Alaska. BEYOND,

MAGAZINE MARCH 2017

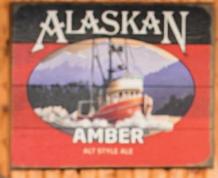
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BREWING UP INNOVATION IN ALASKA

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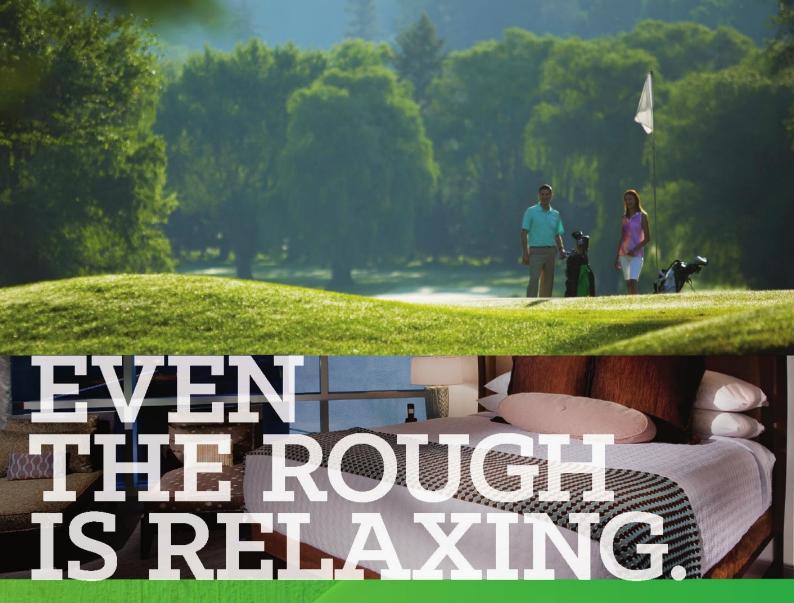
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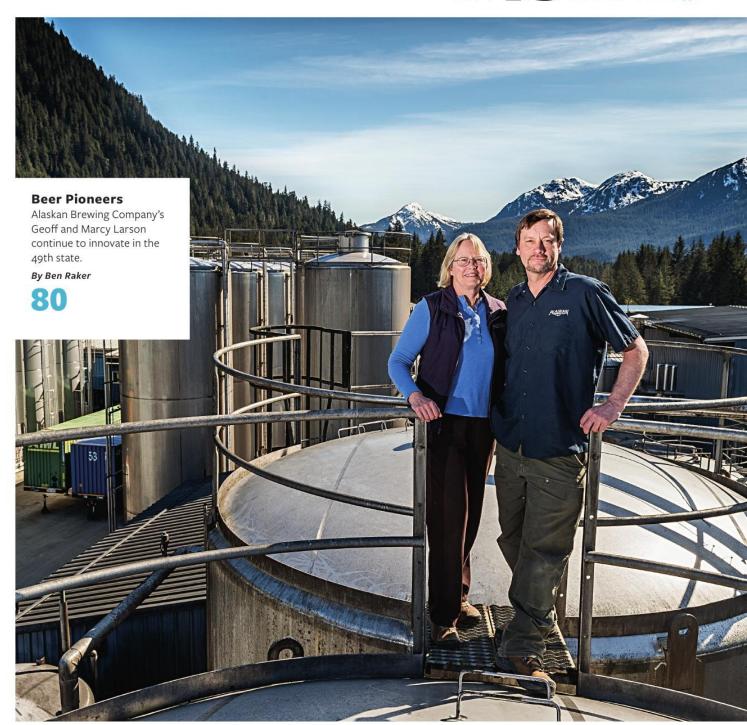
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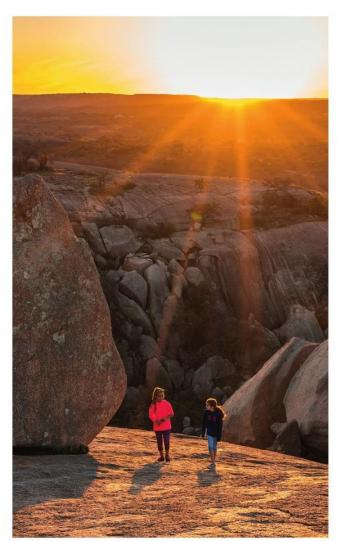
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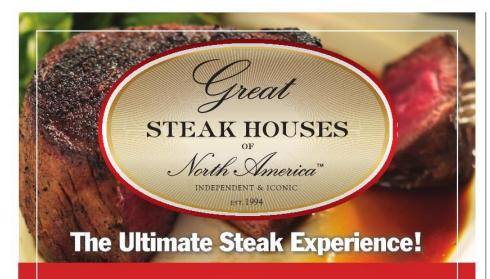
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Alaskan Brewing Company founders Marcy and Geoff Larson.

Photo by Christopher Miller.



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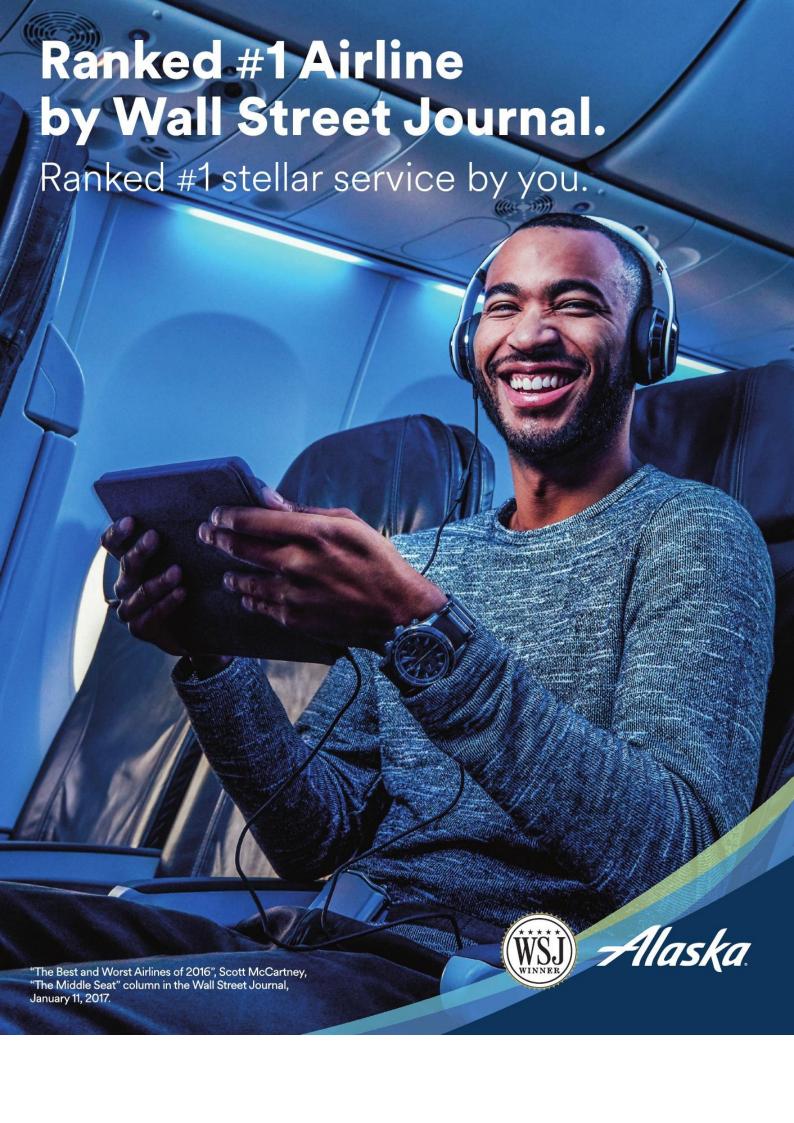
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WELCOME,

WHAT'S BREWING **IN ALASKA**



Brad Tilden, Chief Executive Officer



Marilyn Romano, Regional Vice President of Alaska

>>> There's nothing better than a cold beer once you're settled into your seat, and when it's an Icy Bay IPA, even better. Here, Marilyn Romano shares how this special beer and Alaska Airlines share some deep roots in the state. - Brad Tilden

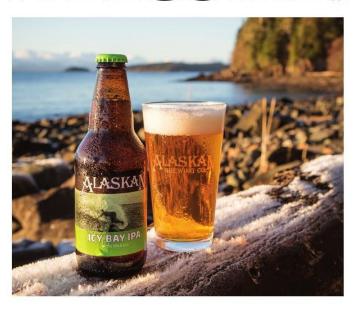
While many thought Geoff and Marcy Larson were nuts for trying to build a brewing business in Juneau, Alaska, the couple proved the skeptics wrong. The Larsons' homegrown Alaskan Brewing Company exemplifies the pioneering spirit for which Alaskans are well-known.

Some may have had similar doubts about Alaska Airlines when we began flying 85 years ago with a single airplane, between Anchorage and Bristol Bay. Today, the state of Alaska is home to more than 1,800 of our company's employees, serving our guests from Barrow to Ketchikan.

If you have not yet visited the 49th state, you may be surprised to learn that only three of the communities we serve in the state of Alaska are accessible by road. Air travel is vitally important. It is one of the reasons Alaska Airlines owns and maintains 11 rural airport terminals in the state, something you won't see in the rest of the country.

Recently, we announced we will be upgrading all 11 terminals as part of a project we call the 2020 Great Land Investment Plan. In addition to the terminals, we are also building a new Maintenance and Engineering Facility in Anchorage and adding three dedicated next-generation freighter aircraft to our fleet. With all the shipments of delicious Alaska seafood-and beer-we want to make sure we have enough capacity as local businesses expand.

As Alaskan Brewing Company has grown, so has Alaska Airlines. You may be reading this from one of our newer airplanes, heading to Costa Rica, Boston, Fairbanks or New Orleans. Personally, I still remember how



happy I was the day I learned Alaska Airlines would be flying to my hometown of Houston.

I felt that same happiness for our friends Geoff and Marcy when I stopped at the local grocery store outside of Conroe, Texas, and saw Alaskan Amber sitting prominently alongside other nationwide brands. I knew how far it had traveled. I have visited the awe-inspiring capital city of Juneau many times, and I have toured the Alaskan Brewing Company facility. It gives you just a taste of the ingenuity and hard work it takes to accomplish what the Alaskan Brewing Company team has achieved.

We feel the same way. Whether we are flying in minus 40-degree temperatures as we bring a Nome high school basketball team into Anchorage for a tournament or we hear stories of visitors catching their first king salmon while on vacation, we realize our unique role in the state. It is why we are proud to have the name "Alaska" on the side of our airplanes.

Enjoy reading the great story about the Larsons on page 80. It's about much more than beer, although if you tried an Alaskan Amber on your flight today, you would agree it is really good beer. If I'd had a little more space, I would have shared my Alaskan Amber Chili recipe. Always a hit at my house!

Thank you for flying with us today.

-Marilyn Romano, Regional VP of Alaska

>> BIENVENIDO

LA NUEVA TENDENCIA EN ALASKA



Brad Tilden, Jefe Ejecutivo



Marilyn Romano, Vicepresidenta Regional del Estado de Alaska

>> No hay nada como sentarse cómodamente y disfrutar de una cerveza fría y si es una Icy Bay IPA, mucho mejor. Hoy, Marilyn Romano nos cuenta cómo esta cerveza especial y Alaska Airlines comparten algunas de sus profundas raíces en el estado.

—Brad Tilden

Si bien muchos los creían locos al intentar crear un exitoso negocio de elaboración de cerveza en Juneau, Alaska, Geoff y Marcy Larson demostraron que los escépticos estaban equivocados. Su cervecería local, Alaskan Brewing Company, es un ejemplo del espíritu pionero por el cual son famosos los habitantes de Alaska.

Probablemente, habrá quienes han dicho lo mismo sobre Alaska Airlines cuando empezamos a volar hace 85 años con un solo avión, entre Anchorage y Bristol Bay. En la actualidad, el estado de Alaska es hogar de más de 1,800 empleados de nuestra empresa, quienes prestan servicio a nuestros clientes desde Barrow a Ketchikan.

Si aún no ha visitado el estado número 49, le sorprenderá saber que solo es posible tener acceso por carretera a tres de las comunidades donde prestamos servicio en el estado de Alaska. El transporte aéreo es de suma importancia. Es una de las razones por las que Alaska Airlines posee y mantiene 11 terminales de aeropuertos rurales dentro del estado, cosa que no encontrará en el resto del país.

Recientemente, anunciamos que mejoraremos las 11 terminales como parte de un proyecto llamado 2020 Great Land Investment Plan (Plan de inversión 2020 del gran territorio). Además de las terminales, también construiremos un nuevo Centro de Mantenimiento e Ingeniería en Anchorage y agregaremos a nuestra flota tres aviones next-generation especializados para carga. Con todos los envíos de deliciosos mariscos y cerveza de Alaska, queremos asegurarnos de contar con la capacidad suficiente a medida que los

negocios locales continúan creciendo.

Al igual que Alaskan Brewing Company, Alaska Airlines ha crecido. Es posible que este leyendo esto a bordo de uno de nuestros aviones más nuevos mientras viaja hacia Costa Rica, Boston, Fairbanks o Nueva Orleans. Yo, personalmente, aún recuerdo lo feliz que me sentí el día que supe que Alaska Airlines comenzaría a volar a Houston, mi ciudad natal.

También sentí la misma felicidad por nuestros amigos, Geoff y Marcy, cuando me detuve en una tienda en las afueras de Conroe, Texas, y vi la cerveza Alaskan Amber destacando junto a otras marcas nacionales. Sabía que venía desde muy lejos. He visitado la imponente ciudad capital de Juneau muchas veces, y también he visitado las instalaciones de Alaskan Brewing Company. Es una prueba del ingenio y el trabajo duro que se necesitan para alcanzar lo que ha logrado el equipo de Alaskan Brewing Company.

En Alaska Airlines nos sentimos de la misma manera. Independientemente de si estamos volando a -40° de temperatura para traer a Anchorage a un equipo de baloncesto de la escuela secundaria de Nome para un torneo, o si estamos escuchando historias de cómo algunos visitantes atraparon su primer salmón durante sus vacaciones, nos damos cuenta de que el papel que desempeñamos en el estado es único. Y es por ello que nos enorgullece llevar el nombre Alaska en ambos lados de nuestros aviones.

Disfrute leyendo la gran historia sobre los hermanos Larson en la página 80. Es mucho más que una cerveza, aunque si hoy disfrutó una cerveza Alaskan Amber durante su vuelo, estará de acuerdo en que es una cerveza realmente buena. Si tuviera un poco más de espacio, habría compartido mi receta de Estofado con Alaskan Amber. iSiempre es un éxito en mi casa!

Gracias por volar con nosotros hoy.

—Marilyn Romano, Vicepresidenta
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ELISA LOST 22 LBS & 10 YEARS IN 10 WEEKS

I thought I was in good shape for my age. I played on a competitive 4.0 tennis team and was dedicated to my Fitbit, religiously tracking my steps every day. I ate and drank whatever I desired. However, my pant sizes began creeping up and I noticed I was carrying more weight than I used to. I rationalized it was just part of life at 50 years old.

One day I was talking to my aunt, who had been through the My Best 10 program to get more fit and lose a few pounds before having surgery on her back. My uncle, who decided to support her, joined the 20/20 LifeStyles program as well. Both of them were incredibly successful and their looks changed dramatically with their weight loss and increased fitness levels. My aunt mentioned that she wished she had done the My Best 10 program 20 years ago. That got me thinking. She would have been my age if she had done that! I was comfortable being 50, but I didn't want to look "frumpy!" When I was given a choice to celebrate my 50th birthday - a closet makeover or the My Best 10 program - it was an easy decision. I chose My Best 10!

Once I had committed to the program, I was determined to remain dedicated. I decided the investment of time deserved my best effort, so I followed the program and did not deviate. I made a conscious decision that cheating was only cheating myself.

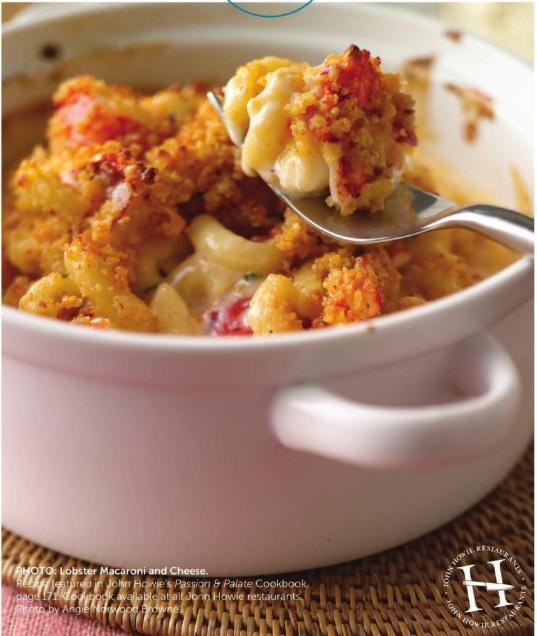
I was surprised by how fast I started seeing results. It was motivating! My stomach started shrinking, my pants got baggy and my face thinned out. My friends began to notice the changes and their positive reinforcement encouraged me even more.

The way I explain to friends who ask is that the My Best 10 program has a "recipe" with a proven record of success. So it doesn't make any sense to cheat on that. Why would I change a formula for success? I liked what the recipe produced, so I consciously decided not to tinker with it and just follow it as if I was following a recipe to bake a cake. Do each step. Don't deviate. And enjoy the results!

What I'm most happy about? Where do I start? My core strength has improved dramatically. My body fat dropped by double digits and I'm still surprised at how I lost inches from where I most wanted to – my butt and thighs. I had an "a-ha" moment when shopping for a new bathing suit and actually enjoying the experience. I'm most happy that after more than a year, I continue to enjoy a high level of fitness and good nutrition.

Maintaining my success has come easily. The knowledge and habits I gained during the program have become just part of my routine. I reset my "normal" and I couldn't be happier with the results!







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IN THE KNOW.

WHAT'S NEW

Alaska Airlines and Virgin America continue to grow and offer new routes as we combine to form the premier carrier for West Coast flyers. This month, we are adding new coast-to-coast flights, and also growing within the state of California. There are lots of reasons to give our new flights a try, including the following upcoming events that are sure to get you in the mood to travel.



PDX Portland

Portland Dining Month,

March 1-31; three-course meals for \$29 at participating restaurants in one of the nation's hottest food cities; portlanddiningmonth.com.



SMF Sacramento

Sacramento Beer Week,

March 2-12; more than 125 breweries serve 300-plus craft beers; featured events include the Sacramento Brewers' Showcase and Capitol Beer Fest; sacbeerweek.com.



SJC San Jose

Silicon Valley Comic Con

2017, April 21–23; pop culture and technology come together; celebrities, comics, videogames and more; svcomiccon.com.



BUR Burbank

Holi, Festival of Colors,

in Los Angeles, March 11; one of the world's largest Holi events welcomes spring with eco-friendlypowder throwing, music and more; festivalofcolorsusa.com.



SAN San Diego

La Jolla Concours

d'Elegance, April 7-9; events and exhibits showcase a variety of historic autos in a seaside setting; lajollaconcours.com.



EWR

New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 17; this famous tradition with about 150,000 marchers has taken place since 1762; nycstpatricksparade.org.



BWI

Baltimore

Light City, March 31-April 8; a city arts festival featuring large-scale light installations, performances, food vendors and interactive technologies; lightcity.org.



MCO

Orlando

Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival, March 1-May 29; Disney-themed topiaries, blooms, garden exhibits, dining and more; epcotinspring.com.



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BORN TO FLY

Captain Bryan Burks is a Legend of Customer Service in flight

For some young people, the question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" causes angst. That was never the case for Seattle-based Captain Bryan Burks.

He knew early on that he wanted to be a pilot. Born into a Navy family, Burks took his first flight-between Hawai'i and the U.S. mainland—when he was 10 days old. At the time, he says, he was one of the youngest infants to fly that route across the Pacific.

As a pilot, Burks first flew a small plane out of Tacoma Narrows Airport, when he was 16-before he had his driver's license.

"I could solo an airplane, but my mom had to drive me to the airport," he recalls.

For college, Burks attended Western Washington University, earning a bachelor's in political science. He later earned a master's in aeronautical science at the Anchorage branch of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

During his 21 years at Alaska, Burks has made strong impressions on customers and co-workers. He is known for his comforting manner of greeting travelers before flights. And he exemplifies service. He once took the coat off his back to cover an icy patch on the tarmac so customers could deplane safely.

Safety is a priority for Burks. He is an active participant in programs that qualify pilots and keep them prepared to handle emergency situations. Burks' efforts have helped make Alaska an industry leader in this area.

Burks was also an early leader in Alaska's Wings for Autism program, a cause close to his heart as the father of a child with autism. The program allows individuals with autism to practice for flying with their families, taking them from check-in through taxiing before returning to the gate. Burks has captained most of Alaska's Seattle-based "Wings" events. In part because flying has been so important in his life, he says it's gratifying to watch families realize that air travel is possible for them. X



Bryan Burks.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

How is customer service a part of what you do for Alaska?

It's part of everything I do! It starts with providing a safe and comfortable flight, but the opportunities to engage and serve our passengers never end. I really enjoy greeting our passengers when they board, and particularly when they leave the jet after enjoying a great flight.

What is your funniest story related to your work?

Last summer, I met a Russian pianist who had traveled to Sitka for the town's summer concert series. She was worried the salmon that she had checked was going to spoil. I assumed it had been packaged and sealed for the flight. But as I talked to her I came to realize she had wrapped the whole unfrozen, uncleaned fish in newspaper, with no ice, and had it in her suitcase, checked through to New York. I retrieved the salmon and packed it properly.

What do you always pack for travel?

A good book and a backpack. I like to be able to get outside when I'm on a layover, so I have a pack ready to go-warm clothes for Juneau or sandals for Hawaii.

What do you do first when you arrive in a new place?

I love to explore new places. I'll try to see what a city is known for, whether that's jazz music or barbecue or great biking trails.

Where would you still like to go?

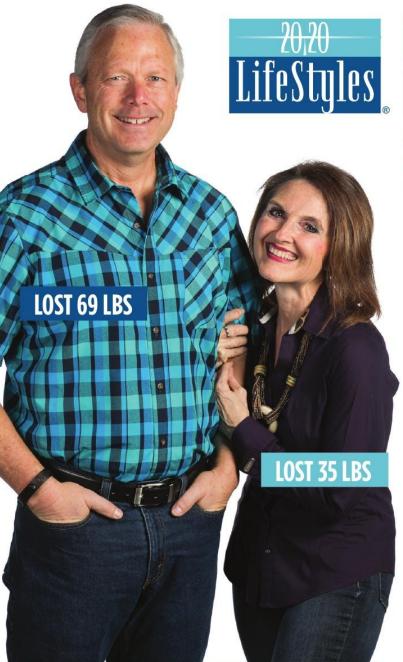
At the top of my list is Havana. I have flown to all other places Alaska flies.

What is something others might not know about you?

I have 20-year-old fraternal twin daughters, one of whom has high-functioning autism. She is doing great, and my wife and I have become active in autismsupport efforts for families and youth.



EACH YEAR, Alaska Airlines recognizes employees, such as Bryan Burks, as Legends of Customer Service, the airline's highest honor.







LifeStyles LOST 104 POUNDS

"The 20/20 LifeStyles program is simple and it works. It is worth any effort to reclaim your health and well-being." ~Mike

When Mike decided to join the 20/20 LifeStyles program to lose some weight and improve his health, his wife, Jeannine, reluctantly joined as well to support him. Jeannine had struggled with weight most of her life and tried many different diets, so she thought she knew all about health and nutrition.

However, when she began watching the 20/20 LifeStyles videos, Jeannine was surprised. "They empowered me to take control of my eating and health," she says. "I see them as valuable tools that I can pull out and watch again as questions arise or when I need to make decisions about my health habits."

"We quote the videos all the time," says Mike. "I learned that 'sugar-free' is not 'calorie-free,' and why I need to eat regular meals and not consume all my calories at the end of the day. The toughest habit to break was continuing to eat after dinner until bed time. And the food was ice cream, candy, cookies – all the unhealthy stuff. It's no wonder I was in such poor health. The 20/20 LifeStyles program was so easy to follow. If I followed the program, I saw the results. It has affected my life in a very profound way. I'm active every day and I'm constantly aware of the need to make healthy choices."

"I've been a yo-yo dieter since I was 12 years old," says Jeannine. "As a result, my body was out of nutritional balance for years. I suffered from severe leg cramps for the past 20 years and had to supplement with electrolytes. Since doing the 20/20 LifeStyles program, I'm not taking any of those supplements and my leg cramps are gone. I don't have to accept that I'm getting older and, therefore, have to slow down. My personal trainer helped me strengthen my back, knee and core muscles, which alleviated my aches and pains. I'm amazed at how different my body shape is because of the strength training. I had never experienced this while losing weight in the past."

"My trainer taught me a lot about getting stronger and how to train to become a better bike rider," says Mike. "I've never ridden at this low of a weight. I can climb better and ride faster for longer, which makes the entire sport more enjoyable. I now commute to work twice a week on my bike. Also, I can do two and a half pull ups for the first time in over 20 years and have been able to start jogging without my knees hurting. In general, I haven't felt this good about myself, my appearance, my health and my activities for quite a long time. I used to work through my lunch hour. Now, because we want to get in 10,000 steps per day, Jeannine joins me for a lunchtime walk almost every day. We've logged over 2.5 million steps (over 1,000 miles) since the end of February."

"Our daily walks are not only great for the physical exercise, but they also give us quality time together and they've been a great stress reliever for both of us," says Jeannine. "Our Registered Dietitian has also helped us stay on the same page. It's been fun working with her to come up with healthy and creative recipes that taste good and keep us eating on plan. For the first time, I understand the science behind healthy eating and feel like I'm in control of my cravings and eating habits."



MOMENTUM TAKES FLIGHT

Employees develop a corporate culture to love

By Christy True

>> Alaska Airlines' leaders know that corporate culture isn't created from the top down. Employees and teammates make culture happen—and lay the groundwork for creating an airline that people love.

Key to the process of integrating the Virgin America and Alaska teams is a program called "Momentum," a daylong experiential training class designed to welcome Virgin America teammates and build relationships at the two airlines. All 3,000 Virgin America teammates and 500 to 600 Alaska employees will attend sessions over a stretch of three months, giving teammates a chance to rub elbows with new colleagues and ask tough questions of company leaders.

"Since the announcement of the merger, a

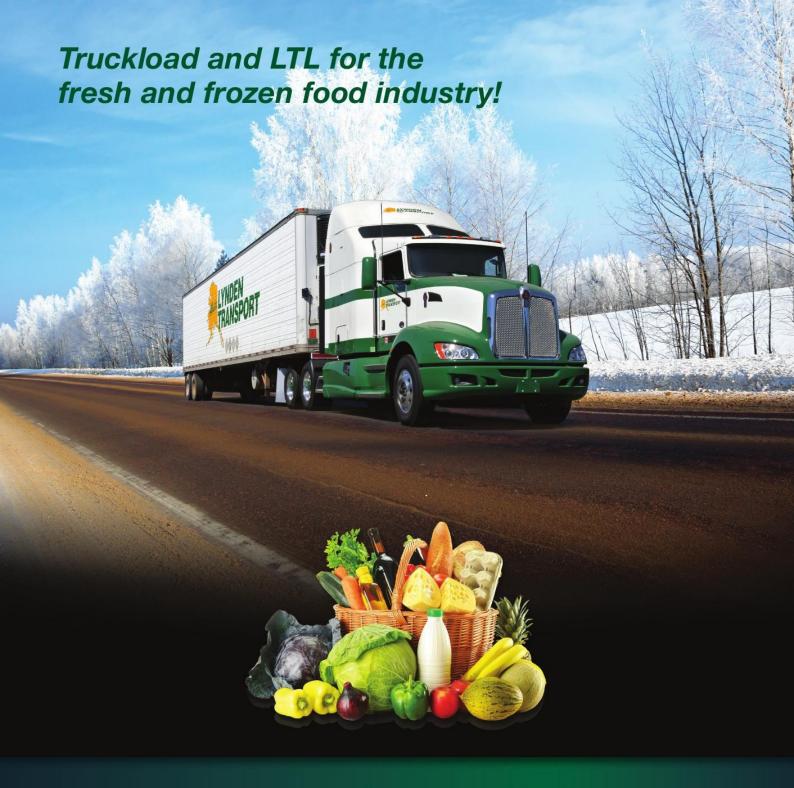
lot of the information that we have received has been technical," said Michelle Floyd, a learning coordinator for Virgin America. "After today, I feel like everything will be OK. I feel much better than I did this morning."

Momentum events have a lively, upbeat feel. Interactive TV show-style games and improvisational exercises are interspersed between talks from leaders and O&A sessions. The first program included talks from Peter Hunt, Virgin America president, and Brandon Pedersen, Alaska's CFO. They shared how the merger came about and how leaders at both companies came to see that the combined airlines would be stronger as one. They also talked about the shortcomings of previous airline mergers and how this one would be different.

"Previous airline mergers have all been successful from a financial standpoint, even though they didn't go smoothly," Hunt said. "They were all about restructuring and cutting a lot of things. We are in a completely different situation. Both Alaska and Virgin America are really doing well. This is more about growth and stability for the future."

Virgin America attendees also got to meet their new CEO, Ben Minicucci. One teammate asked Minicucci what would make Virgin America teammates love Alaska the way they love Virgin America.

"The more you get to know us, the more you love us," Minicucci said. "You will not have an airline last for more than 80 years unless people love it. Our values say that we care about our employees, our guests and the community. Those are values that have carried us through decades." ズ





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TRAVEL ESSENTIALS

Alaska designer focuses on comfort and style

By Luly Yang



)) I love to travel, and do so often—both for work and for pleasure. I frequently fly to Europe and Asia, and over the years, I've honed my travel and packing skills to make those long international flights as comfortable as possible. Because I tend to pack light, items that are multifunctional are always my favorites. Whether traveling from Seattle to New York City, or Seattle to Hong Kong, I have a few essentials I always pack:

A cozy shawl

I never travel without my Luly luxe shawl—a super-cozy cashmere shawl with Swarovski crystal detailing. I have it in multiple colors, and I take one everywhere. It keeps me warm when I am outside. On flights, it's a pillow when I want to sleep, and it's my blanket when I'm cold. I can use it as a neck roll, as lumbar support or as a cushion to prop up

my arm while reading. Any long and wide scarf or shawl will work for this purpose, but it's a bonus to have one that can also work in dressing up for a dinner party.

Passport wallet

I keep everything in my passport wallet, which is disguised as a stylish clutch for a night out. It's roomy enough to hold my cellphone, keys, credit cards, boarding passes and, of course, my passport. It also has compartments for different currencies.

Sunglasses

I cannot travel without my sunglasses. I'll put them on when I'm tired after a long flight or while on a shorter flight if I just want a quick nap or need to filter the daylight when my seat neighbor has the window shade open.

Essentials toiletry bag

I always travel with a petite clear toiletry bag full of comfort essentials: Evian facial mist, eyeshade and earplugs, toothbrush and floss, refreshing citrus-scented lotion, lip balm, caffeinated under-eye serum, Tide to Go stick, Shout stain removers and disinfectant hand wipes.

Flip-flops

I like to bring flip-flops for the plane if it's a long flight and I want to take my shoes off for a little extra comfort. I never want to be barefoot on a plane, and the flip-flops double as slippers in my hotel room, poolside or on the beach. *

Seattle fashion designer Luly Yang is working on redesigning uniforms for more than 12,000 Alaska Airlines employees.

The Art of Hair Restoration

Artistry is what you get when you see Dr. Brian Goertz. As a board certified hair transplant surgeon and the founder of Hair Transplant Seattle, he takes great pride in his artistry of creating natural hairlines, achieving amazingly natural results and helping his patients regain the appearance they've been looking for.



Brian O. Goertz M.D. Founder of Hair Transplant Seattle

Patients meet directly with Dr. Goertz who takes a very holistic approach to caring for his patients. He counsels each individual on appropriate diet and supplements not only for their "hair health" but also for their general well-being and longevity.

Today there are still many misconceptions about hair transplantation, the results that can be achieved and the process by which the procedure is performed. With Dr. Goertz those misconceptions are gone; people will only know you've had a hair transplant if you tell them.

"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

a dramatic change in a woman's life. In some cases, hair transplantation is even appropriate for children with areas of hair loss caused by trauma, burns or radiation treatment. Hair transplantation can also be performed for eyebrows, sideburns, mustaches and beards.



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Hair Transplant Seattle

BUYING A 737

Alaska used to scour the world for used aircraft—now it's a short drive to Boeing Field

By Cole Cosgrove

)) In the 50 years that Alaska Airlines has been buying and flying Boeing planes, acquiring aircraft has never been easier.

For one thing, the airline has the cash to buy jets fresh off the Boeing 737 assembly line in Renton, Washington. What's more, Alaska is close to Boeing-not only in proximity, but in its long-standing business relationship. The 737 Delivery Center at Boeing Field is less than 10 miles north of Alaska's corporate headquarters.

But it wasn't always simple. Just ask Irv Bertram, who for some 40 years has handled the paperwork for almost every purchase, sale or lease of aircraft operated by Alaska.

In the lean times of the 1970s, '80s and '90s. Alaska scoured the world for affordable used aircraft, and then sent Bertram to places such as Singapore, Malaysia, Iceland and England to seal the deal. He always came home with planes—and a few stories.

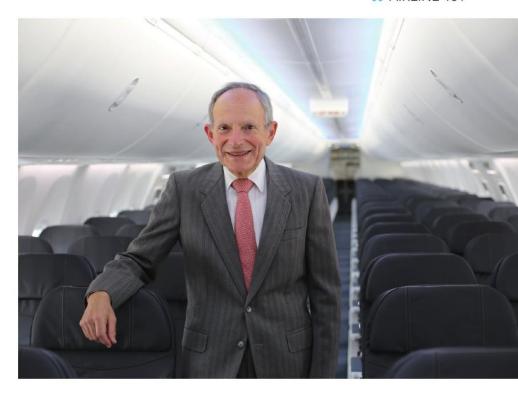
The old way of doing things

Bertram, Alaska's Associate General Counsel, joined the company in 1976, when the airline operated just 10 aircraft, plus two small twin-engine Otters. "We couldn't afford anything," he recalls.

"One year, the only way we made money was by selling a 727."

The turning point was the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978, which created the opportunity for Alaska to open new routes south to California and across the country. And as the company grew, it needed planes.

On one memorable journey in the early 1980s, Bertram traveled to Gustavus, Alaska, to take delivery of a new Boeing 737-200C. He flew there aboard the plane he was buying. Why go to Alaska? By closing the purchase there, the agreement qualified for an Investment Tax Credit under Alaska tax law.



The airline loaded some freight and flew the plane back home to Seattle, thus placing it in service in Alaska to qualify for the tax credit.

Taking delivery today

On one recent morning, Bertram stopped by the Boeing 737 Delivery Center on his way to work—it's less than a mile out of his way. Completing the transaction via virtual meeting was an option, but "for us, it's so convenient, it doesn't make sense to do it digitally," Bertram says.

