

Barbara Beckley writes from Alhambra, California, where she keeps a hula shark doll on the dashboard of her car. For more on LA: discoverlosangeles.com.

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At Home in the Sierra Nevada

BY BILL FINK

In the shadows of towering pine trees near Yosemite National Park, my small campfire reflected waves of flickering yellow and red light onto the silver exterior of my family's rented Airstream trailer. Up in the Sierra Nevada, it was a classic scene: Fellow visitors chatted at picnic tables while burgers and hot dogs sizzled on grills. On my family's plates was a cornucopia of fresh fruits and vegetables, produce we had picked up at roadside

stands. For dessert, roasted marshmallows and messy s'mores. To top it all off, one of my neighbors at the RV resort came by to share a Mason jar half-filled with a refreshing beverage.

RV camping is one of the numerous ways to enjoy the Sierra Nevada. Whether your taste runs to a basic tent and sleeping bag in the deep woods or to a luxury mountaintop hotel, there are many ways to enjoy a trip into the nearly 40,000-square-mile

mountain range, with its peaks to climb, rivers to cross and fish to catch.

My family and I were en route to Yosemite in the well-equipped Airstream, a \$100,000 limited-edition National Parks model, complete with full kitchen, comfy bed, air conditioning, TV—the works. But what really mattered was outside.

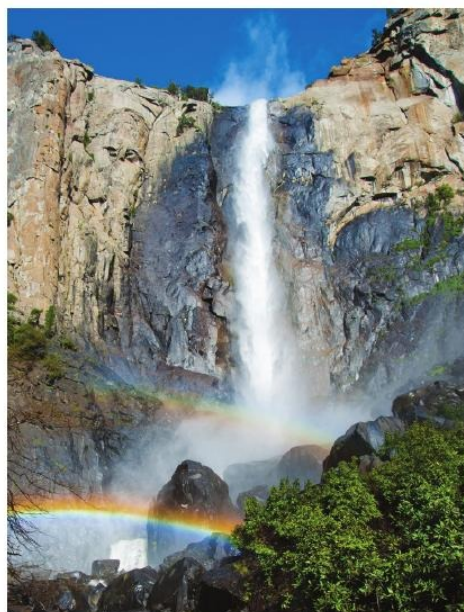
Sitting back in my camp chair and sipping from the Mason jar beneath the Airstream's awning, *continued on page 82*



Left: A calm reflection of the Cathedral Spires as seen from the valley floor in Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park.



Upper right: Relaxing outside an Airstream trailer. **Right:** Bridalveil Fall in Yosemite.



Luxury Lodging

Want to experience the woods but not sleep in them? Here are some options in Mammoth Lakes.

» **Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa:** Fireplace suites, three restaurants, massages and minigolf.

» **Snowcreek Resort:** Large athletic club, great golf and fun for all seasons.

» **80150 Mammoth:** Private-residence club with rooftop lounge, village gondola access and climate-controlled wine storage.

» **The Village Lodge:** Heated pools, direct ski-trail access and nearby mountain-bike rentals.

» **The Westin Monache Resort:** Mountainside views, luxury suites and year-round hot tubs.

» **Juniper Springs Resort:** Mountain-framed landscape, ski access and condo comfort.

Go "Glamping"

For many people, RV-based trips are a great middle ground between tent camping and a hotel. But there are plenty of ways to have a glamorous camping experience in the Sierra Nevada. Here are two venues.

» **Inn Town Campground, Nevada City:** With easy access to hiking trails and the South Fork of the Yuba River, this new spot has the usual tent campsites and RV hookups, but also a well-designed commons area, and stylish canvas tents for rent with wood floors, comfy beds and fresh linens.

» **Yosemite Lakes RV Resort:** A large and friendly RV campground with a community feel, it provides easy access to Yosemite National Park, and immediate access to the South Fork of the Tuolumne River. There are also a variety of cabin and yurt rentals available. —*B.F.*



Adventure in Camping, Mammoth Lakes

This company not only rents out a full range of RVs, but it also equips and delivers them to 75 Mammoth Lakes-area campgrounds. Just show up and start to explore. —B.F.

Attractions in the Mammoth Lakes Area

» **June Mountain** is a worthwhile add-on in winter to the popular **Mammoth Mountain** resort, and in the nonsnowy seasons, the **June Lake Loop** offers good kayaking and fishing and multiple RV parks.

» **Devils Postpile National Monument**, with a unique collection of geometric basalt rock columns, is worth a trip from Mammoth Lakes. Continue walking about another 2 miles down a trail from the Devils Postpile formation to see the heavenly **Rainbow Falls**.

» The Mammoth Lakes area is famed for its fishing, because you don't have to go far to access great spots. **Mammoth Lakes Basin**, the **San Joaquin River** and the **Hot Creek** fishery are all easily accessible.

» The **Sierra Star Golf Course** is an 18-hole championship track featuring mountain views and pristine lakes.

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) is an efficient and economical way to get around. For more on Mammoth Lakes: visitmammoth.com. —B.F.

from page 80

I felt truly at home in the hills.

My front yard featured the South Fork of the Tuolumne River, the flow coming down from high mountain springs and snowmelt in Yosemite. In the morning, a group of kids frolicked in a swimming hole in a river eddy while couples paddled canoes downstream.

My neighborhood was Yosemite itself, the massive national park with the iconic Half Dome peak and Bridalveil Fall, and near endless meadows of wildflowers.

Following a few days in the park, it was Sierra Nevada decision time: Go north to Lake Tahoe or go south to Mammoth Lakes. Either way, we couldn't go wrong. ▲

Bill Fink writes from Oakland. For more information on the Sierra Nevada: visitcalifornia.com/region/discover-high-sierra.



Lambert Bridge 2012 Crane Creek Cuvée



Jennifer Higgins: Winemaker, Lambert Bridge Winery

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Delicious Discoveries

San Francisco is always welcoming new restaurants into the mix. Here are some favorites.

» **Mosu.** This ultramodern Fillmore District restaurant blends contemporary American dishes with Asian flair. The standard experience is a 14-course tasting menu. A highlight from a recent service included shrimp chiffon cake.

» **Little Gem.** This fast-casual restaurant in Hayes Valley focuses on fresh, seasonal ingredients, and Chef Dave Cruz only serves dishes that are free of gluten, dairy and all refined sugar. And the food is delicious—especially the salads, soups and flatbreads (made from yeasted dough with no gluten).

» **Wise Sons Bagel and Bakery.** The Fillmore Street outpost of this deli opened in the spring of 2016 and quickly established itself as one of the best bagel shops around. Wise's bagels offer the perfect blend of crunch and chew. The ingredients: flour, water, yeast, salt and malt. Wise chefs also make their own cream cheeses with scallions and salmon.

—M.V.



State Bird Provisions was the James Beard Foundation's best new restaurant in the nation in 2013. **Below:** Diners enjoy a meal at Little Gem.

San Francisco Treats

BY MATT VILLANO

Technically, the state bird is the California quail. But as I tuck into a helping of tender beef cheeks served with winter greens and fried nettles, the only state bird I care about is the place that has brought me this wonderful food.

That restaurant, State Bird Provisions, is one of the hottest spots in San Francisco right now. Since opening in 2012, State Bird has been named the James Beard Foundation's best new restaurant in the nation in 2013 and has received Michelin stars each of the last three years. Though the wait list for reservations can stretch to

60 days, a handful of tables remain first-come, first-served. And in a city that takes its food very seriously, food lovers are embracing State Bird's unique concept.

State Bird isn't like other restaurants where you sit down, order a few dishes and wait for the food to arrive. Instead, you sit down and wait while servers bring around tapas-style small plates of each dish on dim sum-style food carts. The entire meal is built on unpredictability.

Some of the best dishes I've ever eaten were in the 60 minutes I was here. Such as the light and airy duck-liver mousse served



California

with almond biscuits. Or the lamb with cumin, squid and dates. I also loved the creamy porridge made with potato, shellfish and pickled seaweed.

I'd tell you to request these same exact dishes, but chefs Stuart Brioza and Nicole Krasinski change the lineup so frequently, you'll be lucky if your meal has any of the same items as mine (except fried quail, which is a mainstay).

This presentation is precisely what makes the experience such an adventure. Yes, I ask for certain dishes listed on a menu. But for the most part, I have no idea what is coming next. The setup prompts me to eat way more than I should (as evidenced by the tower of plates in front of me). But it's fun, and it's delicious. ▲

Matt Villano writes from California. For more information on the region: sfttravel.com.



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San Francisco Sights

San Francisco has much to offer whether or not you're hungry. Here are some of the staples.

» About 12 million people visit the iconic **Fisherman's Wharf** every year. In between stops at stores, order chowder in a bread bowl—a San Francisco tradition.

» With several switchbacks, **Lombard Street** is known as one of the world's most crooked roads.

» **Alcatraz Island** is the site of the famous former maximum-security federal penitentiary.

» A classic symbol of the city, the **Golden Gate Bridge** has captivated visitors since opening in 1937.

» The **San Francisco cable cars** were designated as a national landmark by the National Park Service in 1964.

—Meagan Wehe

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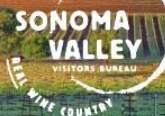
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A photograph of a resort pool area. In the foreground, a long, narrow pool of clear blue water is flanked by concrete steps and wooden lounge chairs. Several people are relaxing in the chairs, wearing white robes. In the background, a building with large glass doors and windows is visible, surrounded by tall palm trees. The sky is clear and blue.

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Family Fun in Wine Country

BY MATT VILLANO

You know what pairs wonderfully with this 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon? A side of sunbathing and a dip in the pool.

That's what I say to myself as I taste some reds and lounge by the pools at Francis Ford Coppola Winery in Geyserville. The pools are part of the experience at this majestic place owned by the famous screenwriter/director/producer. You don't have to enjoy them, but they're perfect if you're visiting with kids.

Turns out, there are plenty of family-friendly options in Sonoma County and the Napa Valley, which is an area north of San Francisco that's home to more than 600 wineries.

A top spot is the Children's Museum of Sonoma County, which includes a garden encouraging interactive play, a small river from which kids can catch plastic fish, and a 15-foot-tall floor-to-ceiling air maze. The museum also features a beehive display and a toddler zone.

We are fortunate enough to live in this area—in Healdsburg, which is part of the Wine Road region that features some of the most picturesque spots in Sonoma County and offers access to nearly 200 wineries.

And we visit Coppola because of the day-use pool complex, *cabines* (pronounced ca-beens, think of them like fancy dressing rooms) and manicured gardens.

There's even an outdoor restaurant on the pool deck, a quiet spot that serves a select food menu, mixes all sorts of drinks and pours full wine-tastings—the very same tastings you can get at the bar inside. On this visit, while my wife and I sample Coppola's latest reds, our 7-year-old practices her underwater swimming in the shallow end while our 5-year-old spins around in a doughnut-shaped float, singing to herself as she stares at the clouds.



Two pools and *cabines* make the Francis Ford Coppola Winery a great family destination in Sonoma County.

The kids are happy. We're happy. It's a wine-country-with-kids *Twilight Zone*.

After our daughters devour a margherita pizza, the girls hunker down in a teepee that the winery has stocked with children's books while my wife feeds the baby in the privacy of our cabine. When the middle daughter snoozes on a lounge chair, I challenge my oldest to a game of bocce—and lose.

Late into the afternoon, we tour the museum of Coppola movie memorabilia and then head onto a terrace just in time to watch the sun set over the Alexander Valley. It's a peaceful end to a relaxing day. ▲

Matt Villano lives in Healdsburg. For more information on the area, visit the following:

More in Wine Country

Experience tastings (reservations are required) at the **Vincent Arroyo Winery** in Calistoga, where they also sell their own olive oil and balsamic vinegars.


» **The Farmstead at Long Meadow Ranch** in St. Helena crafts top-rated food-friendly wines and also offers a restaurant and farmers market.

» **Jessup Cellars** in Yountville offers a multisensory blend of wine and art, including curated paintings, a short-film series and a music series.

» **Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens** in Fulton is set on nearly 4 acres of land covered in seven sensory and culinary gardens.—*Meagan Wehe*



Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens.



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Family-Friendly Finds

Yes, you can bring kids on vacations to Napa and Sonoma. Here are some family-friendly attractions.

» **Safari West.** This 400-acre preserve in the hills east of Santa Rosa is home to more than 800 species of animals.



An adventure at Safari West.

» **Charles M. Schulz Museum.** The Santa Rosa site gives visitors an inside look into the man behind the popular comic strip and how he worked. See the largest collection of original *Peanuts* artwork in the world, draw your own cartoons and watch animated *Peanuts* specials.

» **Nimbus Arts.** An all-ages nonprofit art studio in St. Helena, Nimbus is renowned for classes in a variety of media. Depending on the day, you might be able to sign up for activities such as pottery lessons and watercolor workshops.

—M.V.

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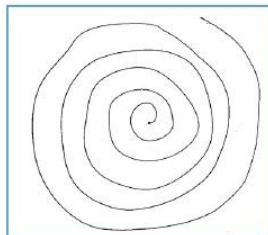
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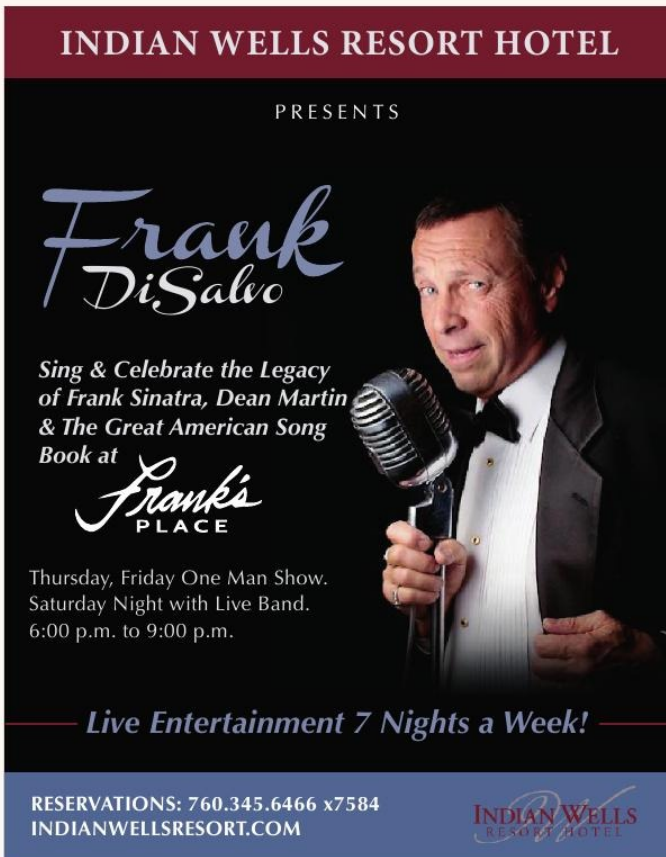
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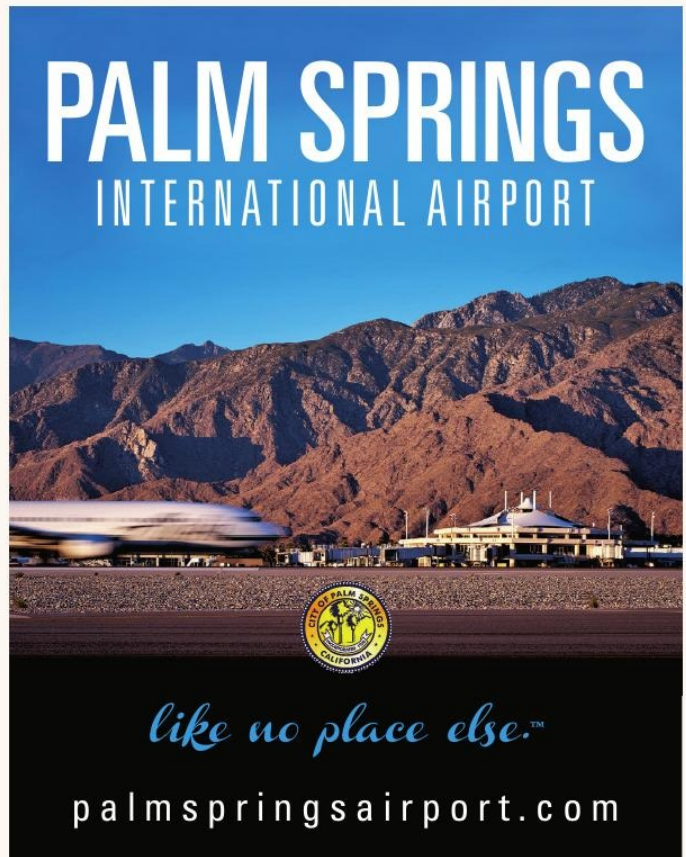
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ON THE RISE

Portland blossoms as an entrepreneurial center

By Gail O'Hara



IN 2011, BEN JACOBSEN MADE A DRAMATIC CAREER CHANGE when he decided to leave the Portland tech industry and try making artisanal salt.

Such an unorthodox job shift might seem peculiar. However, Jacobsen believed he was in the right place at the right time. The entrepreneur, who had launched the app-search company Mobspot in 2008, moved the firm from San Francisco to Portland in 2010. He had gone to high school in nearby Vancouver, Washington, and knew the region. On Jacobsen's return to the area, he was surprised to find that, in a community known for championing food trends, there was no local artisanal salt made from the region's seawater. He had first been introduced to gourmet salt a few years earlier while studying in Europe.

When his tech company hit hard times, Jacobsen decided to try his hand at making salt from the waters of Netarts Bay, about 80 miles west of Portland. He was soon selling the salt out of the back of his car to top local restaurants. Officials at the Oregon grocery store chain New Seasons tried the salt at an artisanal fair. They liked it so much they placed orders for their stores and the

Jacobsen Salt brand was born.

Today, Jacobsen Salt can be found in top restaurants and area stores. Jacobsen makes about 18,000 pounds of salt a month, and in the near future, he hopes to produce 50,000 pounds per month.

Jacobsen Salt's success is a prime example of Portland's entrepreneurial culture in which companies are known for helping each other prosper. "The creative, collaborative spirit of the city is the perfect environment for entrepreneurs to learn, grow and thrive," says Jacobsen. "And the city's strong support of local business—especially in the world of food—has been an integral part of our success and that of our food-artisan peers."

AN ECLECTIC ECONOMY

The supportive business culture of Portland, and of the surrounding communities of Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, Beaverton and Vancouver, Washington, has made the region a top draw for all types of entrepreneurs. Last year, Forbes magazine ranked the Portland Metropolitan Area—which includes Portland, Vancouver and Hillsboro—third on its list of Best Places for Business and

I GROW

"Because I love plants."

Judy is a Master Gardener through the Washington State University Extension Program. But her interest started long before becoming a Master Gardener. Gardening is her passion. "I grow a huge variety of plants including succulents, tomatoes, tangelos, mandarin oranges, grapefruit, orchids, eggplants and a lot more."

Gardening has been a lifelong interest for Judy. She had her first greenhouse at 27 years old. She's an avid outdoor, greenhouse and indoor gardener. "Of course, with indoor gardening you can grow year around. In the Northwest, it gets too cold for citrus trees so I bring them into my greenhouse where they can continue to ripen. It's wonderful having fresh fruit in December! I have so many plants that when my greenhouse is full, I have plant lighting fixtures in my garage and family room too."

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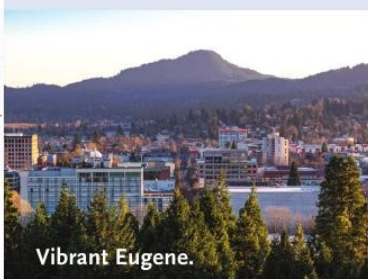
Lane County enters the business spotlight

It is hard to find a more pristine location to pursue a technology career than Oregon's Lane County.

Located at the southern tip of Willamette Valley, and stretching from the Cascade Range to the Pacific Ocean, Lane County is anchored by the cities of Eugene and Springfield, where more than 400 tech companies have opened operations.

Eugene, the county's largest

CARYSERP / ISTOCKPHOTO



Vibrant Eugene.

city with an estimated population of 160,000, is home to the University of Oregon. The adjacent town of Springfield has a population of about 60,000.

Technology is only the beginning of the area's dynamic economy, which is also known for its agriculture, health care, manufacturing, recreation, timber and tourism industries. Eugene-Springfield's diverse economic sectors and low cost of living have earned it a place in the national spotlight.

Fast Company magazine named Eugene in its list of The Next Top 10 Cities for Tech Jobs in 2015. Also in 2015, *Forbes* magazine ranked Eugene the No. 1 location in the country for the low cost of doing business and the 52nd place in the nation on its list of The Best Places for Business and Careers. —G.O.