The key players from Boeing and Alaska gathered in a second-story conference room that overlooks the ramp—the Eskimo image on the tail of the new plane appeared to be peeking in the window. The closing process, which used to take up to five hours, with printed paperwork that filled three to five boxes, took less than an hour. Electronic documents let everyone review the material before the meeting. Bertram double-checked some of the documents on his iPad. Once the team technically accepted the aircraft for purchase, Alaska wired the funds to Boeing.

Boeing confirmed receipt of the funds and

After 40 years, Irv Bertram still enjoys that bit of new-car smell in a brand-new Boeing 737.

then called its Federal Aviation Administration representative in Oklahoma City to register the sale. The ceremonial keys changed hands and people applauded politely. Bertram took one final walkthrough of the aircraft. "It's a good-looking plane," he said. "And it has a bit of that new-car smell."

Good to the last dollar

In Irv Bertram's office at Alaska Corporate Headquarters, a framed dollar bill hangs on the wall, along with a \$1 receipt from Boeing. Back in 2001, when Bertram was closing on a 737-700, Alaska wired the millions of dollars to Boeing, but when comparing final numbers, Boeing realized that Alaska's payment was somehow a dollar short. There was no simple method to wire \$1, but the deal couldn't be completed with the discrepancy. "I just reached into my wallet and pulled out a dollar," Bertram said. "I said, 'Here, let's close.'"

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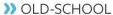
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BREWS ONBOARD

)) In the late 1960s, Alaska Airlines President Charles Willis wanted passengers "to have an experience, not just a trip." Among the changes introduced at the time were cabin interiors designed with a Gold Rush Gay '90s theme. Willis had a stand-up bar installed in the rear of the airline's 96-seat Convair 880 jet aircraft, where passengers were served free beer.

While the promotion was popular during a time in which the airline was expanding in

Alaska and adding flights south to Seattle, it was costly—not so much for the price of a free beer, but for the fact that the airline had to remove nine seats in the back of the plane to make room for the beer lounge.

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COMMUNITY

COMBINING **STRENGTHS**

The Alaska Community Foundation supports local nonprofits

By Paul Frichtl

>> Finding funds to serve the needs of local communities is never easy. In rural Alaska communities, it's a challenge that's met in a particularly Alaskan way: communities coming together, combining resources to help those in need.

One of the organizations making the biggest difference is The Alaska Community Foundation, which helps nonprofits, individuals and communities around the state by providing funding and support for local efforts. The core of ACF is its Affiliate Program, begun in 2008 with the support of the Rasmuson Foundation, which encompasses nine communities across the state. The program is led by volunteer advisory boards that monitor their communities' needs and partner with other nonprofits to leverage necessary support.

In 2015, for example, wildfires struck Alaska's interior. Affiliate foundations provided immediate aid. With houses destroyed and community members homeless, Affiliates such as the Kenai Peninsula Foundation and the Golden Heart Community Foundation in Fairbanks provided help for neighbors in need. Kenai used discretionary funds held for emergencies to issue a grant to their local community center, while GHCF provided support for the wildfire response and relief efforts in their borough through two grants, one to the Tanana Chiefs Conference and the other to the Red Cross.

In Haines, the Chilkat Valley Community Foundation is finding innovative ways to help nonprofits maintain needed services. For example, when the local senior center could no longer afford its own facilities and provide lunch five days a week, the local preschool decided to move to the senior center. With the support of CVCF, many seniors will be able to enjoy lunch with grandchildren who attend



the preschool. The move will not only expand services, but it will also create space for intergenerational bonding in an innovative way.

"ACF is something that really works in the state of Alaska," says Nina Kemppel, ACF president and CEO. "We're raising money for Affiliate boards to give to causes that matter in their communities."

ACF currently has nearly \$79 million in endowment and donation funding. Since it was formed in 1995, ACF has donated more than \$50 million to a wide range of needs, from libraries and food banks, to environmental projects and social-issue programs such as substance-abuse prevention. Last year, ACF awarded approximately \$4 million through 650 grants and scholarships to 54 communities across the state.

Behind these distributions is the generosity of hundreds of individuals, families, organizations and corporations—including Alaska Airlines—interested in giving back to their communities. ACF helps make giving easy and effective. In some cases, Kemppel says, donations are very targeted and strategic toward a local project, while in other cases people simply want to rely on ACF and

>>> Preschoolers in Haines, Alaska, will share space with seniors in an innovative collaboration assisted by ACF.

Affiliates to direct money where it is needed most. That might include a fund that allows ACF to make discretionary grants to collaborative projects such as providing emergency shelter for Alaskans who have no place to sleep at night or supporting programs to address suicide prevention.

One of ACF's most significant resources is the "Pick.Click.Give" program attached to the state's annual Permanent Fund Dividend distribution. Alaska residents entitled to the annual payment have the option, on the PFD website, to search among more than 700 Alaska-based nonprofits in need, and donate a portion of their check to a group through ACF. Last year, Pick.Click.Give generated \$3.2 million.

However the contributions might be directed. ACF serves as a reliable resource for donors who want to make a difference, and for local charitable organizations to find additional funding that will help them help their neighbors. *



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ON POINT,



PINTS AND PAIRINGS

Classic combinations and complementary flavors

By Tom Douglas



>>> I always enjoy cooking with the beverage I'm sipping, so I occasionally look for ways to add beer into my dishes. A sip for me, a splash in the pan!

A true Northwest classic one-pot method for enjoying the outdoors as we shake off the winter is to steam clams or mussels freshly plucked from the briny waters of Puget Sound with a golden ale, butter, herbs and shallots. And be sure to serve a hearty pile of griddled, crusty garlic bread to soak up that steamy broth (and butter).

As you enter into cooking with beer, you will be better off sticking with lighter, less-hoppy beers, such as lagers, or beers with roasty or sweet malt character, such as brown ales, stouts and porters. Try adding a splash of one of these to a barbecue sauce or a pot of baked beans.

IPAs with citrusy-juicy flavors are popular right now. These beers make use of some amazing hops, such as Citra, which has earned admiration from brewers due to its racy tropical flavors that are sometimes associated with guava and lychee fruit.

The challenge in cooking with a hoppy beer is its bitterness. The beautiful aroma fools you into thinking it will react like wine when you try to reduce it into a syrup or vinaigrette, but the cooking process will actually accentuate the bitter, tannic character. So I save IPAs to drink alongside dishes.

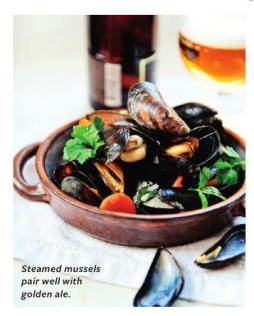
Of course, beer and food don't actually need to be cooked together in the pot to complement each other. At our restaurants, we like to host beer dinners in which our chefs take a break from wine pairings in favor of matching beers to foods that highlight the flavor profile of both the dish and the beverage—sometimes even adding hops directly to a dish. We've actually served pickled fresh spring hop shoots over a country pork pâté—yum!

Recently, I asked Brian Walczyk, chef of our beer hall, Brave Horse Tavern—the restaurant in our group with the deepest beer list—to share his beer-pairing thoughts with me.

Brian's favorite idea: Start with a funky sour ale and match it with a quick, salt-cured tuna sashimi or

ON POINT

>> FRESH TAKES



even a light and bitter salad with grapefruit. The bright acidity and citrus notes of many West Coast sour beers highlight tart, citrus flavors in food.

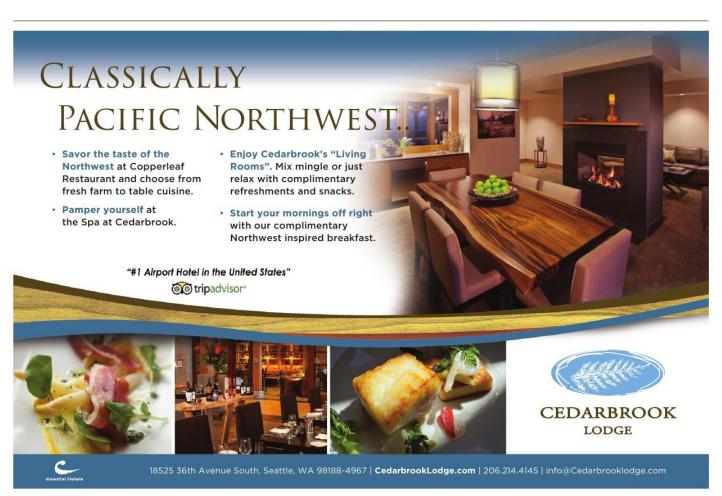
If you are a lighter-beer "lager person" like me, anything goes—from fish-and-chips to a cheese-burger. My personal favorite? Caraway-roasted pork with bread dumplings and a Czech beer, such as Pilsner Urquell.

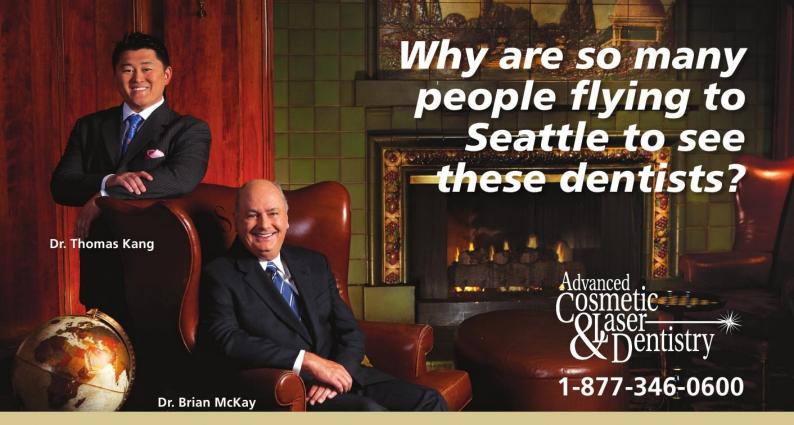
When you are drinking darker brews, Brian says, match sweeter-style stouts with a dessert, such as a salted-caramel brownie. Or, with a more savory, dry, coffee-based stout, use some of your pairing beer in a braise for chuck roast or short ribs.

Those sour-and-sometimesfruity-sweet Belgian beers known as lambics are some of the most versatile for pairing, and for working into your dishes. You can add a splash of an apple cider vinegar that contains live cultures—such as Bragg Organic Apple Cider Vinegar—to a lambic and let this sit overnight to make a lambic vinegar for your salad dressing. Or, reduce the lambic by itself for a glaze to serve over fatty roast duck. Again, you can drink the same beer alongside the dish you've cooked it into. To finish out your meal, match a lambic with the fruit it was brewed with—such as a great Rainier cherry pie.

There are really no rules when it comes to pairing, but with a little guidance and experimentation, you may begin to explore some wildly fun combinations. Cheers! **⊀**

James Beard Award-winning chef Tom Douglas owns Tom Douglas Seattle Kitchen, a group of 23 food-based businesses. He partners with Alaska Airlines to bring his iconic flavors to the inflight experience.





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MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Everyday life sparks vivid recollections of travel experiences

By Bridget Veltri



Matterhorn, hiking around Machu Picchu, and gazing at Yellowstone's Upper and Lower Falls are travel memories that will never leave my mind.

Turning a corner and suddenly seeing the

I don't think of them on a regular basis, though. I guess some experiences are just too awesome for everyday life.

For me, the memories that surface most frequently are triggered by commonplace occurrences. One minute I'm waiting for the sugar to settle in my iced tea, and then I'm suddenly reminded of being an impatient 5-year-old doing the same thing in Mooréa.

If I ever forget my bus pass and am struggling to find both perfect change and balance as the bus lurches forward, it takes me back to being in Paris and doing the same thing on a rainy ride to Notre Dame.

If I see anything made of linen, I immediately think of the linen pants I borrowed from a friend to take to Panama, and the way they looked after getting caught in a torrential downpour in the jungle.

I see clothes hanging in the windows to dry in the foggy San Francisco air, and think of driving through Hong Kong, where the apartment building exteriors are strung with clotheslines.

And it doesn't matter if it's a fountain, a lake, or the pedicure bowl at my neighborhood nail salon, if my feet are submerged in water, I think of soaking them with my mother in the muddy Mississippi River when I was a girl.

I'm so grateful for the everyday things at home that are constantly taking me back to my travels. **⊀**

Bridget Veltri is a blogger for The Bold Italic: thebolditalic.com/@BVeltri.



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- 4 OREGON COAST Dramatic cliffs, one-of-a-kind rolling sand dunes and breathtaking vistas.

- **5 CASCADE MOUNTAINS** Meet in the mountains for a view of nature rising around you as you hike upward towards the sky.
- 6 **CULINARY ADVENTURES** Grind your own flour, tour a gluten-free chocolate factory, or in Florence, haul in crab.
- **BEER** Journey down the Eugene Ale Trail, with over 20 participating breweries, for a unique prize.
- 8 **SOUTH WILLAMETTE VALLEY WINE COUNTRY** Tour our wine country in a fun, interactive way by playing Pinot Bingo!
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8 TIPS FOR BUSINESS **TRAVELERS**

By Johnny Jet

)) I'm not one of those business travelers who says travel is no fun. When you really stop and think about it, being able to travel as part of your job is a pretty darned good perk, one that many would be grateful for. You get to see different places on someone else's dime, and it helps you to appreciate your family more. Hopefully these eight tips will help business travelers have the best possible experience while on the road.

1 Download flight apps

Alaska Airlines' mobile app notifies users of gate changes, flight delays and cancellations. It also helps you keep track of reward points so you can watch your miles grow. The app TripIt Pro also performs many of these functions. In addition, it notifies you when you're eligible for a flight refund and lets you know when the seat you want becomes available. The app costs \$49/year for the Pro version, but there's a free trial for 30 days.

2 Stay connected

Use Skype, FaceTime or Google Hangout to stay connected for free. How amazing is it that you can see and talk to your family, friends and colleagues (well at least some of them) as long as you and they have a Wi-Fi connection? Take advantage of technology to bridge the distance while you're away.

3 Buy inflight Wi-Fi

Although you can't use VoIP services like those mentioned previously on an airplane, you can text, email and surf the web with inflight Wi-Fi. I like to work during the flight so I can relax when I get to my destination. To save money, buy Wi-Fi passes in advance. It's cheaper than doing it on the plane. See gogoair.com and alaskaair.com. (By the way,

check out Alaska's Free Chat promotion—for details, see p. 205.)

4 Find the quickest route

Before I jump in a car, even if I know my way, I always consult Waze or Google Maps to find the quickest route. These apps work pretty much all over the world and have saved me so much time and aggravation. They also keep your taxi driver honest. No more long and unnecessary detours!

5 Use ride-sharing apps and public transportation

Depending on the destination, I often find it most convenient to use ride-sharing apps such as Uber and Lyft. I don't have to deal with driving, finding parking or over-the-top parking fees, and I can be more productive in the car. If traffic is bad, I take public transportation.

6 Sign documents digitally

I used to dread receiving emails asking me to sign contracts or

documents while on the road. But thanks to the SignEasy app, you can digitally sign and send documents from your mobile device in no time. SignEasy offers a 14-day free trial; then it's \$9.99 a month.

7 Use your phone as a remote control

Stayconnect is an app that lets you use your phone as a TV remote. Not every hotel offers the service, but many do. Just turn the TV on and press the menu button on the hotel remote; if the service is available, you will see instructions in the bottom left-hand corner of the TV. Once you're synced, you not only can change the channel and adjust the volume, but power the whole thing on or off, as well.

8 Appreciate the experience

Don't forget to remember how fortunate you are. The few days that I dread getting on a plane and leaving my family at home, I have to remind myself how lucky I am. I'm just going away for a short period, I'm going to get a good night's sleep, and the absence will make my relationship stronger. Instead of allowing business travel to cause a rift in your home life, find ways to use it to make your family stronger. ⊀

Johnny Jet is a Los Angelesbased travel expert who visits 20 countries each year. Read more of his travel tips at johnnyjet.com.















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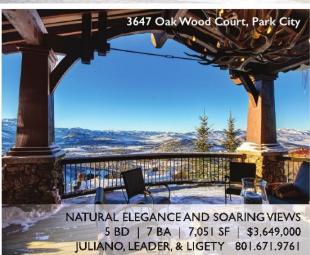




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BOOKING GLOBAL

By Scott Mackenzie

>>> Let's suppose that you're as excited about a trip overseas this summer as I am. Then you're also intrigued by the notion of redeeming your Mileage Plan miles to get you there: Alaska Airlines has 16 different partners that can help you get almost anywhere in the world.

Award space can be limited, and the sheer number of possible itineraries on these longer trips can sometimes make it difficult to book. But I can help, with the following tips:

First, a few basics. Mileage Plan has relatively generous award-routing rules, and in most cases, it allows individual one-way awards that are at half the price of traveling roundtrip.

For each direction of your overall journey, you can travel on only one partner, although you may choose to fly a different partner on your return trip.

Mix-and-match awards add the one-way prices of each journey to determine the roundtrip cost. Alternately, you may choose to book each one-way journey separately.

Also, you may add as many connecting segments as you need on Alaska Airlines to reach your international gateway.

Choose a partner. Let's say you're interested in traveling to Europe: The list of partners offering award travel to Europe includes British Airways, KLM/Air France, American Airlines, For example, a search for Seattle to Munich found awards on Emirates and British Airways.

In the case of Emirates you'd pay lower fees, but spend the longer flight from Seattle to Dubai in coach. In the case of British Airways, you'd pay higher fees but travel in first class; only the short hop from London to Munich is in coach.

Prioritize your search for the longer flights. Suppose you want to visit Bali, which is served by



Emirates and Icelandair. The number of miles you'll use can vary among partners. Mileage Plan has a different award chart for each, so some partners might require more or fewer miles. Pay attention to associated fees, as some partners charge higher fees for awards.

The biggest reason to pick one partner over another will likely be award availability and your willingness to compromise.

only one of Alaska's partners:
Cathay Pacific. That airline's
website reveals that it serves
eight cities in the United States
and Canada, so begin your search
by looking at just these eight
routes to its hub in Hong Kong.
Once you find one of those cities
with award space, then look for a
way to reach it with connecting
flights on Alaska. Do the same
for your journey from Hong Kong
to Bali with Cathay Pacific.

Once you find all these segments, you can piece them together into a single award. It doesn't matter if you searched for them separately, as they should still be available when you search for them together.

Be creative in where you look.

Alaska doesn't display award space on its website for two partners, Cathay Pacific and LAN, which means you'll need to call to book award travel with either carrier. But you can still explore on your own. The award space an airline provides to one partner will generally be available to other partners. In this example, search on either the Qantas or British Airways website for Cathay Pacific award space and then call Alaska to book the space.

You wouldn't search on Cathay Pacific's site because you may see much more award space, which it makes available to its own members and not to partners.

Alaska Airlines has the final say when it comes time to book the award, and you'll pay the number of miles published on Alaska's award chart, not the partner's.

Successful award travelers break the process down, performing each part themselves. Sometimes the online search tool does a great job, but a little human creativity may uncover additional results.

Scott Mackenzie is founder and editor of the loyalty-programs blog travelcodex.com.



ear-Tek Inc. in Spokane, Washington, specializes in casting long-lasting, abrasion-resistant components for the aggregate processing industry.

They melt high-chrome white iron, steel and other alloys at extreme temperatures and pour them into custom-built molds to cast components for rock crushers, asphalt pavers and other machinery. The company has also cast its own industry niche.

Pictured above:
Bill Reynolds (front),
President, Wear-Tek
Andy Paul (left),
Mechanical Engineer, Avista
Doug Kelley (back),
Regional Account Executive, Avista
Mike Summers (right),
General Manager, Wear-Tek

Wear-Tek is strict about selling replacement parts only to the original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) it serves. They put their customers first. It's a level of integrity that has attracted OEMs as far away as the U.S. East Coast and Midwest, and is a big reason why, during 16 years in business, sales have grown from \$2 million to \$18 million.

Wear-Tek's commitment to a win-win philosophy is why the foundry likes partnering with Avista for its energy

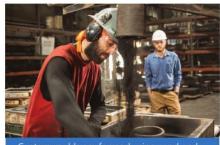
needs. Avista is essentially made from the same mold.

Avista works closely with commercial and industrial customers like Wear-Tek to stay ahead of their energy needs and help them thrive. Whether it's offering energy advice, helping to pay for energy efficiency upgrades, or solving for immediate and future energy requirements, Avista is always proactive.

"Avista worked to understand our project needs and was a great partner in helping us plan for the future expansion of our business," said Wear-Tek President Bill Reynolds. "Their expertise has set us up to be a strong leader in our industry for many years to come."

Wear-Tek expanded recently because its metal-melting capacity was not keeping pace with its ability to more guickly fabricate custom product molds. The foundry casts metals in two parallel production bays that have six melting pots (furnaces) split between them. There was only enough power, however, to charge three melting pots at once, so it became necessary to keep furnaces running 24 hours a day. At times, tight production schedules even forced workers to use a crane to move molten metal between bays. They needed to be able to power a fourth melting pot, but that would require much more electricity.

Wear-Tek melts metals using electromagnetic induction. Inside each melting pot is a refractory-lined magnetic coil made of copper pipe. Cold de-ionized water is pumped through the pipe to keep it from melting as the copper is electrically charged. This creates an electromagnetic wave that is passed back and forth through the raw metal, generating resistance heat inside the object itself. It's the most efficient method to melt metals rapidly but still consumes a lot of power.



Custom molds are formed using sand and self-hardening chemicals (shown here).

To make sure Wear-Tek could get another furnace up and running quickly, Avista crews replaced the foundry's 7640-kilowatt power line with one carrying 13,200 kilowatts of electricity (which is roughly the same capacity required to run the Spokane International Airport).

"Their expertise has set us up to be a strong leader in our industry for many years to come." – Bill Reynolds

When starting the project, Avista analyzed Wear-Tek's estimated total electricity usage and demand, and recognized that they might be eligible for a more advantageous rate (designated for very large power users). There was one dilemma, however. They were required to have their total electrical usage recorded on a single meter. And as Wear-Tek had expanded over the years, it did so by absorbing nearby buildings, adding new offices and constructing a pattern shop, which meant they had multiple meters.

Avista engineers recommended a plan to ultimately combine all of Wear-Tek's meters into one. Wear-Tek's investment was coordinated and integrated with Avista installing a vault and two new underground transformers, so Wear-Tek could wire new equipment and buildings downstream from the same meter. Thanks to Avista's coordinated planning, Wear-Tek is now ready to tackle rapid growth well into the future.

With the new enhancements in place, Wear-Tek has already added a control panel for its air and water cooling pumps. Up next will be to wire their plant to run the additional melting pot furnace. Given the new furnace's higher 600 kilowatt rating, the foundry's maximum tons of molten metal produced per hour will increase by 40 percent. With the increased power usage (Wear-Tek also has a new grinding/finishing shop in the works), the foundry should meet the load threshold to warrant the rate for large electric users very soon.

"You wouldn't think a company that sells energy would be so eager to help us get a more advantageous rate," said Reynolds. "But time and again, Avista has proven that they want us to get the full value of every energy dollar."

Over the past six years, Avista has provided Wear-Tek with more than \$116,000 in rebates to make energy-efficiency upgrades. "The upgrades



Wear Tek heats metals and alloys to temperatures as high as 3,000 degrees.

have resulted in Wear-Tek saving more than 1,800,000 kilowatt hours of electricity and over \$123,000 in energy costs," said Avista regional account executive Doug Kelley.

During the recent updates, Wear-Tek took advantage of Avista rebates to install new efficient LED lighting in their managerial offices and throughout the production bays. On top of providing brighter light, the LEDs need to be changed less often than standard T-8s. Given the foundry's 30-foot ceilings and non-stop production, this eliminated a huge maintenance headache.

"Our bays are twice as bright," said Wear-Tek General Manager Mike Summers. "That's not only good for safety, it helps boost employee morale, too."

The foundry also benefited from Avista's natural gas expertise when it reconfigured the air/fuel mixture on its ladle torches.

For more information on Avista's energy efficiency programs for commercial and industrial customers, visit avistautilities.com/bizrebates or email accountexecs@avistacorp.com.





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FOR THE WORLD

MASTERFUL MATISSE

Sometimes simple objects can produce great inspiration. That was the case for Henri Matisse (1869-1954), a 20th century French Modernist artist, whose revolutionary work, and the inspiration behind it, will be on display in "Matisse in the Studio," April 9-July 9 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

For instance, the exhibit will include a pewter jug next to the expressive painting it inspired, Purple Robe and Anemones, (pictured below).

The exhibit will track the progression of Matisse's art through five thematic sections—The Object Is an Actor, The Nude, The Face, Studio as Theatre and Essential Forms—as well as reproductions of archival photographs of the artist at work.

It will include Matisse's works in various media, from paintings to drawings to bronzes, as well as some of the ordinary objects, including an Andalusian vase and a chocolate maker given as a wedding present, that inspired Matisse.

Some pieces, such as Still Life and Heron Studies from about 1900, will be publicly exhibited for the first time.

For more information, visit mfa.org. —Jessyca Yoppolo



>>> Henri Matisse's Purple Robe and Anemones, oil on canvas, 1937, was inspired by a pewter jug like the one in the painting.

FOLK, YEAH!

Now in its 43rd year, the Alaska Folk Festival has grown from an eight-musician concert in 1975 to one of Juneau's largest annual cultural events. More than 450 musicians, performers and workshop leaders will fill Centennial Hall Convention Center with song and dance from April 3-9.

Selected performers will receive 15-minute slots, which are broadcast live by Juneau National Public Radio station KRNN 102.7. This year's festival will feature Irish folk revival duo The Murphy Beds as special guest artists, who will perform and lead classes on their mesmerizing musical craft. For more information, visit akfolkfest.org. —Amanda Easter



REAL SAPPY

>> The sun warms the trunks of New Hampshire trees, and sap harvesters place their buckets below inserted spouts, watching as the first drop of crystal-clear sap marks the beginning of maple syrup season. From mid-February to mid-April, more than 100 local sugar houses boil and bottle the sap for candy, syrup and baking, and Maple Weekend, March 25 and 26, is New Hampshire's official celebration of the season. Visitors can collect their own sap, sample maple products and learn about sap production.

Some sweet finds include the New Hampshire Maple Experience tour, a weekend program at The Rocks Estate in Bethlehem, where visitors can learn the ins and outs of producing New Hampshire's yearly 120,000 gallons of maple syrup. Visitors can also sample ice cream topped with maple syrup at Turkey Street Maples in Tamworth and try taffylike sugar on snow candy at Young Maple Ridge Sugarhouse in North Sandwich. For more information on New Hampshire's maple sugar industry, visit nhmapleproducers.com. - Kara Spencer



MAPLE SAP is 98 percent water and 2 percent sugars, according to the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association.



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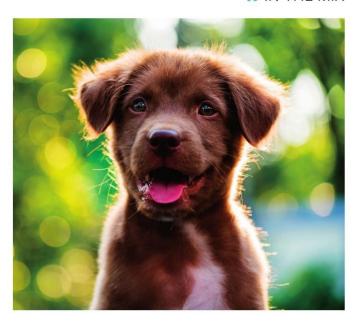
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PUPPY LOVE

>>> When looking at a face like this one at right, do you really need an excuse to pamper your puppy? Just in case, National Puppy Day is March 23. Colleen Paige, a pet lifestyle expert and animal advocate, created the day 11 years ago as a way to celebrate puppies and to inspire humans to give puppies and dogs healthy, lifelong homes.

There are many ways to take part in the day, including adopting a puppy from a local animal shelter, donating your time or money to a shelter, hosting a puppy party or simply giving your best friend an extra-long walk or special treat. As part of the celebration, local animal shelters across the country will hold their own events, and puppy lovers are encouraged to connect and share adorable photos on social media platforms, using the hashtag #nationalpuppyday.

For more information, including a list of 50 ways to celebrate the day, visit nationalpuppyday.com. — Jessyca Yoppolo





CROSSWORD PUZZLERS CROSS PATHS

For six years running,

2010-2015, Dan Feyer had been the crossword puzzle champ. The musician, now 39, completed at least 10 puzzles a day to prepare for the

American Crossword Puzzle Tournament, created and still hosted by The New York Times crossword puzzle editor, Will Shortz.

Now in its 40th year, the 2017 event will be March 24-26 in Stamford, Connecticut, and will bring together nearly 600

puzzle enthusiasts, who, in the main event, race to finish eight crossword puzzles correctly.

"People often say that coming to the event is like finding their lost tribe," says Shortz. Even with that camaraderie, Feyer is serious about winning again after Howard Barkin took first in 2016.

"We're all friendly," Feyer says, chuckling. "And we're all rivals." For more, visit crosswordtournament.com.

-Jessyca Yoppolo

STATE OF THE ART

Even in its 78th edition, the "Whitney Biennial" is entirely modern. The exhibit for contemporary and cutting-edge U.S. art, March 17-June 11 at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, is designed to gauge the state of art in America today. The show was originally created by Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in 1932, one year after the sculptor and patron opened her eponymous museum as a way to spotlight U.S. art.

This year's show includes paintings, sculptures, photography, installations, films, performances and internet art by artists ranging from the more established, such as painter Jo Baer and photographer Leigh Ledare, to budding artists, such as Jordan Wolfson. This year will also mark the first time the exhibit will be held in the museum's new building, designed by famous Italian architect Renzo Piano. For more information, visit whitney.org.

-Margo Vansynghel



Aliza Nisenbaum, La Talaverita, Sunday Morning NY Times (2016).



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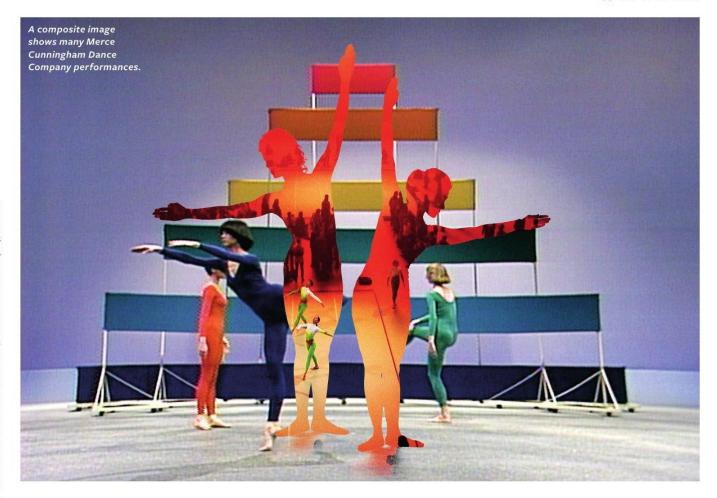
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DANCING IN THE MUSEUM

>> "You have to love dancing to stick to it," award-winning dancer and choreographer Merce Cunningham (1919-2009) once wrote. "It gives you nothing back, no manuscripts to store away, no paintings to show on walls ... nothing but that single fleeting moment when you feel alive." During his prolific 65-year career, Cunningham tried to defy dance's transience through a variety of collaborations, often asking creators to make music, backdrops, videos and costumes for performances. Now these works by artists such as John Cage, Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol will be shown together during "Merce **Cunningham: Common Time."**

This immersive exhibition, the largest-ever Cunningham survey, will be on view concurrently at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis until April 30. The Walker will continue to show the exhibit until July 30.

The title comes from a concept Cunningham coined with avant-garde composer John Cage to describe how movement, sound and visual art could share a common time. The concept is embodied by videos of historic dances, glow-in-the-dark installations, and Andy Warhol's famous silver balloons that once served as a backdrop for Cunningham's piece RainForest. To honor Cunningham's love of music and unconventional spaces—he once staged a dance show on the beach—the exhibit features live performances of his choreographies, experiential concerts and a 3-D dance video experience. For more information, visit mcachicago.org and walkerart.org. -Margo Vansynghel

ON THE FRINGE

The Seattle Fringe Festival will feature numerous types of performances: improv, theater, dance and burlesque. Yet the event, which started in its current form in 2012, is perfect for people who say theater isn't their thing.

"It is artist-driven and has shorter shows that cost between \$10-\$15, so you can hopefully try a few," says D'Arcy Harrison, the festival's marketing and program manager, adding that the jam sesh, March 23-April 1, is sure to have something for everyone.

Shows at the festival will include the solo play Dragonbaby and Askew, a combination of four off-kilter theater acts, one of which serves up the quirky story of two strangers and an unsalted slice of lemon meringue pie-the perfect recipe for romance.

Visit seattlefringefestival.org for more information. -Kara Spencer

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GOING THE DISTANCE

>> The Alaska Airlines Salt Lake City

Marathon will treat runners, bikers and skaters to views of the snowcapped Wasatch mountains, sparkling skyscrapers, blossoming trees and Salt Lake City's fresh spring air on April 22.

The event features an array of distances and race types so that all ages and abilities can take part. Racers can choose the 1K (for kids), 5K, half marathon, marathon, marathon-course bike tour or 10K skate. Except for the untimed bike tour, all races

will feature professional timing and live results. The marathon, half marathon and bike tour will start at the Olympic Legacy Bridge. At the finish line, racers will find a festival featuring music, refreshments and food.

Event participants will receive a medal with a ribbon that can turn into a baggage tag. Participants can also take advantage of a 10 percent travel discount from the title sponsor, Alaska Airlines. For more, visit saltlakecitymarathon.com. —Kara Spencer

FUN RUN

Transported into a whimsical wonderland of bubbles and color, participants in the sixth-annual The Color Run events will paint the town as they make their way to the finish line.

In 2011, Travis Snyder, founder of The Color Run, saw an area of the running community that wasn't being recognized. "People needed a noncompetitive space to come out, get color thrown on them and just run," says Jamie Miller, The Color Run communications manager.

During The Color Run Dream Tour, which is the theme for 2017, participants will pass an all-new Foam Zone, where they will be ankle-deep in colored foam, and a Dream Wall, where they can write their aspirations in spray paint.

Calling itself the "Happiest 5K on the Planet," The Color Run offers events in more than 40 U.S. cities from now into November. Dates include: Orlando (March 25), Atlanta (April 1), Fort Lauderdale (April 29), Seattle (May 14), New York (May 27), Boston (June 11) and Portland (Sept. 9).

Visit the colorrun.com for more information, including a complete list of dates. -K.S.



From sushi rolls to sorbet bowls, the Scottsdale Culinary Festival has food offerings for all types of taste buds. On April 8-9, food lovers will make their way to the Scottsdale Civic Center Mall for acres of tasty fun. More than 40 local restaurants will compete for the "Best Dish Award" by serving some of their most popular cuisine to judges and visitors while everyone enjoys music from 20 live bands. Last year, Two Brothers Brewing Company took home the prize with its Waffle BLT, making a strong case for waffles as the ultimate upgrade to traditional sliced bread.

Festivalgoers can attend food and mixology demonstrations at the Epicurean Expo and watch as six teams

of high school students compete at the Teen Cook Off on April 8. Beer and wine gardens allow plenty of ways to enjoy a beverage, and the new Local Lounge will feature a wide range of alcoholic concoctions made exclusively in Arizona. For more information, visit scottsdalefest.org. —Amanda Easter







MARKET MAKEOVER

By Catherine Toth Fox

At the heart of a stylish new shopping-and-dining complex in Waikīkī is something very old. The 60-foot-tall banyan tree in the center of the International Market Place has been alive more than a century and serves as a witness to the changes at this location—a site that once held a summer retreat for Hawaiian royalty.

The tree was planted in the mid-19th century by a New Zealand entrepreneur who, along with his wife, lived on the land for a while. After this, William Lunalilo, Hawai'i's first elected king, built a residence on the land before bequeathing it to his friend and relative, Queen Emma. The queen (whose husband, Kamehameha IV, was king before Lunalilo) kept the home as her summer retreat.

When the original International Market Place opened in 1957, the tree continued to provide shade for visitors from around the world. Now highly prized by the city, the

tree was preserved during the center's latest transformation from a faux-Polynesian village to today's multimillion-dollar complex.

The new International Market Place, which opened last August, encompasses 345,000 square feet, and includes about 85 shopssuch as retail icons Michael Kors, Saks Fifth Avenue, Swarovski and Trina Turk. It has seven signature restaurants, including Stripsteak Waikiki, chef Michael Mina's first restaurant in the Islands, situated on the third floor. Within the shopping center, one can now purchase everything from yoga attire to beach-inspired

MORE MARKETPLACES

- Historic Kailua Village, Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i Island; historickailuavillage.com.
- Ka Makana Ali'i, Kapolei, O'ahu; kamakanaalii.com.
- Whalers Village, Lahaina, Maui; whalersvillage.com.
- The Shops at Kukui'ula, Kōloa, Kaua'i; theshopsatkukuiula.com.
- The Shops at Wailea, Wailea, Maui; theshopsatwailea.com.

home decor to Tahitian black pearls.

And yes, you can still enjoy the shade of the historic banyan tree. Or walk a platform on the second level that weaves among the tree's branches and shoots-enjoying living history within the high-end modern market

DAY 1

After reading all your suggestions of where to go, the crew and I are headed to Jacó!



Hailing from Anchorage,
Alaska, Jovell Rennie is a
photographer who has a love
for #SharingAlaska. When
he's not taking pictures, he's
trekking his way through the
outdoors looking for his next
shot. He just returned from
Costa Rica and posted these
stunning photos as part of
Alaska's #WeekendWanderer
series. For more #WeekendWanderer posts, make sure
you're following @alaskaair
on Instagram.

blog.alaskaair.com

PURA VIDA!

>>> That's the phrase I was greeted with when I touched down in San José, Costa Rica. The pure life, indeed.

I was excited to be there, especially because it's so different from my hometown, Anchorage, Alaska. Feeling at first like a snowman in the oven, I was determined to see the sights and make the most of my time. I quickly adjusted to the warmth of the city and set out to meet with a few friends from back home who also happened to be in the area. Great timing!

After meeting up and settling down, the six of us set out to explore. We started with an amazing breakfast of tamales and *gallo*

pinto, then hit the road. Between Jacó, La Fortuna Waterfall and Manuel Antonio National Park, my eyes were in heaven. Costa Rica was absolutely amazing, from the lush landscape to the beautiful tropical jungle and beaches. I recommend everybody make it out there. Here are a few tips when you go:

- Set an early alarm; the sunrises are breathtaking.
 - Loosen your belt; you'll be eating A LOT.
- Bring extra socks. This is not specific to Costa Rica; I just always advise it. This is especially important in places where you are doing a lot of walking or hiking.

Best of luck, safe travels and pura vida!

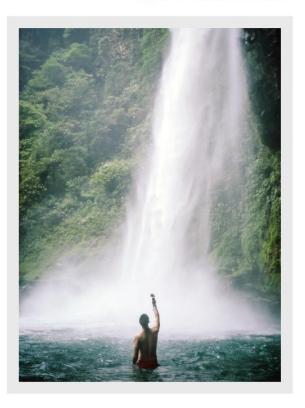
THE FEED #WEEKENDWANDERER

DAY 2

Costa Rica has been one heck of a ride! From the tamales I had for dinner at Soda Tapia, to the epic La Fortuna Waterfall. I know I've only scratched the surface, and I've still got plenty more to see.

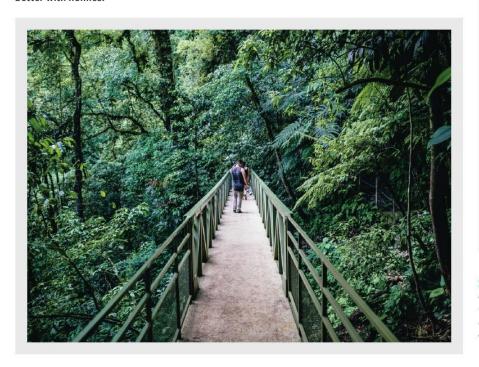


>> La Fortuna Waterfall is huge! Awe-inspiring to see so much power in nature.



DAY 3

Jungle games are always better with homies.





Costa Rica has been amazing! Many thanks again to @alaskaair for letting me explore Costa Rica and share these images with y'all. Now it's your turn to go somewhere and be a #WeekendWanderer! Pura vida!



EXCITINGORLANDO

The Florida city is a center for adventure and fun

By Nancy DeVault

>>> Known as the theme-park capital of

the world, Orlando is a destination like no other. The Central Florida city, which is home to attractions such as Walt Disney World Resort, Universal Orlando Resort and other major parks, is ranked among the top vacation cities to be found anywhere.

Beyond theme parks, you will find space history, great weather and outdoor activities for relaxing and recharging. Whatever your interests, the Orlando area is perfectly "themed" for your entertainment.

A trip to Orlando usually begins with the city's first and most famous park, the magical Walt Disney World Resort, which actually includes four different theme parks, two water parks and more. Marvel at Cinderella Castle—towering 189 feet—at Magic Kingdom Park, which bustles with roller coasters, pirate quests, a haunted mansion,





and new live shows, such as "Mickey's Royal

At Epcot, take a boat ride through the

kingdom of Arendelle on the "Frozen Ever

After" ride and catch an aerial view of the

Disney's Hollywood Studios Theme Park has

various 3-D movie experiences as part of the

world's wonders on the "Soarin'" ride.

Friendship Faire" and the hilarious "The

Muppets Present: Great Moments in

American History."



reserve at Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park has daytime "Kilimanjaro Safaris" and nighttime treks during which you can see a variety of animals, including lions, elephants, giraffes and zebras. Movie adventures take center stage at

rides, including "Star Tours—The Adventures

Continue" and "Toy Story Mania." The wildlife

Universal Orlando Resort, which includes two parks: Universal Studios Florida and Universal's Islands of Adventure. "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter" is a blockbuster attraction that offers rides at both parks.

Board the Hogwarts Express, explore Diagon Alley, tour Hogsmeade and visit Hogwarts Castle. Along the way, you'll enjoy rides such as "Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey," a special type of ride that allows you to fly with Harry Potter.

While at Universal's Islands of Adventure park, encounter dinosaurs on the "Jurassic Park River Adventure" and thrill to the "Incredible Hulk Coaster" and the exciting

>>> Cinderella Castle, left, is one of the many iconic sites at Walt Disney World Resort theme park. Universal Orlando Resort, above, offers numerous rides and attractions, including "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter."

"Skull Island: Reign of Kong." Animated characters will amuse at Universal Studios Florida, with the "Despicable Me Minion Mayhem" 3-D ride and "The Simpsons Ride."

For an experience that is truly out of this world, travel about 45 miles east of Orlando to tour the John F. Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. The former launch site for human space flight offers a fascinating look at space history.

You'll find rockets, simulators, real NASA astronauts to talk with, the space shuttle Atlantis and exhibits highlighting the history of space exploration.

Time your visit just right and you can see an actual rocket launch from nearby Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Scheduled liftoffs this month are March 8 and March 19. *



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THE FEED >> OUT&ABOUT SAN ANTONIO





ROLLING BY THE RIVER

The San Antonio River Walk offers a vibrant cultural experience

By Cynthia J. Drake

>> Among San Antonio's most iconic features is a tree-lined riverside thoroughfare that winds under bridges and often twinkles with lights after dark—the famous San Antonio River Walk (thesanantonioriverwalk.com). If you haven't visited town for a while, or if it's your first time, you're in for a treat: The city completed a \$358 million project in 2013, lengthening the River Walk from 3 to 15 miles and connecting the city's downtown to local museums and historic sites.

For a walking tour, start at La Villita Historic Arts Village, located on the River Walk between South Presa and South Alamo streets. One of the city's first neighborhoods, this "little town" includes art galleries, a historic wedding chapel, vendors selling handmade items, and restaurants, along with music and dance performances at La Villita's Arneson River Theatre, an amphitheater that fronts the river.

Follow the River Walk north, then take Crockett Street east to The Alamo, the city's first Spanish

mission, established in the early 1700s, and the site where Texas Revolution soldiers bravely faced off against General Santa Anna's Mexican army. From the Mission Reach section of the River Walk, visitors can access The Alamo and four other missions that collectively are a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Pearl District, a trendy culinary destination, is a little more than 1.3 miles north of downtown, and is accessible by foot via the River Walk or by a water taxi that navigates the river's lock-and-dam system. In the Pearl District you'll find Hotel Emma, a 146-room boutique property in a restored 19th century brewhouse, along with dozens of boutiques and specialty restaurants.

In the evening, head back downtown to the Main Plaza near the river to catch a free showing of "The Saga" at San Fernando Cathedral. This light show on the cathedral's facade, by French artist Xavier de Richemont, unveils the story of the city's history through light, color and sound-a spectacular visual treat. *

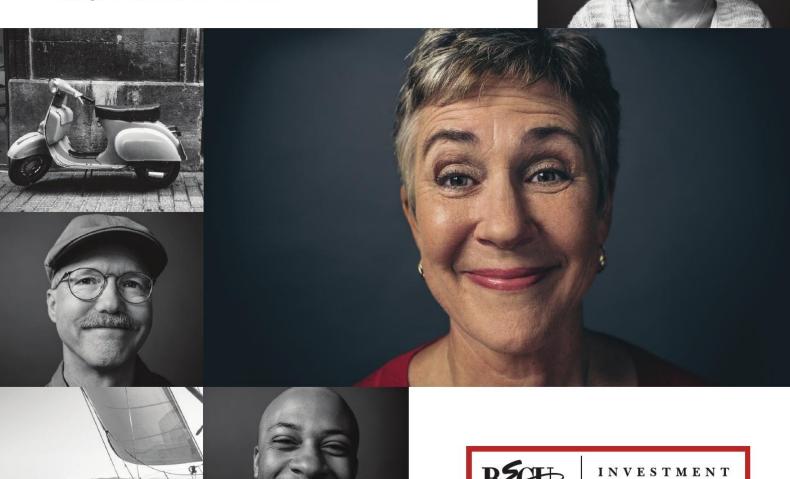
TOUR TIPS

- Find a River Walk map at thesanantonioriverwalk. com/map.
- Don't miss Fiesta San Antonio, April 20-30, a festival that was launched in 1891 to honor heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto. One highlight: The Texas Cavaliers River Parade, April 24-a vivid floating light show on the river (fiesta-sa.org).
- Go to visitsanantonio.com to learn more. - C.J.D.

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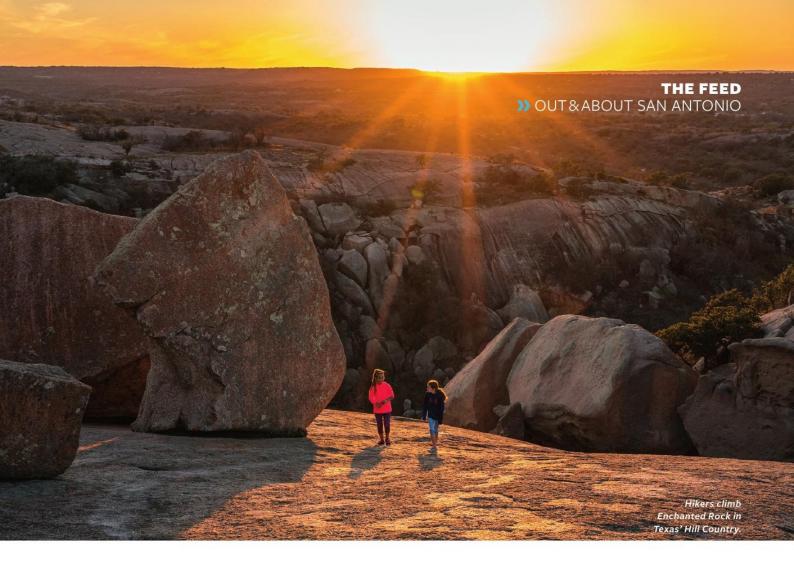
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A HIKE IN THE HILL COUNTRY

Enchanted Rock provides an elevated perspective on Central Texas

By Lara Douglass

>> Standing on top of Enchanted Rock,

a huge granite dome that towers over the surrounding landscape, evokes a sense of wild wonder. With nothing to block the vista for miles around, the views are incredible from this giant rounded formation 90 miles north of San Antonio.

Even more unique is the moonlike surface of the rock. Compared to the forested land from which it rises, the batholith—a volcanic outcrop exposed by uplift and the erosion of surrounding rock—harbors little vegetation. You won't find a tree-lined trail with dramatic switchbacks here. Instead, visitors hike up the fairly direct Summit Trail (less than a mile, but challenging because it is steep), or opt to rock climb in designated areas. It is strikingly quiet on the dome, aside from the

periodic breeze whistling over the porous rock and the occasional "peter-peter-peter" of a black-crested titmouse. From the dome's base, the 1,825-foot-high summit is hidden from view, and it's believed that people of the Tonkawa and other Native American tribes once hid here from Spanish settlers. So it feels a bit like joining a secret club when you arrive at the top, greeted by the smiles of triumphant fellow hikers.

The open space on the dome, along with its location away from city lights, also makes it an ideal place from which to stargaze on clear evenings. The **Enchanted Rock State Natural Area**, which includes the dome, offers campsites and more than 10 miles of trails where you can hike over rocky terrain, past creeks and through tree-shaded areas.

On the way back to San Antonio, stop for refreshment in the town of **Fredericksburg**. Tasting rooms and cafes line the small downtown area, which is characterized by mid-19th century German *fachwerk*, a type of heavy timber framing. Stop in at the subterranean **Vaudeville Bistro**, popular for its delicious French- and Southern-inspired seasonal dishes, or the **Old German Bakery and Restaurant**, with hearty dishes that hark back to the town's origins.

If you have time, stop at **Wildseed Farms**, touted as the largest working wildflower operation in the country. In April, the farms will be blanketed with bluebonnets and other blooms, as will the fields lining most state highways—it's a beautiful time to explore all that the Hill Country has to offer. ******



FINANCIAL UPDATE

MARY FRANCIS, Senior Vice President, Cash Management Director at HomeStreet Bank mary.francis@homestreet.com 206-442-5319

Virtual Commercial Cards Can Save Businesses Money



There are many challenges to running a business, but suffering from accounts payable inefficiencies should not be one of them. Businesses not currently using electronic payments are discovering and adopting ePayment options as a way to better manage and monitor payments, while also generating income.

These solutions can eliminate slow and costly paper-based payment procedures. Virtual card payments are single-use or vendor-specific account numbers that are sent to your suppliers through the credit card network. They're being used by many types of organizations as an effective way to pay invoices for professional services, inventory, and operating goods and services.

Traditionally, businesses have had a limited number of payment products to consider in developing their AP processes, such as paper check, wire transfers, ACH (Automated Clearing House) transactions and plastic purchasing cards. Each of these payment methods has limitations for tracking, settlement times, fees, and data

availability. Virtual payments via commercial cards are a more comprehensive payment tool, which can support strong reporting capabilities, working capital improvement, and the elimination of process-heavy and slower paper checks.

Benefits of virtual commercial cards

The benefits of using virtual commercial cards include:

- · Increased working capital.
- Greater efficiency compared to traditional methods.
- The opportunity to settle payments with suppliers on terms you control.
- Simple integration into your current system.
- The ability to initiate businessto-business payments as you do today. Only the payment method changes.
- A free solution with no setup cost or recurring fees.

Another big benefit of virtual payments using commercial cards is that with every transaction, you can earn cash rebates and rewards for your business like traditional commercial credit cards.

Introducing virtual commercial cards also won't require a change to your current approval process, and you don't have to replace all traditional payment methods. With virtual commercial cards, you simply submit payment instructions online, through an automated file process or via a web service. Payment is then sent to suppliers securely and provides complete remittance information. You can then monitor your payments with automated reconciliation and reporting capabilities.

Making virtual commercial cards a part of your payment mix will enhance what you're already doing today, but with increased efficiency. You'll realize the benefits even if you convert just a small portion of your payments.

Contact me today for more information about how to integrate virtual commercial cards as part of the accounts payable solution for your business.

About the author:

Mary Francis is Senior Vice President and Cash Management Director of HomeStreet Bank, where she oversees all Cash Management operations in Commercial Banking. HomeStreet is a full-service community bank offering consumer, commercial, and mortgage services to customers throughout the Western United States and Hawaii.



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Wallins Oysters



Penn Cove Shellfish



Taylor Shellfish



A NATURAL FEAST

By Megan Hill

Pickling, salting and fermenting:

Humans have been tinkering with their food for centuries. Take refined foods. Refining broadly involves techniques designed to remove impurities, extend shelf life and create more uniform products, but the practice can also deplete the food of some of its naturally occurring flavors, and can involve introducing unwanted preservatives and additives.

Consumers are shifting gears, demanding foods that haven't been overly processed. Some do so for health reasons; others feel that unrefined foods simply taste better. From whole grains to cooking oil to sea salt, these products are gaining popularity.

At Jacobsen Salt Co., the salt is hand-

harvested from the cold, clear waters of the Oregon Coast's Netarts Bay. The saltwater is filtered and boiled, and left to evaporate and form crystals—and, apart from the addition of all-natural flavors such as white truffle or Pinot Noir, the salt is left in its pure state.

Larger producers often opt to refine salt to create uniform crystals and to iodize it, though refining also removes minerals, leaving only the basic sodium chloride. It's a difference you can taste, Jacobsen Salt Co. founder Ben Jacobsen says. "Unrefined salt tastes more like the sea than like a chemical." And you'll use less salt if you opt for unrefined, because it's more potent. "There's no more cost-effective way to elevate your food every day than using great salt," he says. *

SWEET AS HONEY





READ MORE ABOUT the natural-food movement in Letters to a Young Farmer, a collection of essays by talented writers such as Barbara Kingsolver.

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UNFILTERED ALES

By Don Ayres

While the nature of an unrefined product can be desirable, unfiltered is not an attribute that American drinkers have traditionally valued in beer. Brewers typically filter beer to remove particulates, but a growing number of breweries are forgoing this step when it comes to a style of India Pale Ale.

EAST TO WEST

iterations of the style include Portland, OR-based Great Notion Brewing Company; Torrance, CAbased Monkish Brewing Company;

New England-style IPAs, named for the region where they first appeared, in some ways resemble orange juice. "I think in general they focus more on hop aromatics instead of bitterness," says Zach Page, director of brewing operations at Massachusetts' Trillium Brewing. "These beers have a softer, creamy mouthfeel, which is achieved through protein-heavy malts and adjuncts."

The lack of filtration provides a telltale haze, but it also serves a practical function by keeping hop oils and proteins in suspension. While the brewers could use a filter to remove leftover yeast and hops from the beer, keeping the desired oils in suspension is a balancing act, says Page. These unfiltered styles, such as Trillium's Congress Street IPA, typically have a shorter shelf life, he says, so they are "meant to be





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MAKING **SMARTPHONES SMARTER**

Accessories expand possibilities for mobile devices

By Tyler Hillis

)) As technology advances, the potential for pairing devices continues to expand. This has spurred the development of innovative plug-in and wireless accessories that augment devices we carry everywhere we go. Here are some top technologies to pair with a mobile device and equip it with new capabilities.

Deeper Smart Fishfinder

PRO: Cast this small floating ball onto the surface of water you intend to fish, and open up your phone for info about the water's depth, temperature, vegetation and, of course, where the fish are (\$219; iOS, Android; buydeeper.com).





instax



>>> MORE SMART GEAR iBaby Monitor M6S:

Monitoring infants is as easy as setting up this camera and streaming video from another room (\$179.95; iOS, Android; ibabylabs.com).

Outdoor Tech Buckshot

Pro: This device is three gadgets in one: a power source, a speaker for music and a light (\$79.95; iOS, Android; outdoortechnology.com).

Tile Slim: Keep track of keys or a wallet with this thin model of the popular item locator (\$30; iOS, Android; thetileapp.com).



WeatherFlow Weathermeter:

You probably know someone who can never know enough about the weather. This handheld device connects to your phone via Bluetooth and gauges temperature, wind speed and direction, atmospheric pressure, and the heat index (\$79.95; iOS, Android; weatherflow.com).

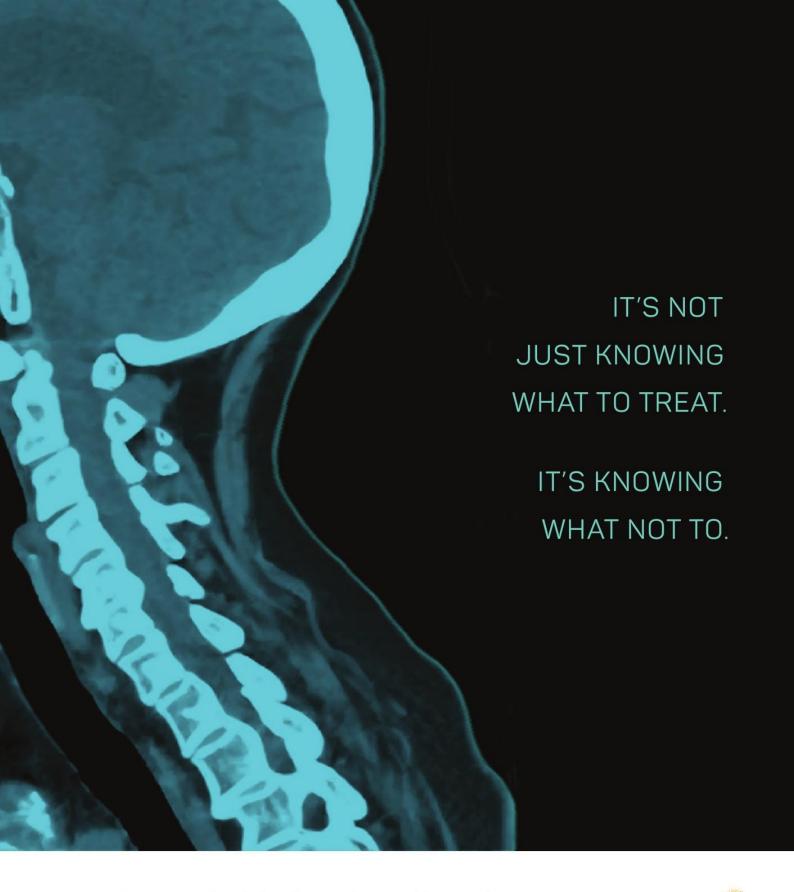


Picture Keeper Connect:

Photos quickly fill up memory on a smartphone, and Picture Keeper Connect makes it easy to free up space. This gadget resembles a thumb drive that plugs into your phone to quickly and safely transfer images. Its USB port lets you later upload to a computer (\$119; iOS, Android; picturekeeper.com).



Color Muse: If you're seeking a better way to match paints, the Color Muse is for you. This handy tool has a calibrated light source and can be held against a surface to scan the surface's color. Color data then uploads to an app to match with colors of 1 million-plus products in an online library (\$59; iOS, Android; colormuse.io).



Proton therapy is a precise form of radiation that targets the tumor and then stops, reducing radiation to the surrounding healthy tissue. It's currently being used to treat patients with brain, head and neck, prostate, breast, lung and other tumors, and it's often covered by Medicare. For more information or a second opinion, call 888-991-7782 or visit SCCAProtonTherapy.com/cancer.



SLOPESIDE STYLE

Dress your best with clothing made for mountain towns

By Berne Broudy

Nothing beats local knowledge, whether you're searching for secret untracked powder or suiting up for après skiing. Here we highlight some of this season's most fashionable mountain town-inspired gear to help style your night out, whether you're toasting to a great day in California's Sierra Nevada or Utah's Wasatch Range.

Designed specifically for after skiing, the Flylow Iron Eagle Bomber Jacket is made of durable nylon canvas with a layer of synthetic insulation and a waterproof membrane. Plus, the worn-for-years broken-in feel right off the rack will likely make it your grab-and-go choice for any brisk evening (\$150; flylowgear.com).

2 Duckworth Maverick Town Scarf is made from Montana merino—grown, spun, knit and sewn in the United States—with an asymmetrical cut that helps it drape however you knot it or wrap it. This large, woolly wrap is just as cozy in front of the fire at the lodge as out on the town (\$80; duckworthco.com).

The new London-style **ExOfficio Iona Trench**, available in August, comes in a warm wool-flannel look with removable empire belt, sleek lines and contoured sleeves to keep your hands covered. It's also waterproof and seam-sealed with DWR Teflon Shield+ for added weather resistance (\$220; exofficio.com).

4 Get protection against wind and cold with the **Purnell Heavy Twill 4-Pocket Pants**, which have been silicone softened, making them comfortable, flexible and





COLD COMFORT

On-mountain lodges offer cozy luxury

By Ted Alvarez

For skiers, the on-mountain lodge is a chance to warm up, have a meal and recharge in often spectacular surroundings. The midslope chalets and stone lodges offer old-school charm (think heavy timber and roaring fireplaces) and modern indulgences (craft cocktails and gourmet menus). Some even let you spend the night. Here is a sampling of the West's best, with each property accessible to nonskiers, as well.



Timberline Lodge, Mount Hood, Oregon: Built in 1938 at the midpoint of the Timberline Ski Area, this is one of the nation's quintessential lodges, offering access to year-round skiing and an imposing view of the 11,245-foot peak of Mount Hood looming to the north.



Mame Creek Club, Vail, Colorado: This exclusive Bavarian-style lodge, located at the 10,500-foot level on Vail Mountain, is an experience not to be missed. The ultra-chic facility opens to the public at night for multicourse dinners. You can also rent a deluxe chalet that sleeps eight.



The Roundhouse, Sun Valley, Idaho: Located above the Roundhouse Gondola, about midway up Bald Mountain, the historic restaurant-only lodge has been an icon at the resort since 1939, with its huge timber beams, stone fireplace, great food and incredible views.



The Rendezvous (above) and Roundhouse day lodges, Whistler
Blackcomb, Canada: The resort is so big that it has two showcase lodges.
They are connected in breathtaking fashion: The 2-mile-long Peak 2 Peak
Gondola runs between Whistler and Blackcomb mountains.





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SETTING THE PACE

Jaguar's first SUV is a company best-seller

By Bengt Halvorson

)) It's been mere months since the F-Pace first arrived at Jaguar dealerships, yet the British brand's first-ever SUV is already Jaguar's best-selling model.

Jaguar sales had been slumping, despite some very appealing luxury and sport sedans, and one of the decade's most noteworthy new sports cars—the snarling, gloriously impractical F-Type.

One reason for the slump was Jaguar's insistence on bucking the SUV trend completely, meaning it got left behind as the market evolved. Last year was the first in which, across the U.S. market, sales of luxury SUVs outnumbered those of luxury sedans, so branching out was a key to survival.

Even though the F-Pace's form factor as a whole isn't much different from that of other SUVs, Jaguar has worked its charm in every way possible, producing a crossover wagon that emphasizes elegance, grace and urban practicality over rugged design cues and compromises made for the promise of off-road ability. It's not the kind of vehicle that instantly seduces you, but the handsome look and sporty personality will keep growing on you.

Soon, the F-Pace won't be the only crossover in Jaguar's lineup; the all-electric I-Pace—a completely different, urban utility vehicle—will be added next year. ⊀

>> THREE THINGS TO LIKE **ABOUT THE F-PACE:**

- 1. It's currently the only Jag SUV, so you won't be upstaged.
- 2. It breaks from the usual macho styling cues.
- 3. It features sporty engine sounds and deft handling.

Jaguar's InControl Touch Pro has a 10.2-inch high-contrast touch screen that lets you customize the view and navigate with InControl's companion apps.



Jaguar design director Ian Callum opted for elegance, not aggressive creasing and sharp features, favoring partly blacked-out pillars on the roofline. The result is a smooth counterpart to Jaguar's chiseled Range Rover cousins.

All models have a rear-biased all-wheeldrive system with 8.4 inches of ground clearance for great handling. All Surface Progress Control is a low-speed cruisecontrol-like system that helps you move slowly but surely over rough or slippery terrain.



Two engines are available: a strong, economical turbo-diesel making 180 hp, and a 340-hp or 380-hp supercharged V-6. Both come with a smooth. responsive eight-speed automatic transmission. The turbo-diesel's strong 318 lb-ft torque rating (versus 332 lb-ft for the V-6) makes it nearly as quick as the V-6, and it returns an EPA combined 29 mpg (versus 20 for the V-6).

Although F-Pace drivers sit higher than in a car, the interior is designed to feel carlike, with a high center console and close dash. Jaguar hasn't shied away from allowing some inspiring, throaty engine sounds from entering the otherwise quiet cabin. With precise, excellent steering and handling, too, you might think you're in an F-Type sports car.

Flip the seatbacks forward and you have plenty of space to store whatever you need for weekend outings.



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W

e're tasting Alaska history, straight from the bottle. I'm sitting with Geoff and Marcy Larson, the husbandand-wife founders of Alaskan Brewing

Company, and we have before us three iterations of the company's award-winning dark, rich, campfire-evoking Smoked
Porter—bottles produced in 1997, 2008 and 2016. It's a rare chance to taste products of the brewery's past and present, while talking about topics that range from how the Larsons started their iconic brewery in Juneau to how their location helped inspire recipes and the company's focus on sustainability; from how the local community supported them to how that support inspired them to give back.

That 20-year-old beer? It's holding up well. Unlike other beers that are fortified for aging with a high alcohol content, this one is preserved with smoke. As I sip, I'm thinking of the Larsons' generosity in sharing one of the few remaining bottles in the world. There are notes of port, sherry, chocolate, raisin and—of course—smoke, though that's softened by age.

This beer was made right here, in the brewery where we meet. The company has stayed "Rooted in Alaska" (part of its vision statement) and based in Juneau since opening in 1986.

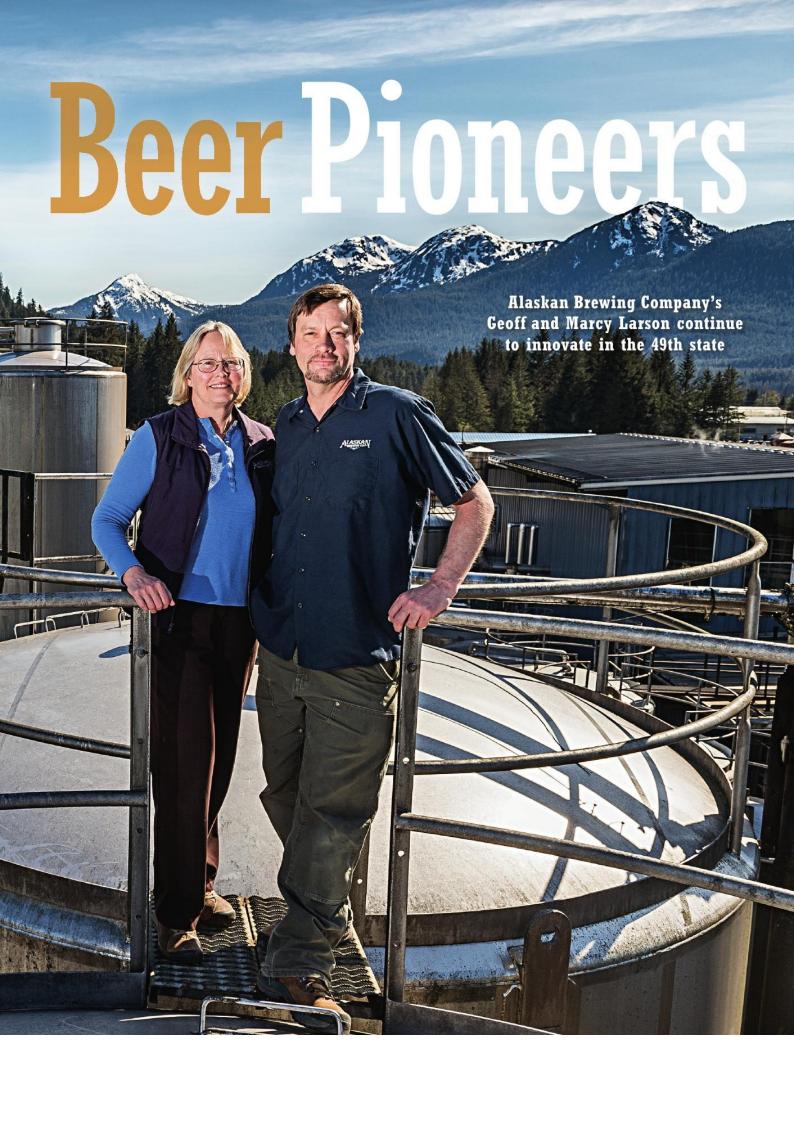
There are layers to the history represented in the bottle's contents, including the history of the brewery itself. The '97 porter was brewed in the 11th of 30 years of company history. The recipe was inspired in part by a desire for a brew that would complement the local taste for smoked salmon, and it was influenced by

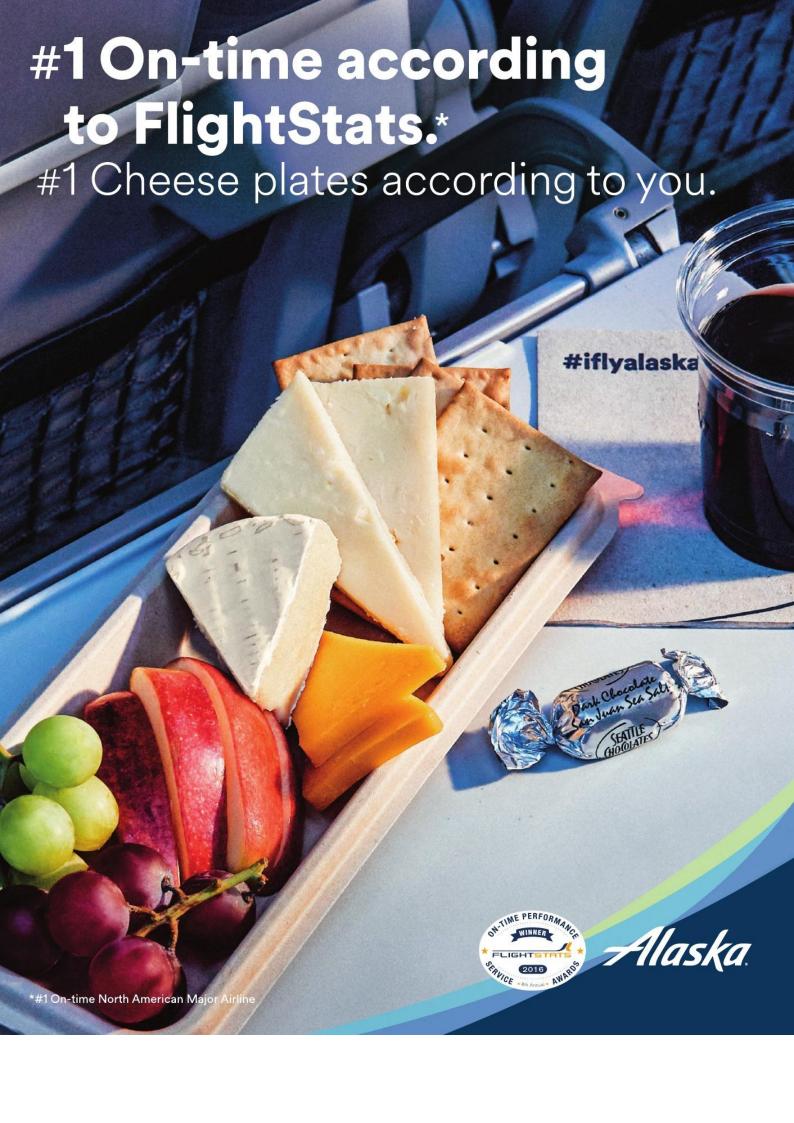
By Ben Raker
Photos by Christopher Miller



a fondness for local

resources, such as





the alder wood used to smoke the malts in the smokehouse next door, which was once a salmon-smoking operation.