Careers. The area was also ranked 10th on *Forbes'* list of the 50 Best Cities for Jobs, published in May of this year. It's easy to see why. An educated and fast-growing workforce is helping to fuel large and small businesses alike. The Greater Portland area welcomed more than 40,000 new residents between 2014 and 2015 and has a combined population of about 2.4 million. The City of Roses boasts 630,000 residents. "From a business owner's point of view, people want to live here," says Vince LaVecchia, partner and COO of Instrument, a digital creative design agency that builds online platforms for companies. "People are attracted to the living environment: the food, the music, the ease of getting around, the bikeability."

The influx of talent has helped the region attract and retain industry giants such as computer chip maker Intel Corp., with facilities in Hillsboro; Nike Corp., headquartered in Beaverton; Daimler Trucks North America LLC and Precision Castparts Corp., both with plants in Portland; and Boeing Corp., with operations in Gresham.

The region is also fertile ground for a variety of fast-growing small companies. That point is evident when looking at the *Portland Business Journal's* list of the city's fastest-growing companies, based on revenue growth, 2013–2015. The list is led by custom manufacturer BasX Solutions, followed by the online marketing and data firm SqI West Inc. at No. 2. Other companies on the list include the online health-care-comparison shopping site Healthsparq.com and the beverage

producer Brew Dr. Kombucha.

Some of the reasons big businesses and startups are thriving in Portland include the region's quality of life, relatively low cost of living, large communities of crafts-



LEFT: AARON LEE PHOTOGRAPHY; BELOW: NOLAN CALISCH

Portland entrepreneur Ben Jacobsen, shown at his processing plant, produces various artisanal sea salts from Netarts Bay seawater.



people and easy access to the great outdoors (it's only about 80 miles to the Pacific Ocean and 55 miles to skiing on Mount Hood).

There are challenges to such impressive growth, including the city's tight real estate market. A report on downtown development by the Portland Business Alliance, Greater Portland's chamber of commerce, showed that housing vacancy rates are at record lows and the city is also in the midst of a construction boom, with office, housing and hotel projects underway.

Increasing real estate activity—both commercial and residential—has driven up prices. However, Vanessa Sturgeon, president and CEO of TMT Development, which recently finished leasing all of the commercial space in Portland's new Park Avenue West tower, says that is good because real estate prices in Portland were flat for much of the past two decades. "It's the first time in my lifetime that we've seen foreign and institutional investment in the city," Sturgeon says. "It shows that the economy is strong and stable."

COLLABORATIVE TECH SCENE

A major driver of the local economy is Portland's high-tech sector. Technology companies continue to locate in west Portland and the nearby suburbs of Beaverton and Hillsboro, an area that has earned the moniker the

"Silicon Forest." One reason for this growth is practical. While Portland's living costs are rising, they still remain cheaper than those of many other tech centers. According to the National Association of Realtors, the median sale price for a home in San Jose, California, topped \$900,000 this year. The Regional Multiple Listing Service reports that Portland's median home price in May was \$354,500.

Rick Turoczy, founder of the Portland tech blog Sili-conflorist.com, says there is a collaborative attitude in Portland's tech community that has helped it flourish. National companies are also being drawn to the area, bringing both talent and capital that will likely foster the next generation of entrepreneurs.

"Portland is a community driven by a culture of curiosity and craft," Turoczy says. "There seems to be a sense that the area will only succeed if we all succeed. And that when folks work together to build the best products they possibly can, they also manage to build pretty impressive companies, which become sustainable, responsible and collaborative businesses."

"Portland is a community driven by a culture of curiosity and craft. There seems to be a sense that the area will only succeed if we all succeed."

A COMMUNITY OF ENTREPRENEURS

A culture of curiosity and craft has helped spur many local entrepreneurs, including the legendary Phil Knight.

The co-founder of Nike has done much to create the local apparel industry. In many ways, Knight is the quintessential Oregon entrepreneur. In the 1960s, the former runner began building his empire by selling higher-quality running shoes out of, yes, the back of his car.

While Nike has become one of the most famous brands in the world, other firms, including Adidas and Columbia Sportswear, have also helped Portland build up a major talent base in the athletic and outdoor footwear, apparel and accessories market.

Tyler LaMotte, global vice president of brand marketing for the footwear company Keen, is an industry

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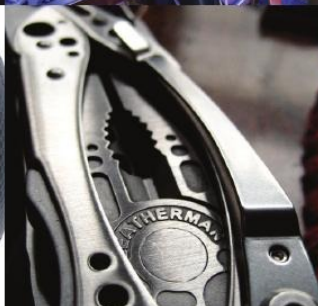
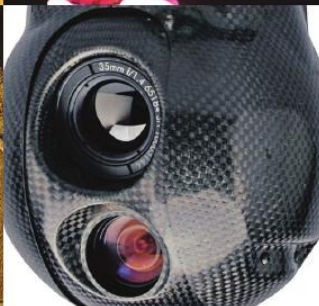
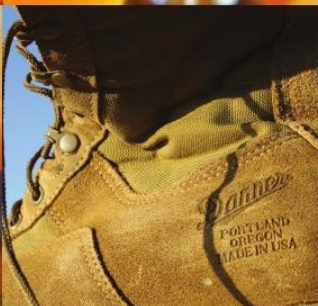
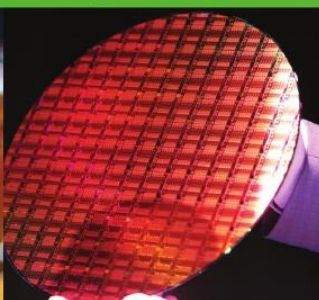
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"There's something really amazing about being right in the heart of Portland."

veteran who has worked at such companies as Salomon, Adidas and Patagonia before joining shoemaker Keen, which manufactures some of its footwear in the Rose City. "Portland residents work inside but aspire to be outside," says LaMotte. "This is such a great market for that because the outdoors are so accessible."

The entrepreneurial spirit is also on display in one of the area's hottest small-business sectors: food production. Whether it's Jacobsen Salt, Blue Star Donuts or Dave's Killer Bread, Portland has developed into one of the nation's top foodie cities, where trends begin and food companies get their start.

One example is Salt & Straw ice cream, co-founded by Portland native Kim Malek. A former employee at Adi-



LEELEA CYD ROSS (2)

das, Starbucks and Yahoo, Malek moved back to Portland and launched Salt & Straw with her cousin and chief ice cream maker, Tyler Malek, in 2011. They began selling the ice cream from a food cart, but today have four shops in Portland and four shops in the Los Angeles area. "People in Portland take you in and push you forward," says Kim Malek, CEO of the firm. "The city has a unique collaborative spirit—it's

Cousins Kim Malek (left) and Tyler Malek (above, middle) started Salt & Straw, an ice cream company with eight shops.

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- Affordable and locally sourced eats from a host of new restaurants (**try TASTES**).
- National businesses that have relocated operations to Vancouver's burgeoning Columbia Tech Center (**see NEW BIZ**).
- A growing downtown that looks to continue its expansion towards the Columbia River's edge (**explore WATERFRONT**).
- Pints of inventive new craft beers that continue to pour forth from a cadre of talented brew masters (**discover BREWCOUVER**).

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WHAT'S BUZZING

TASTES



Foodies take note: Vancouver has **more than 120 restaurants**. Chef Paul Klitsie relocated from Portland's Pearl District to open Willem's on Main.

NEW BIZ



Columbia Tech Center boasts **3.4 million sq.ft. of business space**, including the corporate headquarters of Banfield Pet Hospital and its 600 employees.

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almost like people are banding together to make this community and economy work at the grassroots level."

Marcus Hibdon, senior media relations and public relations manager at Travel Portland, says Salt & Straw is an example of the local entrepreneurial attitude of questioning how things are done, trying something new and going in a different direction. "Salt & Straw took something that's been around and has been done by lots of other companies and added a twist, a new level of culinary expertise," Hibdon says.

Craft beer is another sector that exemplifies the same creative attitude. The \$4.5 billion Oregon craft beer industry employs about 31,000 people statewide. Of Oregon's 246 brewing facilities, 96 are located in the Greater Portland area.

There are also 17 craft brewers to be found in nearby Vancouver, Washington. Thomas Poffenroth, co-owner of Loowit Brewing Company in Vancouver, says the breweries are part of a downtown revitalization movement, which includes new construction projects such as the \$1.5 billion development along the Columbia River that will contain office, commercial and residential space.

Despite all the growth the Greater Portland area has enjoyed in recent years, local business owners say the trendy city remains a community that offers fertile ground for entrepreneurs.

"There's something really amazing about being right in the heart of Portland," says Matthew Domingo, director of sales and marketing for Jacobsen Salt and its sister company, Bee Local. "It's just a fun place to work. The creative community is so vibrant." ▲

Gail O'Hara writes from Portland.

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Aloha shirts by Roberta Oaks feature playful designs.



VINTAGE *Tropical*

A LITTLE BIT RETRO, A LITTLE BIT BEACHY AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN,
HAWAII HAS A FASHION SENSIBILITY ALL ITS OWN

// BY KATHRYN DRURY WAGNER

Elvis has re-entered the building! Hawai'i is in the grips of a midcentury revival: The effervescent aesthetic of Waikiki in the 1950s and '60s is influencing fashion, creating a nostalgic yet forward-thinking vibe.

"There is a moment in time that has been somewhat preserved in Hawai'i," says Roberta Oaks, a well-known Honolulu designer who has a flagship boutique in Chinatown. "I'd call it 'Retro Tropical.' You see that general style in the bigger luxury fashion houses [in New York and Europe] right now. But in Honolulu, there's been a lot of buzz and energy with local brands appreciating the aesthetic of the place [the Islands]. It has its own identity. You can drive around a lot of places in Waikiki, such as the Royal Grove Hotel, where you can see the original structures and paint. It marks that moment when Waikiki was full of cut-and-sew shops and it was colorful and people were drinking mai tais."

Since launching her brand in 2004 with women's dresses, Oaks has found a steady stream of success, going on to collaborate with such brands as Urban Outfitters. She's always skewed to the 1960s, driving a vintage car and having a Mod sensibility, but this summer she took a more serious turn to the past with her collection Psychedelic Swell, in collaboration with Barrio Vintage, a Honolulu-based boutique. The line featured eye-popping, "over-stated" clothing that used fabrics from Barrio Vintage with Oaks' signature modern fit and detailing.

A love bead-heavy fashion show was held poolside at the Surfjack Hotel & Swim Club, a new boutique hotel that features a midcentury style, from the swirling wallpaper and rattan to the staff's aloha shirts designed by Oaks. For fall, she is teaming up with Honolulu retro artist

JOHN HOOK

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Nick Kuchar's brand, Everything is Jake, on some new fabric designs, which will be printed locally. She also has a few new women's designs coming out: playful pantsuits in denim and in linen stripes.

But as much fun as she has with her hip styles for women, men's shirts have become her runaway best-sellers.

"The younger professional guys really appreciate the fit, and the older guys appreciate that not every guy in the office is wearing the same shirt. They get kind of proprietary about where they shop."

Her shirt styles feature a sharp, modern cut and tropical, but not too wild, prints, such as a black-and-white fabric printed with a map of the Islands.

Oaks can't keep her line of aloha shirts in stock, she says. "We do a ton of online business. I shipped 15 shirts yesterday to Europe when the new men's collection came out. I have no idea how the news got to Europe so fast—social media, I guess."



Colorful, eye-catching designs suited for everyday wear are prevalent in Honolulu-based Roberta Oaks' clothing (above and top right).



THE RETURN OF THE ALOHA SHIRT

Dale Hope isn't surprised that the younger generation of men (and now, women) are embracing aloha shirts. As with everything in fashion, there's a cycle of rediscovery, he says.

"By the 1980s, the shirts had gotten to be enormously large and floppy and were popular with Middle America, and were being worn by the bigger guys with the white sneakers on. The younger guys stopped wanting to identify with that look," says Hope. "This killed the aloha shirt for quite a time, and that took a long time to work itself out."

O'ahu-based Hope is the author of *The Aloha Shirt: Spirit of the Islands* (Patagonia, 2016) and a respected expert on the subject of aloha wear.

He's spent a lifetime in the garment industry in Hawai'i, growing up in his parents' clothing business, HRH, then buying the Kahala Sportswear label and serving as its creative director.

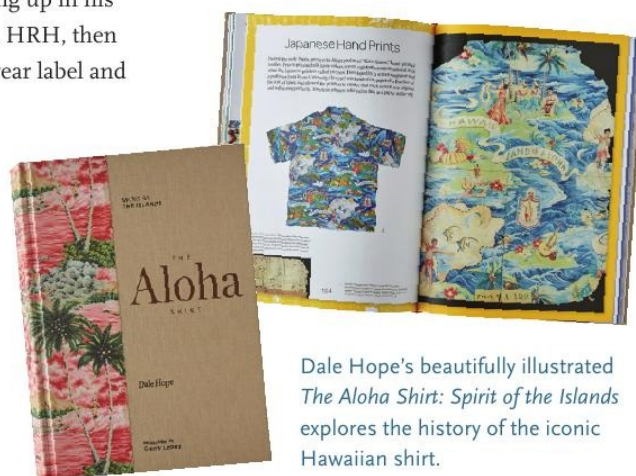
Today's men are looking for a slimmer fit, he says. "In New York recently, I saw so many [tailored] aloha shirts in windows, by makers I'd never heard of." Which is really saying something, because he knows many makers. He tells of inter-

acting with some young fashion bloggers in the Big Apple while promoting his book.

"A guy came up to me in a vintage aloha shirt from the '90s. I said I not only knew the name of the print but I knew the guy who made it. The young guys are super excited about the storytelling that is behind the prints on aloha shirts—the flora, the fish. It's really fun to see them into that."

The very first aloha shirts, Hope explains, were created in the 1930s in Honolulu. There was something in the air, a heady blend of hundreds of talented tailors making shirts in Chinatown, using beautiful printed Japanese fabrics, and school boys looking for garments to wear. They'd ask their parents' tailors to sew shirts for them out of the fabrics.

Things soon evolved. "Within a few



Dale Hope's beautifully illustrated *The Aloha Shirt: Spirit of the Islands* explores the history of the iconic Hawaiian shirt.



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A fabric worker moves printed textiles
through the rope washer, as shown in *The
Aloha Shirt: Spirit of the Islands*.

years, bright people got the Japanese
fabric makers to change Mount Fuji to
Diamond Head to cater to the tourists,"
says Hope.

Prints are integral to aloha wear, and
it's hard to beat the stunning examples
from the 1930s to the 1950s.

What makes the designs so iconic and
irreplaceable? Why do today's young men
discuss them on blogs such as the New
York-based "Scrimshaw Collective,"
writing from thousands of miles away
from Hawai'i?

"The artists were surrounded by
beauty," muses Hope. "There were no
iPads, no TVs, less buildings, less distrac-
tions. People had to use all their senses
to experience these beautiful islands.
They were hearing the surf, the birds.
They were smelling the flowers. The
artists doing those textile designs were
fine artists; they put together hand-
painted works of art. They flowed, they
had rhythm."

Early aloha shirts are important
enough in fashion history that they were
included in the recent exhibit "Reigning
Men: Fashion in Menswear 1715-2015,"
on display at the Los Angeles County
Museum of Art this past summer.

It featured two examples, dating back
to 1952, by Koichiro Miyamoto, known as
Musa-Shiya the Shirtmaker, who worked
in Honolulu.

Jason Zambuto, vice president of

retail for Kahala Sportswear, couldn't be happier aloha shirts have been rediscovered by the fashion-forward set.

"Aloha shirts have always been cool; people are just coming back around to it. What we're seeing is the fit is different. Our regular fit is now more of a trimmer fit, not muscles bulging out, but a shirt that is more appropriate tucked in for work with a belt, or worn out, for casual wear," he says.

Kahala has been making and selling aloha shirts since the clothing brand was launched by two surfers in 1936, and just opened a new flagship store in Waikiki. The company's best-seller is its quintessential Duke shirt, which is named for surf legend Duke Kahanamoku and features a print of large flowers.

"Aloha shirts are an outward expression of your personality, of how you feel," Zambuto says. "One day it might be a fish print; another day it might be a phoenix. It's an expression of your emo-



Kahala's latest World Crew pattern, in a trim, modern cut.

tion. Your heart is on your sleeve. That is the psychology behind it."

To create the Kahala prints, the company uses both archival prints from its history, such as a pattern originally created in the 1940s for the Outrigger Canoe Club that features large cocktails, and brand-new concepts, such as World Crew, which came out in September.

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THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO HAWAII FASHION MONTH

"Fall is a great time for visitors to experience and shop local fashion," says Melissa May White, a founder of the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator.

HIFI, which this year celebrates its 10th anniversary, is a network of more than 5,000 fashion professionals and enthusiasts in Hawai'i and throughout the world. The group builds community and provides resources to the state's fashion industry via a variety of initiatives, such as November's **Hawai'i Fashion Month**.

"It includes events throughout the state, from fashion shows and exhibits to marketplaces of local designers," says White. "Come out to meet and buy from local designers, see and be seen, and rub elbows with celebrities, from Hawai'i's own *Project Runway* alums to international fashion luminaries."

One highlight is Honolulu Fashion Week (Nov. 10–13), which spotlights international and local design talent. This year the week will include collaborative and individual runway shows, VIP events, exclusive merchandise, pop-up boutiques with emerging local talent, and other fashion happenings (honolulu.fashionweek.com).

Events from last year's series included fashion heavyweights Fern Mallis and Harold Koda sitting runway-side at Honolulu Fashion Week, helping to secure Hawai'i's place on the fashion map, and the Royal Hawaiian Center's "still life" fashion show featuring live models atop blocks, holding swaying giant balloons.

What does one wear to a fashion-month event in the Islands? "You can't go wrong with a nod to Hawai'i's iconic aloha prints," advises White. "We are not afraid of color!"

To find out more about what's happening this year, check the Hawai'i Fashion Month Facebook fan page or visit hawaii.fashionmonth.com.

—K.D.W.

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DRESSING UP

Of course, Hawai'i has more to offer than casual styles. Pineapple Palaka, for example, is a line of custom-woven ties with subtle island patterns such as 'ulu (breadfruit) and honu (turtle).

"From a distance, it looks like a regular print, and as you get closer, you realize the pattern is a nod to island life, such as our new 'ahi [tuna] design," says Jonathan Fong, who co-founded the brand with Rick Abelman.



The traditional palaka pattern is used in a luxurious tie.

"I'm Native Hawaiian and have the Hawaiian culture within me," says Fong.

He attended college and worked on the mainland in the pharmaceutical field. He wore a tie every day, but "felt I couldn't showcase my Island pride." The ties made in Hawai'i were too bright and not to his taste. When he moved back to the Islands, he and Abelman decided to form a company, focused on fine, luxurious neckties.

Palaka, a woven checkered cloth (originally blue and white) that has been worn for centuries on Hawaiian shores, is incorporated into each tie. "Palaka is Hawai'i's historical fabric," says Fong. "A lot of people make a whole shirt out of it. We wanted it



Pineapple Palaka's trendsetting ties incorporate the aloha spirit through subtle patterns such as turtle (above) and 'ahi (inset).



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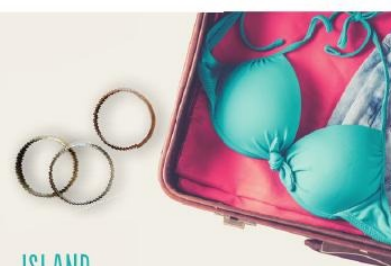
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ISLAND ESSENTIALS

With Hawai'i's balmy climate—the temperature averages 78 degrees in the winter and 85 in the summer—you don't need to pack too much for a trip to the Islands.

But what are the must-haves? Local stylist and fashion blogger Crystal Pancipanci suggests the following:

- ▶ A waterproof zip-top clutch, which can go from the beach to cocktails.
- ▶ A great pair of sunglasses.
- ▶ A swimsuit—or three. Shop from iconic local brands, such as Malia Jones, Issa de' mar and Letarte.
- ▶ Beach cover-ups; try a maxi dress or a wrapable pareo sarong.
- ▶ A nice pair of shorts as an alternative to jeans on a hot day.
- ▶ A pair of flats and a pair of slippahs (called flip-flops on the mainland).



- ▶ A hat—either a fedora or a trucker hat style.
- ▶ Beachy jewelry. Accessorize. It's easy, and you can go into the water with it. Bangles and layered necklaces for everyday glamour.
- ▶ Lip balm and sunscreen.

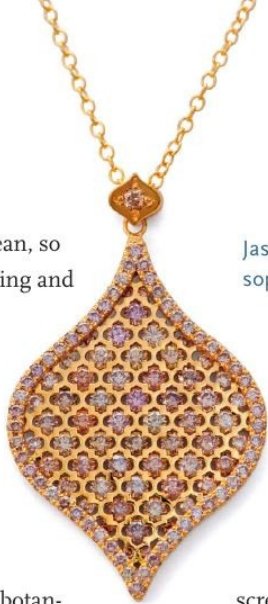
"Now you're ready for your selfie," says Pancipanci. —K.D.W.



to be modern, sleek and clean, so it's on the back, on the tipping and the tie loop."

Pineapple Palaka is a fairly new brand, launched at the end of 2014, but has already been picked up by Nordstrom and shops at high-end resorts. For fall, look for the new Hawaiian botanical prints, including *ōhi'a lehua* flowers, *pikake* flowers and some namesake-inspired pineapple variations.

Another accessories designer, award-winning goldsmith Jason Dow, is a fine-jewelry designer on O'ahu. Working out of his Honolulu studio, Dow creates wearable masterpieces with gold and platinum, using ethically sourced materials and conflict-free gemstones, he says.



Jason Dow's Jali jewelry features sophisticated gold latticework.

His jewelry showcases intricate motifs of Eastern art and religion, such as window screens or mandalas.

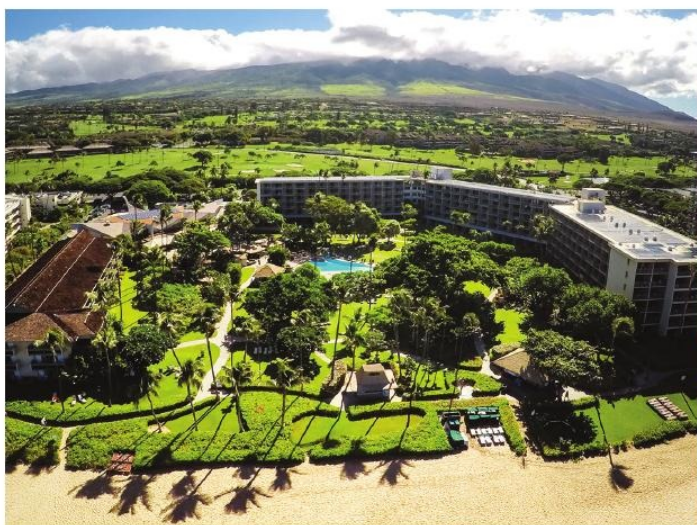
The best-seller? "The Jali line. It looks like the window screens and fretwork in Indian and Asian artwork, the latticework. I find this creates a lot of open space and fits my theme of being meditative and balanced," he explains. "In Hawai'i, we're surrounded by so much beauty and so many cultures. It's so many people coming together. That is what comes into play in my designs."

There are many noteworthy Island-based jewelry companies. On the Island of Hawai'i, in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii Titanium

Rings creates custom titanium rings for men and women, often incorporating local elements such as native koa wood.

ALOHA STYLE "EXPRESSES A
PERSONALITY, A MOOD AND AN EMOTION,"
SAYS JASON ZAMBUTO.

Na Hoku is the oldest and largest jewelry manufacturer in the state of Hawai'i, having operated in Honolulu since 1924. Na Hoku's jewelry features Islands-inspired designs, such as plumeria pendants with pavé diamonds.



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WHERE TO SHOP

"Hawai'i is a place of fantasy," observes Crystal Pancipanci, a stylist, fashion expert and author of the blog "The Big Pineapple Diaries." "The weather doesn't change that much, and everyone's last experience becomes their memory. Whether they visited in the 1950s, or got married here, or brought their kids last summer, there is a sense of timelessness," she says.

So where does this influential stylist like to shop? On O'ahu, Pancipanci visits Chinatown for local boutiques, where the scene includes not only Roberta Oaks but Fighting Eel, Gingerr3 and many others. Ala Moana Center, the world's largest open-air shopping center, is a must-stop.

"I live there," Pancipanci jokes, and she gives an insider's tip: The Nordstrom women's area has a Trends section dedicated to local Hawai'i designers, perfect for snapping up special finds.

On Maui, she recommends Pā'ia, which is a great "local boutique shopping experience. I love exploring the charming town, going to each store to find locally owned and designed goodies at Sassabella Boutique and Tamara Catz."

And remember, you can keep wearing Retro Tropical styles long after your vacation ends. As Zambuto notes, this style "expresses a personality, a mode and an emotion." He says: "The idea of a relaxed lifestyle is something we love to see around the world. It's someone saying, 'I have aloha in my heart and I'm going to wear this, wherever I am.'" ▲

Kathryn Drury Wagner is a writer based in Los Angeles who frequently travels to and shops in Hawai'i.

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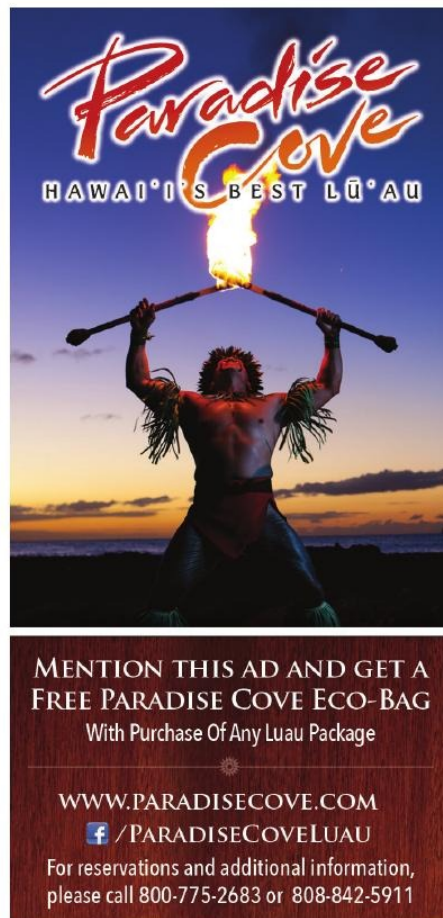
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Home Design Trends

Today's home styles call for informal floor plans **BY RENEE BRINCKS**



When Sascha and Denise drew up renovation plans for their 1960s home near San Jose, California, they traded a maze of small rooms for an open-concept floor plan. Builders replaced several main-floor walls with steel structural supports, making space for a 14-foot-long kitchen island. The open room runs from the kitchen—which is divided from an airy living room by a breakfast bar—to a children's play area. A desk tucked under a stairway fits beside the breakfast bar, accommodating family members as they finish homework, pay bills or catch up on emails. Glass doors near the end of the kitchen island fold back, connecting the kitchen with an outdoor dining area.

Sascha appreciates how the home's design maximizes space and makes it easy for his

The floor plan developed for Sascha and Denise's San Jose home includes an open dining room, a large kitchen island, a breakfast bar and glass doors that fold back to offer easy access to an outside dining area.



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family to spend time together. “You always know where everyone is, but it’s big and open enough that you still have your own space,” he says. “We didn’t want compartmentalized rooms or a formal dining area. That would just feel like wasted space.”

DEMAND FOR OPEN SPACES

Many homes designed by Cast Architecture, the Seattle firm that worked on Sascha and Denise’s home, receive the open-concept treatment. The demand for less-formal spaces dovetails with a trend toward making kitchens the center of household activity, explains firm principal Matt Hutchins. “Cooking is no longer an isolated activity. Today, it’s a social act, and everybody participates,” he says. “That also means kitchens are evolving to include fluid spaces for entertaining and interacting.”

Sascha and Denise’s open room is an example of one of today’s top trends in home design. Earlier this year, The American Institute of Architects (AIA) surveyed their members who predicted that in the next decade, technology will increasingly influence how homes operate, but functionality will still shape major design decisions. “We didn’t hear about robots or futuristic *Jetsons*-style innovations,” says Kermit Baker, chief economist for the AIA. “Instead, professionals anticipate design that’s driven by socioeconomic and demographic trends, such as an aging population and a decreased interest in formality.”

The trends include a continued larger role for the kitchen. Rather than tucking appliances away in closed-off quarters, architects are designing airy arrangements in which kitchens connect with versatile dining and living spaces.

URBAN SMALL SPACES

Another popular trend among homeowners is creating detached accessory dwelling units, also known as backyard

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Recent home design trends include urban condominium buildings that feature large community spaces with open floor plans, and condos that offer

amenities and style in less space. Another trend is single-family homes that focus on connecting a property's indoor and outdoor elements.



Nexus building, Seattle.



Rowan building, San Francisco.

cottages or in-law units. Such a structure condenses the features of a traditional home into 500 to 800 square feet, and can be used as a vacation rental, a studio apartment or a living space for family members.

In some places, even smaller homes are popular. Take Portland's Simply Home Community, where neighbors reside in a cluster of cabins, each of which has less than 160 square feet of interior space. The residents of the community share a garden, divide chores among members and dine together in an adjacent main house.

While San Francisco's urban core lacks the space for such home structures, developers are applying small-space thinking to new multifamily construction. The San Francisco design firm Trumark Urban is completing the Rowan building, a 70-unit newcomer to the Mission District that is slated to open later this year. The project incorporates what Managing Director Arden Hearing calls an "affordability through design" approach. One-, two- and three-bedroom condos at Rowan range from 650 to 1,270 square feet in size.

LUXURY REBOUNDS

However, not all residents are embracing the small-space trend. At The Pacific, Trumark Urban's new luxury development in

San Francisco's Pacific Heights, penthouses can be as large as 4,000 square feet. The Landmark, an East West Partners community in Denver, offers a 3,377-square-foot penthouse, as well as large two- and even three-bedroom condos. Bosa Development's Pacific Gate building, in downtown San Diego, will offer residences up to 2,608 feet in size, complete with upscale interior finishes, concierge services and a private boat-share program for residents.

Demand for larger luxury spaces is also increasing among some single-family homeowners. "Big homes are coming back faster than folks might have anticipated," says AIA's Baker. "At the upper end, that means bigger, more expensive homes with more features."

Those features often include home automation tools and energy-efficient elements, such as solar panels and water reclamation systems. AIA members see more requests for residential charging stations for electric vehicles, and strong demand for indoor-outdoor living spaces, which is part of the general trend toward informal, open living spaces, Baker says.

At KaMilo, a private community in the Mauna Lani Resort, on Hawai'i Island, the open-space trend helps homeowners capitalize on the climate and setting, complete



KaMilo, Hawai'i Island.



CONTAINER HOMES

As the tiny-home trend takes off, various firms across the globe are turning to the ubiquitous shipping container as the building block of choice for creating small and relatively inexpensive houses.

The Boulder, Colorado-based Rhino Cubed, shown above, uses containers that are available in four sizes between 20 and 40 feet long (all containers are 8 feet wide). The baseline "NakedTainer" starts at \$33,600 and includes insulation, finished floors and walls, roof trim, double-paned windows and a metal front door. Clients then customize the interior to their liking.

For a more spacious home, various firms, including San Jose-based Modulus, design stylish abodes made of multiple containers. The metal building blocks have also been used to create retail spaces, drive-through coffee stands and other business structures. —R.B.



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with golf-course views and vistas that include distant island mountains. "Our most popular plans have rooms that easily flow from one into another, with large, open spaces connecting indoor and outdoor elements," says Egen Moe, vice president of sales and marketing for Brookfield Residential, the builder for KaMilo's new home community.

Similar open-space designs are found at the Toscana Country Club in Indian Wells, California, where large windows flood interior spaces with natural light, and the floor plans give the homes a modern, welcoming feel.

Indoor-outdoor components are also an important aspect of Seattle's Nexus, a 41-story condominium tower scheduled for completion in 2019. Rather than reserving the top floor for penthouse owners, developers are creating the rooftop-level Sky Club, with an exhibition kitchen and shared social spaces overlooking downtown Seattle. Residents will also have access to a fitness center, a media room, a pet lounge and co-working venues, along with a spacious room available for group events.

Dean Jones of Realogics Sotheby's International Realty, the team handling sales and marketing for the Nexus project, says designers will continue to explore new lifestyle-oriented common spaces, such as exhibition kitchens and private dining rooms. "You don't need to buy a second bedroom if you're not using it all year long. Buildings can respond to consumers' lifestyle demands by providing shared alternatives to those single-use attributes," Jones says.

The Nexus high-rise will go high-tech, he adds, with a custom smartphone app that makes it simple for residents to reserve those shared spaces.

"We're taking that idea of 'living in the cloud' and giving it new meaning," Jones says. ▲

Renee Brincks writes from San Francisco.



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Fall Garden Checklist

As temperatures drop, it's time to plant cool crops and prepare for the next season **BY DEBRA PRINZING**



You may think turning the calendar page to October means finally putting away the lawn mower or taking a break from backyard chores. And while those are certainly well-earned options, horticulture experts and landscapers alike say fall is the best gardening season.

"Fall is the perfect time to make a good assessment of what you had successes and failures with earlier in the year," says Christina Salwitz, a Seattle-area landscape designer and the co-author of the forthcoming *Gardening with Foliage First* (Timber Press). "The best benefit is that fall planting gives those new plants a chance to establish and begin rooting as the rains come," she says.

Elizabeth Lowry Burton, of Santa Cruz, California-based Elizabeth Burton Landscape Design, echoes these thoughts. "Fall is definitely my favorite planting time," she says, and recommends planting "when you're heading into cooler temperatures and a rain cycle."

Of course, garden environments vary widely by region. Your planting and design choices will be dictated by soil type, first/last frost date, sun exposure and average rainfall. Your garden may have microclimates (pockets that may be cooler or warmer than average), and a USDA Cooperative Extension Service County Office can offer tips about the geographical character of the area where you live and garden. The more you recognize the profile of how "place" defines your garden, the more successful you'll be diving into a fall project. Make the most of the season and follow this fall garden checklist:

1. Plant trees, shrubs and perennials:

Determine your garden's USDA Hardiness Zone to aid in plant selection. Enter your ZIP code at planthardiness.ars.usda.gov to find the zone; plant tags typically list appropriate zones. It's a good idea to assess the soil type you have, such as sandy, clay or a combination. Most garden centers sell inexpensive soil tests to help you do this.

"Always choose plants that fit your site, and the light, soil type, drainage and access to water it has," recommends Stacie Crooks of Edmonds, Washington-based Crooks Garden Design. "And be sure to read the plant tag—if it says a shrub will get 6 feet tall and wide, believe it."

When the soil is still warm and the air is cool, new plants will better adapt, says San Diego-based gardening expert Nan Stermann, host of the PBS show *A Growing Passion*. Dig the planting hole no more than 1 inch deeper and about 1.5 times wider than the root ball of the tree, shrub or perennial, she suggests.

"Before planting, I water the root ball thoroughly so it's wet. Then I dig the hole, fill it

with water and wait for the water to drain out. The goal is to place a wet root ball into wet soil so the roots stay moist," she explains.

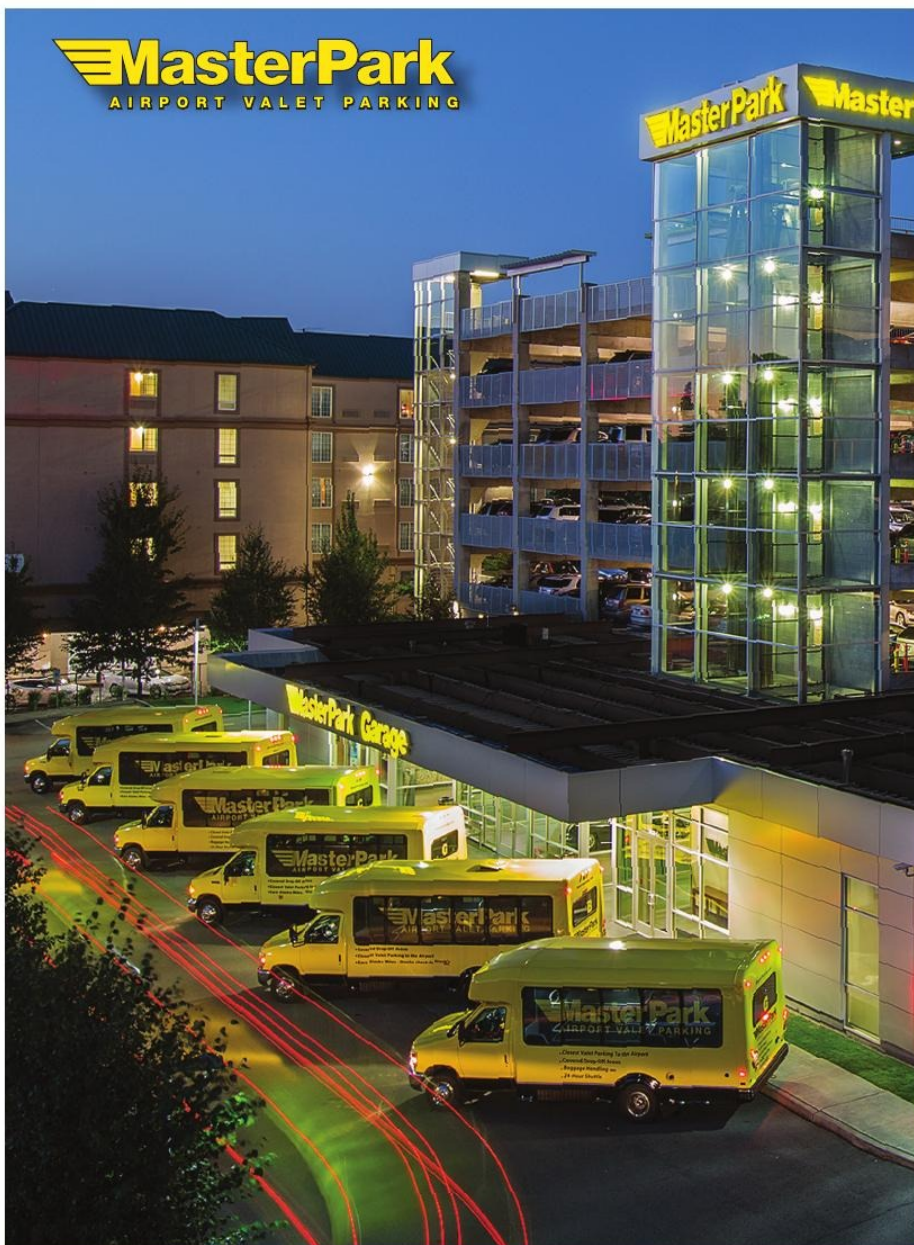
Stermann doesn't fertilize the planting hole, but she does toss in a "couple handfuls" of worm castings to add beneficial microbes that enhance root growth.

2. Choose evergreen foliage for seasonal interest:

Deciduous plants drop their leaves as temperatures move from fall into winter, but many plants keep their leaves, such as broadleaf and needled evergreens that Karen Chapman—co-author with Salwitz of *Gardening with Foliage First*—believes offer as much pizzazz in the garden as flowers. "You can combine cold-hardy conifers in shades of blue, gold and green with broadleaf evergreen shrubs and evergreen perennials for a tapestry that adds color to your garden through winter," she says.

"Look for variegated foliage that continues to change color as temperatures dip. Good options include green-and-creamy-white variegated rainbow drooping fetherbush [*Leucothoe fontanesiana* 'Rainbow'] or 'Little Heath' andromeda [*Pieris japonica* 'Little Heath']. Even the evergreen succulent Angelina stonecrop [*Sedum rupestre* 'Angelina'] morphs from vivid chartreuse to orange as the season changes," says Chapman.

A rich blend of colors and textures compose a lovely fall garden designed by John Albers, the creator of Albers Vista Gardens.



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DAVID FENTON, HARVEST / TEN SPEED PRESS

Stefani Bittner's midseason winter salad is full of fresh, cool-season greens.

3. Reduce or remove conventional turfgrass: Water-conservation concerns across the country are prompting many homeowners to decrease the emerald-green carpet in their yard. Those who wish to reduce their water-guzzling lawns don't always know how to go about it, which is where a savvy designer can suggest options.

Burton has converted many Central California lawns to meadows that combine drought-tolerant native grasses, wildflowers and spring bulbs. She recommends low-water ground covers such as silver carpet (*Dymondia margaretae*), a perennial whose gray-green leaves are silvery underneath.

A relatively new turf alternative is called Kurapia (*Lippia nodiflora*), which has finely textured rich-green leaves and a star-shaped lavender flower. "Kurapia is available in sod form so you can just roll it out like a lawn, but it uses half the amount of water a traditional lawn may use and lies flat so you don't have to mow it," Burton says.

4. Grow winter edibles: As summer food crops wind down, add cool-season edibles to extend fresh-from-the-garden choices. Stefani Bittner, co-owner of Homestead Design Collective and author of the anticipated *Harvest* (Ten Speed Press), works throughout the San Francisco Bay Area to help clients create edible landscapes.