The Larsons have often drawn on the history of brewing in Alaska in their quest for beer-making ideas. Early brewers, for instance, dried their own malts, likely using the same alder wood found in area forests.

This porter even sparks primeval associations, Geoff says, describing the flavor profile's deeper roots in human history. "There's a corelike memory that's being kindled," he notes. "It connects to those emotional ties that you have with smoke. And campfires."

Alaskan Brewing beers are enjoyed at multiple levels. Sometimes, as Geoff and Marcy point out, you just want a good beer. But when you start learning about these beers' underlying intentions and inspirations, you also find that they speak of the land, and of the people who created them. They speak of how the water in the beer began as ice in nearby glaciers. And of how most ingredients were either sourced locally or imported with great care and effort to a town that's connected to the wider world by only boat and aircraft.



Geoff and Marcy Larson in 1986, starting their new brewerv.

Finally, there is the consideration of how these factors came together in the brewery with a blend of Alaskan ingenuity, technology and maybe a touch of alchemy, to make a modern gold-a liquid gold—in Juneau.

e move on to tasting the second and third versions of the smoked porter, musing about how the beer has evolvedbroadly, the younger beers are smokier and hoppier—as we discuss the origins of the company.

Marcy and Geoff met as college students while working summer jobs in Montana's Glacier National Park. Then, as Marcy puts it, they made their way from Glacier park to Alaska's Glacier Bay. "We moved up here with the notion of starting a brewery," Geoff says. "We both enjoyed

An Alaskan Beer Sampler

The following are examples of Alaskan beers inspired by history and place. Enjoy Alaskan Amber and Icy Bay IPA in flight!

Alaskan Amber

Stats: 5.3% alcohol by volume (ABV); 18 International Bitterness Units (IBU) (low). Style: Alt. The German word alt means "old" and refers to the style's lengthy, coldtemperature aging, which gives the beer balance.

Story: Alaskan's flagship brew is an update of a 1907 recipe popular with Juneau gold miners who sought malty sustenance. The label art's trawler honors fishing, a classic Alaska pursuit.



Icy Bay IPA

Stats: 6.2% ABV; 65 IBU (high). Style: India Pale Ale. The IPA, a fixture of modern craft beer, is known for intense hop flavor and aroma. Story: This bold, brisk brew pays tribute to adventurers who surf in freezing waters near Yakutat. The brewery

donates 1 percent of Icy Bay IPA sales proceeds to ocean and coastal conservation

Smoked Porter

Stats: 6.5% ABV; 45 IBU (moderate). Style: A rauchbier, or smoke-flavored beer.

Story: Inspired in part by the alder-smoking process used on salmon, this annual limited-edition release is made with specially smoked malts. It is a celebrated example of its style.



Winter Ale

Stats: 6.4% ABV; 22 IBU (low).

Style: English Olde Ale. Malty, with alcohol warmth. Story: Alaskan co-founder Geoff Larson says that Captain James Cook brewed with the new growth on spruce boughs

while exploring in Alaska in the 1700s. Alaskan's version helps drive a local seasonal harvest of the sweet, tart, aromatic spruce tips. -B.R.





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beer. And we both enjoyed working."

First, they needed to make a living. Marcy had a background in photojournalism and a natural aptitude for research and numbers. Geoff was a chemical engineer, and a homebrewer on the side. Marcy found a job with the state's Department of Revenue in Juneau, and Geoff got a job with a mining company, filtering gold from tailings. Evenings and weekends, they explored what it would take to build a brewery. Juneau had the challenge of being remote, but they loved the community and focused on its advantages, such as the area's pristine water supply.

The Larsons also began to assess what it would take to build their business, including finding investors: It was going to be a tough sell. A large, foreign-backed brewery based in Anchorage had notably failed in the 1970s. Although the Larsons were pitching something differenthigh-quality beers-this was the mid-1980s, and craft brewing was in its relative infancy in the United States. The idea of "gourmet beers" was still a bit foreign.

Yet, some Alaskans were intrigued. "The original 88 investors lived all the way from Kotzebue to Ketchikan," Marcy Carbon-dioxide-capture

system. CO₂ gas is used in the brewing process to flush oxygen from bottles, tanks and kegs before they're sealed, helping to preserve the finished beer.

Most smaller breweries in the Lower 48 use relatively cheap commercial tanks of CO2, which is generally produced by burning fossil fuels. Alaskan Brewing would need to ship tanks from Seattle.

CO2 is also a byproduct of the brewing process—as yeasts break down sugars during fermentation, they release CO2. The brewery decided it would capture this gas and filter it for use. When it did this, company founder Geoff Larson says, Alaskan was the first craft brewery in the U.S. to develop such a system.

"The decision had an economic element to it," Geoff says, "but it also was a qualitycontrol issue—we now know the source of our CO2." Because the yeasts break down sugars from grains, the CO2 is ultimately from a green source, not a fossil fuel, Geoff explains. The CO2 recovery technology paid for itself in less than five years.

Mash filter press. This piece of equipment, which is sometimes used in Europe, but not commonly in the U.S., somewhat resembles an accordion with screens inside each fold. Essentially, it squeezes more sugars out of the grain. As a result, the brewery can use 6 percent less grain, and flush less water down the drain—2 million gallons less in one year.

3 Spent-grain boiler. Once all the sugars are extracted in the grain-mashing process, the brewer is left with "spent" grain. In the Lower 48, that grain is sold as a livestockfeed additive, or composted, or sent to a landfill. But Alaska is cow-poor, and the brewery realized its spent grain would quickly overwhelm Juneau's modest animal and gardening needs. And it is expensive to ship it south for sale. So Geoff and his team developed a process to dry and burn the waste grain in a boiler system designed to power the brewing process.

The phrase "Beer Powered Beer" printed on the underside of bottle caps honors Alaskan's commitment to innovation. -B.R.

recalls. "I think we had every part of the state represented—and they represented all walks of life." Even those who didn't invest in the new brewery offered encouragement, she says. "It was a crazy idea, but people said, 'Go for it. There are a lot of crazy ideas in Alaska.""

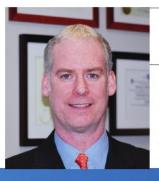
Longtime locals still remember tasting homebrews as Geoff tested recipes. And how Marcy found archival records that helped Geoff develop an amber beer based on a local 1907 Gold Rush-era brew. The



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Larsons combed through brewing magazines, attended conferences and talked to early practitioners of craft brewing. With local officials, they worked out the logistics of brewing in Juneau. And with the initial investment, they rented spacewhich they would later buy and expandand bought a 10-barrel brewing system. As they began to brew in earnest, they dumped 16 batches before getting the consistent quality they insisted upon. In December 1986, the Larsons found 10 volunteers and spent 12 hours hand-packaging the first 253 cases of their flagship Alaskan Amber for distribution in Juneau.

The upfront work paid off. Distribution expanded throughout Alaska. The brewery created more beers. Then in 1988, Alaskan Amber won gold in its category and as Best Beer in the Nation at the Great American Beer Festival in Denver. It was the first GABF gold for the company, which has since become one of the winningest breweries in festival history. It also helped fuel growth. Alaskan started shipping to Washington state and found that its 10-barrel system, even running 24/7, couldn't keep up with demand. The Larsons consulted

> their investors and their employees, and-though



the company had just started earning a profit—raised new funds to expand to a 100-barrel system. It was a wise decision. With this system, the company now distributes in 18 states and is consistently among the nation's top 25 largest craft breweries by annual sales volume.

As they grew the business, the Larsons also developed devoted employees, such as Curtis Holmes, who remembers building cardboard boxes alongside Marcy on his first day without realizing who she was. "They impressed me that they were actively working with everybody and treated their crew like family," says Holmes, who is now the company's plant manager, as well as an expert brewer and

beer judge.

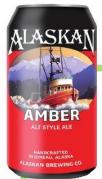
The Larsons are humble, and they encourage an ethic of collaboration. Despite their personal success, they drive a 1998 Toyota pickup. And although Geoff developed key recipes, there is no single "brewmaster" at Alaskan Brewing Company. Instead, there is a "Brew Crew."

"The brewery is really an achievement of a whole group of people—not just Marcy and Geoff," Geoff says. "Not just a few. It's everyone. And that's what's really fun and remarkable."

B efore Geoff and Marcy even start to talk to me about their beers, they have me on a helicopter, flying out over Juneau and its surroundings. They want me to see their brewery in context, because place is so fundamental to what they do. Their company is inescapably Alaskanin its name, in its historical and geographical inspirations, and in the community that has embraced the brewery for the last 30 years.

It's a beautiful, cloudless day. We fly over the city, pressed up against Mount Juneau and Mount Roberts to the east, and bordered to the west by the Gastineau Channel. We fly over lakes that support a 100-year-old system of "lake taps" that provide the city with clean hydroelectricity by drawing water from lake bottoms and running it through turbines. We fly over the expansive Taku and Mendenhall glaciers that stretch north and east toward Canada. And we fly over Lemon Creek, the "industrial" part of Juneau, where Alaskan Brewing Company remains the community's leading exporting manufacturer. From above the brewery, we see the huge stainless steel tanks that hold the products of this purely Alaskan endeavor.

"We try to get inspiration from where we are," Geoff says, back at the brewery. "We want to catch a nugget of inspiration from what you see in the ice field. This place is wild! It's primordial! The ice is a mile thick! There are snowflakes there that fell thousands of years ago."



fewer gallons of airline fuel

Canning for Good

Alaska Airlines passengers enjoy about 250,000 beers in flight each year. Recognizing that any reduction in weight leads to greater fuel efficiency, the airline asked Alaskan Brewing Company to switch the beers from bottles to cans: In one year, carrying that same number of beers, the airline hauls about 100,000 fewer pounds, burning about 1,000 fewer gallons of fuel.

SOURCE: "BRIGHT GREEN IN AN EMERALD CITY," 2016, PUBLISHED BY THE SEATTLE METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

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Marcy explains that she also wanted me to see the neighborhood. "You can see how we're not here all alone. We're nestled right in the middle of a community, and everyone is connected. For this reason, we want to be a positive force and mitigate any negative impacts of production."

"It's about that balance of creating a positive environment for work and a quality place in which people can enjoy what they do at the same time," Geoff says. "We have a desire to be good stewards of where we are."

n his same stewardship ethos is seen in the community contributions of the brewery as a whole, and the Larsons in particular.

Craig Dahl, executive director of the Greater Juneau Chamber of Commerce and a 42-year banker in Juneau, praises the brewery and its founders, who serve in the chamber and on various local boards. "They make it their mission not just to be successful but to share in that success," Dahl says.

There is also the work that the Larsons do with SEADOGS (Southeast Alaska Dogs Organized for Ground Search), volunteering with their golden retrievers Jasmine, 13, and Tango, 2, as a canine-centered search-and-rescue team, as well as presenting in schools and helping train other teams around the state.

"We're able to add to that huge searchand-rescue umbrella a little bit of expertise that hopefully enhances the success," says Geoff. "We're part of the team."

The Larsons strike a similarly modest note when they discuss their influence on the community of craft brewers in Alaska.

"We're just one of the group, but we happen to have had a lot of experiences to share," says Marcy.

Others see their influence in the craft community as far greater.

"In every conversation, they're referred to as the pioneers," says Bobby Wilken, who used to work as a brewer and then in quality control at Alaskan Brewing Company before he left to launch HooDoo Brewing in Fairbanks. "They have inspired every single brewer in Alaska."

Paul Wheeler, owner-brewer at Haines Brewing Company to the north of Juneau, says the Larsons' example was what got him into homebrewing in 1988. Like Wilken, Wheeler distributes locally and does not plan to expand. He appreciates the encouragement he's received from the Larsons along the way. "They've been very supportive," he says. "As big as they are now, they still support us little guys."

n December, the Larsons were inducted Into the University of Alaska's Innovators Hall of Fame. In February, Alaskan Brewing earned a patent for its spentgrain boiler.

Geoff and Marcy say that, looking forward, they hope to dedicate more time to working with the Brewers Guild of

Alaska that they helped start—and to educating others about sustainable brewing and manufacturing in Alaska.

In 2016, longtime Alaskan Brewing COO Linda Thomas was promoted to CEO in part to allow the Larsons to step back and participate in this type of outreach.

Geoff sees a future for the brewery based on the creativity and increased investment of employees. Alaskan has an employee-stock-ownership program, and it engages staff members of all disciplines in making brews, using a one-barrel "rough draft" system, to serve in the break room. The best of these test beers get served locally, then considered for brewing on a larger scale.

Innovation at Alaskan Brewing is driven, in part, by the market demand for greater variety and novelty. The Larsons believe craft beer will continue to evolve rapidly, noting that the number of U.S. craft breweries passed 5,000 in 2016, and that there are another 2,000 permits in the works for the next couple of years. When Alaskan Brewing opened, there were fewer than 100 U.S. craft breweries.

"We've always had to adapt," Geoff says. "I think if anything, we've realized now that change is always going to be there. We always have to be innovative. We always have to look at things fresh."

And yet, even as the company continues to evolve and expand for the future, the Larsons hope that it also continues to draw strength from its roots. According to their best estimates, 2017 marks the 110th anniversary of the gold-rush brew that inspired Alaskan Amber-the liquid gold from Juneau that has won the gold medals that helped launch the brewery's success. True to their ambitious nature, the Larsons hope they have equipped their company for a similar longevity.

"We want Alaskan Brewing to be here 100 years from now," Geoff says. ⊀

Ben Raker is an editor at Alaska Beyond Magazine.

ENCHANTING BAJA

Touring Loreto and Los Cabos

By Becky Youman

)) There it is—the sun.

I turn my whole body toward it, close my eyes, and stand in happiness. I can feel it warming my arms and face, and I already consider my winter trip a success.

I have just arrived from Seattle and am having this ecstatic moment standing outside while my husband checks in at the luxurious Villa del Palmar Beach Resort & Spa at the Islands of Loreto.

Living in the Pacific Northwest, we are bundled up for most of the winter and rarely feel the sun's warmth. Today I've happily peeled off my seasonal layers before arriving at this delightfully inviting location. Now, as I stand outside in a sundress, I feel completely free.

The resort is located on Danzante Bay, about 25 miles south of the picturesque colonial town of Loreto—a popular vacation area about two-thirds of the way down the eastern coastline of the Baja Peninsula. The town sits between the rugged Sierra Gigante range and the placid Sea of Cortés.

Just offshore lies the spectacular Bay of Loreto National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known as North America's version of the Galapagos Islands.

Home to about 695 plant species, more than 800 fish species and an estimated 39 percent of the world's total species of marine mammals, the park covers more than 500,000 acres and includes a number of uninhabited islands easily reachable from shore.

We are lucky to be here during the whale-migration season. From January to the end of March, various species of whales, including orcas, grays, hump-backs and the world's largest species—blue whales—migrate to these waters.





NEAR&FAR»







>>> Clockwise from lower left: The waters near Loreto teem with sea life. Kayakers paddle among the islands in the Sea of Cortés. The beaches near Caho San Lucas are a popular draw. Loreto is one of the oldest Spanish settlements in Baja.

My husband Bryan and I have come for a bit of adult time. With our 13-year-old daughter at home with her grandparents, we have scheduled a trip full of fine dining, golf and spa treatments. We will spend a few days here, and then head to Los Cabos at the peninsula's southern tip for another few days of adventures.

Located south of Loreto, Villa del Palmar offers a host of activities, such as golfing, fishing, hiking, tennis, beachcombing and enjoying the resort's many excellent restaurants. The facility also features the Sabila Spa and Wellness Center, which offers massages, body wraps and meditation classes, to name just a few of its specialties.

However, the real draw for us is the fact that the resort sits right in front of the national marine park. We have visited here before and always enjoy the easy access from the hotel to the park, where we can scuba dive, snorkel and kayak among the teeming marine life found in these waters.

Sitting on the balcony of our suite, we are awed by the expansive views of the area's jagged mountains and the brilliantly blue Danzante Bay, where we see yachts anchored and numerous small islands just offshore. Having lived for several years in Arizona, we recognize many of the area's indigenous desert plants on the surrounding landscape—aloe vera, cholla cactus

and a long-limbed cousin of the saguaro called cardón.

We are eager to get out on the water and rent paddleboarding equipment at the hotel to take a spin around the protected half-moon-shaped bay in front of the hotel. The water is so clear, we can see fish and rays swimming beneath us.

Hungry after our paddling excursion, we head to the hotel's Casa Mia outdoor restaurant. The view of the evening sunset over the calm bay and its craggy islands is hypnotic. We pull ourselves away from the view to enjoy chunky, tart guacamole and pork-and-pineapple tacos-a savory and sweet delight.

The next morning, we rise early for a



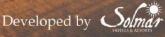
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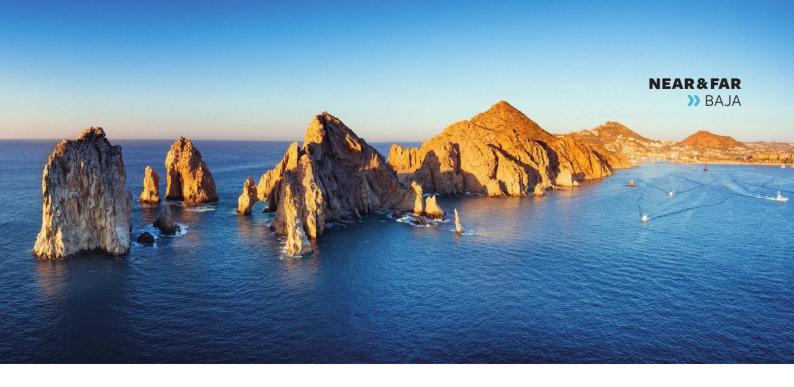
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round of golf. There will soon be two great 18-hole courses in the area.

One, Danzante Bay, is in its final stages of construction here at the hotel. The Rees Jones layout will showcase the area's cliffs, canyons and beaches as it winds through the landscape.

Currently, you can play 11 holes at Danzante, with the final seven scheduled for completion later this year. The course already has its signature hole, the par-3 17th, called The Sea of Cortés, which boasts a green at the end of a short finger of land that juts out into the bay.

We decide to play the second layout, The Loreto Bay Golf Course, located about 20 miles north at the Loreto Bay Golf Resort & Spa. Recently renovated by David Duval, this course also beautifully blends in with the natural landscape, skirting plenty of water. We arrive at the resort—another fabulous place to stay in the area-and rent sets of clubs, and then head out to the course. The excellent layout offers stunning views, especially on the course's signature par-3 15th hole, which requires you to hit a short but still daunting tee shot over a lagoon.

After golf, we travel into Loreto, deemed a "Magical Village" by the Mexican government for its historical significance and rich natural resources. This was the site of one of the first

Spanish settlements on the peninsula. With a well-preserved, centuries-old Jesuit mission, a leafy public square and an ocean boardwalk, the village is serene and restful. Much of the town's history is rooted around the Mission of our Lady of Loreto. Founded in 1697, it was the first permanent mission church built on the Baja Peninsula.

We walk through the cool interior of the church and then head down a shady path to an area of artisan shops, where we pick up a few gifts.

Bryan and I stroll a few blocks south to the public square and sit on a bench in the shade, admiring the town center. We continue our exploration by walking east, until we come to the malecón. About eight blocks long, the boardwalk runs from the town marina to a popular sandy beach, where we soak up some sun and wiggle our toes in the sand.

On the way back to the resort, we stop at a fun roadside restaurant, Vista al Mar, which means "view of the sea." The clam shack is located on the beach a few yards from the water. We settle into plastic chairs at a table under a palm-thatched roof and find a serving of the house specialty—locally caught brown-shelled chocolate clams-absolutely delicious.

The next day we make our way south to Los Cabos, located at the southern tip



Land's End, top, Baja's southern tip, is known for distinctive rock formations. The region is popular with golfers, above, and those seeking gourmet Mexican dining, below.





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of Baja. The region is composed of three distinct areas. There is the lively tourist center of Cabo San Lucas; the more traditional Mexican town of San Jose del Cabo; and The Corridor-the 20 miles of white-sand, hotel-studded coastline that connects the two.

The landscape is breathtaking. The mountainous desert terrain flows down to the sea. Large cactuses dot surrounding rocky cliffs that stand out against the backdrop of the stunningly blue water.

We arrive at our hotel, the all-suites Pueblo Bonito Rosé Resort & Spa, which is located on the beach in Cabo San Lucas. Pueblo Bonito has five properties in the area, but we like this one because it's an easy walk to town. The hotel offers beach access, spacious suites, a shaded pool and an outstanding spa-as well as great views of the famous Arch of Cabo San Lucas, the distinctive and famous rock formation at the very tip of Baja.

We can't get enough of being outside and—after an afternoon by the pool—we decide to walk to dinner. Our route takes us south by the Cabo Marina, a busy place that buzzes with energy. This is the center for boating, snorkeling and fishing tours, as well as a popular area for restaurants, bars and shopping. We leisurely walk the half-hour to the southern tip of Baja, an area known as Land's End, not far from the Arch of Cabo San Lucas.

We are eating at La Roca, a restaurant at the spectacular Grand Solmar Land's End Resort & Spa, located about a mile from the arch. Both the resort and restaurant feature dazzling ocean views and the music of the roiling surf.

We have booked ahead and are lucky to watch the colors of the sunset reflect off the water from our table on the restaurant deck. Happily, we find the food is as good as the view. We feast on appetizers of shrimp tacos and grilled octopus paired with chilled white wine. We then share entrees of red snapper and filet mignon to make our own gourmet version of surf and turf.

The next day, we are up early for a walk on the beach before traveling to the Quivira Golf Club, located 15 minutes away from our hotel. The Jack Nicklaus Signature Design course features panoramic views on virtually every hole. We enjoy the expert layout, which includes the short par-4 fifth, which is draped on a hillside and offers a seemingly endless view of the Pacific Ocean.

Massages at the resort's Armonia Spa revive us for the evening. We have a special treat in store-dinner at the sensational Flora Farms' Field Kitchen restaurant. We hop in a cab and head northeast to San Jose del Cabo.

Known for its galleries and weekly Art Walk, San Jose is always on our Cabo

>>> Flora Farms' Field Kitchen restaurant workers pick fresh produce for the day's dishes, left. The gourmet restaurant's bar is known for its drink creations, above.

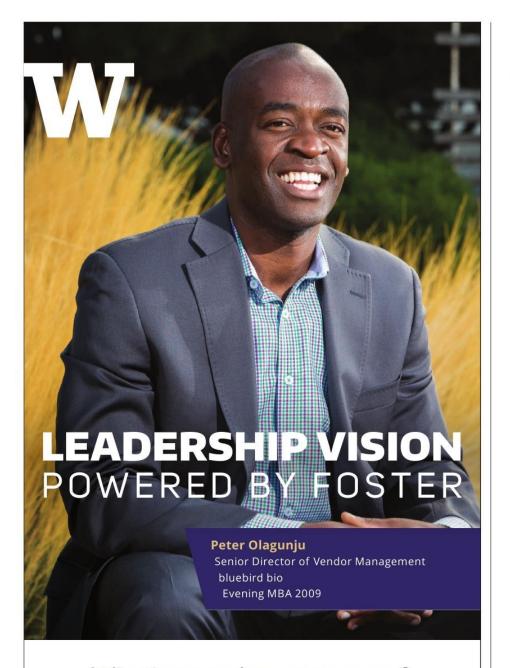
WHERE TO STAY

Loreto

- Loreto Bay Golf Resort & Spa: Located on Nopolo Bay, the resort has beautiful and comfortable rooms, many with ocean views; a gym; pools; tennis courts; a spa; restaurants; and golf (loretobayresort.com).
- Villa del Palmar Beach Resort & Spa at the Islands of Loreto: This resort south of Loreto sits on a large parcel of land that fronts the Loreto Bay Marine Park. It offers stylish suites, four restaurants, a spa, pools and many activities (villadelpalmarloreto.com).

Los Cabos

- Grand Solmar Land's End Resort & Spa: Tucked into a hillside and offering great ocean views, the resort boasts infinity pools, a spa, beach access, luxurious suites and eight dining options (grandsolmarresort.com).
- Pueblo Bonito Rosé Resort & Spa: This all-suite resort near the heart of Cabo San Lucas has pools, a spa, tennis courts, beach access and many amenities (pueblobonito.com). -B.Y.



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NEAR&FAR

>> BAJA

itinerary. This evening, however, we continue through the town and up a bumpy road into the foothills of the Sierra de la Laguna. The restaurant is part of a 25-acre organic farm that appears like a green oasis in the desert scrub.

The complex includes a grocery store that sells the farm's produce and free-range meats from the farm's nearby 125-acre ranch.

The restaurant's decor is unassuming but comfortable, with wooden-slab tables, red-cushioned benches and open floor-to-ceiling windows. We enjoy the crispy pork-belly confit and a seasonal salad with ingredients that were picked at the farm just this morning. We also share a rich herb fettuccine, with asparagus and fried egg, and a perfectly cooked oven-roasted chicken. We end the night with a heavenly tasting thick flan.

On the last day of our vacation, my husband and I walk to Las Mariscadas, an informal open-air restaurant that we frequent on trips to Cabo. Big grins cross our faces when lobster burritos and coconut shrimp, accompanied by tart margaritas, arrive at our table. The meal includes the freshest ingredients, such as salsa made earlier in the day.

Becky Youman, who lived and worked in Mexico, now writes from Seattle.

Alaska Airlines offers service to Loreto and Los Cabos. For information on flights or to book an Alaska Airlines Vacations package, visit alaskaair.com.



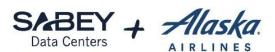
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CHARMED BY CHINA

Walking the Great Wall's wild side, savoring Shanghai and finding serenity in Suzhou

Story and photos by Robert Reid

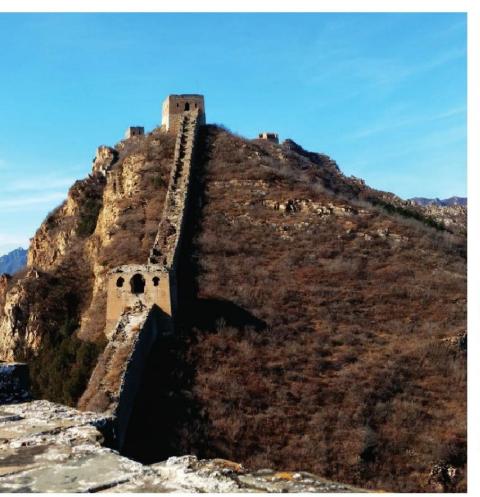
>> This is exactly what I wanted. I'm alone on a Chinese mountain, around 100 miles north of Beijing, following an unrestored section of the Great Wall of China called Gubeikou.

After two hours of hiking, I'm just 10 minutes short of my goal, a spot on Wohushan mountain where the Great Wall ends atop a gorge. There are no souvenir stands or cable-car rides here. Just ramparts of what's known as a "wild wall." The path before me has dwindled to a few feet wide, tilting steeply downward.

It's too wild. I feel like Jimmy Stewart in *Vertigo*. I decide to turn back, but first I sit. After catching my breath, I pull my phone out to record the weakest selfie of all time.

I love China.

NEAR&FAR >> CHINA







The Great Wall is a household name, yet remains surprisingly misunderstood. For one thing, it's not α wall, but a series of separate walls built over 20 centuries to keep invaders at bay. No one's sure how many miles it adds up to (counts start at 4,000 miles, and no one even agrees on what is really part of the "wall" versus some stranded fort.

Most people reach the wall on day trips from Beijing, which is surrounded by an arc of 16th century Ming-era walls. Great Wall sections such as Badaling or Mutianyu can be reached riding cable cars up to the ramparts, then riding down on toboggan tracks. It's fun, and busy.

I'd been before, and this time I wanted space for myself, so I chose the remote Gubeikou area. Some tours visit this area

during peak season. Or you can get here by public bus, like I did. I started at the Great Wall Box House, a historic accommodation in the shadow of the Panlongshan part of the Great Wall, where I had tea with the English-speaking owner, Joe.

"It's meaningful living here, very peaceful," he said about life along the Great Wall. "It's easy to feel older just living by it." Joe pointed out some nearby walks for me on a handmade map.

As I started off on my hike, a voice stopped me. "Can we go, too?"

I turned to see a trio of Chinese women. One held a phone. She looked at it, then repeated her question. I said yes. She tapped onto her phone translator, then read, "Can you wait 5 minutes?"

And so I was joined on a three-hour

>>> People enjoy visiting China to see bustling Shanghai, left, the centuries-old Great Wall of China, center, and Suzhou's peaceful gardens, top, and to try interesting foods, above.

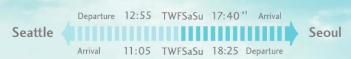




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NEAR&FAR >> CHINA



Open-front street carts serve small bites, top. A visitor to the Great Wall uses her phone to translate Chinese to English, right.



walk with three new friends. A sign led to a trail that rose to join the ramparts, which snaked between distant towers over a series of misty peaks. No one else was in view the whole time. The walls began to rise steeper. One of the women held up her phone and played a Chinese pop-dirge-if that genre exists—giving an unexpected ambiance to the scene. It was followed by Katy Perry's Roar.

Later, after lunch at Joe's guesthouse, I started my solitary walk to Wohushan, or Crouching Tiger Mountain. I crossed the Chaohe River and followed the trail, which soon reached the Wall. Generally the trail stuck to the base of the Wall, which led every mile or so to a tower.

I was nearly to the top of the mountain when I found the trail was running too

close to the ledge for my comfort.

Now I tell myself, "This is as far as I go." I sit awhile here, the gorge endpoint just out of view. I look toward the horizon, counting the number of mountains in a straight line (I get to 15 before losing track). I've no regrets stopping the hike just short of its dramatic finale.

Shanghai, Bite by Bite

"Drink this in one gulp," says our guide. "Trust me, it's not a sipper." I'm kickstarting my exploration of Shanghai's food scene with a three-hour night-market tour. On one of our first stops, we've tried 10 or so delicacies: ear-shaped xiaolongbao soup buns, "dwarf pastries," heavily spiced "little lobster" crawfish, lotus roots grilled on a stick, purple sweet rice-

GREAT WALL TIPS

- On my trip to Beijing, I stayed at the Shangri-La's China World Summit Wing, and toasted my trip on the 80th-floor bar, the capital's highest bar.
- Great Wall Adventure is a reliable tour company that offers peak-season day trips to the wall's Gubeikou section. To climb the walls mentioned in this
- story, it's best to overnight at Gubeikou's China Wall Box House. Its website lists directions on reaching the town by bus.
- For more information on visiting Beijing and the Great Wall, see english.visitbeijing.com.cn. -R.R.

LEARNING TO WOK

Travel is supposed to give us some challenges, so I decide to take one on: my first wok workshop, with Cook In Shanghai.

Our cooking assistant first meets the five students on a busy boulevard and leads us to a nearby "wet market" with two floors of meats and local produce to source today's ingredients. Then she takes us to our class inside an apartment, where we meet our "master chef," Mr. Cao, who peppers us with brief orders. It's easy to follow.

We breeze through three dishes, eating as we go. There's kung pao chicken, steamed fish seasoned in soy and ginger, and my favorite: a tasty long bean fried with eggplant. I don't know if I can replicate all this, but it's fun being on a wok. -R.R.





Cooking-class students are instructed by a chef, left, to create fresh dishes, such as fish in a seasoned sauce, right.



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WHEN IN SHANGHAI

- In Shanghai, I stayed at the **Pudong Shangri-La Hotel**, with its full-glass walls overlooking the downtown area.
- For more on Shanghai eating, the e-book *Glutton Guide to Shanghai* has a great overview of types of local food, including Shanghai-style food known for its sweet and sour sauces.
- Cook in Shanghai is a great resource for those interested in taking a traditional cooking class (cookinshanghai. com).
- For more information on visiting Shanghai, see meet-in-shanghai.net.

—R.R.

milk pudding. Now we're toasting our dinner with a sorghum liquor called baijiu.

The guide leading the toast is David Fishman of UnTour, which offers food-related tours around Shanghai for about \$70 (about 450 yuan). He's led us to a food street on Shouning Lu, a lane full of modest open-front options that stays active late. After baijiu, we walk to more night-market stops, pausing for Uyghur-style lamb skewers in the middle of a side street, then finishing with a hot mug of sweetened soy milk from a sidewalk stand.

At first I write down the names of local dishes we try, but I finally give in to enjoying the walking buffet, bite by bite.

A Stroll Around Suzhou

"Suzhou is Shanghai's back garden," I'm told at my hotel in this city a half-hour bullet-train ride west of Shanghai. "It's laid-back, peaceful, quiet. You'll like it."

"How many people live here?" I ask.
"About 14 million."

That's China. Here a city that nearly doubles New York's population is considered quaint. And yet Suzhou, I find, offers a nice respite from Shanghai's bustle.

I'm here for Suzhou's historic center, where some of the city's 2,500-year history still lives in its shows of *kunqu* opera and *pingtan* folk music, along with





>>> Suzhou is sometimes called a "Venice of the East" for its many canals, top, near which you can find traditional teahouses, left, and cat cafes, below. The city's many traditional gardens, such as the Humble Administrator's Garden, bottom, are ideal for a peaceful promenade.

remnants of the Grand Canal, a 1,100-mile network begun in the fifth century B.C.

I go to the Humble Administrator's Garden, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Suzhou's many traditional gardens. Stone walkways with animal designs lead me, in a playful weave, around a large pond that anchors the garden. I take a path into a hidden courtyard hemmed by tiled rooftops.

The next morning, I take a taxi to the Panmen Gate. I follow part of the Grand Canal, walking over arched stone bridges. Occasionally a boat passes, paddled by a woman in a conical hat who is singing. A sign in English catches my eye: "CAT CAFE! Cute cats will welcome you with coffee and music!" I head down the alley lined with photos of cats and enter the cafe. "We have 30 cats," a woman says. "You will enjoy."

I order a tea, then quickly abandon it to explore the old two-floor home. Each nook





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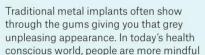


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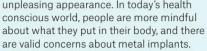




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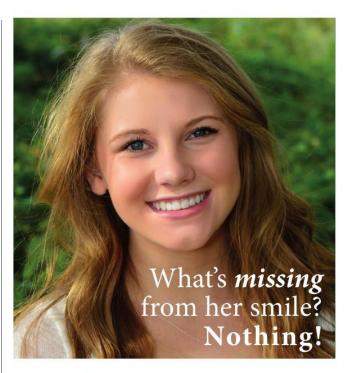
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Jordan's Story

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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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NEAR&FAR >> CHINA

VISITING SUZHOU

- Suzhou can be easily visited on a day trip from Shanghai, but some events (canal tours and concerts) are best enjoyed at night.
- Second-class bullet trains between Shanghai and Suzhou cost about \$17 one way. See china-diy-travel.com.
- I stayed at business hotel Shangri-La Suzhou, a tower with citywide views in the Suzhou New District, a half-hour cab ride from the center.
- For more information on Suzhou attractions, visit en.visitsz.com. -R.R.

features a new wallpaper choice. One says "HARD ROCK" in block letters; another depicts a full wall filled with paperbacks and VHS tapes. Everywhere, importantly, are the cats. Flat-faced grumpy cats, napping cats in 8-foot-tall cat towers, lazy cats with raccoonlike tails. The cat cafe has 30 cats. And you will enjoy.