"In the Western states, fall is a time of enormous bounty. Your garden is producing, and yet it's also a time of planning for the next year," Bittner says. "For example, as the Genovese basil finishes, I'm popping salad greens such as mizuna, amaranth and arugula into my garden."



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Fall is the best time to plant tulip bulbs for bright spring color.

While fall is time to harvest many herbs (see next item), you can also enjoy plantings of late-season herb varieties such as dwarf creeping winter savory (*Satureja montana illyrica*), which Bittner says is the basis for all her herb blends. "It's incredibly beautiful; it blooms in September and October, whereas most of the other herbs have done their big shows by then."

5. Preserve the bounty: Harvesting perennial plants in the fall is a timely practice similar to cutting back overgrowth. After the harvest, annual plants will likely die to the ground at the end of the gardening season (especially where winter frosts occur) or need to be cut back to at least half their size to stimulate new growth (in warmer climates).

Thanks to farmers markets and u-pick farms, even nongardeners can preserve the harvest, says Los Angeles-based food-preserving expert Theresa Loe, of livinghomegrown.com. Loe suggests two low-tech food-preserving projects: drying and freezing.

Drying works well for herbs: When you harvest herbs in the fall, bunch the stems with rubber bands and hang them stem-up/leaf-tip down. "Dry until they feel like corn flakes to the touch and then strip leaves off the stems and store the leaves in a jar or airtight container," Loe says. This practice works with oregano, savory, sage, rosemary and thyme. Dried herbs are best used for up to six months; after that, it's time to plant fresh herbs.

Loe uses freezing techniques for vegetables such as broccoli and mustard greens. The vegetables should be washed and cut, then blanched in boiling water for only three minutes (times vary for other vegetables). Then, place immediately in ice water to



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stop the cooking process. Once cool, drain the vegetables, pat them dry and seal them in a ziplock bag before placing in the freezer.

"Six months is the optimal time for frozen vegetables," Loe says. There are many other preserving techniques, such as canning and dehydration. She gives tutorials on these methods on her website.

6. Plant for springtime bulb displays:

Spring flowers bring big color, which is exciting at winter's end. To ensure a burst of crimson tulips or lemon-hued daffodils in March or April, fall is the time to plant. "Spring-blooming bulbs need a long period of cold temperature to trigger the biochemical process that initiates flowering in the spring," advises third-generation bulb wholesaler Tim Schipper of Connecticut-based colorblends.com. You can plant bulbs once nighttime temperatures stay below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, he says. "Plant bulbs one or several per hole. Even easier, dig out a broad area and plant lots of bulbs at once," Schipper suggests.

If you have problems with critters, forget tulips, and instead choose an array of daffodils, which taste terrible to deer, squirrels and rodents. Container gardeners usually don't have deer worries; thus, wider bulb choices: "You can plant fragrant flowers such as hyacinths and double daffodils by entries and walkways," Schipper says. "In spring, there's something different in bloom every week—from snowdrops to crocuses, grape hyacinths, irises, Spanish bluebells, alliums and more."

7. Tend to flowerpots and containers:

The containers you have clustered on the deck may be labeled "frost-proof," but there are steps you can take to ensure the plants inside those pots survive lower temperatures. Tina Dixon, owner of Plants a la Cart in Snohomish, Washington, recommends bringing containers 20 inches in diameter or less into a greenhouse or garage in the winter. A windowsill is especially useful for placing potted evergreens. Indoor containers do require occasional watering (check soil, and water when top feels dry).

Pots more than 20 inches in diameter with good drainage holes can live outdoors through winter. "In fall, I remove summer annuals and any plant that won't look good or survive the cold. Then I add texturally interesting plants, or varieties with berries or unusual bark," Dixon says. She recommends selecting container plants that are hardy to 10 degrees lower than your zone.

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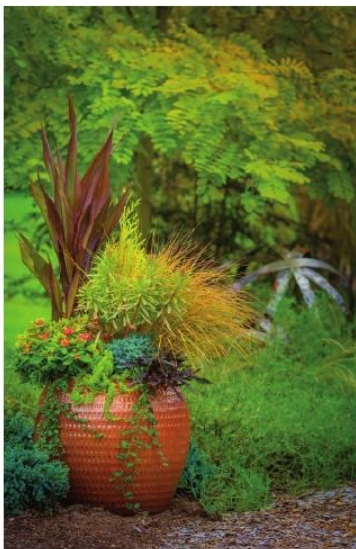
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DAVID E. PERRY

Structural plants and seasonal color add pizzazz to Karen Chapman's container gardens.

To jazz up pots without taking up root space, Dixon places clusters of cut branches in the soil—she likes contorted filbert, curly willow or red-twig dogwood. “I’ve even been known to paint dead branches, which allows me to decorate them for fall and winter holidays. This gives an eye-catching wow when everything else looks dreary,” she says.

8. Spread compost and mulch:

Many experts say “mulch” the garden. Not only does mulch give a finished appearance, it also protects roots from weather extremes.

Some material has ornamental value, such as traditional landscaping bark. Other options come straight out of the garden: Shredded leaves, for example, add a protective cover around the exposed base of trees and shrubs. Most landscape suppliers can help you calculate the amount of compost and mulch your garden needs.

To make the most of fall and cooler months to come, Burton encourages you to take time and observe the landscape. “Think about how you want to enjoy and use your garden—good design responds to what the site is calling out for.”

Bittner believes gardens should enrich our bodies and souls. “Think about the time, money and resources you pour into a yard. Look at your garden with a new lens and see the ‘harvestability’ it provides. Your garden should give back to you—even if it’s one simple branch or a bloom you can bring indoors.” ▲

Debra Prinzing is a Seattle-based writer and creative director of Slow Flowers.

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Today's vibrant commercial campuses are changing urban landscapes

BY MATT VILLANO

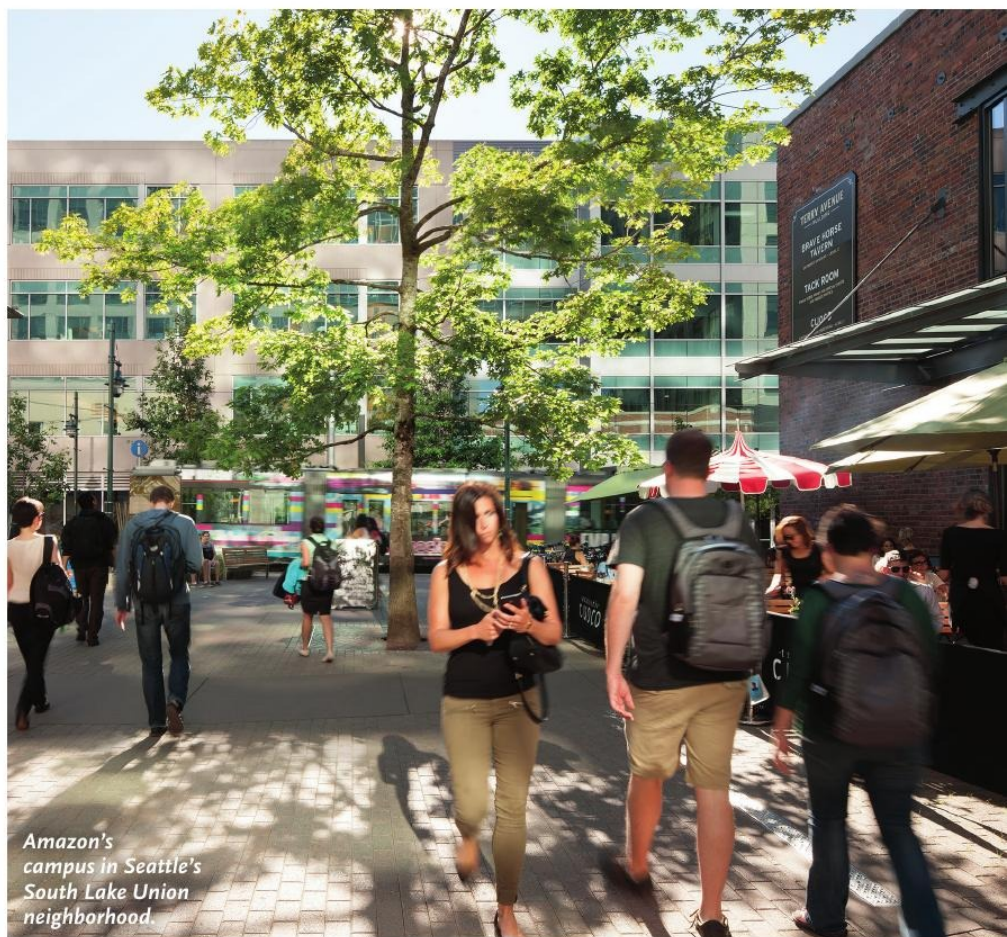


Seattle's South Lake Union and nearby neighborhoods look a lot different today than they did 10 years ago.

Back then, traffic in this section of the city was scant, and parking was abundant. While glimmering new buildings were rising elsewhere, this area remained relatively quiet—populated by small industrial companies, car-rental agencies and motels.

Today, the region is one of the hottest patches of real estate in town. Amazon is in the process of expanding south of Lake Union in the Denny Triangle. When finished, the company will have more than 10 million square feet of office space in Seattle. Meanwhile, Microsoft has built close to the lake, and other technology and health-sciences companies are also developing nearby. Even the University of Washington is getting into the mix with new buildings for its School of Medicine.

Development in the South Lake Union area is emblematic of a larger trend. Across the country, a boom in commercial cam-



Amazon's campus in Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood

puses is changing landscapes in cities such as Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. Considering that many of these projects include office buildings, restaurants, parks and other public-facing amenities, this change isn't only for workers; it's for everyone in each of the respective locations.

"For employees and laypeople, these campuses blur the lines between public and private space, creating an intermixing that is a necessary ingredient for innovation," says Peter Orser, director of the Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies at the University of Washington.

BIG AMBITIONS

Amazon's construction near Lake Union represents one of the biggest urban developments in Seattle's history. By the time Amazon's campus is completed—about 2021—Amazon will have room for 55,000 employees, according to multiple reports. That's a big number in a city with a popula-

INNOVATION STATIONS

According to experts at the Brookings Institution, commercial campuses can be called "innovation districts" and almost always adhere to one of three models.

■ **Anchor Plus.** Campuses primarily found in city downtowns and midtowns. They include large-scale mixed-use development built around a major anchor institution and related entities. The report includes Kendall Square in Massachusetts as an example.

■ **Reimagined Urban Areas.** Campuses found near industrial or warehouse districts experiencing a revival due to public-transit access or proximity to downtown. Examples in the report are Boston's New Waterfront and Seattle's South Lake Union area.

■ **Urbanized Science Park.** Campuses that are urbanizing traditionally isolated suburban and exurban areas. The report names North Carolina's Research Triangle Park as an example.
For more: brookings.edu/essay/rise-of-innovation-districts. —M.V.



COURTESY: PLAYA VISTA

On-site concerts add a neighborhood vibe to the Playa Vista campus on the west side of Los Angeles.

tion of approximately 686,800.

"It's a whole-scale transformation integrated within the urban fabric," says Lori Mason Curran, real estate investment strategy director for Vulcan, which was founded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen and has developed much of the South Lake Union area. "It's really only just begun."

Elsewhere in Western Washington, Expedia is finalizing plans to renovate and expand a former Amgen campus, a 40-acre parcel on the shores of Elliott Bay for which the travel company paid nearly \$229 million last year.

South of Seattle in Renton, the real estate firm Seco Development is creating Southport on 17 acres of waterfront property. And near CenturyLink Field at the southern end of downtown Seattle, the commercial real estate company Urban Visions is ready to break ground on a project called S, a 7-acre, six-building site that can accommodate up to 1.2 million square feet of office space (depending on the tenants).

Greg Smith, who is in charge of S, says he hopes the development redefines Seattle as a whole. "If you're coming up from [Seattle-Tacoma International Airport], our campus is at the front door of the city," says Smith, Urban Visions' president and CEO. "That's a great opportunity to have these buildings make a bold statement about what Seattle is all about."

Commercial campuses are also popular outside of the Emerald City. North Carolina's Research Triangle Park in the Raleigh-Durham region has been among the particularly acclaimed projects. In November 2012, management unveiled a 50-year master plan that called for more buildings and amenities, the creation of a vibrant central district, the addition of up to 1,400 multifamily housing units, and retail space.

In California, two projects have grabbed many of

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the headlines in recent years. One is the Mission Bay, an innovation district in San Francisco that has become a hub for the biotech and life-sciences industries. The Mission Bay includes the University of California–San Francisco's expanded research campus and medical center, the Alexandria Center for Science and Technology, and a more than 1 million-square-foot campus that is home to top science and technology companies, a public library and residences.

The other is the Playa Vista development, which comprises more than 300 acres on the west side of LA. Playa Vista is a mixed-use project on the former site of the Hughes Aircraft Company, and the campus sports more than 2.5 million square feet of office space that has been

COMMON THEMES

Shoebox-style offices are out; open floor plans that inspire collaboration are in. That's the viewpoint from those behind some of the biggest and boldest commercial campuses today.

While each individual building has its own unique design traits, a basic survey of real estate experts indicates that many structures possess similarities in their approaches to workplace design. Among those similarities: newsroom-style footprints, high ceilings, natural light, and spaces to facilitate interactions among employees.

An example is S, the 7-acre project set to break ground in Seattle near CenturyLink Field. Greg Smith, president and CEO of Urban Visions, says in blueprinting the buildings for this project, his company hired a scientist to consult on what sort of floor plans and overall building design would be most conducive to creative thought and employee wellness.

"Windows, water features, open-air decks and balconies, and layouts that force employees to get up and move: These all are the wave of the future," says Smith. "There was a time when we didn't think about any of this stuff. Now we know enough to know it can make a huge difference." —M.V.

rented by Facebook, Microsoft and Electronic Arts, just to name a few.

The list of tenants has prompted many to refer to the development as "Silicon Beach." However, Adrian Foley, chief operating officer of project developer Brookfield Residential, says this nickname tells only part of the story.

"Our office space is desirable, but Playa Vista is so much more," he says, referring to the extensive retail and residential sections. "West LA is a difficult place to get around, so once you get to a location, you want to be able to park and do your business, then walk around and enjoy the place as opposed to getting in your car and driving somewhere."

AMENITIES AROUND

Dennis, who has lived in the heart of Playa Vista since 2008, takes advantage of the convenience. He and his wife walk with their baby around on-site parks, eat at on-site restaurants, shop at the grocery store and exercise at the fitness center. This summer, they attended free movie nights and free concerts. Every spring, they contribute to a silent auction that benefits the Playa Vista Elementary School.

"Everything we could possibly need is right here," says Dennis, a 38-year-old real estate agent. "Our favorite weekends are ones when we never have to leave."

Many other U.S. projects include similar features that give the campuses a neighborhood feel to help people manage their busy schedules. Curran, with Vulcan, says such amenities are critical in an urban setting. "You need to have a holistic community approach and think about what you can do to make it an attractive place, not just for the people working there but also everybody else."

The Doppler building, which opened on Seattle's new Amazon campus in December 2015, has one of the most scenic dog playgrounds in the area, an outside space on the 17th floor complete

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with fake fire hydrants and a view of skyscrapers. The new Expedia complex is expected to have a backyard lawn where employees can relax and enjoy an array of outdoor events.

A handful of commercial campuses also have or will have tourism draws that provide vibrancy. For instance, when Southport opens south of Seattle in June 2017, the project's 12-story, 347-room Hyatt Regency Lake Washington will be a premier hotel located on the shores of Lake Washington and close to Sea-Tac Airport. Amazon's campus will include glass biosphere domes that will house more than 300 plants from 30 countries.

San Francisco's Mission Bay will eventually grow to include a new arena for the NBA's Golden State Warriors, as well as a new headquarters for Uber.

"When building these projects, diversity is the name of the game," says Stephen Richardson, chief operating officer of Alexandria Real Estate Equities, which has developed and continues to develop in the Mission Bay. "The goal is to make a campus a 24/7 destination."

POTENTIAL PITFALLS

Despite many promising benefits, commercial-campus developments include some amount of inherent risk. Orser, the real estate expert from the University of Washington, cautions that when companies invest in a campus, they may be locked into a long-term commitment they ultimately can't maintain.

"It's a huge management responsibility," says Orser. "Some companies aren't prepared to take that on."

Other experts warn of overdevelopment—that point when supply exceeds demand. Still, so far, in places such as South Lake Union, business is booming. To paraphrase Shoeless Joe Jackson from the 1989 movie *Field of Dreams*, if you build responsibly, they will come. ▲

Matt Villano writes from California.

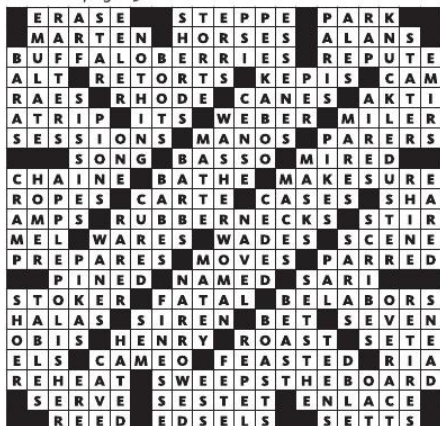


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Puzzles on page 188.

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Difficulty: Medium

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Late-summer dawn was just breaking as my friend and pilot Sam Maxwell taxied his Super Cub on Lake Hood, Anchorage's busiest floatplane base. The lights of the nearby hangars reflected off the dark-black water and gave us a reference for navigating. Our plan was to take off in the near dark, head north and meet up in the air with Bill Kramer, the owner of a Cessna 185 floatplane that would serve as our photo shoot's "model." We aimed to take air-to-air images of Bill's plane in front of Denali (also known as Mount McKinley).

As a professional photographer and stock agency owner, I wanted to create images I could sell to magazines and companies. Securing adventure photos of a floatplane flying with Denali in the background seemed like a good investment.

For the best images, I wanted the very early, warm morning light as it was just reaching the mountain-tops. We planned on leaving two hours before sunrise in order to be at the location at first light.

The light increased as we approached the mountain. And yet, we could not see Denali. *Impossible*, I thought. The weather report that morning had been for clear skies. How could the mountain be obscured?

Then we noticed that if we looked hard enough, we *could* see the mountain's outline—the view was just very indistinct. Smoke from a distant wildfire had settled into our planned photo zone overnight.

As sunlight pushed its way through the haze, we got closer to the smaller peaks on the south side of the Alaska Range. We saw that the near-distance view was not nearly as obscured. I made a quick plan B.

"How about we try Ruth Glacier and Amphitheater, and see what we get," I suggested over the radio.

Sam and Bill agreed. We began to climb in order to reach the altitude needed to get into the Ruth



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BY JEFF SCHULTZ



Amphitheater—eventually reaching an altitude of about 5,000 feet. The view ahead began to clear, as we flew upslope, over the glacier.

The time had come; we were in position. One of the requirements for doing safe air-to-air photos is for each pilot to have a clear role. The “model” plane should fly a steady course, with no deviations, as the photographer plane moves to satisfy the photographer’s desired angles. Sam and Bill implemented this perfectly. I slid the window open for unobscured photos, and the sudden blast of incoming air made the cabin instantly cold. We made several passes as I

tried various filters and compositions. The resulting photo, though nothing like what I’d planned, would become one of my better-selling stock items.

This story illustrates the lengths some photographers, including myself, might go to for an image. Of course, out-the-seaplane camera work won’t be for everyone, and it’s important to take safety seriously when photographing in Alaska. Many professional guide services are available to help with this. That said, many great shots are also far easier to secure. Alaska’s photo opportunities range from the carefully planned to the fortuitous, from the ambitious to the

With the Ruth Glacier below him, pilot Bill Kramer flies his Cessna 185 floatplane toward the Ruth Amphitheater in the Alaska Range—and is photographed by Jeff Schultz.



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FOR FLORIAN SCHULZ—an award-winning wildlife and nature photographer—Alaska is the best place in the world to experience wild, untouched nature. “The diversity of Alaska is simply unparalleled on our planet,” he says. He cites the state’s “behemoth mountains, deep valleys, rain forests, coastline ... and nearly endless tundra, with thousands upon thousands of assorted flora and fauna species.”

One of Florian’s most extensive endeavors as a photographer was dedicating 18 months to exploring the 19 million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska’s northeast corner. His efforts culminated in the book *To the Arctic* (Mountaineers Books, 2011), the official companion to an IMAX 3-D film.

The distinctive wildlife of the area was a focus of the book and film. “I’m addicted to caribou—photographing them and watching their life cycle as it unfolds before me,” Florian says. His passion for caribou has led to many rich experiences while photographing and filming some of the estimated 150,000 animals of the Porcupine caribou herd. In one instance, Florian camped on the tundra and photographed a migration in which thousands of animals passed, over the course of 10 hours. Another time, he hired a pilot to fly him over the herd in a Super Cub plane, and found a line of caribou about 40 miles long. On yet another of his many days camped on the tundra, he could hear several animals close to him eating leaves off willow branches. He says that this type of moment “is why I am passionate about what I do. It’s about the experience, not just the photos. It’s about smelling the land, listening to the birds and having unforgettable encounters with animals.”

Photographer Florian Schulz found these caribou crossing the Kukpuk River in Alaska’s North Slope region as the herd migrated toward the Brooks Range.



FLORIAN SCHULZ / VISIONSOFTHWILD.COM

IN ALASKA, it's not necessary to camp on Arctic tundra to photograph wildlife. To visit the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary, about 250 miles southwest of Anchorage and about 100 miles west of Homer (the sanctuary is accessed by boat or small plane), one mostly needs to have a bit of luck. The Alaska Department of Fish & Game issues 10 access permits per day (distributed in advance by lottery) to view coastal brown bears feeding on salmon. Although McNeil River has been heavily photographed over the years, pro photographer Michael DeYoung reminds me that the area is unique to Alaska and "probably provides one of the most rewarding wildlife-viewing experiences ever."

Bears can be as close as 10 feet from the McNeil Falls viewing area. Visitors are always accompanied by rangers who know the bears well and provide

protection. "This barrier-free location is magical," says Mike. "It also makes some visitors nervous."

Mike recalls that on one of his trips to McNeil he elected to sit in the lower alcove of the viewing area, a place where the refuge manager lets people go when no bears are close. The alcove allows a somewhat closer and lower perspective of bears catching fish—but it also limits visitors' peripheral view. A man from Georgia was seated to Mike's right, with nothing between this man and the bear trail.

"Bear activity was slow, and I was on the verge of dozing off," Mike says. "For some reason, I just randomly glanced over to my right, and just as I did, I locked eyes with 'Ted'—a large male with one ear missing. Ted was on his way down to fish."

The bear was not threatening the photographers. But Mike's neighbor still reacted. "Much to my sur-

This brown bear feeding on salmon was caught on camera by Michael DeYoung at the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary.



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Top: Predawn light and still water were ideal conditions for Mark Kelley's image of Denali and the Alaska Range, with a reflection on Wonder Lake. **Below:** John Hyde photographed these humpbacks feeding on herring in Chatham Strait on the Inside Passage.



JOHN HYDE, WILDTINGS PHOTOGRAPHY

THE SKILLS NECESSARY for getting a great shot in Alaska vary greatly by subject matter and location. But all of the Alaska photographers I spoke with say that serendipity and luck—combined with a solid knowledge of locations, subject matter, and the art and science of photography—cannot be underestimated.

Juneau-based landscape and wildlife photographer Mark Kelley tells of photographic good fortune being enhanced by preparation. His story explains how he captured the image *Denali Dreams*, which graces the updated 2016 edition of

prise, the Georgia man looked to his right about the same time as I did, made a huge gasp for air, and launched his entire body left, into my lap,” Mike says.

Yet the bear had perhaps seen all this before. “Ted, of course, just continued down to the river, completely unfazed by the man’s reaction,” says Mike.

Such are the stories of photographing wildlife in Alaska. Even a truly exotic experience can seem commonplace, depending on your perspective.

Alaska: A Photographic Excursion, a book on which he collaborated with fellow Alaskan, writer Nick Jans.

After spending several days in poor weather in a tent in the Kantishna area of Denali National Park & Preserve, Mark woke as usual at 4 A.M. and found a break in the weather. He rode a bicycle for 30 minutes to Wonder Lake, and by 4:30 he was in a location he had scouted in advance. He began shooting Denali in the predawn light. At 5:15, the sun cast a pink glow



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Left: Patrick Endres of Fairbanks uses foreground elements to frame the northern lights.

Below: Photographer Matt Hage faced the rigors of the Brooks Range to capture action shots of skier Joe Stock.

HAGEPHOTO



on the clouds and lit Denali along with much of the Alaska Range. There was great light, calm wind that allowed for a reflection off the lake, mist rising off the water and a half moon above. Mark recalls that “by 5:30 the magic moment was mostly gone. The pink had turned to white, and the mist began to disappear.” If he hadn’t been there when the light was right, the cover of his book would look different today.

EVEN WITH GOOD PLANNING, there’s often a missed opportunity. Sometimes this still makes for a good story—or at least a great experience.

John Hyde, a 30-year veteran of wildlife photography, recalls one recent case in which he was photographing his specialty: whales. Whale photography is particularly challenging—in part because the subjects are underwater a large percentage of any photo shoot. Figuring out when and where they will emerge is a skill. Also, there might only be about three seconds from the time a whale’s nose breaks the water surface to when the whale splashes down. The peak action takes place in one and a half seconds, and it can happen at any time—so you need to be completely ready.

continued on page 186



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BY ERIC LUCAS

Can't ride this in summer, you know. Too wet." Our Fairbanks fat-tire-biking guide, Jeff Gilmore, sweeps his arm around the frosted landscape we are traversing on this morning ride to the Golden Heart City's beautiful nature preserve, Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. Our tires crunch snowy rime. The vast blue sky bears

rays of sun that arrow down through the birch groves. The trail is the province of rushing dog sleds, ever-busy squirrels, ravens flapping wide arcs and ice dust glistening on dark spruce boughs. Though city streets are mere blocks away, they seem far in the distance.

We started at Beaver Sports, an outdoor-gear store near the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus, and



Fat-tire biking is a popular winter pastime around Fairbanks and in other parts of Alaska.

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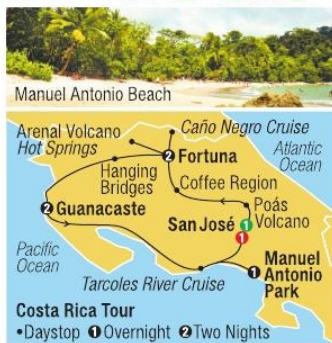


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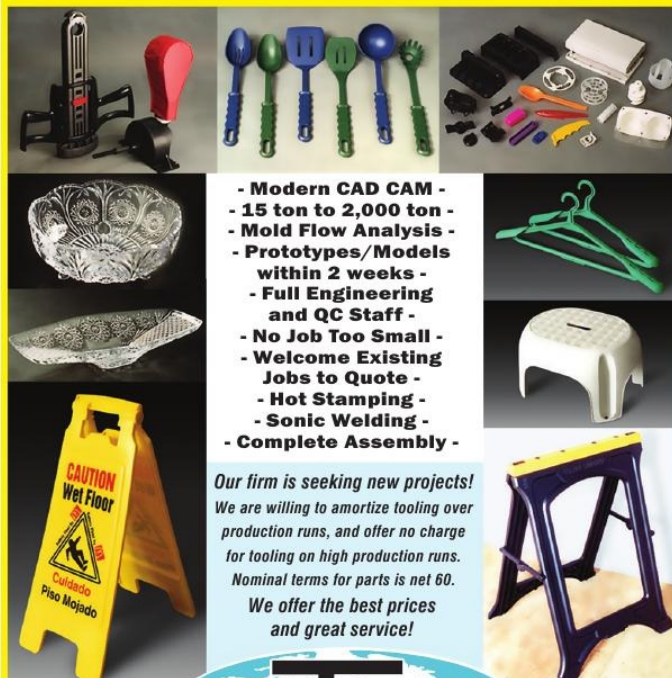
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we're now pedaling 3 miles to Creamer's on off-street trails. But we could go much farther, Gilmore says.

"We could ride all the way to Ivory Jacks [a popular restaurant north of the city], have a burger, ride back, and just cross one road," he says. "Winter brings a lot more bike-riding opportunity in Fairbanks than summer, because trails through marshy areas freeze."

Winter in Alaska is one of the state's most undervalued treasures. Often perceived as wildly cold and uninviting, winter is, in reality, one of the best times to visit and play outdoors. Downhill skiing, Nordic skiing, dog sledding, snowshoeing, ice-skating, ice fishing and, yes, bike riding—all of these activities are well-loved by people in Alaska.

Today's riding opportunity is made possible by a relatively recent innovation in winter sports. The fat-tire bicycle (or "fatbike") may have been invented in Fairbanks, or Anchorage, or elsewhere, depending on whom you ask. What's certain is that these conveyances are surprisingly effective and fun.

That isn't obvious at first glance. In essence, the bikes are sturdy frames mounted with huge tires that look like knobby circular balloons. One wonders before bestriding such a contraption whether (a) it will navigate the snow and ice as needed, and (b) can you steer the silly thing? Yes is the answer to both questions. In fact, in some ways, riding a fat-tire bike is easier than riding a regular one, which is why they are appearing more often in places such as Seattle where snow is often no more than a rumor.

It's no rumor in Fairbanks in winter. This March morning is exemplary. About 2 feet of powder lies beneath the trees; the sun lances sharply through a cornflower sky; the temperature is a pleasant 10 F. Yes, pleasant: It's a dry cold, as Fairbanks residents



HAGEPHOTO

The light and air are crisp. The sights and scents of snow and spruce please our senses. ... We grow so warm that caps and scarves are shed.

say. Not only is that true, the city registers surprisingly little wind. No fan of windy rides, I embrace both facets of the day: sunshine and calm.

From a practical standpoint, the conditions are highly user-friendly. But the experience is also aesthetically impressive; it proves to be one of the loveliest outdoor experiences imaginable. Fat-tire riding is like Nordic skiing: an honest effort that yields a rapid journey on a winter path. The light and air are crisp. The sights and scents of snow and spruce please our senses. Sounds scurry low in the woods. We grow so warm that caps and scarves are shed.

Gilmore, whose sturdy frame and prospector beard suit his profession, informs us cheerfully that though we seem to be making good time, it's nothing compared to the sport's hard-core adherents. Those are the folks who ride 100 miles in midwinter through the White Mountains north of town ... in a day. On snow. Bundled like bears.

"Yep, those folks are really going," Gilmore says. "It's for people who are completely dedicated."

THE SAME HAS BEEN SAID OF ICE FISHING, the sport I try the next day. In its usual form, ice fishing is undeniably tough. Sitting on a bucket atop a frozen lake,

Above: Ice fishing is a classic Alaska winter activity. **Below:** A skier glides down a broad slope at Alyeska Resort, near Anchorage.



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ALASKA

hands jammed in pockets, waiting for bites from fish that slog through glacially cold water. *Tough.*

There's a better way. Reini Neuhauser uses a spiffy ice shack he drags every winter onto Chena Lakes, east of Fairbanks in North Pole, Alaska (where Santa also greets tour buses). Neuhauser's hut has comfy benches beside six precut ice holes. Sign up for his ice-fishing "tour" and he'll bait your hook, hand you the

WINTER SIGHTS

Winter is the best time to see one of Alaska's most-sought attractions, the northern lights (aurora borealis). While the aurora may be seen throughout the state—and all year—Fairbanks is the capital for this spec-



PATRICK J. ENDRES / ALASKAPHOTOGRAPHICS.COM

tacle, for two reasons: From early February through March, skies here are often clear, and the Golden Heart City lies in a particularly susceptible latitude zone. The magnetic forces that produce the lights are strongest and most active in this area, making auroras an almost nightly occurrence.

Winter (March, especially) is also one of the best times for another spectacle: Denali. The 20,310-foot massif southwest of Fairbanks is its own weather maker, often shrouded in cloud in summer. National Park Service figures show that the mountain is visible from Talkeetna only 20 percent of the time in August. But in March, it's more than half the time.

Winter's cold, clear air makes both of these sights, the aurora and Denali, extra impressive. Head out to see them on skis, snowshoes, a dog sled or a fat-tire bike, and you will enhance your experience. —E.L.



Downhill skiers enjoy the Eaglecrest Ski Area, near Juneau.

rod, show you how to jig it gently in the aquamarine water, and clean your catch.

That proves to be, in my case, four salmon, about 12 inches each, stocked in the lake each year by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Easily the first-caught fish of the year, for me.

We arrived at dawn, a time in winter when the sky is a painterly canvas of color, a kaleidoscope of fuchsia, platinum, indigo, peach and sand. High clouds shift aloft. The rising colors spread themselves hither and yon, not layered in orderly fashion but spreading above the eastern woods. Now, before the sun breaks over the lake, I thrust hands into pockets and stamp feet on the ice.

Later, once the fish have been caught, Neuhauser steps out to clean them on a snowbank, and it's again so warm that a jacket is unnecessary. I watch him work while he jokes about his trade: "And you thought ice fishing would be tough!"

Neuhauser brings the fillets back into the shack and fries them on a woodstove in the middle. Lunch is served beside the ice: crackers and fish and hot cocoa. And I have to laugh at the incongruous luxury of the moment. Tough, indeed.

THE CLIMB OF THE SUN in February and March—my favorite Alaska months—brings light to the land in a rush. A visit to Fairbanks holds delights such as guiding a dog sled through deep birch woods, or soaking in Chena Hot Springs at night to watch for northern lights while you

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ALASKA

trade hot springs myths with fellow visitors. Does the water vapor freeze in your hair so that your locks break when you touch them? Nah, but it's a colorful jest. The mist does cling to willow branches in shards that will glimmer like diamonds as you ski up the creekside trail the next day.

Skiers at Moose Mountain, one of Fairbanks' three small day-use areas, ride a quaint set of "lifts" up the hill after they have skied down: old school buses that rattle and chug, gears grinding and chassis swaying. The ride takes about nine minutes. It's a good chance to warm up.

Farther south, winter brings a bit more snow and cloud. In Talkeetna, the little riverside village about a 115-mile drive north of Anchorage, you can ski out along the Susitna River (known as the "Big Su"), and then head into the cottonwoods and cross crystalline snow 7 feet deep. If the clouds part, Denali shines in the distance, immense and pure.

In Anchorage, a different kind of conveyance—ice skates—allows you to shimmy and slide over Westchester Lagoon. It's a good idea to check ice conditions for safety. Also, one ought to wear insulated winter pants, not so much for warmth as for cushioning when one, ahem, loses one's balance. Not that I ever do that. Not purposely, anyhow.

I first learned to ice-skate at age 8, and revisiting the sport all these years later carries with it a boyish glee. Of course, boys and girls on the lagoon skate circles around me. Yet they aren't as appreciative as I am of the fine view of the Chugach Mountains east of town.

Southeast of Anchorage at Alyeska Resort, the huge skiing destination in Girdwood, the vista is as memorable as any I know. Here the powder piles up in feet, and big-mountain skiers soar out as though they were high in the Alps. Yet the ski-area base is barely 100 feet above sea level, making it unique among major U.S. resorts. The aerial tram that whisks skiers upward makes it easy to enjoy the

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• Along with skiing, ice-skating and other snow sports, Anchorage is the home of the famous winter festival Fur Rendezvous, which includes events such as snowshoe softball. Visit anchorage.net. • Learn more about winter adventures in Juneau at traveltuneau.com. —E.L.

slopes and provides a scenic ride. This is the biggest West Coast ski mountain north of Whistler, and a run top to bottom can easily consume 20 minutes or more, especially when you stop to gawk.

Clouds that look like spun silk wrap the Kenai Range peaks visible across the titanium-hued tidal flats and boisterous currents of Turnagain Arm. Up here, Alyeska's vast upper bowl clasps late winter's afternoon light, amber and mild.

ON ONE MORE FINE ALASKA WINTER DAY, I find myself at Eaglecrest Ski Area, Juneau's homegrown day-ski destination, which is smaller than Alyeska but similarly well-situated. Poised there, on Douglas Island, I face the peaks and ice fields that divide Southeast Alaska from British Columbia. Here, too, Inside Passage seas shine reflected light from below. Yet this ski area is small enough that a run takes 10 minutes, max. I decide to follow a black-diamond run with an intermediate skip down a cruiser slope.

The snow is as soft and supple as the crest of a wave. I turn my skis into the fall line and head toward the sea. ▲

Eric Lucas is the author of the Michelin Must Sees Alaska guide.

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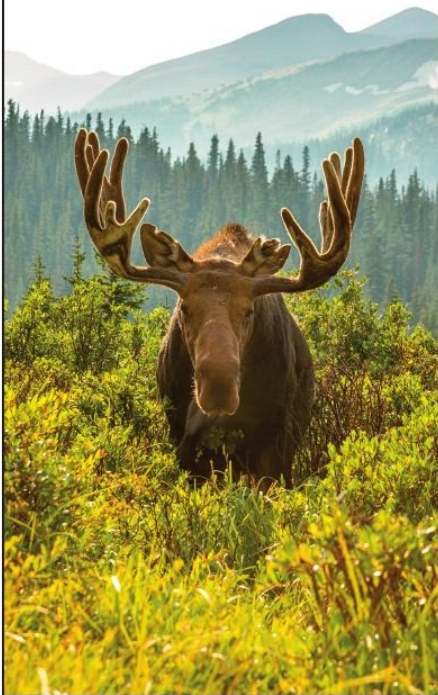


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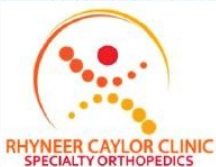
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The Best of Beijing

Iconic palaces, bright lights and the Great Wall

By David Armstrong

I'm standing in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, facing the early 15th century Forbidden City palace, where Chinese emperors ruled the Middle Kingdom for nearly five centuries. Dating back more than 3,000 years, Beijing is one of China's oldest cities. It's also one of the most dynamic. The capital's population of approximately 21.7 million people makes it one of the most populous cities in the world, and Beijing remains the heart of Chinese power and culture. Near ancient temples, neon lights shine on modern skyscrapers.

Directly behind me is the mausoleum where Mao Zedong, founder of the People's Republic of China, has been lying in state since 1977. Long lines of patient visitors queue before the colonnaded building, waiting to view China's former leader and reflect upon his historical impact.

On the west side of the vast, flat square is the Great Hall of the People, a massive,

many-roomed building, where Parliament meets, that opened in 1959. Farther west—incongruously but appealingly—is the silver and blue National Center for the Performing Arts, which opened in 2007 and is a curving titanium-and-glass building surrounded by a human-made lake. To the east of me sits the large and stately National Museum of China.

After I cross the humming, multilane Chang'an Avenue, I approach the 180-acre rectangular compound that housed the Imperial Palace until 1912, when the last emperor abdicated.

Hanging above the entrance is a large

The Forbidden City complex, dating back to the early 15th century, was the heart of Chinese rule for about 500 years.

portrait of Mao; the late Communist leader proclaimed the birth of the PRC from the front balcony on October 1, 1949, and now the first of October is China's National Day.

The Forbidden City is a most impressive portal to China, I think, as I cross a white marble bridge over a 170-foot-wide protective moat and enter the arched Meridian Gate. The outer walls command attention: They are about three stories high and painted red.

Once inside, I buy an inexpensive day ticket for my self-guided tour. I take a first look around. And keep looking.

There's so much to see: dignified structures fronted by rows of steps, large stone lions, roof-lines with writhing dragon figures. I walk through a cascade of expansive courtyards enlivened by one historic building after another.

The UNESCO World Heritage Site comprises some 10,000 rooms in its buildings and pavilions, many topped by glazed tile: white, gold and vermillion.

I'm especially struck by the Palace of Heavenly Purity. Set behind white marble steps, this pavilion is bright with color.

The imposing, high-ceilinged structure

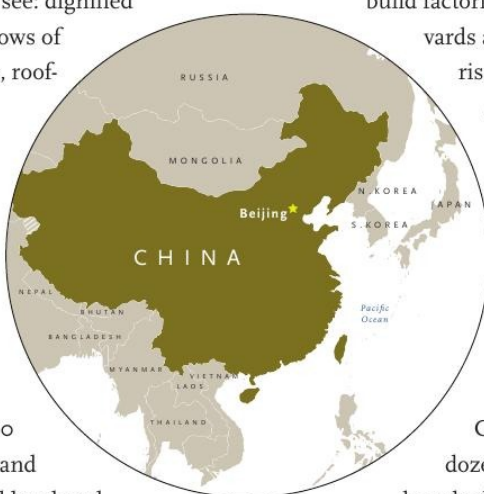
was used for imperial ceremonies and state occasions. Best in show here is the Dragon Throne, decorated with gilded dragon images, where the emperor once sat. It was the very center of power.