Next I go to the Pingtan Museum, dedicated to the traditional storytelling folk songs. I put on headphones below a display of old LPs. The song playing is built off the skinny-necked lute called a sanxian. An ebbing, mournful duet comes in. No Chinese is required to realize that not all goes well in this story. I love it.

After leaving, I see a CD store and go in to ask about pingtan music. "You like pingtan?" the clerk immediately says in English. "We have some here. What kind are you looking for?"

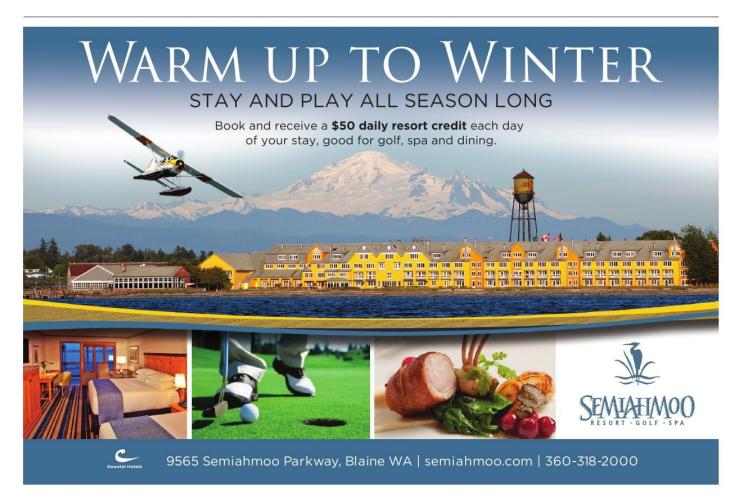
I play a song I recorded on my phone at the museum. He thumbs through the collection. "This one is old, from the '50s of the last century." He turns it on. The lute starts playing, and a female voice bends notes like a lap steel guitar.

The clerk nods his head as the song plays. "I wish more young people would listen to this. It's such beautiful music."

Next time, I'll see a show. For now, I'm happy to have the CD, a memento of my unforgettable experiences in China. ₹

Robert Reid is a Portland-based travel writer. To read more of his stories, visit blog.alaskaair.com.

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HERE&NOW»

SEATTLE

CHINATOWN-INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

Celebrating past and present

By Jamie Ford

>>> Several years ago, I went to the Four Seas dim sum place in Seattle, sat alone, and poured tea for the main characters—Henry and Keiko—of my first novel, Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet. At least, that's what I said to the waitress after she furrowed her brow and asked if I was expecting other people.

The book had just become a *New York Times* best-seller, and I was celebrating, in my own weird, authorly way, with tea, flavored with a touch of melancholy, sweetened with heaping spoonfuls of imagination. Because I'd somehow stumbled into literary success by following my heart, back to Seattle's Chinatown-International District.

Truth be told, I poured those extra cups for my *yin yin* and *yay yay*—my late grandmother and grandfather, whose lives have inspired much of my writing. That humble restaurant, across from the gorgeous Wing Luke Museum, was their favorite place for lunch, so I had tea in the company of their memories.

It was in the ID that my family celebrated my grandparents' golden wedding anniversary with an eight-course dinner at the China Gate (now the Golden Hong

Market). I can still taste the succulent bird's nest soup, black bean crab, and rock cod, steamed whole, covered with fresh scallions.

These were the bustling streets that glittered with fish scales and smelled of dried cloud ear mushrooms and candied ginger. Where





my grandfather would pick up savory roast duck from Kau Kau BBQ, mere blocks away from the Chong Wa Benevolent Association where my grandmother, as a teenager, learned to speak "city Cantonese."

Here, in these wondrous 23 acres, was the city-within-a-city

that I loved, and missed. The place where my grandparents had once struggled and rejoiced, amid echoes of *America Is in the Heart* by the great poet Carlos Bulosan.

Nowadays there are happy families in Seahawks jerseys enjoying bubble tea at Gossip, and Sounders fans delighting in steaming bowls of pho at the Green Leaf. There are still elderly men and women

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doing tai chi in Hing Hay Park as foodies from all over the city shop for fresh, authentic ingredients at Uwajimaya.

There are pleasant voices on the street—laughing, chatting in Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Mandarin, Cantonese, plus English, of course.

Whenever I'm here, perusing Kinokuniya (an amazing bookstore) or sampling the Euro-fusion magic of Fuji Bakery, I can't help but listen, longing. I still hold out hope, that one day after tea, I'll hear my grandparents, whispering. *

Jamie Ford serves on the board of the Wing Luke Museum. His new novel, Love and Other Consolation Prizes, set in and around Seattle's Chinatown-International District, is scheduled to be released this September.

TERRACOTTA WARRIORS OF THE FIRST EMPEROR' EXHIBIT



in the world today. Exhibits such as "Terracotta Warriors," which highlight ancient Chinese cultures with priceless artifacts, allow our community to not just understand the great contributions that China has made to world civilizations over thousands of years but also the benefits

from strengthening this relationship in the future. We are fortunate to have a place like the Pacific Science Center that brings experiences like this to our own backyard.

Mona Lee: This exhibition especially resonates with me because when you see the collection of artifacts, you are curious and want to ask questions and learn more. Questions are at the heart of the scientific process, and at the core of Pacific Science Center's mission to ignite curiosity in every child, and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us. I know the importance of our nation's economic success is tied directly to the U.S. continuing to lead in technology and innovation. And innovation starts with one thing: a question. *



HERE&NOW >> SEATTLE

Things to do in the Chinatown-ID

International Dumpling Crawl

(wingluke.org/tours): Led by the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, these winter tours (this year's last dates are March 3, 10, 17 and 24) sell out quickly. Starting in April, there's The Rice Stuff tour, and starting in October, the Twilight Noodle Slurp is available.

Dragon Fest (cidbia.org/events/ dragonfest): A Pan-Asian celebration with dragon dances, Korean drummers, cosplay and more, July 15-16 this year.

Seattle Pinball Museum (seattlepinballmuseum.com): Fifty-plus vintage and modern pinball games that change regularly, plus local craft beers.

Kobo (At Higo) (shown below; koboseattle.com): Part gift shop, part gallery, what was once one of Japantown's most popular variety stores, which was named Higo, is now a unique art emporium. (Kobo retained "Higo" on its signage.)



Night Market (cidbia.org/events/ night-market): The largest nightmarket celebration in Seattle takes place Sept. 9 this year, with live bands, hip-hop dance crews, street vendors and Asian food galore attracting more than 25,000 celebrants.

—Jamie Ford

Mapril 8-Sept. 4, Pacific Science Center (pacsci.org), Seattle Center

campus. The exhibit showcases more than 100 artifacts, including 10 of the famous terracotta statues—such as a charioteer and an archer—that for more than 2,000 years have guarded the tomb of China's first emperor. Below, honorary exhibit co-chairs Gary Locke, former governor of Washington state, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, and U.S. Ambassador to China, and Mona Lee, former First Lady of Washington state, share some of their thoughts on the exhibit, whose local sponsors include Alaska Airlines.

Gary Locke: As former Ambassador to China, I believe the U.S.-China relationship is one of the most important bilateral relations

COURTESY OF THE ARTIST: ROGER SHIMO MURA; COLLECTION OF TILMAN SMITH

The Wing Luke Museum Remembers

>> A new exhibit, "Year of Remembrance: Glimpses of a Forever Foreigner," on view through Feb. 11, 2018, at the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, features poems by Lawrence Matsuda and artwork by Roger Shimomura, both nationally prominent in their fields. The exhibit recognizes the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 authorizing Japanese relocation in the U.S., and



Roger Shimomura's Classmates #1, 2007 will be part of the exhibit.

explores historic and contemporary issues such as human rights.

Founded in 1967, the Wing Luke Museum's mission is "to connect everyone to the rich history, dynamic cultures and art of the Asian Pacific Americans through vivid storytelling and inspiring experiences."

The 60,000-square-foot museum (wingluke.org), which is a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate, includes historic spaces such as an early 1900s hotel, a mahjong room and an imported-goods store that can be visited through guided tours with docents. *

BEAUTIFUL **BONSAI**

Interest is growing in a fascinating yet little-known museum

>> See one of the most diverse bonsai collections in North America—with trees from Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan, Canada and the United States-at the Pacific Bonsai Museum (pacificbonsaimuseum.org). This lesser-known cultural gem in Federal Way, about 25 miles south of Seattle, even has a 7-foot-tall trident maple bonsai that was exhibited at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco.

Bonsai is considered a "living-art" form, which uses techniques that direct how a plant grows in a container. Special museum exhibits include "Natives," April 8-Oct. 8, which "celebrates the diversity of North American trees and the terrains that shape them," and will showcase 30-plus trees in one of the largest public exhibitions of bonsai created from native North American plant species.

The bonsai trees will be complemented by original landscape paintings from contemporary Swiss artist Iuna Tinta, whose works have been exhibited in several international shows and include Pacific Northwest landscapes such as Mount Rainier.

After visiting the bonsai museum, you might also want to explore the neighboring



A coast redwood bonsai is among the trees on display at the Pacific Bonsai Museum.

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden (rhodygarden.org), which has one of the largest collections of rhododendron species

in the world. The coast rhododendron, the official flow-

er of Washington state, is among the garden's collection of 750 of the 1,000-plus natural rhododendron species found in the wild in North America, Europe, Asia and northern Australia. The garden will host a Rhododendron Species Symposium, April 7-8. ⊀



GO TO: Greenwood Space Travel Supply Co.

Looking for conversation-starting gifts or party items? This space-travel-supply store in the Greenwood neighborhood north of downtown Seattle purveys items such as hand-activated gravity detectors, black hole starter kits, and bottles of certainty and uncertainty, with three-hour validated rocket parking on the roof. The store, open Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons, also raises funds to support The Greater Seattle Bureau of Fearless Ideas, a nonprofit writing and tutoring center for kids. Contact: fearlessideas.org.

HERE&NOW >> SEATTLE

TASTE WASHINGTON

The perfect pairing of Evergreen State viniculture and gastronomy

By Michele Andrus Dill

>> Two Top Chef winners are scheduled to be among the celebrities providing demonstrations at the Alaska Mileage Plan Chef's Stage during the 20th-anniversary Taste Washington.

Taking place March 23 through 26, Taste Washington features nearly 300 wineries and more than 70 restaurants, with events such as parties, tours, seminars and Grand Tastings. Top Chef season 4 winner Stephanie Izard and season 10 winner Kristen Kish will be among the featured chefs giving demonstrations during Grand Tasting events, March 25 and 26 at Seattle's CenturyLink Field Event Center.

Taste Washington begins with the March

23 Red & White Party at Aqua by El Gaucho on the Seattle waterfront. Pours from top Washington winemakers will be paired with small bites from the restaurant.

On March 24, enjoy Taste Washington on the Farm tours, with lunch, followed by the evening New Vintage party, with wine, gourmet bites and dancing at the Four Seasons Hotel Seattle.

Start March 25 or 26 with a morning Taste & Savor Tour of eight artisan-food vendors at Seattle's iconic Pike Place Market. Then enjoy seminars at the Four Seasons, such as Saturday's "Up Close with Karen MacNeil: What Makes Great Washington Wine Great?" MacNeil is a nationally renowned wine critic, journalist, author and educator. Sunday's most anticipated seminar is "Washington vs. The World! Old World, New World, Our World."

On the Grand Tasting afternoons of March 25 and 26, choose from the myriad wine and



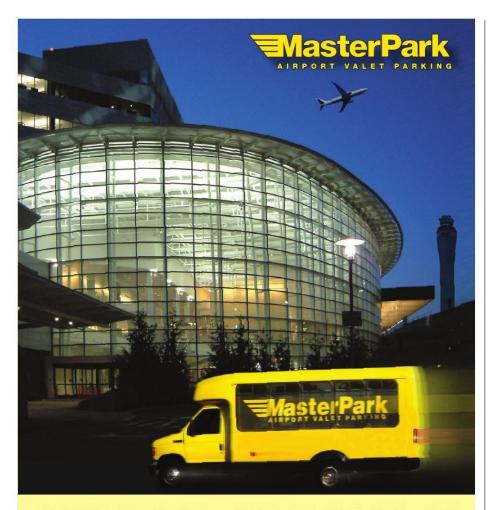
food samples, along with attending the presentations at the Chef's Stage.

Alaska Mileage Plan is the welcoming sponsor of the 20th-anniversary Taste Washington, which is presented by Visit Seattle and Washington State Wine. In addition, Alaska Airlines Visa Signature cardholders can show their card to get exclusive access to a cardholders' VIP Lounge.

For more information on Taste Washington, go to tastewashington.org. ⊀



>>> Discover notable new wines and wineries, and enjoy gourmet food samples, at the 20th-anniversary Taste Washington.



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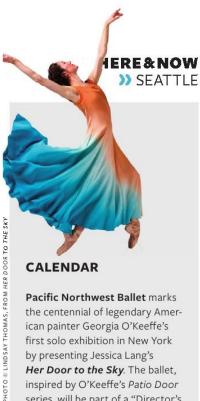
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CALENDAR

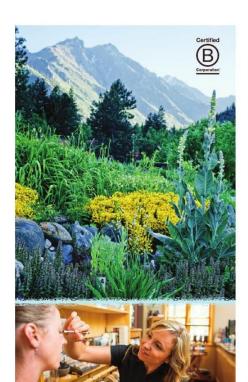
Pacific Northwest Ballet marks the centennial of legendary American painter Georgia O'Keeffe's first solo exhibition in New York by presenting Jessica Lang's Her Door to the Sky. The ballet, inspired by O'Keeffe's Patio Door series, will be part of a "Director's Choice" program, March 17-26, that also includes New Suite and Empire Noir (pnb.org).

The exhibit "Steins, Vines & Grinds: Washington's Story of Beer, Wine and Coffee" is on view through April 23 at the **Washington State History** Museum in Tacoma, south of Seattle. Items range from a bottle of Rainier Beer discovered in a sunken ship to a grape press used by Croatian winemakers in Gig Harbor, southwest of Seattle (washingtonhistory.org).

Inspired by the natural wonders, modernity and mythology of Mexico, Cirque du Soleil's latest touring show, Luzia, creates a beautiful world of astounding acrobatics, dazzling costumes,



intriguing sets and soul-touching music, at the Puget Sound area's Marymoor Park, March 30-May 21 (cirquedusoleil.com/luzia).







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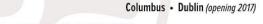
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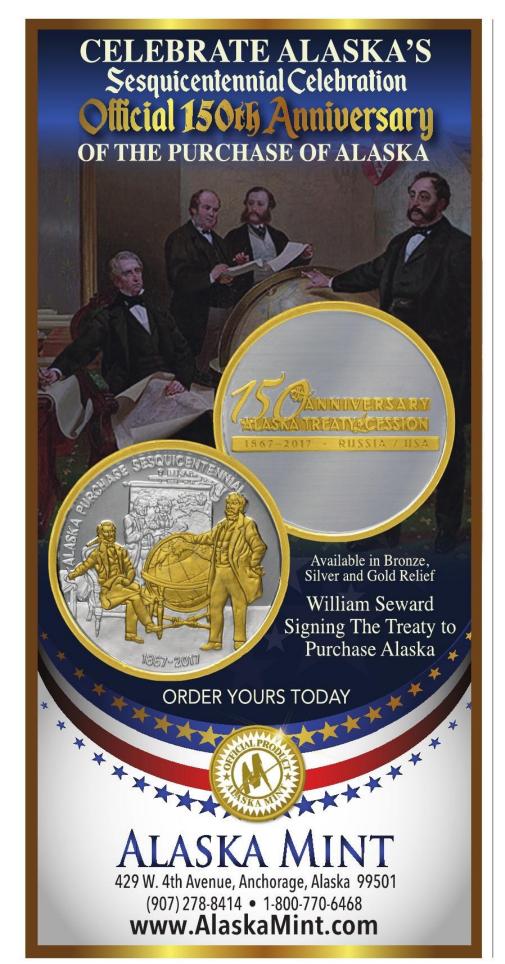
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HERE&NOW >>> SEATTLE

The Kirkland Performance Center, east of Seattle, will welcome several top performers next month, including The Blind Boys of Alabama, April 1; Bill Frisell, April 7; The 6o's Flashback Show, April 8; Aaron Neville, April 12; and Arlo Guthrie, April 21 (kpcenter.org).



The Seattle Scotch & Beer Fest, including seminars with 10 scotch tastings, will

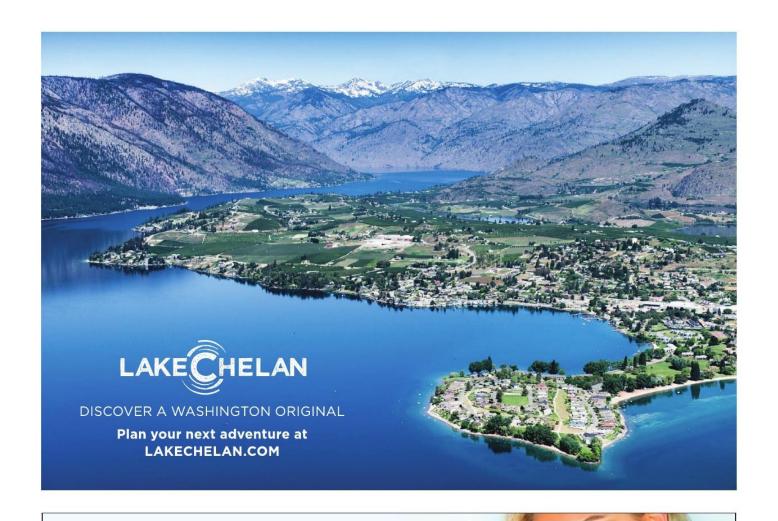
take place April 14–15 in the fun and funky Fremont neighborhood north of downtown Seattle (scotchbeerfest.com).

The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle and Washington, D.C.'s Shake-speare Theatre Company have collaborated on a new staging of *The Secret Garden*, which will be performed April 14 through May 6 in Seattle before an expected



run on Broadway. The production features Tony Award–winning actress Daisy Eagan (5thavenue. org). Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of The 5th Avenue Theatre.

The **Seattle Symphony** will perform music by famous Japanese and Indian composers, including Grammy and Academy Award winner A.R. Rahman, May 12, during the annual **"Celebrate Asia"** concert (seattlesymphony.org).



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TIMBERS TOWN

Joey Webber leads the celebration for Portland soccer

By Jim Moore

>> The Portland Timbers have just scored a goal at Providence Park, and the team's hometown fans break into one of the most unique celebrations in sports.

The capacity crowd of 21,000—led by the Timbers Army, Portland's most ardent and dedicated fans—roar their approval of the Major League Soccer team and break out into songs as a green cloud rises from a smoke bucket.

Then, the sound of a chainsaw rises above the cacophony. Joey Webber, known far and wide as Timber Joey, the team's official mascot, fires up his trusty Oregon chainsaw, and the mechanical whine creates anticipation in the stadium. As the

elated fans watch, he carves a slice off the end of a massive Douglas fir called the Victory Log. Then he parades the disk by the fans, letting kids and adults touch the valuable symbol.

After the game Joey presents a tree slice to every Timbers player scoring a goal that game and to the goalie, if the opposing team fails to score.

It's a revered tradition; one of the touchstones of Timbers culture, and a reason Timber Joey is arguably the best mascot in North America. The character's roots go back to the 1970s when "Timber Jim" Serrill, a fan and genuine woodsman, created the beloved rituals during the first

>>> Timber Joey, top, cuts another wood slice before the Timbers faithful after a home-team goal. In a long-standing tradition, fans hand the wood slice to one another, above, so crowd members can touch it.

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years of the Timbers team. Joey took over after his predecessor retired in 2008, and attributes his character's popularity largely to the fact that his relationship with fans is not typical.

"I get to interact with the fans more than any other mascot in sports," he explains. "I'm unmasked; the people can see me throughout the game. Plus, I use power tools!"

It's no wonder Joey calls a Timbers match the most exciting event you can go to in Portland. The club, which begins the 2017 season on March 3, has sold out more than 100 consecutive matches, and that string is expected to continue, with the Timbers selling more than 15,700 season tickets.

In 2017, the Timbers—who are partly sponsored by Alaska Airlines-have more motivation than usual. After winning the MLS Cup championship in 2015, the club missed the playoffs last year and watched their archrivals, the Seattle Sounders, claim the league championship.

The team is "hungry and motivated," says Timbers head coach Caleb Porter. *



TIMBER FACTS

- The Timbers Army, a loose-knit group of zealous fans, maintains a website (timbersarmy.org) offering chant information, and sign-making etiquette tips.
- Mascot Timber Joey was formerly one of Oregon's top timber-festival competitors in events such as pole climbing, axe throwing and log rolling.
- Timbers fans are famous for their creative tifos, huge hand-painted banners that are often hoisted up to the stadium rafters and sometimes hang down all the way to the field. — J.M.



THE PORTLANDIA EFFECT, A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP

By Susan G. Hauser

>> We Portlanders can be so fickle.

Many of us seem to relish the worldwide attention that has come the city's way thanks to Portlandia, the quirky TV program that began its seventh season in January on the Independent Film Channel (IFC).

After all, the comedy show, starring Saturday Night Live alum Fred Armisen and Sleater-Kinney guitarist Carrie Brownstein, has brought The Rose City great publicity, economic benefits and a slew of celebrity guests, including Steve Buscemi, Jeff Goldblum, Louis C.K. and Kristen Wiig, to name just a few.

The comedy series, which is the brainchild of Armisen, Brownstein and Jonathan Krisel, was launched in January 2011. Each episode contains a collection of offbeat comic sketches poking gentle fun at a variety of Portland and American counterculture types.

The show's greatest absurdist hits include a politically correct couple who become obsessed about whether the chicken they are having for dinner led a

happy free-range life; a couple who lose their jobs because they can't stop binge-watching programs on TV; and an episode that offered the artistic advice to "Put a Bird on It," which has become a cultural meme.

In the beginning Portlanders loved the show, flattered that their idiosyncrasies had drawn such attention. However, after

>>> From season six, Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein promote "Science Lab Furniture for Men," above. Armisen plays a pretentious artist offering impractical coffee mugs, below, in an episode from the show's current season.



HERE & NOW

>> PORTLAND



>>> Jeff Goldblum guest starred in an episode during Portlandia's second season, playing the owner of an artisan-knot store that sells a tangled pair of earbuds to Armisen and Brownstein. several years, some residents have begun to grumble that the show is attracting more people to the area. In 2015, Oregonian reporter Kristi Turnquist, asked Armisen why residents were blaming Portlandia for "overcrowding, bad traffic and high rents."

"I don't think a television show really can transform a city that much," Armisen said. "I don't think it has that much power."

Indeed, according to Tim Williams, executive director of the Oregon Film and Video Office, if you're going to blame *Portlandia*, why not blame *Grimm*, the Portland-filmed NBC supernatural drama series that will come to a close after its sixth

season at the end of March? Williams says that while a million or so people may see a *Portlandia* episode, millions more viewers will see a *Grimm* episode.

Even though some locals have turned against the show, others maintain *Portlandia* has been a boon for its namesake.

"Portlandia's been a wonderful thing for the city for building a lot of curiosity about Portland as a destination," says Marcus Hibdon, senior media relations and public relations manager for Travel Portland.

Hibdon says the show even draws international attention. "We're glad the program has continued as long as it has," he maintains.

Hibdon can rest easy ... for now. The show's joyful skewering of hipsters should continue for one more year. An eighth and final season of *Portlandia* is already in the works and is scheduled to be aired in 2018. **⊀**





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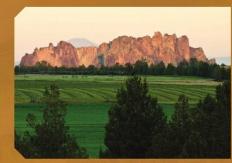
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ALASKA'S AGELESS BEAUTY

The Alaska territory will celebrate its 150th birthday in October

By Eric Lucas

we'd driven up the lush sub-Arctic valleys of the Seward Peninsula, admiring August flowers such as Jacob's ladder, marsh marigold, false hellebore and fuchsia-hued fireweed. We stopped on a bridge across the Sinuk River to admire sockeye salmon below, flashing vermilion and jade in the sun-laced current. Nearby stood the triangular peaks of the Kigluaik Mountains. We crept quietly near a herd of musk ox, placidly grazing summer grass, their yard-long outer hairs shimmering in the breeze.

Only after all that did my guide, Nome Mayor Richard Beneville, turn and say: "You're probably wondering how an actor from New York City wound up in Nome."

Actually I had not wondered that at all.

Instead, I'd thought about the box fan in my hotel room a month earlier in Latvia. The German-made fan's brand was "Alaska," illustrating one of my favorite ideas about the Great Land: It's evocative enough to be a global brand. Say its name, and people envision snowy peaks, untracked wilderness, cool forests, wild creatures ... and a brawny, paddle-yourown-canoe society in which people can move on from their pasts "Outside."

Though I've enjoyed so many adventures, great and small, in Alaska, my day in Nome was a perfect microcosm of this compelling land that America bought from Russia 150 years ago.

The day began with a quintessential Alaska breakfast (a sizable platter of hash browns, reindeer sausage and eggs) and ended with an equally quintessential trip to an AC Value Center, remote Alaska's go-to pantry, for fruit (the same bananas everyone buys in the Lower 48). In between, Beneville and I scanned the sky for gyrfalcons; toured the abandoned Pilgrim Hot Springs orphanage, a relic of the Great Spanish Influenza epidemic that broke out on the Seward Peninsula in 1918; and chatted about life in America's biggest state.

Salmon, wildlife, wildflowers, history, snowcapped mountains—all the Alaska elements, all in one day. That's the great beauty of Alaska. Everything iconic here is absolutely true: towering mountains, salmon-snatching bears, whales leaping out of the water, brawling rivers, misty forests, glaciers poised at ocean's edge. But layers of complexity lie beyond each icon, infinitely enriching the picture.

When Secretary of State William Seward engineered the \$7.2 million purchase from Russia in 1867, a few critics derided it as "Seward's Folly." But the disdain was not as widespread as legend has it; The New York Times described the new land as rich with gold, timber, fur, fish and even ice.

The author of Seward's Folly: A New Look at the Alaska Purchase, Lee Farrow, a history professor at Auburn University at Montgomery, Alabama, once met a Russian who argued that Americans should be grateful every day to Russia for "the gift of Alaska."

The state will celebrate its official handover to the United States on Alaska Day, October 18, at the precise spot in Sitka where it happened 150 years ago. Much of the pomp and circumstance will celebrate how lucky Alaska was to be purchased by the United States.

But many of us-myself and Richard Beneville included—will be celebrating something slightly different, a mirror image: How lucky the United States is to have Alaska. 🛪



PART OF THE PACK

Sebastian Schnuelle

) I was at the Rohn checkpoint, 188 miles into my first Iditarod, with 810 miles still to go, and I was low on food. It was 2005, and I had recently finished the Yukon Quest, a race about the same distance as the Iditarod. I thought I was



prepared. But resting at the gateway to the interior flatlands, I was worried.

Then five-time champion Rick Swenson, who was in his fourth decade of running the Iditarod, tossed me a few packages of vacuum-sealed meals. He also fed me some great advice: I should take my time, enjoy the ride and not even think about racing. That's when I realized that even though all the mushers were technically competing, this race makes you part of a family—one I've now been proud to belong to for more than a decade.

This year marks the 45th time mushers and their teams will run the Iditarod. The approximately 1,000-mile race that was created to preserve the valuable tradition of sled dogs—long after snow machines replaced sled dogs as the most efficient means for getting supplies to remote Alaska—has even become something of a literal family tradition. This year, three

The 2017 Iditarod will begin Saturday,

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grandchildren of race founder Joe Redington Sr. are signed up to run: Ray Junior, Ryan and Robert Redington. To boot, we are currently in the middle of a championship dynasty, with the last five races going to the Seavey family. In fact, Dallas and his dad, Mitch, have finished first and second the past two races.

Despite the solitude that the Iditarod provides, the race is marked by the community it creates. There's the ceremonial start on Fourth Avenue in Anchorage, a parade that lets the public shake mittens with the mushers. Then, as mushers arrive in villages along the trail, they meet up with local people they only get to see once a year, often for only a few hours, yet it feels like a reunion of long-lost friends.

Of course, most important to the Iditarod community are the dogs, and lead dogs are often just as famous—if not more famous—than their mushers. For instance, Leonhard Seppala's, Balto, has a statue in New York City's Central Park. Balto, along with dogs such as Togo, was part of the 1925 serum run in which mushers and sled dog teams delivered medicine from Anchorage to Nome. Today, the Alaska Airlines Leonhard Seppala Humanitarian Award recognizes a musher who takes outstanding care of his or her team.

As time marches on, the Iditarod remains true to its motto: The Last Great Race. Still, a race can't run four and half decades without evolving. Sleds are built from lighter materials; teams have dropped from an unrestricted number of dogs to 16; and finishing times have gotten much faster. Dallas Seavey reached Nome last year after eight days, 11 hours and 20 minutes—a record that more than halved the 20 days it took early winners to finish.

I've run the Iditarod seven times, finishing second in 2009, but I now spend my Iditarod days as a reporter for Iditarod Insider, following the race on a snow machine. Sitting next to the trail, waiting for the lead teams to emerge along the Kaltag to Unalakleet portage, I wonder about the generations of people who have used this ancient trail, a ribbon of ice engraved into the windswept tundra. Long a lifeline connecting villages and families, the trail today allows mushers a glimpse into an Alaska that few people get to see, never mind experience.

There are 17 rookies signed up for Iditarod 45, and my advice to them is the same advice Rick Swenson gave me many years ago in Rohn: Enjoy the ride, take your time and don't overthink it. If all goes well, you'll be in Nome about 11 days later, an

SLED DOG FAC

The leading Iditarod sled dog teams cover approximately 120 miles per day.

The average sled dog weighs 50 pounds and can consume about 10,000 calories a day, the equivalent of 30-plus cheeseburgers.

All sled dogs receive mandatory EKG testing and blood work before they are allowed to race. They are examined by race veterinarians upon arrival in each of the 26 checkpoints.

Sled dogs typically wear dog booties to protect their paws. That means each musher puts on 64 dog booties before each leg of the race, using more than 1,000 booties per Iditarod. -S.S.



A Few of Our FAVORITE THINGS

Writers share their prime California picks / by Barbara Beckley, Christine Delsol, Michele Andrus Dill, Mark Grossi, Archana Ram and Carey Sweet





still remember the fresh briny smell of the Pacific Ocean, the rhythm of the rolling waves, the Southern California sunshine on my shoulders and the light breeze brushing my hair during what turned out to be one of my favorite dates.

My uncle drove my boyfriend (now husband), Michael, and me to the beginning of the paved, mostly flat Marvin Braude Coastal Bike Trail—also known as "The Strand"—near Will Rogers State Beach so that we could pedal the 20-plus miles back to Torrance Beach. We had our own bikes, but rentals are available near both ends of the trail, and also at various other sites by the path.

Along the Los Angeles County route, we stopped at Santa Monica State Beach to watch volleyball players while we sipped sodas from Perry's Cafe (nowadays, the drink options include fruit smoothies, and the attractions at Santa Monica Pier include "the world's only solar-powered Ferris wheel"). We paused again at the Venice Fishing Pier, where anglers were reeling in bonito, mackerel and California halibut. At Marina del Rey, we compared notes on which dream boats we'd like to captain, and agreed to return for kayaking. At Torrance Beach, we







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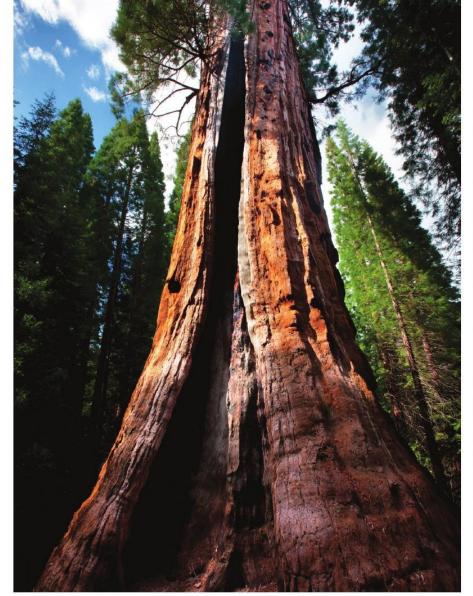
















locked up our bikes and bobbed in the waves.

That day of sun and sea, fun and laughter introduced me to many miles of striking Golden State coast (lacounty.gov/thingsto-do) that I'd never experienced via pedal power, despite having been born in LA.

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Traveling to and from the Golden State is better than ever since the Alaska Airlines/Virgin America merger. Together, the airlines offer 308 daily flights to California from 51 destinations, including:

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I learned that the trail was a lovely complement to star attractions such as Disneyland.

In California, it's easy to combine numerous delightful and diverse experiences in the same vacation. You can go from ocean surf to The Happiest Place on Earth. You can tour wine country and see the Golden Gate Bridge. You can ski or mountain bike in the Eastern Sierra and gaze up at giant sequoias in national parks and monuments. You can shop for designer clothes and admire exceptional art. You can explore outstanding museums and visit one of the world's best zoos.

In the following pages, writers share some of their favorite things in Sonoma County/ Napa Valley, San Francisco, Mammoth Lakes, Fresno, Orange County, Palm Springs and San Diego. For more information on California, see visitcalifornia.com, and the visitor websites for individual towns and regions. ズ

-Michele Andrus Dill, senior editor

Clockwise from left: An impressive California sequoia. The "Dumbo the Flying Elephant" ride at popular Disneyland. The San Diego Museum of Art, whose renowned permanent collection ranges from works by Spanish and Italian old masters to 20th century American paintings and sculptures.



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Falling for **Natural** Beauty

By Carey Sweet

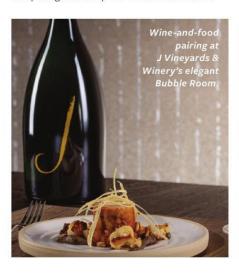
The boulders are blanketed in velvety emerald-green moss, hunkered under a bower of maple leaves, all shaded by lush redwood canopies. Thundering through the magical landscape, down a 25-foot mountain slope, a waterfall mesmerizes, plunging in

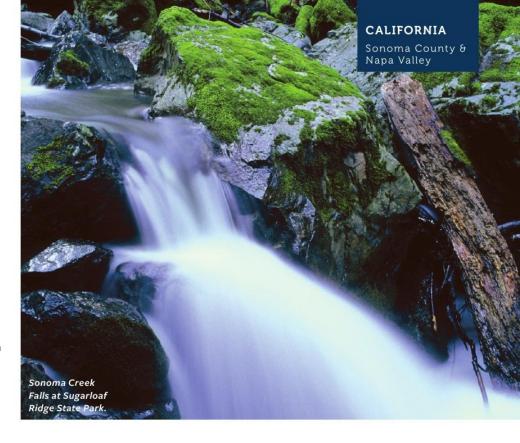
This breathtaking spectacle means it's

spring, when creeks have been fed by nourishing winter rains. Sonoma Creek Falls at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park (sugarloafpark.org), in the Mayacamas Mountains between Sonoma Valley and Napa Valley, is gorgeous March through May, when local hikers know to trek the mostly easy, approximately 450-foot-elevation-gain, 2-mile Pony Gate/Canyon Trail

loop for one of nature's masterpieces.