Beijing is not always so elaborate and ceremonial, I realize when I leave the Forbidden City for a wander in the *hutongs*. Hutongs—literally “alleyways” or “lanes”—are neighborhoods of small, brick buildings that flank quiet interior courtyards located just off busy city streets. Most Beijing residents lived in hutongs until the 1950s, when Mao demolished them to

build factories, broad boulevards and, later, high-rise apartments and offices. The hutongs that survived are soulful places, repositories of urban tradition and family life.

Just west of the Forbidden City, I stroll past dozens of closely bunched single-story shops selling all manner of goods:

water chestnuts, melons, eggplants, radishes and cabbages. There are also sweaters, shoes, aromatic hot pork buns and twisted dried medicinal herbs. Instead of



Single-story shops and neighborhoods of small, brick homes make up Beijing's *hutongs*.

shopping, I follow my hired local guide to a secluded home and visit with a hospitable hutong family: mother, father and grown daughter.

The family couldn't be more gracious. They enjoy welcoming people from all over to their home, the father says in Mandarin to my guide, who interprets. They've lived in the cozy 3.5-room home since the 1970s, know all their neighbors and say they have everything they want. In the homey living room, the mother pours a pot of steaming tea into tiny cups and lays out dishes of almonds, plump tangerine sections and small, sweet cookies. It's the simplest repast I experience in Beijing and one of the best.

After more chatting and eating, I depart through the courtyard, with its well-tended ginkgo tree, and return to the street. I hear the soft whir of passing bicycles and the scratching of a broom made from bound, bare twigs in the hands of a woman sweeping the sidewalk. Sounds of old China.

The next day I exchange the intimate for the monumental: the Great Wall of China. I journey by car some 50 miles from Beijing to Badaling, a section of the wall built during the Ming Dynasty from the 14th to 17th centuries. Other parts of the wall date back to the third century B.C.

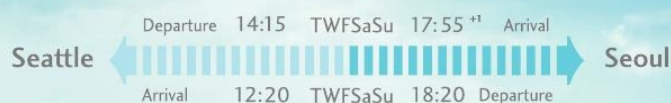
The massive structure stretches about 12,500 miles across the northern border of ancient China, and Badaling is one of the best-preserved and best-restored sections.



Badaling is one of the best-preserved and best-restored sections of the Great Wall and can be accessed via a short drive from Beijing.



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Beijing's National Center for the Performing Arts opened in 2007.

Made of enormous gray stones and bricks, winding along ridgetops in a mountainous area, the wall tests the legs and lungs. The 20-foot-wide public walkway on top of the 26-foot-tall wall is studded with watchtowers for imperial soldiers.

Parts of the walkway are quite steep; I take care to use the handrail in the spots with the most grade. I sip bottled water, munch almonds and lychee fruit, and survey the terrain: rugged, cut by ravines, covered with trees and shrubs.

Even now, despite many visitors around me, I feel a strong sense of remoteness on the Great Wall.

Having seen history, I'm now primed to explore 21st century China and return to Beijing. Modern Beijing is rightly cele-

brated for its pulsating nightlife, and it's pulsating plenty in Centro, a stylish bar inside the Kerry Hotel in the central-city Chaoyang District.

Young people sipping cocktails listen to glossy pop music. Just south of midnight, a DJ starts playing. I order a gin martini, up, with a twist of lemon.

My server suggests taking it with olives. "The viscosity of olive brine will be perfect in the drink," she says in lightly accented English. I take a sip. She's right. It's terrific. Here's to viscosity.

From Centro I ride the subway north to Sanlitun, where foreign embassies sit next to sleek cafes, pizza-and-beer places and cocktail oases that draw an easy mix of locals, expatriates and travelers.



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Sightseeing

Forbidden City: Centuries-old complex of former imperial buildings and pavilions.

Hutongs: Modest houses and neighborhoods with quiet courtyards flanking busy streets.

Sanlitun: Embassy district popular with locals, travelers and expats for shopping, eating and drinking.

Summer Palace: An 18th century royal retreat with gorgeous lakes and gardens in northwest Beijing.

More information: China National Tourist Organization: cnto.org.

—D.A.



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10 THINGS TO DO IN BEIJING

798 Art Zone: Thought-provoking galleries, artists' studios and cafes in 1950s industrial buildings.

Cycling: Riding through *hutongs* and alongside rivers and lakes is a fun way to see the city.

Lama Temple: Part functioning monastery, part museum housing artifacts, including Buddha statues made of bronze and wood. Dongcheng District.

Ming Dynasty Tombs: Restored, art-filled resting places of emperors. About 30 miles from Beijing.

National Museum of China: Authoritative collection of historical artifacts.



Bird's Nest: Hosted the opening ceremonies and the track-and-field competitions at the 2008 Olympic Games. The Beijing National Stadium is also expected to host the 2022 Winter Olympics opening ceremonies.

Peking Duck: Enjoy savory duck with crispy skin and dipping sauces.

Beijing Opera: Lavishly costumed, accompanied by traditional musicians. Check out Liyuan Theater near Tiananmen Square.

Nightlife: Centro bar in Kerry Hotel; stylish Redmoon bar in the Grand Hyatt; Cafe CD Blues for live blues and jazz.

Subway: Many lines, including an express line to the airport; goes almost everywhere. Safe, clean and inexpensive.

—D.A.

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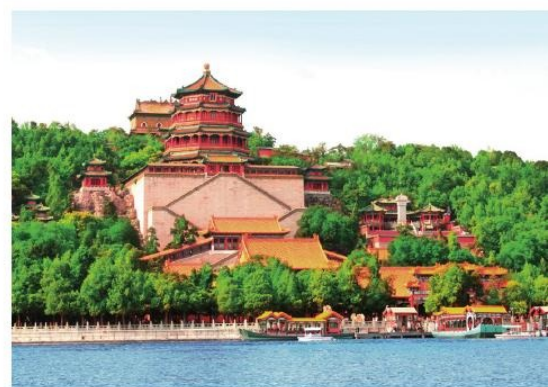


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Beijing



Set on Kunming Lake, the Summer Palace is a complex of buildings and public gardens where the imperial family vacationed.

On the east side of Sanlitun Road, I drink a good glass of Dragon Seal red Chinese wine. The west side has been transformed into Taikoo Li Sanlitun—a glittery place of giant video screens, designer fashion stores and consumer electronics shops.

I peer into the glassy cube of the Apple store, which is busy and thriving. Nearby is a big Adidas store; it's bustling, too.

On my last day in town, I want a change of pace, so I glide along in a small river ferry to the Summer Palace, a lovely complex of buildings, lakes and public gardens where the imperial family escaped the sweltering summer heat.

I stroll along big, human-made Kunming Lake, with weeping willows that skim the sparkling water.

I see the lakeside Marble Boat, a two-story, 118-foot-long vision of a pleasure boat on a stone base, its wooden cabins painted to resemble marble. A mirror-smooth lake reflects the boat's image faithfully. It's the perfect photo op, and a perfect Beijing moment. ▲

David Armstrong writes from California.

Use Mileage Plan miles to visit Beijing, China, on partners Hainan Airlines and American Airlines. For information or to enroll in Mileage Plan, go to alaskaair.com or call 800-654-5669.

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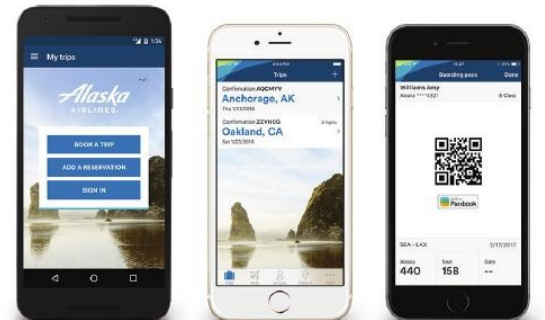
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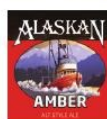
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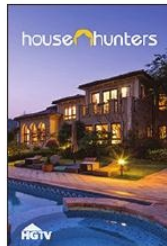
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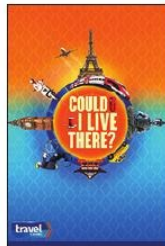
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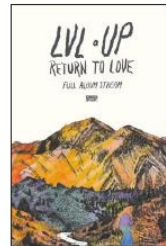
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PG-13; 1:45



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PG-13; 1:34



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PG-13; 1:54



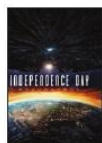
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PG-13; 2:00



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PG-13; 1:57



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PG; 1:37



Mike & Dave Need Wedding Dates
R(ed); 1:38

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LONDON, ENGLAND



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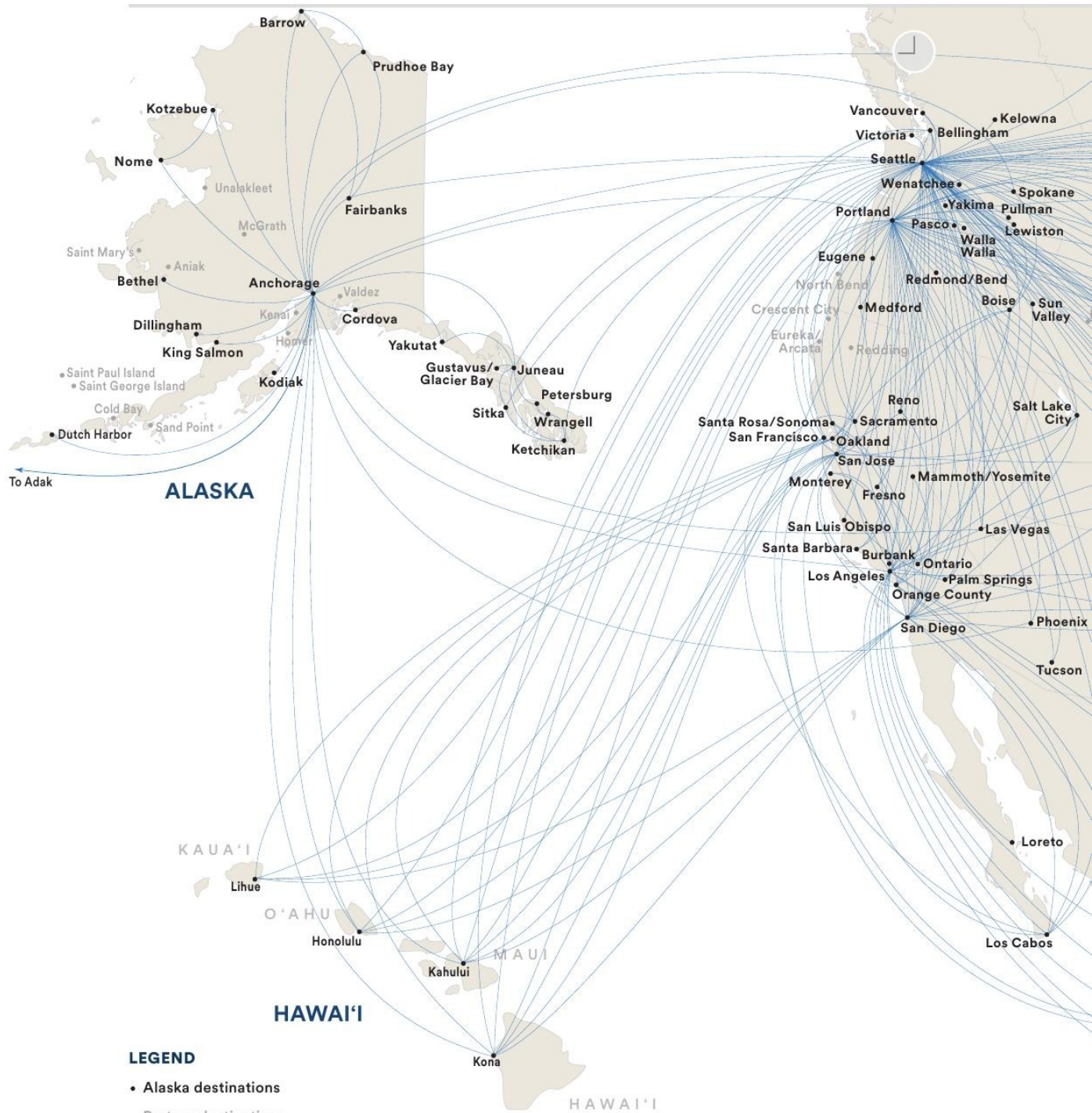
Beijing, China
Hainan Airlines



Dubai, UAE
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LEGEND

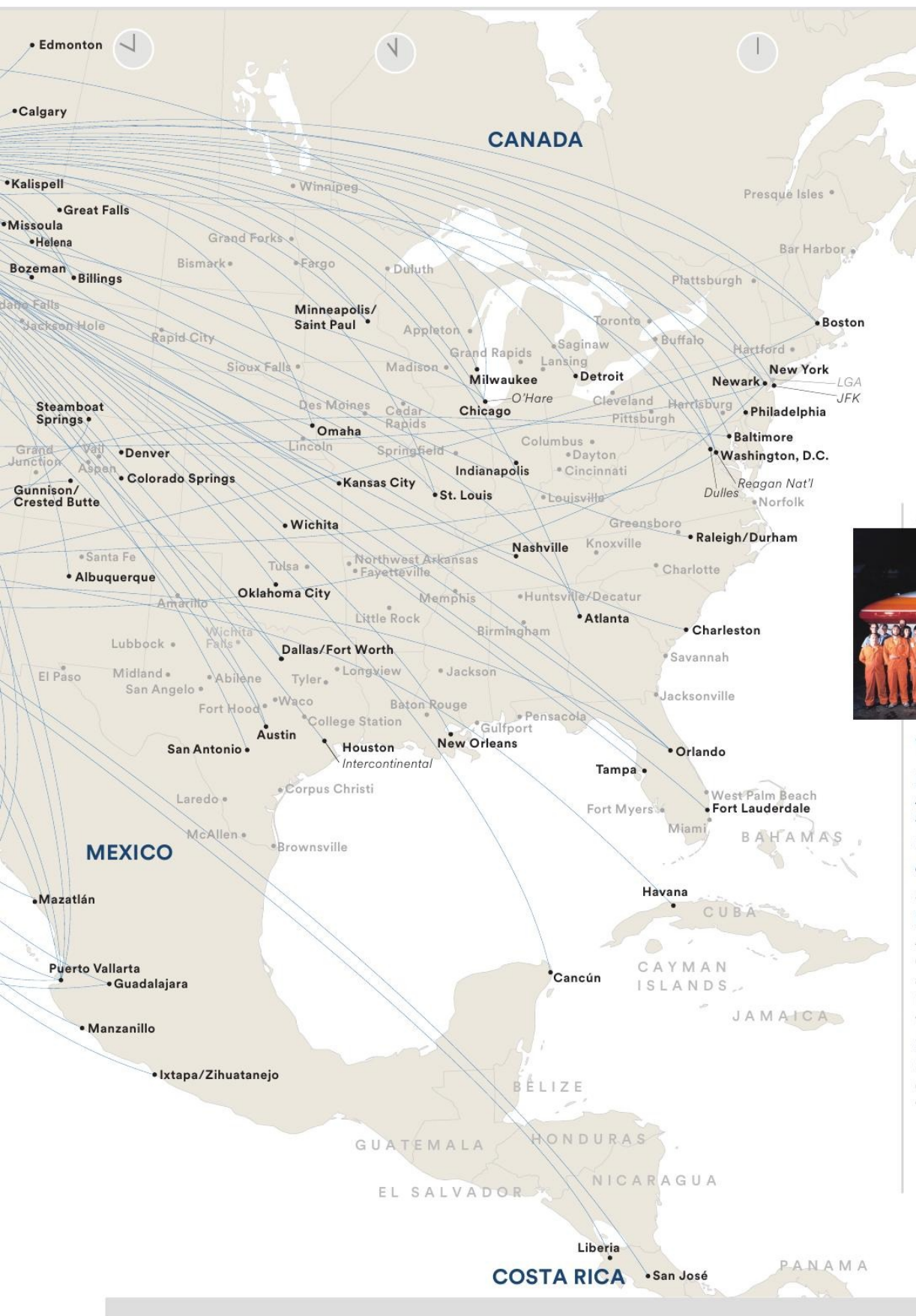
- Alaska destinations
- Partner destinations

UPCOMING NEW SERVICE

| Route | Service Begins |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Portland, OR—Newark, NJ | November 10 |
| Bellingham, WA—Kona, HI | November 12 ¹ |
| San Diego, CA—Newark, NJ | November 21 |
| San Diego, CA—Steamboat Springs, CO | December 17 ¹ |
| Los Angeles, CA—Havana, Cuba | Late 2016* |

¹Seasonal service through Spring 2017.

*Pending final government approval.



Some Alaska Airlines service operated by Horizon Air or SkyWest Airlines.

Some routes shown operate seasonally.

Airport of the Month



Yakima Air Terminal

Location: Yakima, WA
Airport code: YKM
Served since: 1981

Daily flights: 4

Cities served: 1
 Seattle.

Notable: Horizon Air, Alaska's sister carrier, celebrates its 35th anniversary this fall. Horizon's first flight was from Seattle to Yakima.

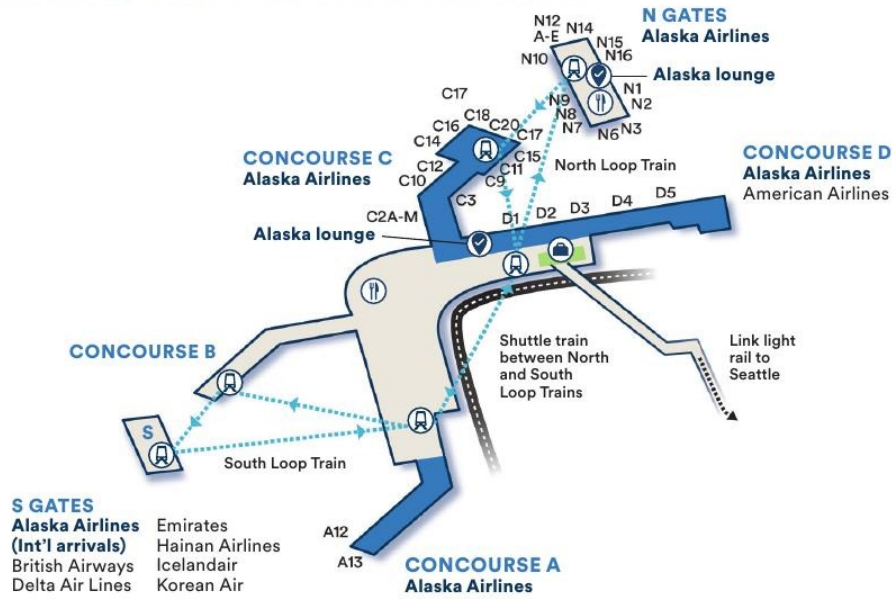
Insider info: Mileage Plan members can check a case of wine for free* when flying from Yakima.

*Find details at tasteandtote.com for flying with either Alaska or Horizon.

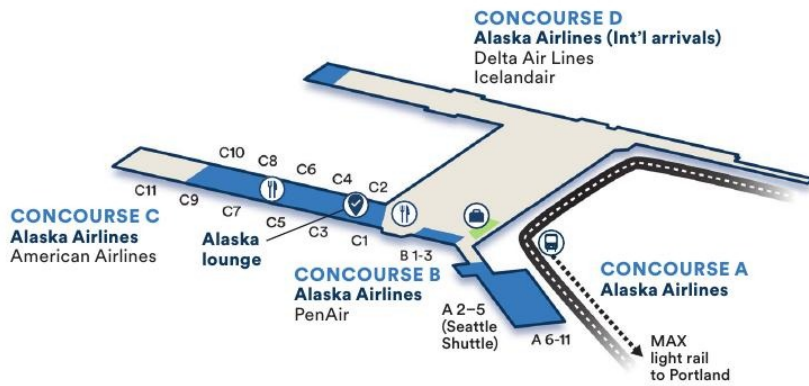
Airport terminal maps

SEA Seattle/Tacoma International Airport

Tip: Connecting to an Alaska Global Partner? You'll need to take the shuttle train to the South Loop Train to get to the S gates.

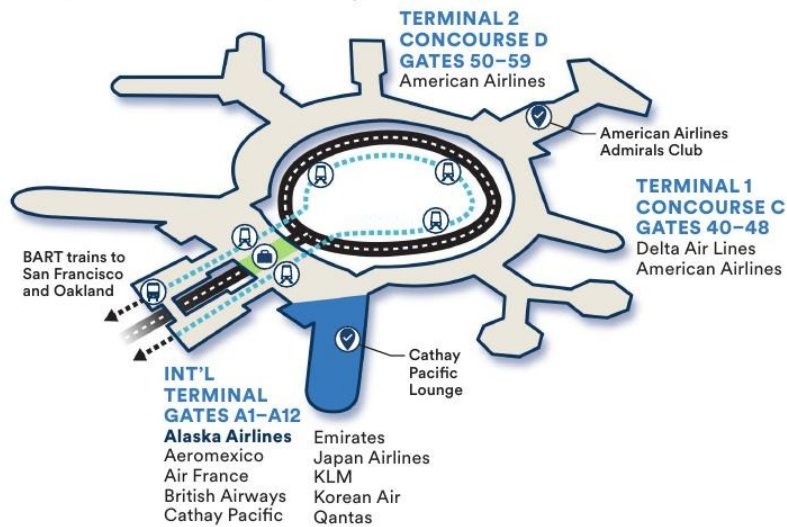


PDX Portland International Airport



SFO San Francisco International Airport

Tip: Alaska lounge members have access to the Cathay Pacific Lounge at SFO when traveling on Alaska.



Legend:



Dining Options



Alaska Airlines ticketing & bag dropoff



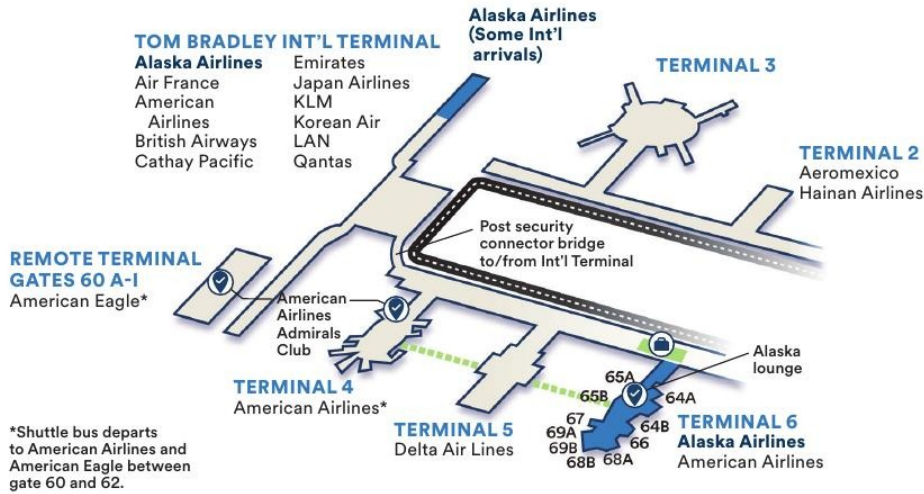
Public transportation

Underground walkway



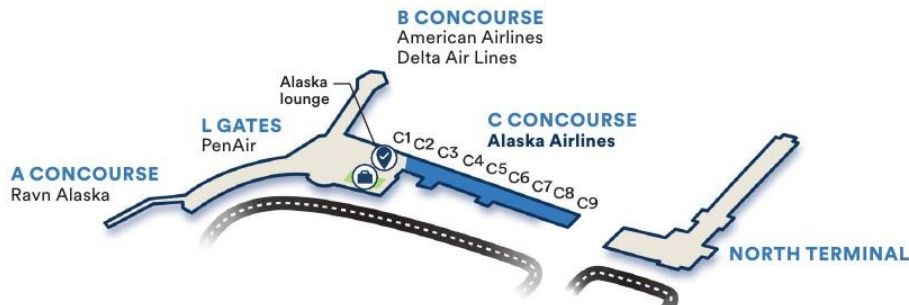
Airport transportation

LAX Los Angeles International Airport

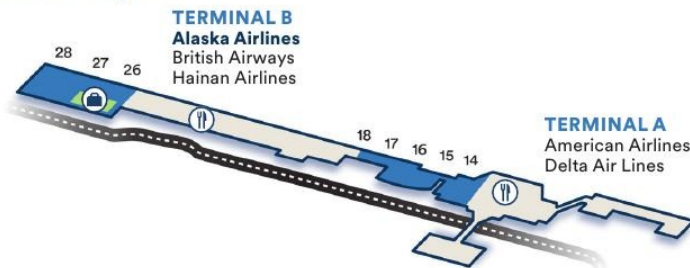


Tip:
Alaska lounge members receive access to most American Airlines Admirals Clubs when traveling on Alaska or American.

ANC Anchorage International Airport



SJC San Jose Mineta Airport



SAN San Diego International Airport



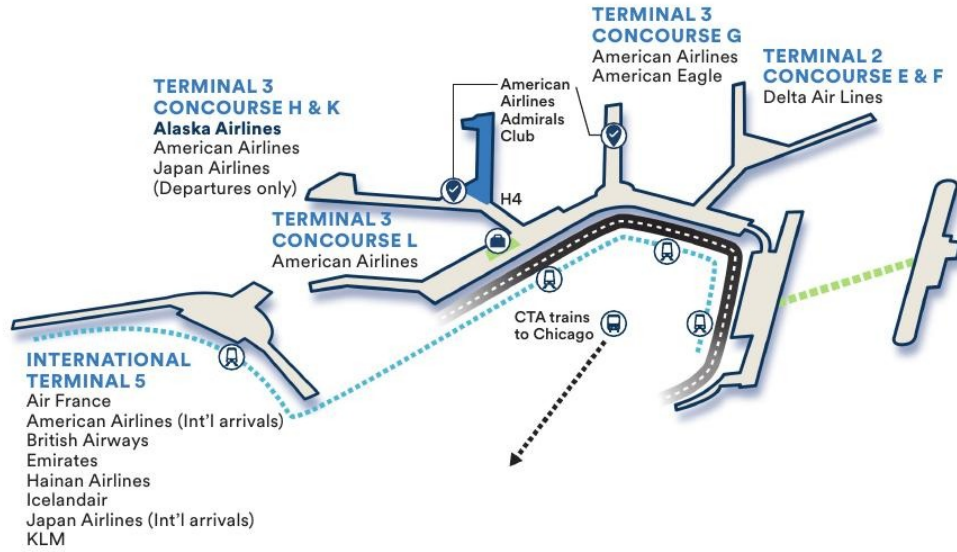
Global Airline Partner terminal maps

ORD Chicago O'Hare International Airport

American Airlines 

From Chicago, American Airlines serves 122 destinations in 11 countries, with convenient connections to Europe from the West Coast.

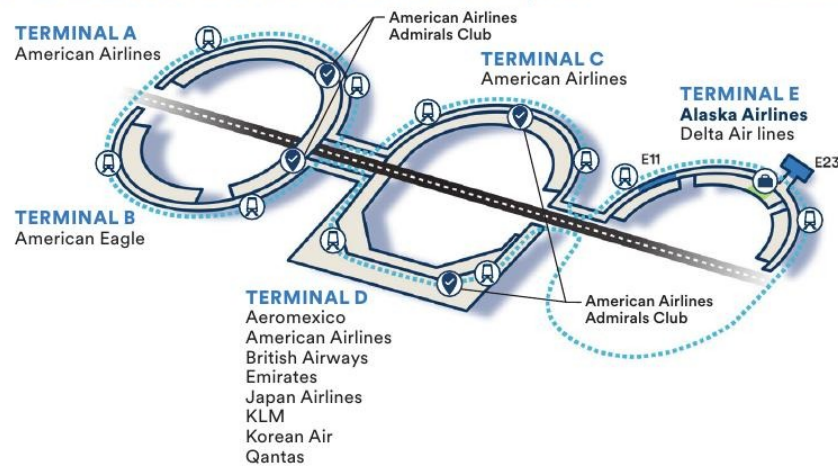
Tip: Alaska lounge members receive access to most American Airlines Admirals Clubs when traveling on Alaska or American.



DFW Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport

American Airlines 

Headquartered in Dallas, American serves 197 destinations in 29 countries including Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe from DFW.

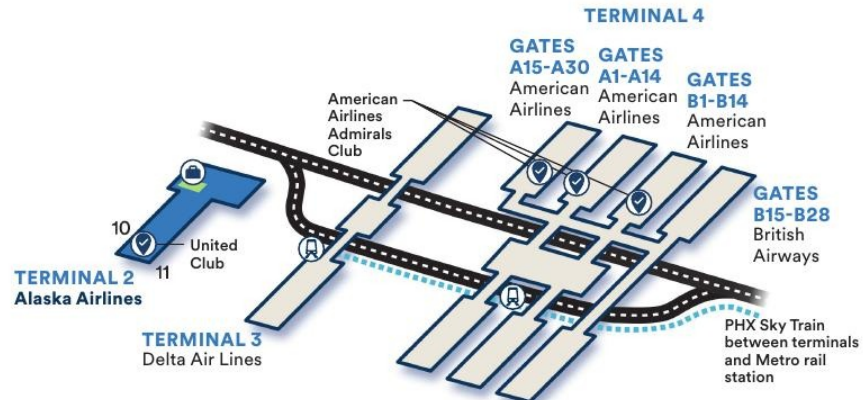


PHX Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport

American Airlines 

From Phoenix, American flies to 81 cities with over 300 flights.

Tip: Alaska lounge members have access to the United Club across from gate 10 at Sky Harbor when flying on Alaska.



Legend:



Dining Options



Alaska Airlines ticketing & bag dropoff



Public transportation

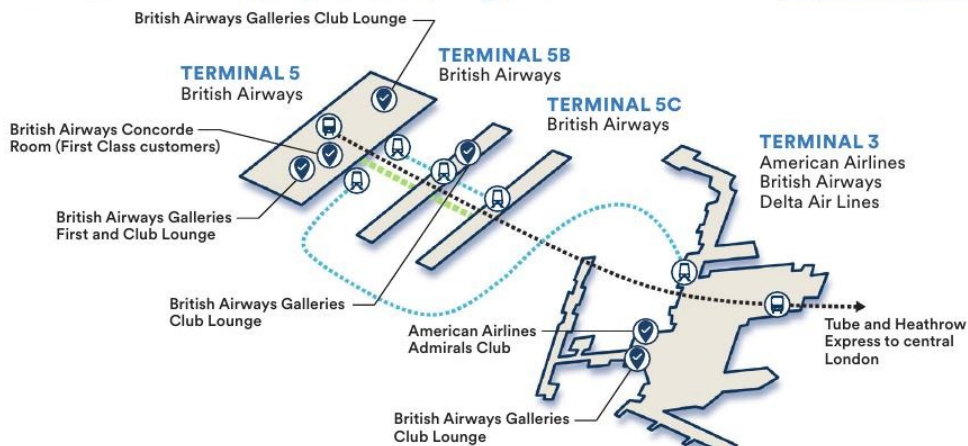
Underground walkway



Airport transportation

LHR Heathrow Airport, London, England

BRITISH AIRWAYS

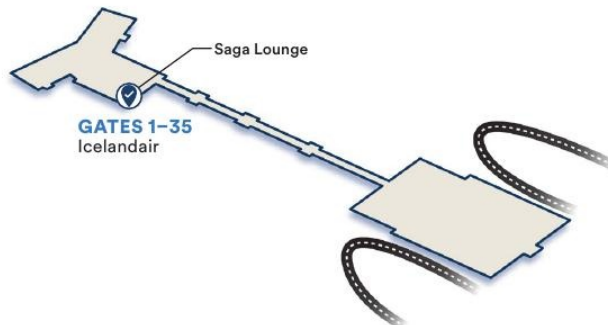


British Airways' London hub offers convenient connections from the West Coast to cities throughout Europe.

Tip: MVP Gold & MVP Gold 75K members receive complimentary access to British Airways' Galleries Club Lounge in Terminal 5.

KEF Keflavík International Airport, Reyjavík, Iceland

ICELANDAIR

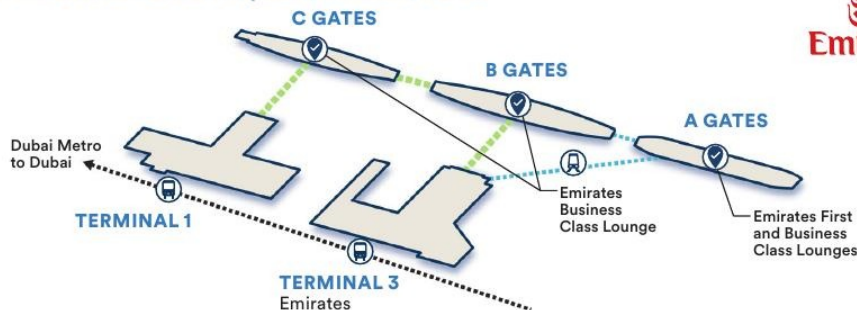


Tip: MVP Gold and MVP Gold 75K members receive complimentary access to Icelandair's Saga Lounge.

Icelandair's Reykjavík hub makes for easy connections to the airline's 20+ destinations throughout Europe. Icelandair offers free stopovers in Iceland.

DXB Dubai International Airport, Dubai, UAE

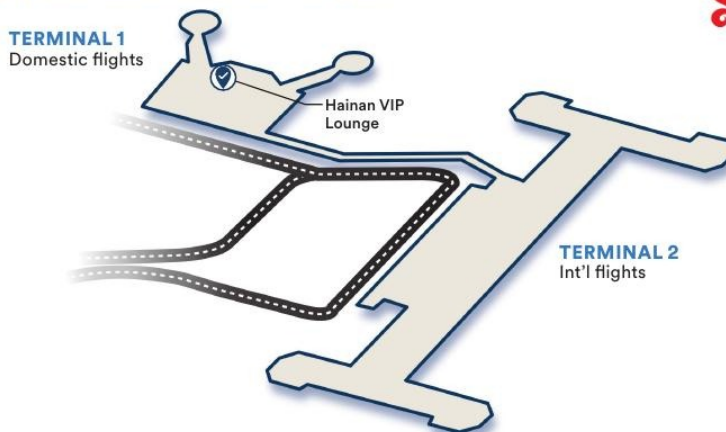
Emirates



Emirates' Dubai hub offers connections to 100+ destinations on 6 continents, all featuring the airline's world-class service.

PEK Beijing Capital International Airport

HAINAN AIRLINES
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Tip: MVP Gold and MVP Gold 75K members receive complimentary access to Hainan's VIP Lounge.

With gateways in Seattle and San Jose, earn miles traveling to Beijing, Shanghai and to other destinations throughout China.

Customs and immigration

Customs and Immigration forms are distributed by flight attendants during your flight. Prior to landing, complete all forms that pertain to you, following the tips below. Completed forms are presented immediately upon entering the International Arrivals building.

TO THE UNITED STATES PASSPORT CONTROL KIOSKS

Automated Passport Control kiosks expedite the entry process. Eligible travelers scan their passport, take a photograph and answer a series of questions at the kiosk. Once complete, present the printed receipt from the kiosk to a Customs Officer.

Helpful tips

- Only citizens or nationals of the U.S., Canada or Visa Waiver Program countries are eligible to use the kiosk.
- Customs declaration forms are unnecessary.
- Kiosks available in Los Angeles (LAX), Portland (PDX), San Diego (SAN), San Francisco (SFO) and Seattle (SEA).

U.S. CUSTOMS DECLARATION

All travelers to cities without Passport Control kiosks must complete this form.

Helpful tips

- One form per person or one per family (family defines those in the same household who are related by blood, marriage, domestic relationship, or adoption).
- Lines 5, 6—If not using a passport, leave these lines blank.
- Line 9—Enter “AS” for Alaska Airlines
- Sign at the “X.”

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TIPS TO MEXICO

- All travelers must complete a Mexico Customs Declaration form; one per traveler or family with same address.
- All travelers, except for citizens of Mexico, must complete the FMM; one per traveler or family.

TO COSTA RICA

- All travelers must complete a Customs Declaration form; one per traveler or family.
- All travelers must complete an Immigrations Form; one per person.
- Costa Rica requires a \$29 departure tax for each traveler. For tickets purchased before June 1, 2016, pay fee prior to check-in with Alaska Airlines at the service centers in terminal check-in area. The fee is included in the price of tickets purchased after June 1, 2016.

Las formas de Aduana y Migración son distribuidas por los sobrecargos durante el vuelo. Antes del aterrizaje en su destino final complete las formas correspondientes usando las indicaciones que se proporcionan a continuación. Las formas completas serán presentadas en la Terminal Internacional.

QUIOSCOS DE CONTROL DE PASAPORTES

Kioscos automatizados de control de pasaportes acelerar el proceso de entrada y se encuentran en muchas ciudades servidas por Alaska Airlines. los viajeros elegibles escanear el pasaporte, tomar una fotografía y contestar una serie de preguntas en el quiosco. Una vez completa, presentar el recibo impreso en el quiosco a un oficial de aduanas.

Datos de ayuda

- Sólo los ciudadanos o nacionales de los países del Programa de Exención de Estados Unidos, Canadá o Visa son elegibles para utilizar el quiosco.
- Formularios de declaración de aduanas son innecesarias.
- Kioscos disponibles en Los Ángeles (LAX), Portland (PDX), San Diego (SAN), San Francisco (SFO) y Seattle (SEA).

DECLARACION DE ADUANA

Los viajeros a ciudades sin quioscos de control de pasaportes deben completar este formulario.

Datos de ayuda

- Una forma por persona o por familia con la misma dirección.
- Línea 5, 6—Si no tiene pasaporte, deje esta sección en blanco.
- Línea 9—Use “AS” para Alaska Airlines.
- Firme en la “X.”

CONSEJOS DE VIAJE INTERNACIONALES A MEXICO

- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de declaración de aduanas México; uno por cada viajero o familia con la misma dirección.
- Todos los viajeros, excepto para los ciudadanos de México, deben completar la FMM; uno por cada viajero o familia.

A COSTA RICA

- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de declaración de aduanas; uno por cada viajero o familia.
- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de Inmigración; una por persona
- Costa Rica requiere un impuesto de salida de \$29 para cada viajero. Para los boletos comprados tarde del 1 junio, 2016, pagar la cuota antes de check-in con Alaska Airlines en los centros de servicio en el área de registro de entrada en el terminal. La tarifa está incluido en el precio de los boletos comprados el 1 de junio 2016.

Please use all capital letters with blue or black ink.

Por favor use letra mayúscula en tinta azul o negra.

Global Entry is a U.S. Customs & Border Protection program that offers expedited customs entry with no processing lines, no paperwork, TSA Pre✓® eligibility and access to expedited entry in other countries. Apply at www.cbp.gov.

The image shows a sample of a U.S. Customs Declaration form. It includes fields for 'Passenger name', 'Country of residence', 'Country visited in last 48 hours', and 'Date of entry'. There are also checkboxes for 'Do you have any goods to declare?' and 'Do you have any restricted items?'. The form is titled 'U.S. Customs Declaration' and has a 'Print' button at the bottom.

Your safety and comfort

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Alaska Airlines have set these rules and regulations to assure your safety and comfort.

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(800.252.7522)
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En Español:
800.858.5525
From Mexico:
001.800.252.7522

Alaska Airlines
Vacations:
844.276.5297
vacations.alaska-
air.com.

SEATS

- Your seat belt must be fastened whenever the “FASTEN SEAT BELT” sign is illuminated. Keep your seat belt fastened at all other times in case of undetectable clear-air turbulence.
- Seatbacks and tray tables must be in the upright, locked position during taxi, takeoff and landing.
- Child-restraint devices must bear the FAA approval sticker.
- Seat-belt extension use is not allowed in exit rows for the safety of all passengers due to the possibility of entanglement by the extensions.

CARRY-ONS

- All carry-on baggage must be stowed under a seat or in an enclosed overhead bin upon boarding and prior to landing, as directed.
- Please use caution when opening an overhead bin, as items may have shifted.
- Prior to takeoff and landing, service items provided by Alaska Airlines must be picked up or properly stowed under the seat in front of you, in carry-on luggage that is properly stowed or in an overhead bin.

LAVATORY

- Customers are requested to use the lavatory in their assigned cabin and are required to do so on inbound international flights; exceptions may be made for customers with special needs.

CREW SAFETY

- Interference with crew members’ (including flight attendants’) duties is a violation of federal law. Under federal law, no person may assault, threaten, intimidate or interfere with crew members in the performance of their duties aboard an aircraft under operation. Penalties for crew interference include fines up to \$11,000, imprisonment or both. An incident report may be filed with the FAA regarding a customer’s behavior.

USING YOUR DEVICES

We know use of your electronic devices is important, and we’ve adjusted our procedures to give you more time with those devices.

Allowed on the ground and in the air

- Laptops (must be stowed for taxi/takeoff/landing)
- Tablets/smartphones (Airplane Mode after door closure)
- Wireless mouse/keyboard
- e-readers
- Media/CD/DVD players
- Noise-canceling headphones
- Cellphones (prior to door closure only)

DEVICES

- During taxi, takeoff and landing, portable electronic devices and headphones may be used. Larger electronic devices such as laptops must be stowed during taxi, takeoff and landing.
- Cellphones may be used while the boarding door is open until advised by your flight attendant that cell service must be turned off. Upon landing, your flight attendant will advise when cell service can be enabled.
- During flight, electronic voice communications of any kind (e.g., cell/VoIP calls) are prohibited.
- Headphones must be worn when using electronic devices such as personal music players, Inflight Entertainment Tablets, etc.