This morning, I rose early and headed out to the park in great anticipation. The air was crisp and fragrant as I strolled the gently sloping, grass-framed Pony Gate Trail. The trees above me whispered, in their languages of coast live oak, laurel and fir. The winter rains were particularly generous, so the path grew damp as I reached the creek-





side Canyon Trail, and soon I could hear the falls booming not far away. Now I'm sitting on a rock overlooking the waterfall wonderland. I feel totally relaxed.

Spring also brings rainbow carpets of wildflowers to this hiking loop, such as California poppies, cream cups, lupine, penstemon, buttercups, shooting stars and trillium, with blooms typically lasting through early summer. As I pad past petals on the rest of the loop, I'm often alone with my thoughts on the uncrowded trail. Sometimes deer keep me company as they peer from thickets. I'm only a 10-minute drive from civilization, but for now, I may as well be worlds apart.

MORE FAVORITES

Wine Road, Sonoma County (wineroad. com): For more than 40 years, this association of wineries and other wine-country businesses has helped me explore the many winery jewels throughout the Alexander, Dry Creek and Russian River valleys. I check Wine Road's online maps frequently to strategize my self-guided tours, and I often discover new treasures such as the recently renovated Bubble Room at J Vineyards & Winery (jwine.com). With sleek gray-leather furniture and handblown

glass-bubble chandeliers, the elegant space pampers guests with a five-course tasting menu paired with fine wines.

St. Helena Shuttle (ridethevine.com/ st-helena-shuttle): Part of Napa Valley's regional municipal service, the St. Helena Shuttle is a call-for, door-to-door (\$1) ride with limited-area service that gets me to or near attractions such as the Culinary Institute of America, across the street from Charles Krug Winery, and along St. Helena's Main Street for tasting rooms, restaurants and shops.

The Sea Ranch Chapel

(thesearanchchapel.org): Spaceship meets Salvador Dalí painting meets hobbit hut in this wonderful oasis of meditation. Every inch of the 360 square feet beckons with artful whimsy, from the intriguing curved-wood exterior, with a soaring patinated-copper peacocktail sculpture jutting from the pointed roof, to the interior's ceramic accents, stained-glass windows and mosaic-tile

Blue Note Napa (bluenotenapa.com): A fabulous extension of New York's famous Blue Note indie jazz club, this new hot spot that opened in October has fewer than 150 seats, meaning I'm never more



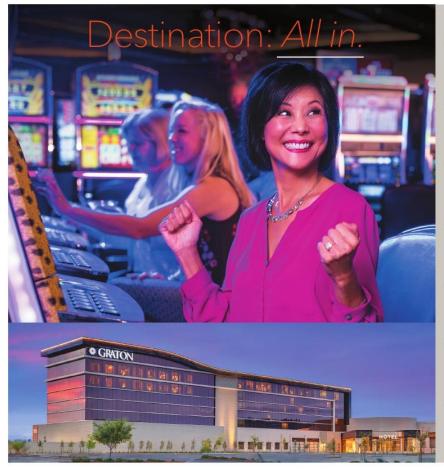
The Sea Ranch Chapel, known for its intriguing architecture.

than a hundred or so feet from the stage. I savor supper with the show, too, drawn from the snazzy California-Mediterranean menu.

Di Rosa, Napa/Carneros (dirosaart.org): This is a little-known hideaway for the world's largest collection of modern and contemporary works by Bay Area artists—more than 1,700 pieces.

Carey Sweet writes from Sonoma County. For more information on Sonoma County, go to sonomacounty.com; for information on Napa Valley, go to visitnapavalley.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Santa Rosa, gateway to Sonoma County and Napa Valley. In addition, wine flies free from Santa Rosa. For details, see sonomacounty.com/wine-flies-free-when-visiting-san-francisco-wine-country.







Plan to get away for some relaxation and Vitamin-D. Fly nonstop to capture the moments that let your true self shine. Once you arrive, find your oasis under a shady palm and chill away.

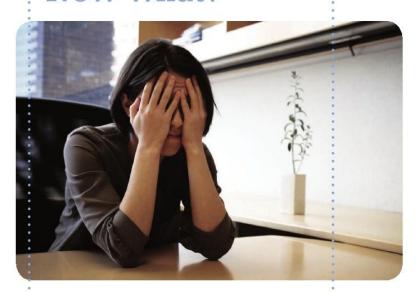
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ITINERARY IDEAS

- Armstrong Redwood State
 Natural Reserve (www.parks.ca.
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 northwest of Santa Rosa, the
 majestic redwood trees stand
 hundreds of feet tall, and some
 are more than 1,000 years old.
 Visitors can admire these giants
 while walking on the reserve's
 network of trails.
- Guided wine and food tours in Healdsburg (winecountrywalkingtours.com): Get to know the town of Healdsburg and the area's wonderful wines and foods by taking one of the various guided tours available from Wine Country Walking Tours.
- Charles M. Schulz Museum (schulzmuseum.org): Dedicated to the works of the *Peanuts* comic strip creator, the Santa Rosa museum offers insights into Schulz's life, his influences and his art through the displays of original strip panels, Schulz's personal artifacts, *Peanuts* books and other items.
- The Hess Collection Winery and Art Museum (hesscollection.com): The winery, on Mount Veeder, about 7 miles northwest of Napa, offers daily tastings and free admission to its renowned art collection that features the works of 20 living artists in painting, sculpture and various other art forms.
- Calistoga Attractions

(visitcalistoga.com): One of the quintessential Napa Valley communities, Calistoga is famous for its hot springs, resorts and great wineries. Visit the Castello di Amorosa winery, which resembles a Tuscan castle. You can also ride the Sterling Vineyards gondola from the valley floor up to the fortresslike winery located on a bluff 300 feet above the town.



THE BEST OF HIGHWAY 1

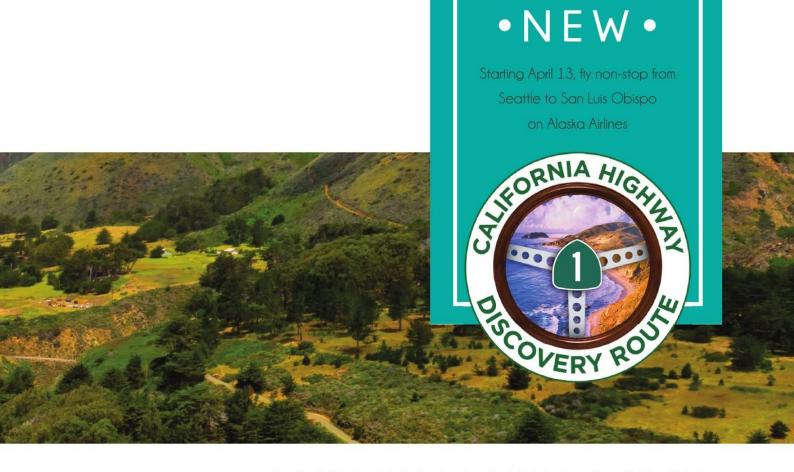
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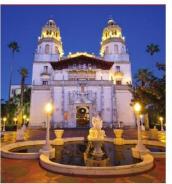
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FARM TO TABLE



WINE TASTING



WIDE-OPEN BEACHES



Breathtaking by the Bay

By Christine Delsol

At the south end of the Golden Gate Bridge, the red-roofed, white-gabled Victorian Officers' Quarters in the Presidio seemed to sparkle like fairy-tale cottages against the rumpled green hillsides when my family took trips to San Francisco during my childhood. I always asked Dad if we could go see the buildings, and he always said no, because it was an Army base.

Now here I am at the Presidio Officers' Club in the Main Post, savoring an ambrosial pork *cemita* (sandwich) while my husband, Ken, orders a second short-rib taco. Who says childhood dreams can't come true?

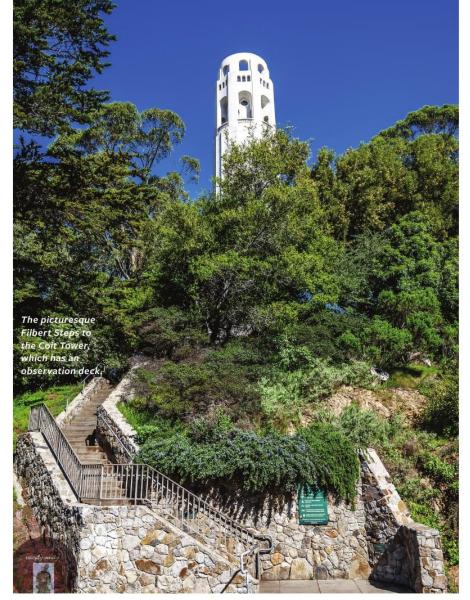
Arguello, the Mexican restaurant where we're eating, shares the Officers' Club with spaces for cultural events, family programs, exhibitions and an archaeology lab preparing to excavate remnants of the original, mud-walled Spanish fortification in front of the club.

This is the hub of a unique 1,491-acre national park (presidio.gov) that has its roots in a 1776 Spanish outpost that later became a Mexican fort, and then a U.S. Army post, and has been evolving since the Army vacated the area in 1994.

The latest milestone is a new permanent visitor center, which opened in February in a

handsome, circa-1900 brick building—a former guardhouse—with ample exhibition space and a San Francisco Bay view. The center is conveniently located in the Main Post, and exhibits showcase the park's four major regions: "the Main Post (cultural heart of the Presidio), the Golden Gate (iconic views), Crissy Field (recreation) and the Southern Wilds (nature exploration)."

The Presidio—part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area—offers miles of coastline on both San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean, as well as forests, hills and hiking trails for every fitness level. But it also houses more than 200 business, cultural and community entities, and 3,000 residents leasing homes and units in the renovated historic buildings—plus restaurants, a golf course, a bowling



alley and even a pet cemetery. A free Presidio Trust-run shuttle loops between downtown San Francisco and the park.

Filmmaker George Lucas' headquarters and the Walt Disney Family Museum are the Presidio's most prominent tenants. Lucasfilm doesn't give tours, but my husband and I pay homage, along with other visitors, at the outside Yoda fountain, and we discover a life-size figure of Darth Vader and other Star



Wars memorabilia in the lobby. The Disney museum, which thoroughly engages from beginning to end, focuses on the creative genius's life and art, and enthralls children with exhibits of his beloved creations.

On this visit, though, I'm particularly impressed by our self-guided tour of the historical aspects of the Main Post, which includes 1890s barracks; a renovated 1917 fire station; the Officers' Club, with adobe walls dating to the late 1700s; and the Officers' Quarters.

As I take pictures, Ken shares historical tidbits from the free booklet we picked up in the visitor center: The original Spanish fort was just 90 paces square. The trees were planted in the 1880s and '90s to replace sand dunes and marshland. The porches on the Victorian-era homes that tantalized me so

long ago were reoriented in 1878 from the "front," where they faced the parade grounds below, to the "back," on the street that we're walking.

Close up, the houses are every bit as charming as I'd imagined, and signs tell me they are occupied by schools, nonprofits, and financial and family-services firms.

My fairy-tale cottages are in good hands.

MORE FAVORITES

Filbert Steps (Filbert Street at Sansome): Like many residents, I think these are the most picturesque of San Francisco's stairways—which stand in for streets on hills too steep for cars. The steps pass through lush gardens and a pandemonium of feral parrots, and offer stunning views as they scale Telegraph Hill to the landmark Coit Tower.

Fisherman's Wharf (visitfishermans-wharf.com): Crab cocktails, street performers, antique penny-arcade games, Pier 39's oddball shops, obstreperous sea lions and an aquarium devoted to denizens of San Francisco Bay are just a few reasons so many visitors come here.

Mission District Murals (precitaeyes. org): Colorful murals abound in this predominantly Latino neighborhood, including Balmy Alley, between 24th Street and Garfield Square. Also lined by wall-to-wall murals is Clarion Alley (clarionalleymuralproject.org), between Mission and Valencia streets and 17th and 18th streets.

San Francisco Botanical Garden

(sfbotanicalgarden.org): Likely to be in full magnolia bloom through March, the doyenne of the city's gardens creates a virtual walk around the world, from South America's cloud forests to the Mediterranean Sea.

✓

Christine Delsol lives in the Bay Area. For more information on San Francisco activities and attractions, see sftravel.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Bay Area cities such as San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose.

ITINERARY IDEAS

- Alcatraz Island (nps.gov/alca): Tour the home of the federal penitentiary that once housed Al Capone and other notorious convicts. Learn about the history of the island, the prison facility and how the convicts lived.
- Golden Gate Bridge (goldengatebridge. org): One of the most iconic bridges in the world, the 1.7-mile-long span can be crossed by vehicle, bike or by foot. Experience the bridge up close by walking out onto the main deck for great views and to get a sense of the immense size of the structure.
- Golden Gate Park (goldengatepark.com): This great city park covers more than 1,000 acres and includes some of the city's top museums, such as the de Young Museum of Art, which has a priceless collection of American art from the 17th century to the 20th century, and the California Academy of Sciences, which is home to an aquarium,

- a planetarium, a four-story living rainforest and a natural history museum. The park also has plenty of trails, gardens, lakes, monuments, playgrounds and areas for picnics.
- Chinatown (sanfranciscochinatown.com): The largest and oldest Chinatown in the United States, this San Francisco community is famous for its historic architecture, great restaurants and bustling streets, full of shops selling a wide variety of goods. Take a guided tour or walk the neighborhood to experience its unique atmosphere.
- World-Class Art (famsf.org; sfmoma. org): In addition to the de Young Museum of Art at Golden Gate Park, San Francisco has world-class art museums such as the Legion of Honor, in Lincoln Park, featuring art that spans 4,000 years of human history,



A Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton at the California Academy of Sciences.

and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in the heart of the city. The newly remodeled museum is home to one of the world's largest collections of postwar and contemporary art.

■ Muir Woods National Monument (nps. gov/muwo): At this monument, visit one of the few redwood stands left in the San Francisco Bay Area, located about 10 miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge.





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Sierra Cycling

By Michele Andrus Dill

Zooming, bouncing, pedaling, coasting, I steer around the corners and between the Jeffrey pines of Mammoth Bike Park's Downtown Trail. My rented Trek mountain bike flashes in and out of the sun on the dirt trail, and my hefty tires roll easily over pebbles, twigs, exposed roots and shadows. Small trees cast feather-duster patterns. Huge tree trunks create umbras that look like the pillars at Rose Bowl Stadium.

Instructor Miles Weaver leads the way as my husband and I strive to put into practice what he taught us about balance, leaning, turning and shifting during our pre-Downtown lesson at Mammoth Mountain's Discovery Zone. The zone's beginner and intermediate practice trails, and Skills

Park, help riders progress in their ability to navigate features such as corners, berms, drops, rollers and jumps.

Signs provide information and tips for riders who don't want to hire an instructor, but we learned a lot from Miles—including the fact that we'll need many more visits before we're ready to attempt advanced trails.

Fortunately, Mammoth (mammothmountain.com), in California's exceptional Eastern Sierra, has trails for every skill level: six beginner routes, 18 intermediate, 10 advanced, 10 expert and nine pro.

Today, we're having plenty of fun on the easy Downtown route, which leaves from a site near the Discovery Zone and winds 5 miles to the Village Lodge. The trail is

relatively wide and flat, with occasional lattices of paver bricks that aid our faster-speed turns.

When we stop for a break, Miles notes that the red-brown jigsaw bark of Jeffrey pines smells like vanilla. I get off my bike to see what I think. "Butterscotch" is my verdict.

After we've ridden to the end of Downtown in The Village at Mammoth, Miles goes back up the mountain while we board the free Lakes Basin Trolley (estransit.com), placing our bikes in its special tow trailer. The free trolley stops at four of the lakes in the Lakes Basin, and we take it all the way to Horseshoe Lake so that we can pedal mostly downhill, with a 1,000-foot descent, on the 5.3-mile Lakes Basin Path back to The Village.

It's often a forest path—an asphalt ribbon amid red firs, lodgepole pines, Jeffrey pines, western junipers, aspens, alders and wild onions—and we see or hear juncos, Steller's jays, mountain chickadees and Clark's nutcrackers in the wooded habitat. The foliage thins periodically to reveal the blue and green lakes, and to provide views of formations such as the granite 10,000-plusfoot Crystal Crag and of the "Hole in the Wall" lava tube created by volcanic activity on the south side of majestic Mammoth Mountain.

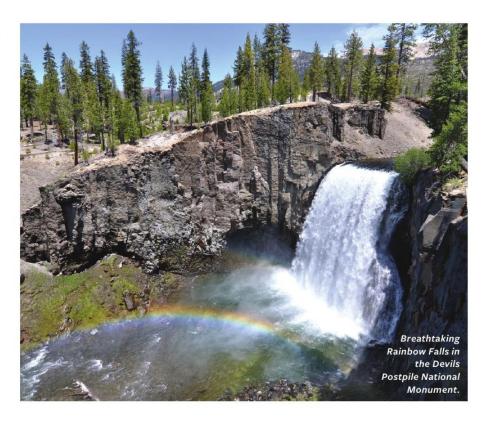
Toward the end of the ride, we come to a stretch with a panoramic vista of obsidian Glass Mountain and the palegranite White Mountain in the Inyo National Forest. The view is so stunning and the ride so exhilarating, I go back a half mile so that I can pedal into this magnificent vista again.

MORE FAVORITES

Devils Postpile/Rainbow Falls (nps.gov/ depo): The summertime Reds Meadow/Devils Postpile Shuttle, which is mandatory, from the Mammoth Mountain Adventure Center by the Main Lodge, stops at numerous hikingaccess sites in and near the Ansel Adams Wilderness, including stops that access Devils Postpile National Monument, named for its intriguing 60-foot-tall wall of basalt columns.

Also in the national monument, hike about 2.5 miles from the formation, or 1.2 miles from the Rainbow Falls Trailhead shuttle stop, to see the falls roaring more than 100 feet over a volcanic-rock cliff. Hike back about 1.5 miles from the falls to refuel at the Mule House Cafe at Red's Meadow Resort & Pack Station (redsmeadow.com), and perhaps connect with hikers who are trekking the Pacific Crest Trail.

Fishing (thetroutfitter.com): Mono County has a wondrous number of fishing lakes and rivers, and the experienced guides at The Troutfitter include Scott Flint, who knows exactly where to go, and when. Michael and I were the only ones at the lake he took us to ("Secret Spot 22"),



which boasted golden, brook and cutthroat trout—all wild and wily. He helped me so much with my rudimentary fly-fishing technique, I caught and released six feisty trout of various species during our half-day excursion.

Golfing (mammothmountain.com/golf): We were a bit intimidated when we found out that our Sierra Star Golf Course instructor would be Ian Birrell, who in 1996, at age 17, became the youngest-ever club champion on the Old Course at St. Andrews in Scotland. But he was a kind, patient, clear communicator during our lesson, and our games took a huge leap forward. That was good, since the 6,708-yard, 18-hole championship course with Eastern Sierra views also has narrow tree-lined fairways, as well as many creeks and lakes. We were grateful the 8,000-foot elevation took our balls farther down the fairways.

Another Mammoth Lakes layout, the nine-hole, 3,306-yard Snowcreek Golf Course (livesnowcreek.com/alpine-golf), also both pleases and challenges, with spectacular mountain views on every hole, water hazards on seven holes, and 8,000-foot elevation.

The Village at Mammoth

(villageatmammoth.com): From an old-time-style general store to sportsequipment shops, and from sushi to tiki, The Village offers many appealing options, as well as special events.

Yosemite National Park

(nps.gov/yose): The eastern entrance to the world-renowned park, and its awe-inspiring formations and waterfalls, is only about 40 miles from Mammoth Lakes, and opens for the summer when weather permits. You can self-drive; take a Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) public-transit bus (yarts.com); or take a guided day tour with PLAYosemite Private Tours (playosemite.com). *

Michele Andrus Dill is the magazine's senior editor. For more information on Mammoth Lakes/Mono County recreation, go to visitmammoth.com and monocounty.org.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Mammoth Lakes.



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ITINERARY IDEAS

■ Skiing (mammothmountain. com): Ski season in the Mammoth Lakes area typically lasts throughout spring; last year, the last day of skiing was July 4. Enjoy the slopes at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area or the nearby June Mountain Ski Area. Snowcat tours are also available.

■ Mammoth Mountain Panorama Gondola

(mammothmountain.com): Enjoy incredible views of mountains, woods, meadows and lakes on the way to the 11,053-foot summit of Mammoth Mountain, where you'll find a cafe, an interpretive center and an approximately 1-mile roundtrip ski/hike/bike trail to a lookout

- Hiking (mammothtrails.org): The Mammoth area has an array of great hiking trails, such as the moderately easy and scenic hike on the 2-mile Convict Lake Loop, which borders the lake and meanders through groves of trees.
- Sierra Rock Climbing School (sierrarockclimbingschool.com): Take a selection of guided tours or lessons with this Bishop-based climbing school, from half-day Bay Area trips to weekends spent exploring the Eastern Sierra or Joshua Tree National Park.

■ Hot Creek Geologic Site

(https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/inyo/recarea/?re-cid=20414): Get a firsthand view of the geological processes actively shaping the Eastern Sierra landscape by hiking on designated trails along Hot Creek, which contains numerous natural hot springs that also form scenic turquoise pools. Be sure to stay on marked trails; for their own safety, visitors are not allowed to go in the hot springs.



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Blossom Trail and **Agricultural Bounty**

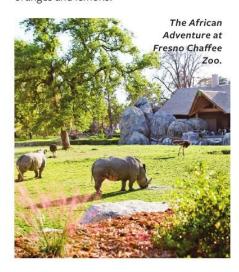
By Mark Grossi

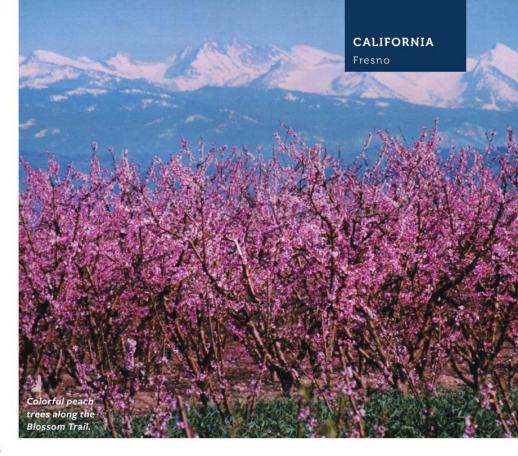
My daughter, Kristin, thought it was snow from a distance. But within a few hundred yards, she could smell the intoxicating white blossoms of orange trees-reminiscent of honeysuckle or jasmine.

Kristin, then age 9, reacted like many kids whose parents take a drive along the connecting Blossom Trail and Orange Blossom Trail in nationally renowned Fresno County farm country. "Stop here, Daddy! Please." Children gawk all along the way. Parents snap photos.

The trails (goblossomtrail.com) offer more than 80 miles of rural driving filled with natural wonder, buzzing with bees, and showing off brilliant white, pink and reddish petals in February, March and April. It's pure eye candy on a sunny afternoon.

We explained to Kristin and her younger brothers, Joseph, 7, and Nicholas, 3, that the fruit blossoms signaled the start of the growing season for almonds, plums, apricots, peaches, nectarines, limes, oranges and lemons.





Fresno County's farm receipts annually total around \$7 billion, ranking it among the top three agricultural counties in the nation. The top crop is almonds, while grapes and peaches are among the other major fruit crops.

The blossom drive became a family tradition over the years, and we also had a habit of passing through nearby locations such as Selma, which in the 1960s proclaimed itself the "Raisin Capital of the World."

Virtually all of the commercial raisin production in the United States takes place within a 60-mile radius of the city of Fresno, including notable production, processing and packaging in the Selma area, where we could see the grape vines beginning to bud.

We also liked stopping in Kingsburg, a distinctive Swedish-style village with a water tower that looks like a coffeepot.

Special blossom-trails events take place each year, from the Blossom Days Festival & Car Show in the town of Sanger, March 4 this year, to the Orange Cove Blossom Festival in the town of Orange Cove, April 1 this year.

After the trees have finished blossoming, the countryside provides views of green foothills and wildflowers. The drive along the blossom trails takes you to places where you can see gorgeous groupings of California poppies, baby blue eyes, lupines and dozens of other flowers. And since more than 200 different types of crops are grown in Fresno County, many folks stop at local farmers markets when harvest time rolls around later in the year (gofresnocounty.com/farm_ markets).

MORE FAVORITES

Fresno Chaffee Zoo (fresnochaffeezoo. org): We especially like the African Adventure and the Sea Lion Cove at this 39-acre site in historic Roeding Park, which was designed and created more than a century ago.

Forestiere Underground Gardens

(undergroundgardens.com): Constructed over four decades by a Sicilian immigrant and citrus grower, these three acres of connected underground rooms and courtyards have well-tended fruit trees and vines, some of which date back 90 years. Plants get sunlight and fresh air through wide venting holes, called "skylights," that go to the surface.

Majestic Mountain Loop

(majesticmountainloop.com and nps.gov): Three incredible national parks—Sequoia,



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Kings Canyon and Yosemite—are all less than 100 miles from Fresno.

The Majestic Mountain Loop website provides sample itineraries for self-drive touring of all three parks in three days, and also provides information on guided tours.

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Mark Grossi is a Central California freelance writer. For more information on visiting Fresno County, see gofresnocounty.com and playfresno.org.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Fresno.

ITINERARY IDEAS

■ Woodward Regional Park

(fresno.gov/parks): Fresno's largest park is located near the San Joaquin River and features walking paths, picnic areas, an amphitheater and children's play areas. The park is also home to the Shinzen Friendship Garden, a 5-acre space that includes trails, a pond, bonsai trees and an authentic Japanese teahouse. In the summer, the park is the site of the Woodward Shakespeare Festival.

Fresno Art Museum

(fresnoartmuseum.org): The museum focuses on modern and contemporary American art in the form of painting, sculpture, prints, photography and other media. There are also permanent exhibits of pre-Columbian works from Mesoamerica and the Andes, as well as folk art and modern works from Mexico.

■ Kearney Mansion Museum

(valleyhistory.org): The mansion and servants' quarters were built in 1903 and offer a glimpse into life at the beginning of the 20th century. The buildings sit on a beautiful 225-acre park.









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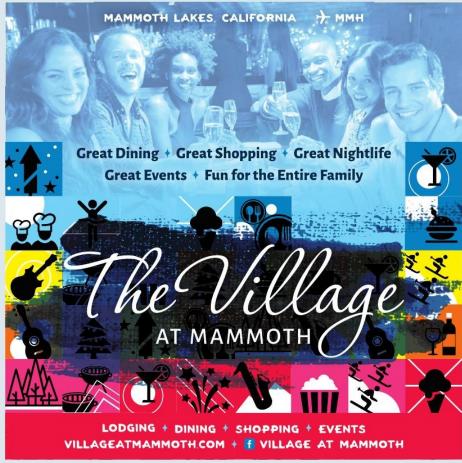
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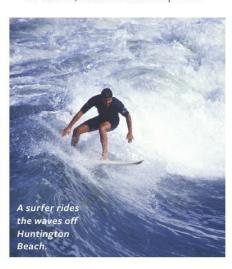
By Barbara Beckley

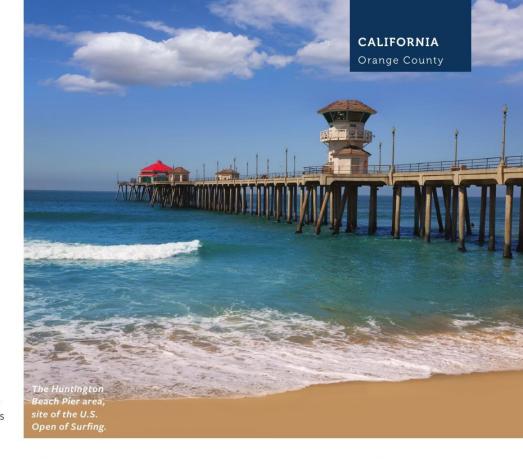
I stand awestruck beside a wooden longboard from the 1920s that towers 11.5 feet. "How could anyone ride that?" I wonder aloud. It's one of the hundreds of surfboards of every size and era displayed inside the International Surfing Museum (surfingmuseum.org) in the Orange County city of Huntington Beach, aka Surf City USA. Museum Executive Director Diana Dehm says the board was most likely used in Hawai'i to ride some of the biggest waves in the world.

Founded in 1987, the museum pays tribute to surfing around the globe and to the California city that helped turn this Hawaiian sport into a mainland lifestyle phenomenon. Boards are just the beginning of the permanent and rotating displays.

I'm surrounded by posters, photos, clothing, furniture and even the 1914 cornerstone of the original Huntington Beach Pier—representing the area where the U.S. Open of Surfing has been held since 1959. The Beach Boys' lyrics "Let's go surfin' now; everybody's learning how ..." play in the background.

For visitors, the museum is the perfect





quick course in surf culture. For locals like me who grew up in Southern California, it's a trip down memory lane. I linger at a display of heritage wood boards painted with scenes of hula girls, woodies (1950s wood-trimmed station wagons) and palm trees. Next I admire a circa-1970s red fiberglass board by Robert August-a legendary Huntington Beach boardmaker, and looking up, I see hanging from the ceiling a 1980s foam-core short board by Carl Hayward, another renowned Huntington Beach surfboard maker.

I smile at the poster of a model in a sexy one-piece swimsuit from the 1970s, designed and manufactured by Huntington Beachbased Merrilee's Swimwear.

Vintage posters show Jan & Dean-Dean Ormsby Torrence and the late William Jan Berry—famous surf musicians who topped the charts in the 1960s with Surf City, Little Old Lady from Pasadena and other iconic surf songs. "Dean and many [other] surfing legends pop in to visit the museum on a regular basis," Dehm says.

Sinking into the red velour cushions of a 1970s wooden couch carved with tiki designs, I'm amazed as I watch the Big Board Epic Ride video, which shows how Huntington Beach set two Guinness World Records in 2015-for both "Largest Surfboard" and

"Most People Riding a Surfboard"—when 66 surfers, ages 15 to 79, rode a wave for 13 seconds on a 42-plus-foot board. Stepping outside, I see the orange, white and blue record-setting surfboard displayed alongside the museum building.

Turning the corner onto Main Street, I'm only a few steps from the separately owned Surfing Walk of Fame, which features plagues embedded in the pavement to honor surfer greats ranging from Hawai'i's Duke Kahanamoku (who was also an Olympic gold medal swimmer) to Lisa Andersen, a fourtime world surf champion.

Nearby, I see the Surfers' Hall of Fame, another independently owned sidewalk attraction, where a life-size bronze statue of Kahanamoku presides over cement handprints and footprints of surfing luminaries such as Laird Hamilton, a renowned "big-wave charger," and Carissa Moore, a three-time world champion. And when I look up from the sidewalk, I see spread out before me the sunny sands and ocean waves of Huntington Beach, one of the key sites where California's surf scene began.

MORE FAVORITES

Beaches (visittheoc.com, surfcityusa.com, visitlagunabeach.com): Locals and visitors

alike relish Orange County's miles of wide golden sands dotted with piers, fire pits and legendary surfing, from Huntington's City Beach to picture-perfect coves at Laguna Beach.

Bowers Museum, Santa Ana (bowers. org): I enjoy the world-class collection of Pacific Islands, African, Asian, Pre-Columbian and Native American art, and rotating exhibits.

Disneyland Resort, Anaheim (disneyland. com): The Happiest Place on Earth always delights visitors, and this summer "Rivers of America" is expected to reopen, bringing back fun experiences such as the Davy Crockett Explorer Canoes and the Mark Twain Riverboat. Coming to Disney California Adventure Park this summer is "Guardians of the Galaxy—Mission: BREAKOUT!" Breathtaking free-fall sensations—with new visual and audio effects, and music inspired by the film's soundtrack—are promised.



Scenic Coastal Hikes (crystalcovestate-park.org): In Crystal Cove State Park, I'm thrilled by the sweeping ocean and mountain views along the Deer Canyon, Moro Canyon and Ticketron trails. In Laguna Beach (lagunacanyon.org), the Laurel Canyon Trail and the Old Emerald Falls Trail (popular for mountain biking) offer equally inspired views.

Roger's Gardens, Newport Beach (rogersgardens.com): This is an upscale destination nursery and home-decor campus where Orange County locals go for plants, florals and gifts, and fine dining at the new Farmhouse restaurant, which opened in September.

★

Barbara Beckley lives in Southern California. For more information on Orange County attractions and activities, see visittheoc.com and visitanaheim.org.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Santa Ana, gateway to Orange County adventures.











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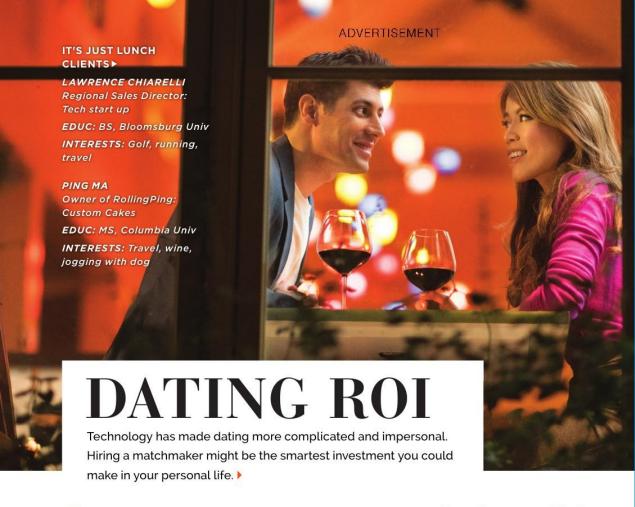


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At first, Larry Chiarelli, director at a tech start up, thought he was doing all he needed. Sign up on multiple dating websites. Meet lots of women. Eventually, the right one would come along - except she never did. So he decided to bring in the professionals and hired It's Just Lunch. IJL's matchmakers got to know him and his preferences. They selected his dates, arranged schedules, and even made the restaurant reservations. Dating became stress-free and fun. Larry was a practical guy and didn't believe in love-at-first-sight, but that was until IJL introduced him to Ping.

What was your dating life like before joining It's Just Lunch?

Lawrence: Chaotic! I was meeting a lot of women but not the right women for me. Online dating was time consuming and stressful. I needed someone to relieve me of the dating busy work so I could feel some breathing room. I needed to slow things down to speed them up. It's Just Lunch fit that criteria perfectly for me.

Why did you decide to join It's Just Lunch?

Ping: I fly frequently for work and for

fun, and when I saw It's Just Lunch in the airline magazine, it was as if the matchmaker was talking to me! One day after a particularly long flight and wanting to snuggle with someone and watch a movie, I decided it couldn't hurt to give it a try.

What did you enjoy most about the It's Just Lunch process?

L: Having someone doing all the work to select and schedule a date. It was like I had my own personal dating concierge to take care of all the details. All I had to do was be on time for my date and be myself. It really was a stress-free experience.

What was it like working with the It's Just Lunch matchmakers?

L: Easy and convenient. At the time the company I was working for was going through a merger so I was away from home quite a bit in all day meetings. I'd finish my day and there would be a voicemail from my matchmaker telling me about my next match. I'd call back, get the details and run through my availability. The next thing I knew I was in front of an interesting woman having a great conversation.

Do you have any advice for singles who want to meet that special someone?

L: I tell my clients an analogy all the time: Would you rather drive across the country in a Toyota Corolla or a BMW 5 series? They always say the 5 series. You get what you pay for and to me the juice was definitely worth the squeeze with IJL. Investing in yourself and your future with someone special means investing in the right matchmaking service. For me that was It's Just Lunch.

P: Invest in your own happiness, it is always worth it.

The success of It's Just Lunch is built on creating high quality matches in low pressure situations. In 25 years, they've set up millions of first dates. Make meeting someone special a priority. Get in touch at 800-858-6526 or www.itsjustlunch.com.

It's Just Lunch Matchmakers







MELISSA BROWN SARA DARLING

DATING STATS:

30 MIN

or less. Time it takes a majority of singles to decide if they want to see a "first date" again.

2/3

Of singles prefer to date someone who works in another industry.

56%

Of singles prefer not to talk about work on a date.

4 OUT OF 5

Singles are open to a kiss on a first date.

25 YEARS

Of changing lives one match at a time.





ITINERARY IDEAS

■ South Coast Plaza

(southcoastplaza.com): Shop more than 250 upscale boutiques at Costa Mesa's globally renowned **South Coast Plaza**, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Between perusing luxury brands such as Hermès and Tiffany & Co., visitors can stop for a bite at a selection of 30 restaurants. In addition, the on-site Segerstrom Center for the Arts presents live entertainment, such as ballet, chamber and symphony performances.

■ "Along El Camino Real" exhibit at The Irvine Museum

(irvinemuseum.org): "Along El Camino Real" explores the history of the area that today approximates Highway 101 (El Camino Real or the Royal Road), including early California missions, with art from many of the 21 original missions in the state.

Laguna Art Museum

(lagunaartmuseum.org): View more than 3,500 works, largely by California artists, at this waterfront art museum in Laguna Beach. Permanent collections feature pieces from the 19th century to the present day, and exhibitions include "The Golden Decade: Photography at the California School of Fine Arts, 1945–55," and "From Wendt to Thiebaud: Recent Gifts for the Permanent Collection," both through May 29.

■ Heritage Hill Historical Park in the town of Lake Forest

(ocparks.com/heritagehill): Take a guided tour of four fully restored and furnished buildings built between 1863 and 1908, including the Serrano Adobe, a historic adobe house from 1863. The park's 4.1 acres are planted with heritage landscaping, using traditional plants to match the buildings' history.

DARYL RETURNED TO VANCOUVER WITH A SPECIAL SOUVENIR OF PALM SPRINGS.





Daryl C. of Vancouver, Canada, badly needed a hip replacement. The pain and reduced mobility were making it hard to keep working but scheduling surgery in Vancouver could take months. So when Daryl took a trip to Palm Springs, he decided to book a consultation at Eisenhower Desert Orthopedic Center. A week later, Daryl had a brand new hip. He was back at the gym in three weeks and he flew home two weeks later. By the time Daryl's Vancouver surgeon finally called to schedule a hip replacement, he was one year too late! Now, Daryl is spreading the word about Eisenhower Desert Orthopedic Center. "I've told a lot of people about the program at Eisenhower," says Daryl. "I can pretty much do anything I want now."

To learn more, visit emc.org/canada or call 855-EMC-Canada (855-362-2262).











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San Diego FWY (405) at Bristol St., Costa Mesa, CA SOUTHCOASTPLAZA.COM 800.782.8888



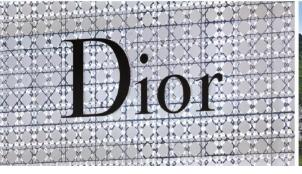














Art Appreciation

By Barbara Beckley

"I love it!" I can't help exclaiming out loud at Little Blue Steam Engines, an oil on canvas by internationally known California artist Linda Herzog.

Her fanciful engine, which balances two steaming cups of tea and is accompanied by three goldfish swimming near the cog, makes me grin from ear to ear. So does the 14.5-inch-tall raku ceramic *Old Spice Bottle* likeness by Karen Shapiro, another well-known California artist.

Nearby, a lady who obviously shares my taste in art exclaims to her husband, "Look at that lipstick!" She points to the shiny coral color of Shapiro's raku *Clinique Lipstick*.

The paintings, photographs, sculptures, glass pieces and ceramic works, by more than 100 domestic and international artists, at **Coda Gallery** (codagallery.com) in Palm Desert's famous El Paseo Shopping District are proof that fine art can be fun as well as collectible.

"We're a joyful art gallery—we don't do angst," gallery director Samuel Heaton tells me.

He further explains that Coda displays only contemporary art, mostly by artists still living. "Clients buy because they genuinely





feel connected to the pieces," he says.

Celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, Coda is the longest-operating art gallery on El Paseo—a street known for fine-art galleries, acclaimed boutiques and stylish restaurants such as the Cafe des Beaux-Arts.

Exploring the 9,000-square-foot gallery is like visiting an art museum. Natural light floods in from a glass-walled rotunda. I sit on a bench and wonder how Michigan artist Mark Lewanski creates his unusual works—strips of glass finely woven together like cloth.

But it's the whimsical 2-foot-long green glass *Alligator Bowl*, by internationally renowned German Glasstudio Borowski, that wins my heart. The gator's wide mouth (which creates the bowl), smiling yellow eyes, pudgy clear-glass feet, and saucy little tail adorned with cute pointy yellow scales are adorable. I look at this piece every time I visit the gallery. Maybe I'll gift it to myself.

MORE FAVORITES

Free Yoga on the Great Lawn at the Sunnylands Center & Gardens

(sunnylands.org): Exercise where the rich and powerful—including President Barack Obama, Warren Buffet, Bill Gates and Queen Elizabeth II—have attended meetings. The center offers a one-hour yoga or yoga-Pilates class on Fridays through April. No reservations needed.

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens

(livingdesert.org): I'm always fascinated by the wildlife ranging from leopards, giraffes and zebras to exotic sand cats (which are slightly smaller than domestic cats, and which have a loud bark). The popular attraction also has beautiful desert botanical gardens, and regularly hosts events, including Brew at the Zoo, April 1, with beer-tasting, food from top Coachella Valley restaurants and caterers, and live music.

Palm Springs Modern Tours

(palmspringsmoderntours.com): See the best of Palm Springs' Mid-Century Modern architecture with owner/guide Robert Imber, a founding member of Palm Springs Modern Committee.

Vintage Shopping: Complementing El Paseo Shopping District's traditional shops—such as the Cactus Flower Shoe Salon, Wayne's Collection womenswear, Escada and Louis Vuitton—are Palm Springs—area vintage shops that are among my insider favorites. The list includes Dazzles for jewelry and The Frippery for 1950s to '70s apparel, both in Palm





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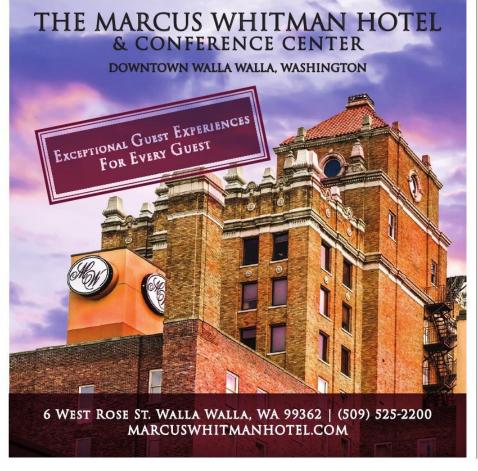




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ITINERARY IDEAS

■ The Palm Springs Air

Museum (palmspringsairmuseum.org): Featuring more than 40 planes on display from the World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War eras—including some that still fly—the museum includes exhibits and artifacts, and you can climb inside the cockpits of some of the aircraft. You can also book a 20-minute flight on some of the classic airplanes.

■ The Palm Springs Art

Museum (psmuseum.org):
Offering a collection of modern
and contemporary art, the
museum has pieces by artists
such as Marc Chagall, Roy
Lichtenstein, Pablo Picasso and
Andy Warhol. The museum has
two branches, one in Palm
Springs and the other in Palm
Desert, and it also has major
collections of classic Western
and Native American art.

■ Palm Springs Aerial Tram-

way (pstramway.com): The aerial tramway offers passengers great views to and from the Mountain Station, which is located at the 8,516-foot elevation level on Mount San Jacinto. While at the station, enjoy two restaurants, observation decks, a museum, documentaries at two theaters and more than 50 miles of trails through Mount San Jacinto State Park.

Joshua Tree National Park

(www.nps.gov/jotr): Home to the famous **Joshua Tree**—a species of the yucca tree—the park is nearly 800,000 acres in size and located about 35 miles northeast of Palm Springs. It is a popular hiking area and is known for spectacular rock formations and striking desert landscapes.

■ Indian Canyons (indiancanyons.com): The area includes the Andreas, Murray and Palm canyons and is part of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation in Palm Springs. For a fee, you can hike through the canyons, which include a rich abundance of local plants, fascinating rock formations, a stream, a waterfall and ancient art by native peoples.

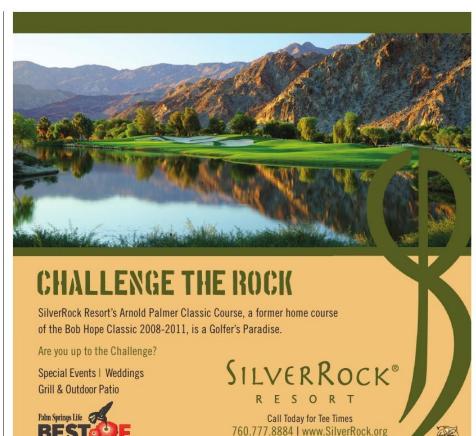
■ Golfing in Coachella Valley (classicclubgolf.com; indianwellsgolfresort.com; silverrock.org): Tee it up at some of the nation's finest municipal courses, including The Classic Club in Palm Desert, Indian Wells Golf Resort and SilverRock Resort in the city of La Quinta.



Zebras are among the animals at The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens.

Writer Barbara Beckley lives in Southern California. For more information on Greater Palm Springs activities and attractions, go to visitgreaterpalmsprings.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Palm Springs.





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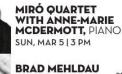




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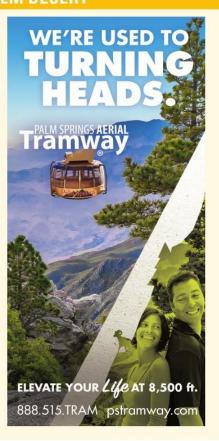
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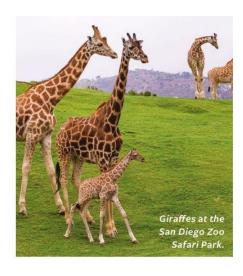
A Walk in the Park

By Archana Ram

On the surface, Balboa Park appears to be a traditional park. There are paths and picnic spots, trees for shade, and benches to while away afternoons. But San Diego's 1,200-acre urban green space doubles as one of the city's biggest cultural hubs, too.

This month the world-renowned Old Globe theater is presenting Steve Martin's hit play Picasso at the Lapin Agile through March 12, while the Museum of Photographic Arts hosts the famed "Prix Pictet" photo exhibition, highlighting sustainability issues, through May 23, following stops in Tokyo, Dublin and Paris. And beginning March 25, The San Diego Museum of Art—the largest and most visited art museum in the region-will showcase the sculptures of British artist Richard Deacon.

These are a few of the 15 major museums at the park (balboapark.org), which also has nine performing-arts centers and 17 gardens, not to mention 65 miles of hiking/ biking trails, lawn bowling, a hip gastropub and the San Diego Zoo. The 100-year-old, 100-acre zoo, whose sponsors include Alaska Airlines, is home to more than 3,500 rare





and endangered animals, including the popular giant pandas.

Having so many pedestrian-friendly options in one place is ideal, especially for a car-averse California convert like me. Moving from Manhattan to San Diego four years ago meant getting reacquainted with the driver's seat. But in Balboa Park, I can revert to my preferred means of exploration: my two feet. (For visitors without a car and not within walking distance of the park, the No. 7 bus will take you from various spots downtown to a convenient Balboa Park stop at Park Boulevard and Village Place.)

Living just a half-mile away, I stroll to craft beer and live jazz at Panama 66, Shakespearean theater at The Old Globe, free concerts at the open-air Spreckels Organ Pavilion, hands-on exhibits at the Fleet Science Center and meditation sessions in the Japanese Friendship Garden. But for all its marquee attractions, Balboa Park is just as

remarkable for the lesser-known areas. I like the trails in the 1,300-plant Desert Garden that spill into Florida Canyon. And there's an archery range under Cabrillo Bridge, disc golf in Morley Field, and the **House of Pacific Relations International** Cottages representing 34 countries, with cultural shows on Sundays, March through October.

With so much to offer, Balboa feels like my own personal playground smack-dab in the middle of the city.

MORE FAVORITES

Beaches (sandiego.org/explore/thingsto-do/beaches-bays): San Diego boasts more than 70 miles of coastline, including family-friendly stretches, such as La Jolla Shores, and sites for seasoned surfers. No matter who's visiting me, I can find the right beach for them.

Coronado Island (coronadovisitorcenter. com): Rent a bike from one of Coronado's

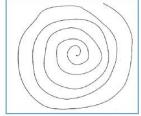
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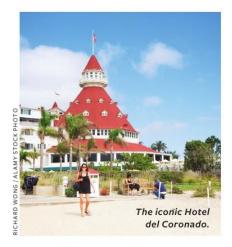
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many outfitters, such as Wheel Fun Rentals (wheelfunrentals.com), for a leisurely one-hour spin around the island, which will take you past Glorietta Bay and the iconic Hotel del Coronado. Then play in the sand at 1.5-mile-long Coronado Central Beach.

San Diego Zoo Safari Park

(sdzsafaripark.org): This sister property to the San Diego Zoo delights young and old, with opportunities to see animals such as lions, rhinos, cheetahs and giraffes; various special safari tours are available. The Safari Park, whose official sponsors include Alaska Airlines, is located in San Diego County's Escondido area.

Torrey Pines State Natural

Reserve (torreypine.org): Choose from six easy to moderate hikes through this coastal landscape, which includes ocean views, a quiet beach and the Torrey pine, a species native to this area. South of the reserve, you can golf the renowned municipal, cliffside

Torrey Pines Golf Course (sandiego.

Torrey Pines Golf Course (sandiego gov/golf). ⊀

Archana Ram lives in San Diego. For more information on San Diego-area activities and attractions, go to sandiego.org.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to San Diego.

ITINERARY IDEAS

■ Seaport Village (seaportvillage. com): Shop in a lively atmosphere along the waterfront, with buskers, artists and a historic 1895 carousel. The Seaport Village offers 54 shops, as well as 17 dining venues.

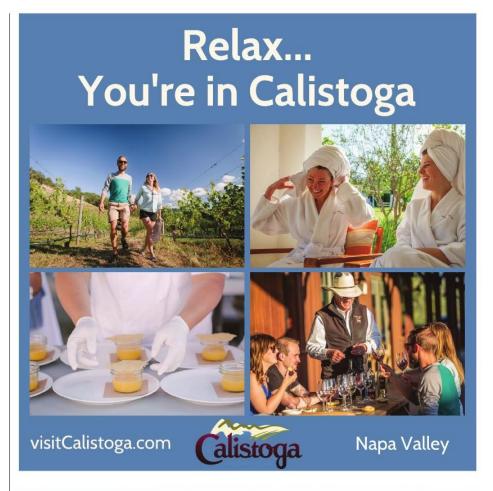
■ Old Town Trolley Tours

(trolleytours.com/san-diego): Hop on, hop off at sites of your choice during these trolley tours, with driver narrative, that stop at many attractions, from Coronado to Balboa Park. In addition, the La Jolla and San Diego Beaches hop-on/hop-off tour starts in Old Town and stops at Mount Soledad and La Jolla Village.

■ Sightseeing and wildlife

cruises (hornblower.com): Look for gray whales (mid-Decemberearly April) or blue whales (late June-early September), along with four species of dolphins, sea lions and even hammerhead sharks, on Hornblower Cruises & Events' naturalist-narrated Whale & Dolphin Watching Adventure. Additional options include San Diego Bay cruises; the two-hour full-bay tour includes more than 50 landmarks, historic sites and points of interest.

Rock 'n' Roll Marathon San Diego (runrocknroll.com): Challenge yourself by doing a 5K, 10K, half or full marathon at the Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Marathon, June 3-4. The marathon, celebrating its 20th year, will feature live local bands playing along the course. After crossing the waterfront finish line, runners can enjoy the Finish Line Festival and Post-Race Concert. In addition, the San Diego Convention Center will host a weekend-long Health & Fitness Expo. Additional upcoming Rock 'n' Roll Marathons in the West include Alaska Airlines Rock 'n' Roll Seattle





California Discoveries

By Andrew Waite

■ There's plenty of gold in California. Not to mention amber, nut brown and stout.

The California Craft Brewers Association calls the state the birthplace of the U.S. craft-brewing movement. It's currently home to more than 800 craft breweries, the most of any state.

Hopping on beer tours is a great way to experience all California has on tap. Whether you prefer pedaling a covered communal bicycle to and from stops (don't worry, a sober driver is at the helm) or being shuttled to breweries in an SUV, California has a full flight of tours. Here's a sampling:

- **-Sac Brew Bike,** Sacramento, sacbrewbike. com.
- -Vantigo's San Francisco Brewery Tour,

San Francisco, vantigosf.com/ san-francisco-brew-tour.

- **-Velocipede Tours,** Oakland, oaklandpedaltours.com.
- **-San Jose Brew Bike,** San Jose, sanjosebrewbike.com.
- **-LA Beer Hop,** Los Angeles, labeerhop.com.
- **-OC Brewery Tours,** Orange County, ocbrewery.tours.

For more to discover, read on.

■ Abalone Cove Shoreline Park &

Ecological Reserve, Rancho Palos Verdes,

LA County: The 109-acre reserve features spectacular bluff-top vistas, hiking trails, picnic areas, two beaches and tide pools with

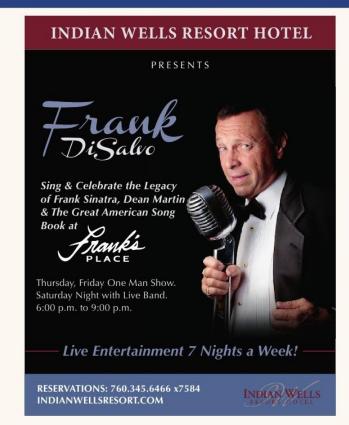


colorful sea creatures. Within the park, visit Sacred Cove, with its deep teal water, black sand, and tide pools and sea caves that can be explored at low tide (pvplc.org/_lands/ abalone_cove.asp).

■ Carmel-by-the-Sea, Monterey

County: This European-style village above a white-sand beach has been an

OUT 'N ABOUT PALM SPRINGS | INDIAN WELLS







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- 5. The Sea Fire Grill New York, NY
- **6. Osetra** San Diego, CA
- 7. Tony Mandola's Houston, TX
- 8. Eddie V's Prime Seafood Scottsdale, AZ
- **9. Lynnhaven Fish House** Virginia Beach, VA
- 10. Capt. Anderson's Restaurant Panama City Beach, FL

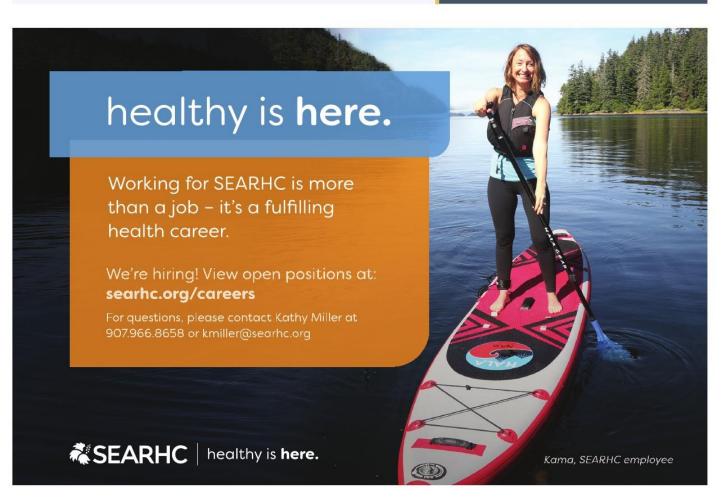


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artists' hub for more than a century.

The walkable community with restaurants, wine-tasting, art galleries, shopping, performing arts and the historic 1771 Carmel Mission Basilica is still inspiring artists and dazzling guests (carmelcalifornia.com).

■ The Observation Deck at Mount Diablo State Park, Contra Costa County:

Mounted telescopes let visitors see for nearly 200 miles from atop 3,849-foot Mount Diablo, which is surrounded by rolling green hills and flat valleys.

Spot the Golden Gate Bridge to the west and the intertwined San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers to the northeast (diablovalleyca.com).

■ Ragged Point, San Luis Obispo County:

Along the Highway 1 Discovery Route, Ragged Point sits 325 feet above the Pacific Ocean, allowing for its Million Dollar View. Visitors can gaze at miles of open sea and hike the half-mile trail down to the beach to get a closer look at the breaking surf.

In April, Alaska Airlines will begin offering nonstop service between Seattle and San Luis Obispo (highway1discoveryroute.com; slocal.com).

■ Build your own La La Land Tour, Los Angeles: For fans of the 2016 film starring Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone, consider creating your own tour of destinations seen in the movie.

For instance, The Lighthouse Cafe in Hermosa Beach is a legendary jazz club, opened in 1949, adored by Gosling's character, Sebastian. And Griffith Observatory, which sits on the southern slope of Mount Hollywood and boasts one of the best views of the iconic Hollywood sign, is the site of a delightful tap dance scene in the film

For more *La La Land* tour ideas, go to visitcalifornia.com/attraction/create-yourown-la-la-land-tour.

■ The California State Capitol, Sacramento: Part museum, part working state capitol, the building, with its ornate rotunda and Greco-Roman portico, gives visitors a look at California's story, past and present. Guided tours go through the working legislative building, opened in 1869 and renovated in 1982, to legislative chambers.

The extensive artwork collection housed at the capitol's museum includes the California State Senate's Contemporary Art Collection, with acrylics, oils, bronze sculptures, blown glass, mixed media and watercolors (capitolmuseum.ca.gov).

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Riding waves, as this young surfer does using a wooden alaia board, is a time-honored Hawaiian tradition.

BY TIFFANY HILL

Once a week, a dozen local high schoolers meet at the end of a jetty on the east side of Kewalo Basin Harbor on O'ahu as the sun slowly sinks toward the horizon. The teenagers deftly climb down the stone pier and paddle toward the barreling surf. Bobbing in formation, they straddle their boards and wait for their turn to rip up the next fast-breaking wave.

The teenagers are part of the Kamehameha Schools surf team, which formed in 2009. The students compete locally and on the U.S. mainland. For many on the team, surfing is not only one of their favorite things to do but also something that connects them to their island home and their ancestors. Native Hawaiians perfected wave riding roughly 1,000 years ago.

To those early surfers, it was more than a sport—it was an art form that incorporated board-making pageantry and generated lively stories. And today's young practitioners of the art respect this.

The perpetuation of traditional Hawaiian practices—sometimes in evolving forms—keeps Hawaiian culture alive in modern-day society. Hawai'i residents and visitors alike can see traditions manifested in many areas of today's culture—such as surfing and other forms of wave riding; Hawaiian-language music; hula dance and choreography; nature-inspired fashion; and local foods and festivals. Through these art forms and activities, Hawaiians preserve their culture for future generations.

SURFING:

WAVE CULTURE

Today's typical surfboard, made from foam and fiberglass, is about 6 to 7 feet long and weighs around six pounds. Until the 1950s, surfboards were made from solid wood. Native Hawaiians handcrafted 7- to 16-foot-long boards from koa, 'ulu or wiliwili wood. Many boards weighed 100 pounds. Some weighed more. Traditional surfboards looked more like antique ironing boards with square tails and round noses. They were also finless, unlike today's surfboards.

Each board was special to its owner and had its own name, markings and identity, says Isaiah Walker, who teaches Hawaiian history at Brigham Young University—Hawaii and has been coaching the Kamehameha Schools surf team since 2010. When he's not teaching or coaching, he's in the water himself. "[The surfboards] gave people connection to nature, to the water," Walker says.

Today's surfers still feel that connection, now sometimes called the "surfer's stoke"—an often ethereal euphoria surfers experience while out in the water.

Walker says that Native Hawaiians and other Polynesian societies may have started riding boards on waves simultaneously, and Hawaiians certainly mastered the concept of *he'e nalu*, or "wave sliding"—aka surfing. "Surfing was integral to the society," he says.

As travel to and from Hawai'i grew, so did surfing's reach. Duke Kahanamoku—the Hawaiian Olympic swimmer known as the father of modern surfing—introduced the sport to Australia when he traveled there in 1915. In the 1950s, Californians flocked to Hawai'i's shores, learning from surfing greats such as George Downing and Albert "Rabbit" Kekai.

Today, surfing is a multibillion-dollar industry. Pro surfers such as Kelly Slater, John John Florence and Carissa Moore are pop culture icons and draw thousands of





Members of the Kamehameha Schools surf team, above, continue a sporting tradition that was popularized by Duke Kahanamoku, left, in the early 1900s.

Places to Watch Surfing: Oʻahu: Vans Triple Crown of Surfing; Oct.-Dec.; dates depend on waves. Maui: The Peʻahi Challenge, Oct.-Dec.; dates depend on waves. Do It Yourself: Take a surf lesson, which include the following schools. Oʻahu: Hans Hedemann; Maui: Maui Surfer Girls; Kauaʻi: Kauaʻi Surf School; Hawaiʻi Island: Kahaluʻu Bay Surf & Sea.

spectators during Hawai'i's wintertime contests on O'ahu's North Shore. Visitors seeking a taste of the sport can take lessons from one of the many surf schools across Hawai'i, sometimes without even having to leave hotel grounds.

Despite the sport's global influences, many surfers consider Hawai'i to be surfing's true home. "You'll see a lot of surf culture embracing the aloha shirts, the flower lei, the 'ukulele, the whole sense of this culture of Hawai'i," says Walker.

MUSIC:

THE POWER OF MELE

Native Hawaiians have long been masterful storytellers, whether the tale was in a poem about wave sliding or a chant about the eruption of Kīlauea. Oral traditions entertained and educated communities about genealogy, mythology and local environments. For hundreds of years, chanters were able to recount every detail of numerous stories without written aids.

"Music and poetry played a huge part in these stories," says Kellen Paik. Paik and his wife, Līhau Paik, constitute the musical duo Kūpaoa. The two started playing together when they met at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa on O'ahu more than a decade ago.

For the Kauaʻi couple, Hawaiian music still revolves around the language. The Paiks are proficient in Hawaiian; Kellen has a master's in Hawaiian language.

Lihau writes many of the songs for Kūpaoa and says she gets inspired by a specific place or event, a process probably not unlike that of her ancestors. "The goal





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is to emulate the music of people whose first language was Hawaiian," she says.

Mele, or songs, were traditionally laden with metaphor. "We can be singing a song that was popular in the '50s or earlier, and we've been singing it our whole musical career, and one day a certain line kind of jumps out, and it makes sense in a different way," says Kellen.

Hawaii's distinctive slack-key guitar and iconic 'ukulele have helped propel Hawaiian music into the mainstream. Hawaiian-music artists visit the U.S. mainland, and frequently tour Japan, where the music is beloved. "It's amazing to me how far Hawaiian music has spread," says Līhau, noting that Kūpaoa has toured in Japan and in the United States. "It seems like everywhere we go, we find pockets of people who are enamored with, connected to or practitioners of Hawaiian culture."

The Paiks, who play regularly at the Royal Hawaiian Center outdoor stage in Waikīkī, say that you don't have to be a Hawaiian speaker to appreciate the music and the culture. "Hawaiian music is one of those types of music that is so emotive," says Līhau. "People have come up to us after seeing us perform in Waikīkī, and they're like, 'I have no idea what you're singing about, but your music moved me."

HULA:SACRED MOVEMENTS

Hawaiian music will always be intertwined with hula. Just as the mele sung or the chants spoken transmit the heritage of Hawai'i's people and their land, every step, turn of the wrist or bend of the knee in hula is purposeful. "We illustrate [chants] through motion," says Sig Zane, a kumu hula (hula teacher) and the owner of Sig Zane Designs, a clothing company with locations in Hilo and Honolulu.

Hula is a family affair for the Zanes. Kūhaʻo Zane, Sig's son, is also a hula practitioner and a designer with the



Places to Hear Music: Oʻahu: Hilton Hawaiian Village; Maui: Duke's Beach House Maui; Kauaʻi: Happy Talk Lounge; Hawaiʻi Island: Lava Lava Beach Club.

family company. The men have each been practicing hula for decades, and belong to the prestigious Hālau O Kekuhi on Hawaiʻi Island. The hālau, or school, can trace its lineage back eight generations. Today, it is led by Nalani Kanakaʻole, Sig's wife and Kūhaʻo's mother. The hālau has been recognized internationally and performs each year at the opening night of the Merrie Monarch Festival. The festival, started in 1963, is named after King David Kalākaua, known as the Merrie Monarch. Nalani is a festival judge; the stadium in Hilo where the event is held is named for her mother, hula master Edith Kanakaʻole.

"Competitions have elevated the art form," says Kūha'o. "They help performers not only memorize the movements, but understand the symbology and meaning behind each move, and the mele to which they are moving," adds Sig.

Hālau O Kekuhi has a large repertoire and performs traditional dances with chant, as well as modern-style choreography accompanied by Hawaiian music—



Līhau Paik and her husband, Kellen Paik, perform music as the Kauaʻi-based duo Kūpaoa, left. Members of the Hawaiʻi Islandbased Hālau O Kekuhi, above, perform hula at the annual Merrie Monarch Festival.

like the type you might see at a $l\bar{u}'\alpha u$. The hālau writes its own chants and creates original choreography, too, says Kūha'o.

Kūhaʻo and Sig practice for about two hours, twice a week. But it's more than just dancing. Part of their discipline is chanting and understanding the ancient stories. They also make lei for performances—which gives them an intimate connection to local plant varieties. "When you pick all of these species, you start to learn the elevation they grow at, their growth cycles, their flowering cycles," says Kūhaʻo, adding that it takes him about an hour to make a lei.

"As a dancer, it's your responsibility to have this reciprocation with the forest," says Sig. He adds that for many practitioners, the dances and chants teach them about traditional life, Hawaii's gods and Hawaii's unique landscape.

Today, there are seemingly countless hālau across the Islands, the United States and the globe that maintain the knowledge and traditions of the ancient art form, while also expanding its influence. The Zanes indicate that the positive impacts of hula don't end when you stop performing. "It's my foundation," says Kūha'o. "It feeds my career, my mental and physical wellness. It's my stability."

Places to Watch Hula: Oʻahu: Prince Lot Hula Festival, July 15–16; Maui: Kū Mai Ka Hula Competition, annually in Sept.; Kauaʻi: Kauaʻi Mokihana Festival, Sept. 24–30; Hawaiʻi Island: Merrie Monarch Festival, April 16–22.

FASHION:

NATURE-INSPIRED

Traditionally, Hawaiʻi's natural environment has been an important materials source and inspiration for Native Hawaiian dress. Historically, Islanders wore light clothing—women wore a $p\bar{a}$ ' \bar{u} , or skirt, and men donned loincloths called malo. Accessories were made from shells and flowers, even sharks' teeth and animal bones. The flashiest clothes belonged to royalty, who had cloaks made

of thousands of red, yellow and black feathers

Garments were made out of kapa, a fabric created from the bark of wauke or māmaki trees. The process of making cloth from wood was as laborious as it sounds. Native Hawaiians would strip the bark from the tree, soak it, dry it, beat it and smooth it. It was then time to brightly decorate the beige-colored cloth. Using dyes made from plants, sap and roots, the garment maker either painted the cloth by hand or imprinted it with bamboo stamps.

While the group of kapa makers is significantly smaller today than those who practice hula, or even those who speak Hawaiian, the ancient art form continues to inspire Hawaii designers.

Kapa's unique patterns, based on designs recurring throughout nature, were a jumping-off point for Kealopiko, a Hawai'i-made clothing brand started by friends Jamie Makasobe, Ane Bakutis and Hina Kneubuhl on O'ahu in 2006. They have since moved to Moloka'i.

"All of our designs highlight native things of Hawai'i," says Makasobe. Examples include shells, ferns, endemic butterflies and much more. Each piece comes with a tag that gives the *mo'olelo*, or story, behind each design. "We're hoping that for those wearing our designs, the tag and the explanation, would cause them to feel empowered to perpetuate that story," says Makasobe.

Kealopiko takes the cultural connections a step further by donating about 3 percent of its profits each year to nonprofits that support Native Hawaiian culture, practices, education and plants.

Kealopiko's All Aloha line features one-of-a-kind pieces made by its five





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The All Aloha fashion line, by design group Kealopiko, is produced on Moloka'i and honors Hawaiian themes.

Places to find Hawaiʻi-Made
Designs: Oʻahu: Manuhealiʻi,
Manaola; Maui: Kūlua; Kauaʻi: Lavena
Hawaiʻi; Hawaiʻi Island: Sig Zane
Designs (also Sig on Smith on Oʻahu)

employees in a small workshop on Moloka'i, where they dye, print, cut and sew the fabric. The company sells clothing online, through a storefront in Honolulu and via select local retailers on Maui, Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island.

CUISINE:

HAWAIIAN PLATES

Hawai'i's designers aren't alone in looking to the traditions of Hawaiian culture when it comes to innovating. Elements of the traditional Native Hawaiian diet—fish and *poi* (pounded taro root)—are still staples in kitchens throughout Hawai'i's homes and on menus across the Islands.

"I feel that the ingredients of fish, kalo [taro] and 'ulu [breadfruit] are represented more than ever," says Mark Noguchi, a chef on O'ahu. "While not every restaurant may make poi, or poke [a chopped fish salad], I see more menus celebrating these ingredients." With his wife, Amanda, Noguchi runs the Pili Group, a food-catering organization. Noguchi says

the Pili Group uses food to educate about sustainability and cultural traditions.

Noguchi says that the Native Hawaiians' connection to and respect for the environment was fostered by their philosophy of gratitude and conservation. Today's partnerships with Hawaii's farmers, ranchers and fishers is a nod to that tradition, as local chefs utilize and celebrate all that's sourced in the Islands, including fresh-caught fish, taro, banana, coconut, breadfruit and more.

"Use the bounty that we have here,"





says Noguchi. "Why use a potato, when we can use 'ulu or taro instead?"

Hawai'i became more ethnically diverse as wealthy explorers arrived, followed by waves of contract laborers who worked the sugar and pineapple plantations.

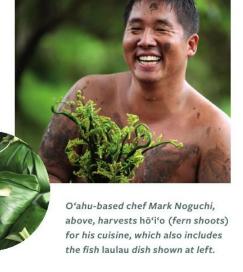
Naturally, Hawaiian food also evolved. Tracing the roots of the modern Hawaiian plate provides a lesson in geography. For example, in 1793 Captain George Vancouver brought cattle from California with him when he sailed to Hawai'i. Mexican cowboys, known as *paniolo* in Hawaiian, later came to the Islands to control the cattle, which had gone wild. Eventually, *pipi kaula*, or dried beef, became a Hawaiian food mainstay.