PETS

- Pets must remain in carrier for entire flight. Carrier must be stowed for taxi, takeoff and landing.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

- Alcohol may not be consumed aboard an aircraft unless it has been provided by a flight attendant. No alcohol may be served to any person who appears to be intoxicated, or who is under 21 years of age.
- Smoking, chewing tobacco and electronic cigarette use are not permitted on any Alaska Airlines flight.

OTHER PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Alaska Airlines prohibits the use of items that do not meet FAA Regulations or Company regulations. This includes the use of seat-belt extensions not provided by Alaska Airlines, devices that restrict the recline of seats, self-heating meals or beverages, air filters placed on overhead vents and personal air-purifying devices.

Not allowed during flight

- Voice calls of any kind, including VoIP
- Devices with cell service enabled
- AM/FM radios or TVs
- Personal air purifiers
- Remote-control toys
- Electronic cigarettes

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ALASKA

from page 147 On a recent trip, John was in his boat amid a pod of humpback whales, but they were not swimming in a pattern he recognized. He tells the tale: "I figured the last time they surfaced, they were 300 yards away, so I had a long telephoto lens on the camera, hoping they would surface again out there. Just that fast, bubbles appeared right next to my 20-foot boat, and I knew what was going to happen."

A second later the whales surfaced, lunge feeding for herring. "I had the wrong lens on," John says. "Sitting only 5 feet away was another camera with a wide-angle 24 mm lens, but I had already missed one of the most fantastic shots I had ever experienced. I just said to myself, 'Oh well,' and sat and watched the scene. As a photographer, I really don't get to experience what's actually happening as I shoot. So at times like this, when I can't get the picture, then I'm happy just watching the show."

OPPORTUNITIES TO CATCH Alaska's distinctive sights can be fleeting. One particularly ephemeral phenomenon is the aurora borealis, or northern lights. Fairbanks photographer Patrick Endres' collection of aurora images is one of the finest around—and he has spent many nights gathering them. He notes that the northern lights can be complemented by other elements—and you can sometimes frame your subject in advance. Many newcomers to aurora photography focus only on the flashy atmospheric lights. Patrick advises: "While your eyes are looking up for the aurora, remember that Alaska's foreground gives context and interest to whatever happens in the sky. Find a location that is interesting and contributes to your sky composition."

Composition and context is similarly important in adventure photography. The best in this field are often those willing to exert themselves to capture action from exciting angles. As Anchorage's Matt



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TIPS FOR TRIPS

There are many companies and professional photographers offering photo tours and/or photo workshops in Alaska. Consider these tips if you're contemplating joining one:

» Research who your photographer and guide will be, and read reviews from previous participants to know if he or she is right for you.

» Bring the proper equipment. Ask the guide/instructor well in advance what the most useful gear will be. Think about renting the gear, if necessary.

» Consider that "workshops" are typically guided by pro photographers who offer instruction. "Tours" usually take you to good places to shoot. The emphasis is not on instruction.

» Pay particular attention to the itinerary of the trip. Is the guide allowing enough time in each place?

» Depending on the location, accommodations will vary widely in Alaska. Read carefully where you will stay so you are not disappointed on arrival.

» Consider travel insurance. Weather can be unpredictable in Alaska.

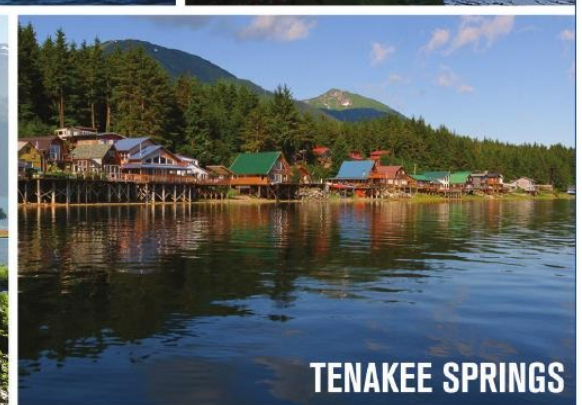
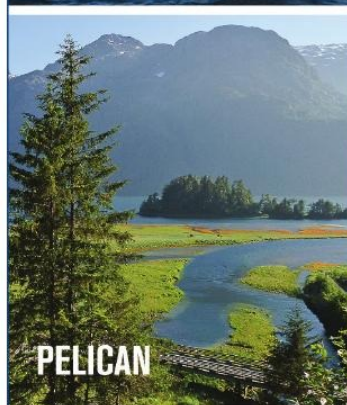
» Consider a custom photo tour, from a local photographer, if you want to photograph subjects that are harder to find. —J.S.

Hage puts it, "I have to be willing to actually do the adventure I'm assigned."

Once, Matt was given an assignment to photograph elite mountain guide Joe Stock, who was planning to climb 8,898-foot Mount Chamberlin—the third-tallest peak in the Brooks Range—and then be the first ever to ski down it.

"It was my all-time hardest assignment," Matt remembers. "We spent our first two days hiking with 70-pound packs of food, camera gear, camp gear, skis, boots, ropes and climbing hardware, with no trail, over grueling tundra terrain and river crossings. After setting up base camp, we climbed to the summit."

Matt says that the way down required advanced skiing techniques. "We did the



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Beyond
Alaska Airlines Magazine
Horizon Edition Magazine



Complete each sudoku grid by placing a number in each box so that each row, column and small nine-box square contains the numbers one to nine exactly once. **Solutions are on page 139.**

Difficulty: Easy

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | | | | 7 | | 1 | | |
| 3 | | | | 2 | 1 | 9 | 4 | |
| | 9 | | | | 6 | 5 | | 3 |
| 5 | | | 6 | | | 7 | | |
| | 4 | | 1 | 9 | 2 | | 8 | |
| | | 9 | | | 8 | | | 2 |
| 4 | | 1 | 2 | | | | 5 | |
| | 6 | 7 | 3 | 4 | | | | 9 |
| | | 5 | | 1 | | | | 4 |

Difficulty: Medium

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 5 | 9 | | 1 | | | 2 |
| | 1 | | | | 6 | | | 7 |
| 9 | 7 | | | 2 | | 6 | | |
| | 8 | | | | 4 | 2 | 6 | |
| | | 6 | | 5 | | 1 | | |
| | 2 | 1 | 6 | | | | 3 | |
| | | 3 | | 6 | | | 5 | 1 |
| 1 | | | 8 | | | | 2 | |
| 7 | | | 5 | | 9 | 3 | | |

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ALASKA

ski methodically, in stages, in order to both assess the hazards as well as to plan the photography.”

At the top of each stage, Matt would discuss the line Joe wanted to ski and what Matt thought would make a good image. Then, with his cameras put away, Matt would safely ski his way down to a good vantage point, staying away from the course Joe was going to follow and getting the equipment ready. Once ready, Matt would radio back to Joe, and Joe would ski the line. “After he skied past, I’d put my cameras back in my pack and ski down to Joe and repeat the process,” says Matt. They handled the whole mountain in this way. Twelve days later, they were back at the airplane pickup area, mission accomplished. Joe had met the goals that he had set, and Matt had irreplaceable on-site shots that would have never been possible if he hadn’t joined the adventure.

OF COURSE, GREAT IMAGES are all around those of us fortunate enough to spend time in Alaska. And there’s much to be said for just getting out there and finding shots wherever you go. Some sites are more accessible than others, and some shots require special expertise or equipment. Yet there is consistently inspiring subject matter across the Great Land—from scenes based in Anchorage to Arctic adventure images; from dawns at Denali to nighttime aurora images; from bears to whales to iconic mountain peaks. No matter where you go or what you do in Alaska, there is a wealth of images waiting to be captured. ▲

Jeff Schultz has been the official photographer of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race since 1982. He writes and conducts tours and workshops from Anchorage.

Alaska Airlines offers daily service between many communities in Alaska and the Lower 48; for tickets and information, go to alaskaair.com or call 800-ALASKAAIR.

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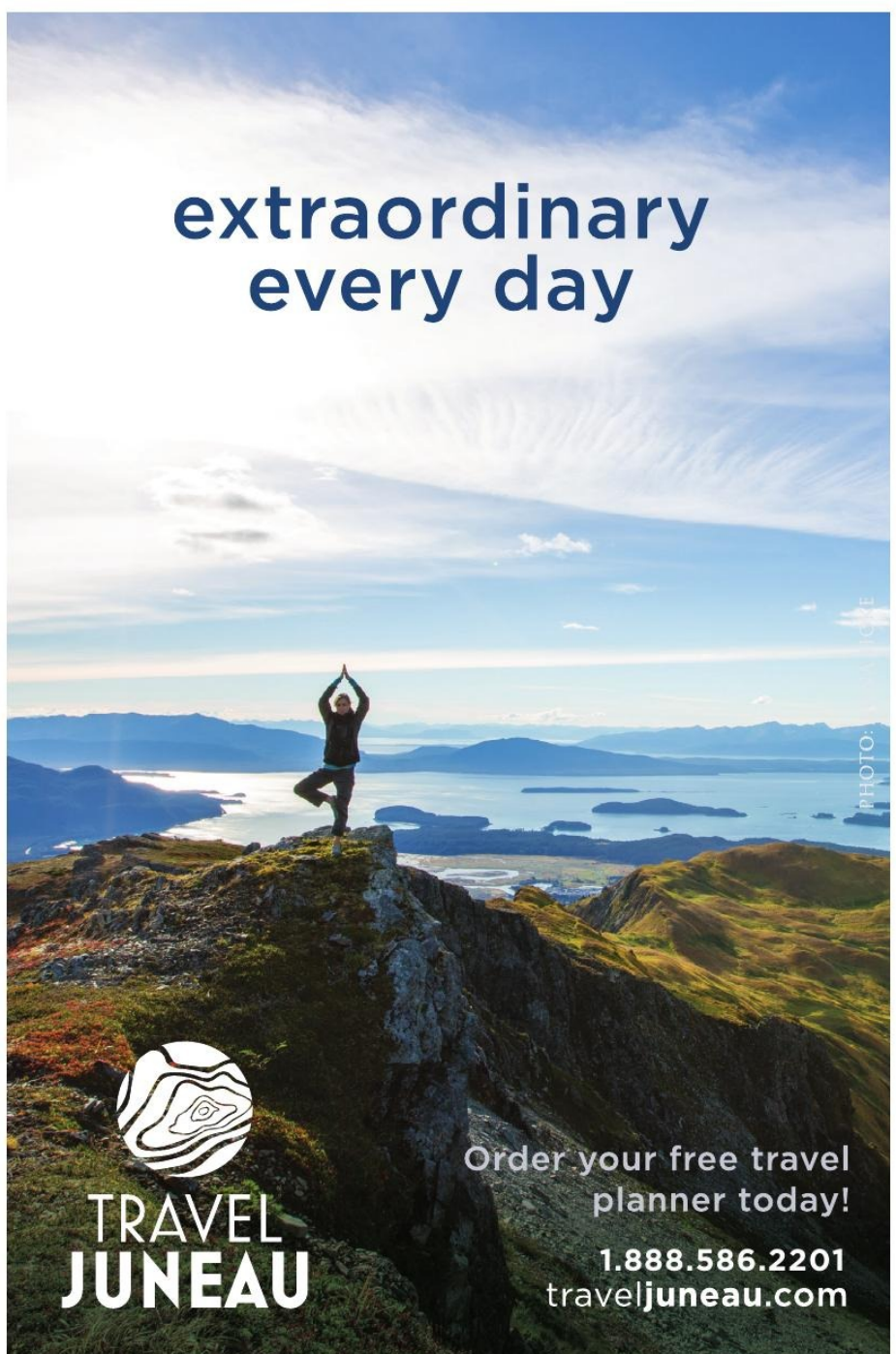



PHOTO: JEFF SCHULTZ



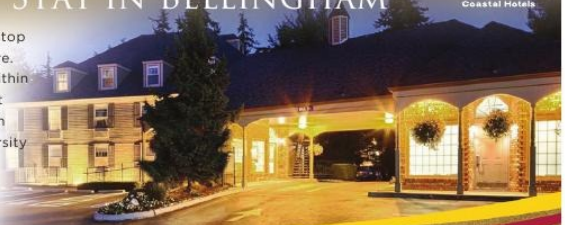


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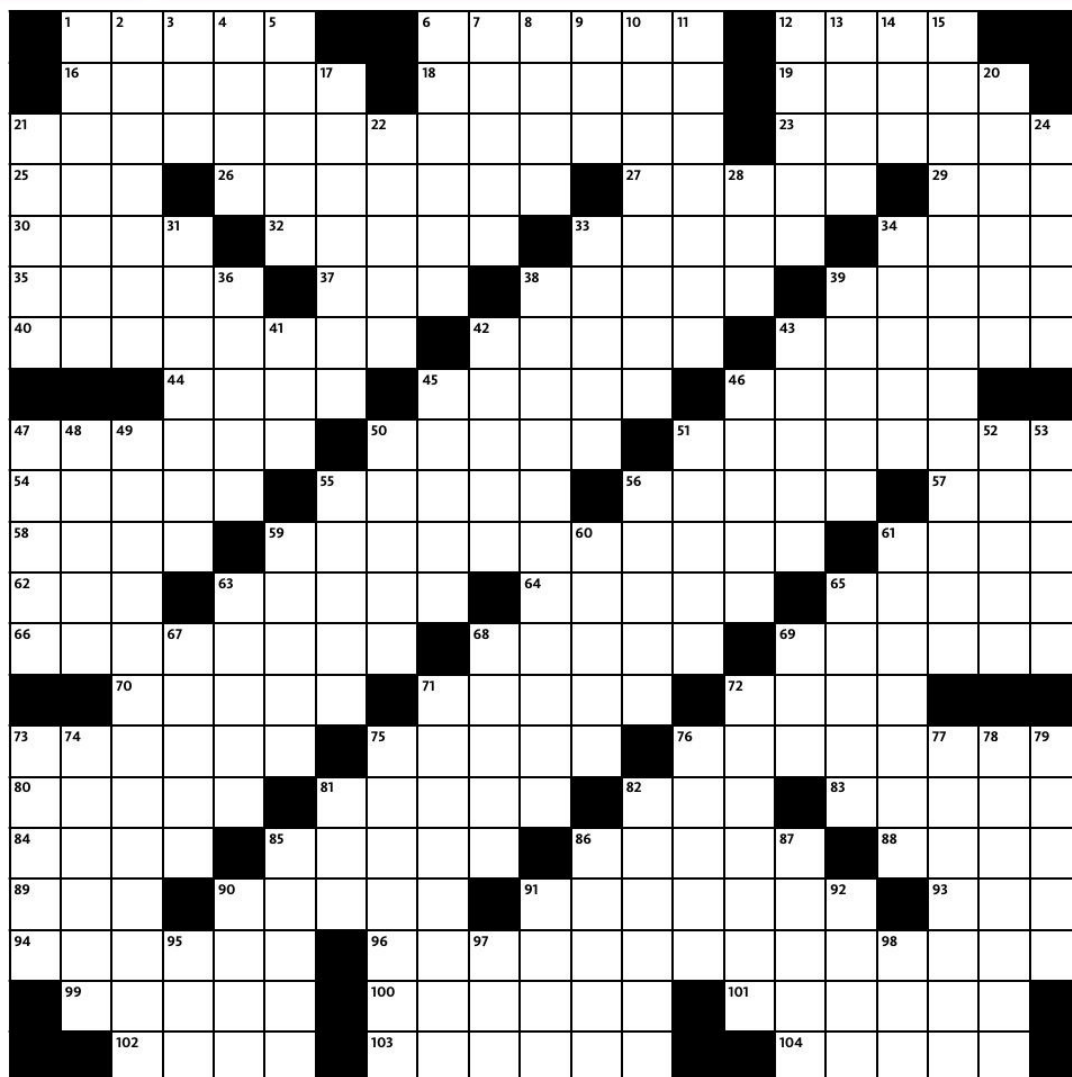


151 E McLeod Rd Bellingham, Washington, 98226, United States | 888.333.2080 | guestservices@bestwesternheritageinn.com

BW Best Western PLUS

ACROSS

- 1 Expunge
 6 Treeless plain
 12 City oasis
 16 Weasel
 18 Arabians, e.g.
 19 Shepard and Ladd
 21 Certain shrubs
 23 Fame
 25 Model Carol ____
 26 Lab vessels
 27 French military hats
 29 Eccentric wheel
 30 John and Norma
 32 ____ Island
 33 Staffs
 34 Greek peninsula
 35 Aweigh
 37 ____ a Living
 38 Sociologist Max ____
 39 Roger Bannister, e.g.
 40 Meetings
 42 Grinding stones
 43 Kitchen utensils
 44 Whitman's ____ of Myself
 45 ____ profundo
 46 Boggled down
 47 Series of ballet turns
 50 Lave
 51 Ascertain
 54 Ring railings
 55 Brasserie list
 56 Instances
 57 ____ Na Na
 58 Elec. units
 59 Tourists
 61 Jeff Smith direction
 62 Steeler Blount
 63 Merchandise
 64 Slogs
 65 Public spectacle
 66 Makes arrangements
 68 Shifts
 69 Achieved the standard
 70 Yearned
 71 Appointed
 72 Bombay garment
 73 Engine-room worker
 75 ____ Attraction
 76 Pummels
 80 Bears coach George ____
 81 Lorelei, e.g.
 82 Play the ponies
 83 The ____ Samurai
 84 Kimono belts
 85 Architect Richardson
 86 Cut of meat
 88 French seaport
 89 Windy City transports
 90 Carved gem
 91 Ate well
 93 Creek
 94 Warm again
 96 Wins everything
 99 Dish up



- 100 Sonnet stanza
 101 Intertwine
 102 "Mr. Fantastic" Richards
 103 Some Fords
 104 Tartan patterns

DOWN

- 1 Copy
 2 Framing members
 3 Puppy's cry
 4 Betelgeuse, e.g.
 5 Sniggler
 6 Pottery pieces, sometimes
 7 Sacher ____
 8 Slips up
 9 Chi follower
 10 Child's game
 11 Hebrew ascetics
 12 Helen's abductor
 13 Falstaff's drinks
 14 Seance sound
 15 Fist augments

- 17 Zero
 20 Ancient Greek coin
 21 Actress Theda and family
 22 British shoe shiner
 24 Islamic princes
 28 According to
 31 Fraidy-cats
 33 Perfume
 34 Buenos ____
 36 Mesons
 38 Laundress
 39 Stable moms
 41 Billfold content
 42 Photo finish
 43 Diving positions
 45 Cutting remarks
 46 Conceals
 47 Restrict
 48 Simpson patriarch
 49 Flatterer
 50 Ruth and Parilli
 51 Medieval weapons

- 52 Dusseldorf's river
 53 Like some seals
 55 Remedied
 56 Relinquished
 59 Less abundant
 60 ____ orange
 61 Professional copyists
 63 Ebbs
 65 Gilbert and Teasdale
 67 Hares' kin
 68 Sociable, in Leeds
 69 Crony
 71 Became more limited
 72 ____ fashion (determines style)
 73 Blacksmith, sometimes
 74 Postpones
 75 Bridge play
 76 Critter
 77 Emote
 78 Hits the sack
 79 Linkster Sam ____
 81 Religious sch.

- 82 Crows
 85 Detested
 86 Drive off
 87 Prom goes
 90 Fingal's ____
 91 Holiday
 92 Twofold: abbr.
 95 Pope's before
 97 Tee preceder
 98 Certain grain

SOLUTION ON PAGE 139.

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Fraidy cats.

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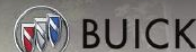


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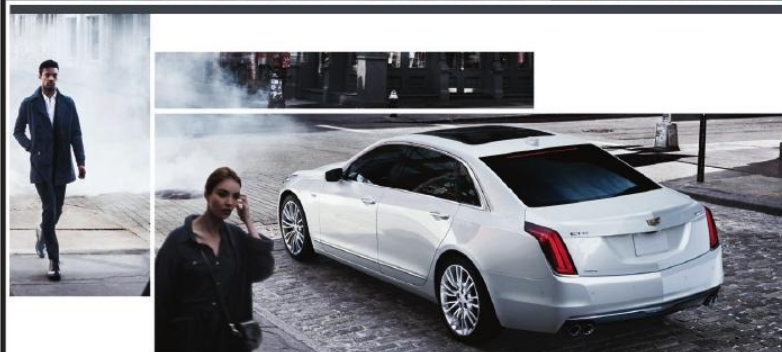
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