In the mid-1800s, Chinese laborers arrived in Hawai'i to work on the plantations. When their contracts were up, many turned to rice farming. Rice is now a staple in local Hawai'i food dishes, and chicken long rice—made with rice vermicelli, chicken and onions—is a Hawaiian-food favorite.

Marques Marzan, a cultural adviser for the Bishop Museum on Oʻahu, says that Hawaiian food will likely continue to evolve. "But traditional food of Hawai'i will always persist and be rooted in the resources of the land and sea that our forbears managed," he says. "Living on an island, self-sufficiency is key for a people

to prosper. Making use of everything you could is a practice that was taught and passed down through the generations, preserving our intimate relationship with nature and our responsibility to its care."

Places to find Hawaiian Food: Oʻahu: Mud Hen Water; Maui: Mama's Fish House; Kaua'i: Merriman's Poipu; Hawai'i Island: Napua.











FESTIVAL

TRADITIONS

Native Hawaiians took care to respect the environment that provided their sustenance. And they had an entire season, Makahiki, dedicated to rejuvenating the land and celebrating peace.

For four months—usually beginning in November and running through February—Makahiki festivals on different islands honored Lono, the god of agriculture and peace. Hard labor and war was prohibited.

The season kicked off when the Pleiades constellation was seen above the horizon. Not long after that, the Islanders would see the Lono banner—a 15- to 18-foot-long staff and a crossbar supporting a white kapa sheet—being paraded by men around each island to collect tithes and offerings to Lono.

In 2013, Julie Kaneali'i, along with her civic club, 'Ahahui Kīwila Hawai'i O Mo'ikeha, resurrected the festival on Kaua'i. "I think more than ever, the peaceful aspect of Makahiki is important," she says.

Sharing Culture at Resorts

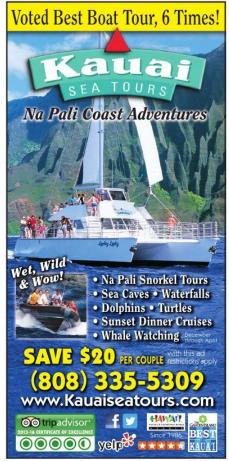
When Clifford Nae'ole started working at The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua on Maui in 1992, he was one of the first to work in Hawai'i's hospitality industry as a cultural adviser, a job he helped create and elevate. Today, cultural advisers such as Nae'ole are present at many hotels.

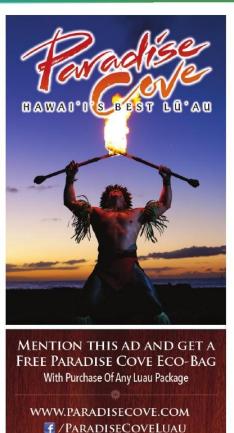
"I try to teach people the values of Native Hawaiians: persistence and love and appreciation of nature." he says.

Nae'ole says today's travelers seek culturally accurate experiences. He hopes his work helps perpetuate Hawaiian culture in a meaningful way. —T.H.



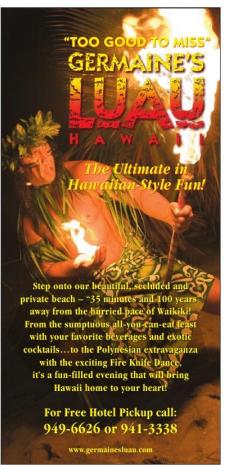
Island ACTIVITIES



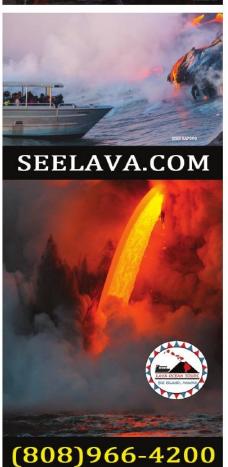


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To honor the tradition of a Lono banner traveling around Kaua'i, the club has held its Makahiki festival in locations across the island. Kaneali'i says the club is looking for a permanent home in 2018.

One fun part of a traditional Makahiki was its set of games. Kaneali'i says that people on every island gathered for competitions that included surfing, diving, canoe surfing and strategy games.

The club's Makahiki today features 10 games, suitable for all ages. Organizers consulted Donald D. Kilolani Mitchell's reference book *Hawaiian Games to Play* for rules on the games.

"The kids and adults today are doing it exactly the way their ancestors did,"
Kaneali'i says. The most popular games each year have been hukihuki, a form of tug-of-war, and 'ulu maika, in which participants bowl a stone disk between

Native Hawaiians demonstrate a traditional offering to the god Lono during the Makahiki celebration at Hickam Harbor Beach, in 2013, at Pearl Harbor on O'ahu.



two wooden pins. "Attending these events is a way to experience the culture firsthand," she says.

Whether it's experiencing festivals, teaching the next generation to surf, singing in Hawaiian, dancing hula, or looking to Hawai'i's environment for

Places with Makahiki Festivals:

Oʻahu: Waimea Valley; Hawaiʻi Island: Kā Moku o Keawe Makahiki; Molokaʻi: Ka Molokaʻi Makahiki. fashion and culinary inspiration, the practices and traditions of Hawaiian culture are thriving in the Islands today. ⊀

Based in Honolulu, Tiffany Hill specializes in travel, culture and business writing.

Alaska Airlines offers daily service to Oʻahu, Maui, Kauaʻi and Hawaiʻi Island (Kona). For flight reservations, visit alaskaair.com. Book a complete Alaska Airlines Vacations package to Hawaiʻi at alaskaair.com/vacations.

















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he salty ocean air brings back joyful memories for Camille. The pharmacist from the Puget Sound region remembers the glee that she and her siblings felt when their father would announce, "We're going to the beach." It was a rare treat from a hardworking sawmill owner, and these beach excursions stayed with Camille her whole life. When she started thinking about purchasing a second home, her thoughts went straight to the sea.

Now she lives part time in a newly constructed beach cottage at Oyhut Bay, a 43-acre walkable resort in Ocean Shores, Washington, that has listed vacation homes for sale since July 2016.

Camille became part of a growing trend when she purchased her second home in a resort community by the ocean, according to the National Association of Realtors. Cottages at Oyhut Bay in Ocean Shores, Washington, above and below, offer residents a walkable beach community. "For the past two years, vacationhome purchasing has been stronger than we have seen in the past," says Jessica Lautz, the NAR's managing director of Survey Research and Communication. "People are purchasing vacation homes in

nice communities, like resort areas or small towns, and the most popular location for such homes is the beach, followed by the mountains."

Resorts give second-home owners what they are looking for, says Egen Moe, senior vice president of Brookfield Residential in Hawai'i. He explains that resort residents want access to arts and culture, nearby restaurants, options for health and wellness activities, multigenerational appeal, and proximity to nature and open space.

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Moe says buyers of Brookfield condos and single-family homes on Kaua'i and the Island of Hawai'i easily get all five, enjoying dining options that range from food trucks to gourmet, the beautiful surroundings, personal space large enough for family get-togethers, and luxuries and amenities such as recreation centers and spas.

At Toscana Country Club, in Indian Wells, California, the sunshine, peacefulness and camaraderie with neighbors make for a great experience for Kathy



MICHAEL LEE / LEECAPTURES PHOTOGRAPHY

and her husband, Tom, at their second home. They already loved the Palm Springs area after many golf vacations with their three daughters. Then friends recommended they look for a place of their own, and all roads led to Toscana. Kathy and Tom bought in 2012 and now have their own 3,600-square-foot Tuscan-style

villa with plenty of room for their adult children.

"It was like we'd come to Tuscany," says Kathy. "It's gorgeous, and the architecture is really beautiful."

With golf, pickleball, hiking, biking and myriad social activities, such as luncheons, art galas and cooking competi-

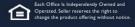


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Set in the backyard of Smith Rock State Park's towering rock walls, Ranch at the Canyons in Terrebonne, Oregon, features Tuscan-style homes in a private 1,700-acre community that features farmland, wildlife, a vineyard and stables.

tions, Kathy says, "There's so much going on here, we can't fit another thing into our schedule."

At Ranch at the Canyons in Terrebonne, Oregon, where Theresa and Bob purchased their second home, nearby 650-acre Smith Rock State Park features hikes with views of incredible rock spires for Theresa, while several ponds and lakes just a short drive from their home mean Bob doesn't have to wake up too early for morning casts. It's all the great-outdoors access

they could ask for. In addition, their Tuscan-style home with three bedrooms and an office with a hide-a-bed also has ample space for family gatherings that include their four children and seven grandchildren.

On top of offering amenities, activities and plenty of ways to fill the social calendar, resort living helps reduce stress, homeowners say. For starters, the mountain or oceanfront settings in which many resorts are built tend to promote



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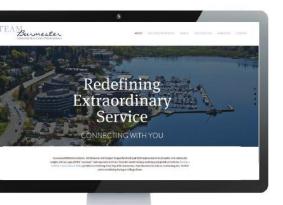


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A Home Away

relaxation, says Mike Smith of Danzante Bay Real Estate near Loreto in Baja California Sur, Mexico.

The residential development, currently under construction, will eventually feature five distinctive neighborhoods with homeowners enjoying golfing, boating and private pools. "It's a beautiful, tranquil, gorgeous place," says Smith, who also notes that the prices at Danzante Bay for luxury homes are relative bargains. "The U.S. dollar goes a long way here."

Beyond the stress relief that comes from peaceful settings, residents say resort homeownership includes peace of mind. Theresa in Oregon says she enjoys the security of knowing that diligent caretakers watch over her second home, even when she and Bob are away.

"That's the great benefit of having a second home in a resort," says Theresa, "You have people there who take care of things, or who I can call and say, 'Can you check the snow on my roof?"

Resort living also often means downsizing. Theresa and Bob, retired real estate developers who previously owned a Central Oregon cattle ranch, downsized from their 100-acre spread to a 2,900-square-foot villa on the Ranch at the Canyons' 1,700 scenic acres of ranch and recreational land. With less land to worry

about on resort-maintained property, Theresa and Bob feel free to split their time between Oregon and Arizona.

Camille's beach home in Washington is just a few hours from her primary residence. "That makes it really easy to scoot down there for a weekend," she says.

But when work demands don't give her enough time to get to the coast, Camille makes her one-bedroom, 700-square-foot cottage available as a rental. Resorts such as Oyhut Bay often manage rentals for residents or can refer them to propertymanagement firms.

With retirement on the horizon, Camille is anticipating the growing development at Oyhut Bay. In addition to the 23 miles of inland canals and lakes, and proximity to the 683-acre Oyhut Unit of Johns River Wildlife Area, the resort will soon include a fitness center, a grocery store and a martini bar.

Before long, Camille's second home at the beach could become her main house.

Susan G. Hauser writes from Portland.





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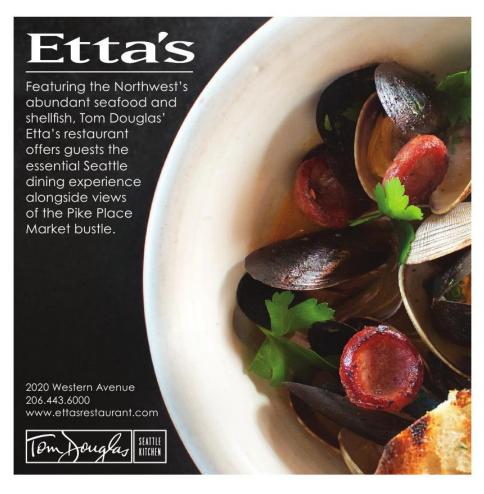
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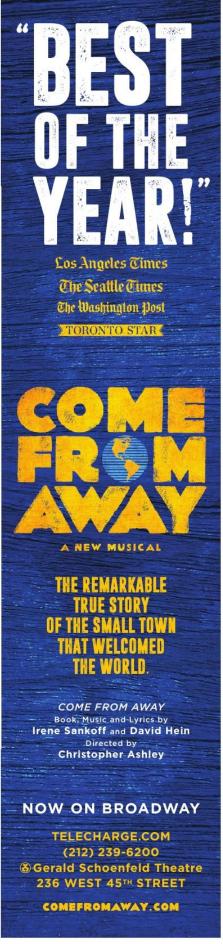
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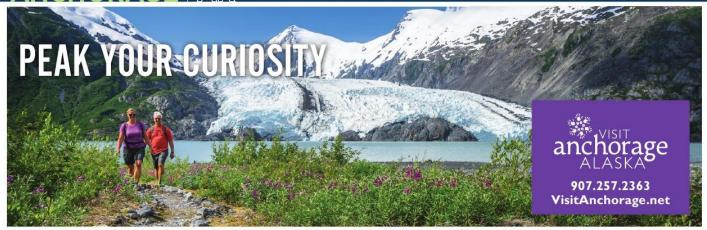
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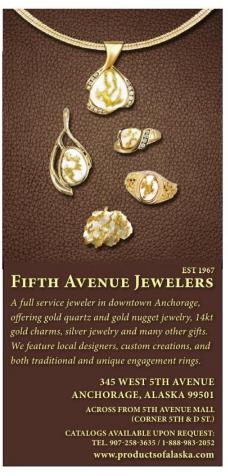
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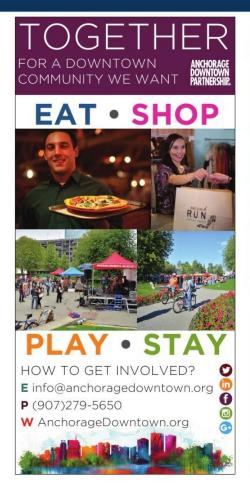
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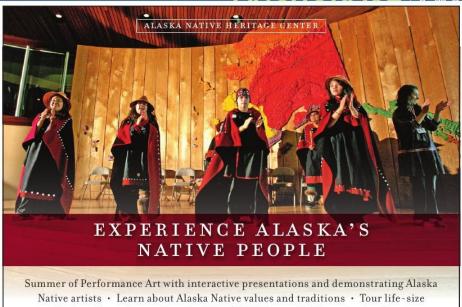
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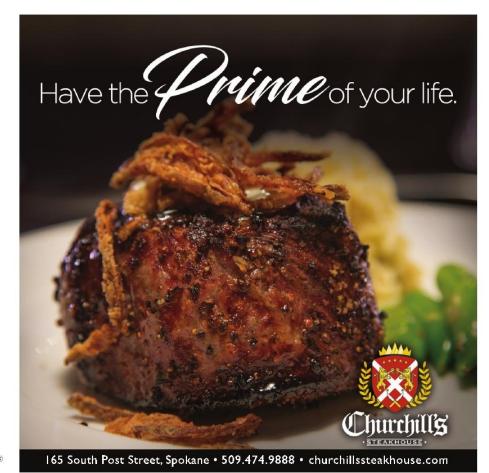
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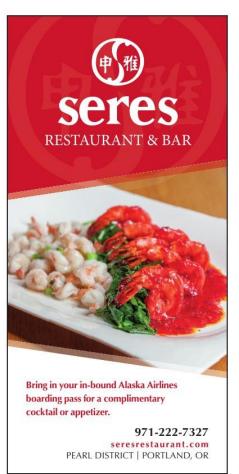
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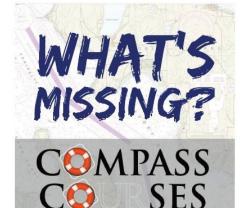
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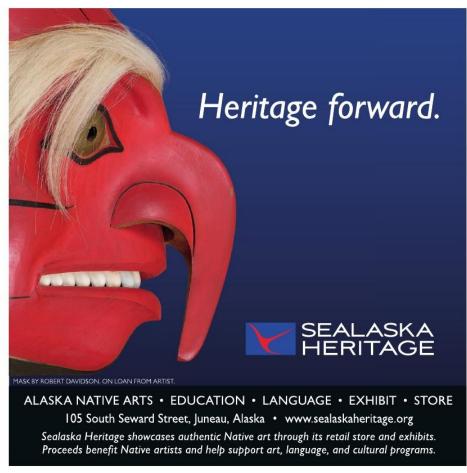
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BRAIN BOOSTER PUZZLES ON PAGE 220.

LADDERGRAM

Т	1. TOTAL	ALTO	3. LOT	А
0	4. MAYOR	5. MARY	6. RAY	М
U	5. SAMUEL	8. SALEM	9. SLAM	Е
R	10. MARRY	11. ARMY	12. YAM	R
E	13. INSIDE	14. SNIDE	15. SEND	I
N	16. CENTER	17. CRETE	18. TREE	С
G	19. EDGAR	20. DARE	21. RED	А

CARD SENSE

By clue 4, the eight of hearts is not on top. Since the eight of hearts is above both tens (clue 3) and the queen of diamonds and ten of diamonds are adjacent (clue 1), the eight of hearts is second from the top. The king of clubs, then, is on top. The queen of diamonds is between the ten of diamonds and the ten of spades (clue 2), so it is fourth. By clue 5, the ten of spades is not fifth; it is third and the ten of diamonds is fifth. In summary from top to bottom: king of clubs, eight of hearts, ten of spades, queen of diamonds, ten of diamonds.

ANAGRAM MAZE

The path through the maze, with just one anagram given for each, is: 1. tend; 7. lied; 13. span; 19. gust; 25. riot; 31. gear; 32. bear; 33. cork; 27. serf; 21. atom; 15. pets; 9. bury; 3. mare; 4. bean; 5. foal; 6. bake; 12. earl; 18. dire; 17. abet; 23. neon; 29. cask; 30. take; 36. scar.

¥					
1		3	4	5	6
7		9			12
13		15		17	18
19		21		23	
25		27		29	30
31	32	33			36

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What can you expect aboard an Alaska Airlines flight? You'll find a variety of comfortable seating choices and a tasty selection of food and drinks. We have power outlets to keep you charged, Wi-Fi to keep you connected, and entertainment options to captivate you. And as always, our warm, friendly flight crew is ready to help you however they can.



First Class

Choose First Class for spacious seating, plentiful food and beverage choices, and our dedicated flight attendants.

- ✓ Luxury at an affordable price
- Priority access for check-in and security lines
- Power outlets at every seat, on most aircraft
- ✓ Two bags checked free



Premium Class

More space, more perks and early boarding: Treat yourself to our Premium Class experience on your next flight.

- 4" more legroom than Main Cabin seats
- ✓ Board early and get settled
- Our Lite Bites snack box and drinks are on us
- Power outlets that are easy to access



Main Cabin

Enjoy our Main Cabin seats with a complimentary snack and beverages.

- Power outlets at every seat, on most aircraft
- ✓ Award-winning service
- ✓ Alaska Beyond Entertainment
- Tom Douglas-inspired meals for purchase

Enjoy a drink

Refreshing selections, for free or for purchase.

COMPLIMENTARY BEVERAGES



Sodas Coca-Cola Coke Zero Diet Coke Sprite Sprite Zero Seagram's Ginger Ale Seagram's Seltzer

Seagram's Tonic



CoffeeProudly serving Starbucks®
Pike Place® Roast

Other

Bottled Water

Orange Juice
Tomato Juice
Cranberry Juice
Apple Juice
Our special blend of Passion, Orange and Guava
(on flights to Hawai'i)
Bloody Mary Mix
Tazo® Awake® black tea
Tazo® Sweet Orange hot herbal tea (caffeine-free)

The menu card in your seatback pocket displays all our food and beverage options.



PREMIUM WINE

Canoe Ridge \$7 Exploration Red Blend

Canoe Ridge \$7 Exploration Pinot Gris



BEER

Premium Beer \$7 Alaskan Amber Alaskan Icy Bay IPA Corona (to/from Mexico) Kona Longboard Island Lager (to/from Hawaiʻi)



Kona Longboard Island Lager (to/trom Hawar Imperial (to/from Costa Rica)

Domestic Beer \$6

Miller Lite Budweiser

LIQUOR



Craft \$7 Sun Liquor Vodka Sun Liquor Gin Sun Liquor Rum Crater Lake Hazelnut Espresso Vodka

Classic \$7

Sauza Tequila Dewar's White Label Scotch Jack Daniel's Black Label Crown Royal Courvoisier Cognac Baileys Irish Cream



NEW:

Woodford Reserve Bourbon \$7

All prices in U.S. dollars.

First Class Wines

Featured wines this month.



Browne Family Vineyards Generations Collection Washington

Chardonnay Red Blend



Chateau Ste. Michelle

Washington

"Mimi" Chardonnay Indian Wells Cabernet Sauvignon

Beverage service may vary due to time of day and flight-segment time limitations. Items limited and based on availability. Individuals must be 21 years or older to consume alcoholic beverages. Government warning: According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy. Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems. Pike Place is a registered trademark of The Pike Place Market PDA, used under license.

Movies, TV, Wi-Fi and more.

The choice is yours.

Limited-time offer: Enjoy free movies and TV.

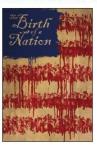
Nearly every flight offers Alaska Beyond Entertainment, our streaming entertainment system that features hit movies and episodes from your favorite TV networks—like HGTV and Travel Channel—as well as new discoveries, including new musicians on Seattle's independent record label, Sub Pop.



NEW MOVIES ON ALASKA BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT:



Storks



The Birth of a Nation



Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children



Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie



Star Wars: A New Hope

OUR COMPLETE MOVIE LINEUP:

- Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie
- Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip
- Barbershop: The Next Cut
- Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice
- Creed
- Hot Pursuit
- Ice Age: Collision Course
- In the Heart of the Sea
- Joy
- Keanu
- Keeping Up with the Joneses
- Mad Max: Fury Road

- Me Before You
- Midnight Special
- Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates
- Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children
- Morgan
- Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb
- Pan
- Penguins of Madagascar
- Point Break
- Purple Rain
- San Andreas

- Sny
- Star Wars: A New Hope
- Storks
- The Accountant
- The Birth of a Nation
- The Legend of Tarzan (2016)
- The Martian
- The Nice Guys
- The Peanuts Movie
- The Revenant
- Trolls
- Wild

PLUS, 150+ EPISODES FROM SOME OF TV'S BEST NETWORKS:









SUB POP ALBUM OF THE MONTH:



Jesca Hoop Memories Are Now

Get started now. See the "Movies & Wi-Fi" card in your seatback pocket.

We've included helpful tips within this card.

New: Stay connected with Free Chat.

Never miss a thing. Free Chat, exclusively on Alaska Airlines, allows you to send messages to friends and family from your smartphone using iMessage, Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp. Please keep in mind:

- Free Chat is designed for text-based messages only.
 Photos, video and SMS are not supported.
- Both you and your recipient must have one of the compatible apps.
- Free Chat is only available on flights with Gogo[®] Inflight Internet.



Go online.

Gogo® Inflight Internet is available on all of our Boeing 737 and Embraer 175 aircraft, excluding five half cargo/half passenger aircraft.

- Inflight Internet is not available on flights to/from Hawai'i or when flying over Latin America.
- In the air or on the ground, visit alaskaair.com or gogoair.com to view flexible pricing options.

TIPS FOR MAKING THE MOST OF INFLIGHT WI-FI:

It's great to be able to stay connected while you fly, but inflight Wi-Fi is different from the Wi-Fi you may be used to.

- Work smarter. Use webmail instead of Outlook to check your inbox. You never know what large files might be lurking in there.
- Wait to send that TPS report. Large attachments can slow things down: avoid sending while in air.
- Bookmark or favorite the Gogo in-air page airborne.gogoinflight.com—in your browser.
- Huh? Gogo Live Help is available on flights within the Gogo coverage area. FAQs are at your fingertips on all flights.

Download the app:

You'll need the Gogo Entertainment App to watch movies. Get it now at loadplayer.com.

Rent one of our premium entertainment tablets.

On most flights over 3.5 hours, you can rent one of our inflight entertainment tablets featuring the newest movies onboard, plus recent hits. Each tablet is preloaded with 25 to 30 movies (depending on the month), plus TV shows, Xbox games, music and digital magazines.

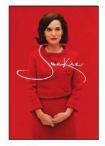
Tablets are free in First Class, and available to rent for \$8-\$10, depending on flight length.



NEW MOVIES ON THE TABLET:



Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them



Jackie



The Take



Moana



Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan™

Welcome to a world of rewards.



See the world and earn miles doing it.

Earn or redeem miles on every Alaska flight and flights to more than 900 destinations worldwide with our airline partners.

Earn miles on hotel stays, car rentals, and everyday purchases, too.



























MVP













The more you fly, the richer the rewards.

Partner miles flown also count toward elite status qualification.

MVP

(20,000 miles flown on Alaska)

- · Priority check-in
- Two free checked bags
- Eligible for complimentary First Class upgrades
- 50% bonus miles and more

MVP GOLD

(40,000 miles flown on Alaska)

All MVP® benefits, plus:

- Waived ticket change fees on Alaska
- Four annual guest upgrades
- · 100% bonus miles and more

GOLD 75K (75,000 miles flown on Alaska)

All MVP Gold benefits, plus:

- Complimentary inflight entertainment player
- Four Alaska® Lounge day
- 125% bonus miles and more

^{*}Miles flown on PenAir and Rayn do not count toward elite status qualification.







Carry the card for even more rewards.

Get 30,000 bonus miles after qualifying purchases with the Alaska Airlines Visa Signature® card. Enjoy added benefits like:

- Annual companion fare offer—because traveling is more fun with a friend
- Free checked bag for up to six people on the same reservation

Learn about all card benefits at alaskaair.com. The benefits above apply to Visa Signature® accounts only and different benefits apply to Platinum Plus® accounts. Card type is determined by creditworthiness.

Apply at mynewalaskacard.com or ask your flight attendant.

For information about rates, fees, other costs and benefits associated with the use of this card or to apply, visit the website referenced above. The Visa Signature® card benefits described herein are subject to certain restrictions, limitations and exclusions. This credit card program is issued and administered by Bank of America, N.A. Visa Signature is a registered trademark of Visa International Service Association, and is used by the issuer pursuant to license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. Platinum Plus is a registered trademark of Bank of America Corporation.

Big adventures for fewer miles.

You can now book nonrefundable one-way award travel within the continental United States and Canada starting at just 5,000 miles.*

New starting	Previous starting		
price*	price*	Distance each way	Sample routes
5,000 miles	7,500 miles	Less than 700 miles (intrastate)	San Jose-Orange County
5,000 miles	12,500 miles	Less than 700 miles	Seattle-San Francisco
7,500 miles	12,500 miles	701 to 1,400 miles	Los Angeles-Portland
10,000 miles	12,500 miles	1,401 to 2,100 miles	Portland-St. Louis
12,500 miles	12,500 miles	More than 2,101 miles	New York-Seattle
+ BI	\$5.50 L & L 11.1111		

^{*} Plus taxes and fees from \$5.60 each way. Award availability and pricing may vary.

Join today and start getting rewarded. alaskaair.com/mileageplan.

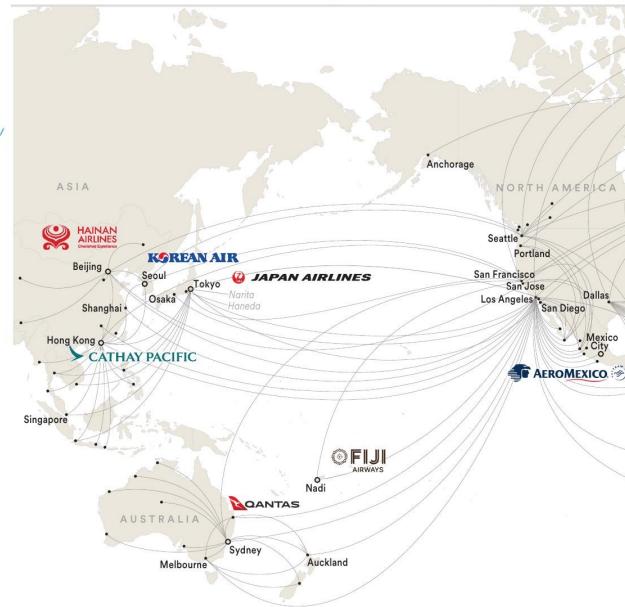
Cardholder perk: There's no limit to the number of miles you can earn.

We're taking Mileage Plan benefits to the next level. Learn more at alaskaair.com/ gamechanger.

Mileage Plan gives you the world

Earn and redeem your Alaska Airlines miles to more than 900 destinations worldwide.

Find tips on how to earn and use miles on our global partners at blog.alaskaair.com/ mileage-plan.



Explore more with Mileage Plan.



London, England British Airways



Reykjavík, Iceland Icelandair







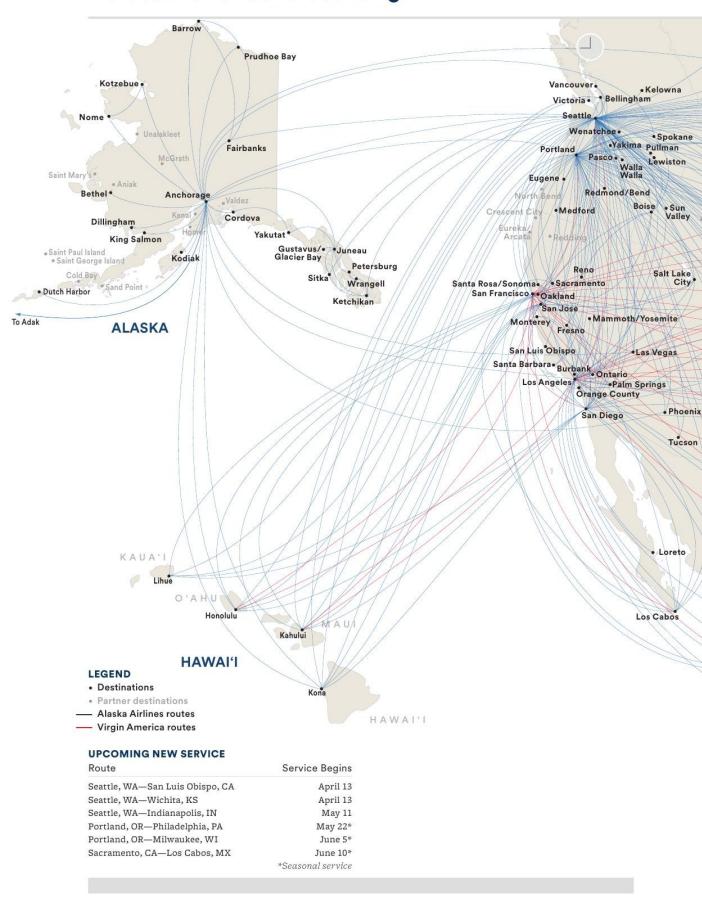




Dubai, UAE *Emirates*

Where we fly

118 destinations and counting.





Some Alaska Airlines service operated by Virgin America, Horizon Air or SkyWest Airlines.

Some routes shown operate seasonally.

Airport of the Month



Portland International Airport

Location: Portland, OR
Airport code: PDX
Served since: 1979
Daily flights: 130
Cities served: 49
Notable: PDX has been named "America's Best Airport" by Travel + Leisure for the past four years. The airport's unique dining establishments certainly helped it earn that rating. The airport features food trucks, brew pubs and even

Insider info: Stringent price controls ensure the prices for purchases at airport shops and restaurants are the same as off-airport prices.

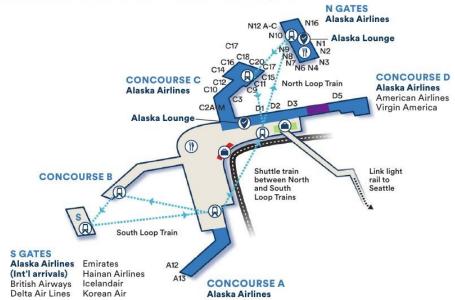
a distillery.

Airport terminal maps

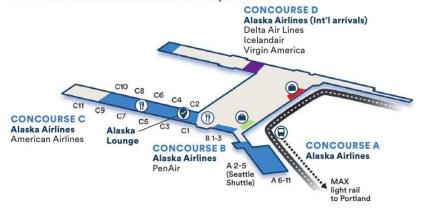
① Tip:

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.

SEA Seattle/Tacoma International Airport



PDX Portland International Airport



1 Tip:

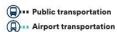
Alaska Lounge members have access to the Cathay Pacific Lounge at SFO when traveling on Alaska.









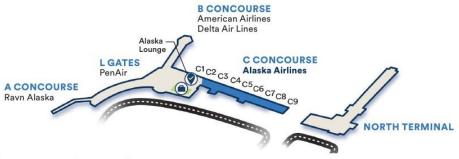


Underground walkway

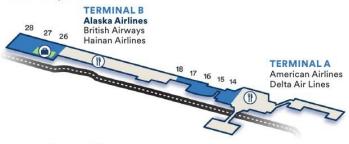
LAX Los Angeles International Airport



ANC Anchorage International Airport



SJC San Jose Mineta Airport





Global Airline Partner terminal maps

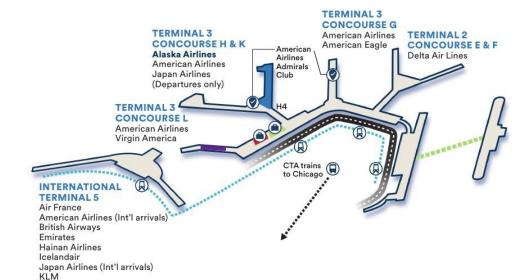
ORD Chicago O'Hare International Airport

American Airlines

From Chicago, American Airlines serves 122 destinations in 11 countries, with convenient connections to Europe from the West Coast.

1 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.



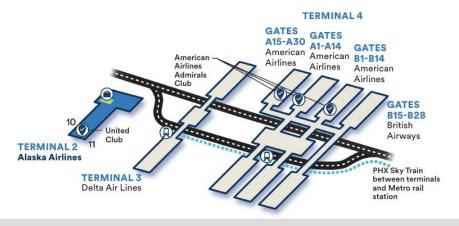
PHX Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport

American Airlines

From Phoenix, American flies to 81 cities with over 300 flights.

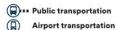
1 Tip:

Alaska Lounge members have access to the **United Club** across from gate 10 at Sky Harbor when flying on Alaska.

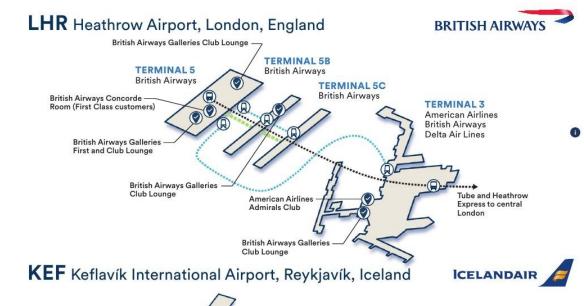












Saga Lounge

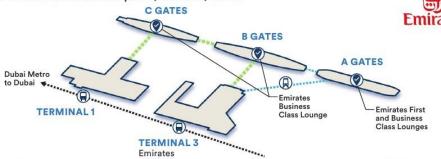
British Airway's London hub offers convenient connections from the West Coast to cities throughout Europe.

Tip:
MVP Gold &
MVP Gold 75K
members receive
complimentary
access to British
Airways' Galleries
Club Lounge in
Terminal 5.

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' Dubai hub offers connections to 100+ destinations on 6 continents, all featuring the airline's world-class service.

PEK Beijing Capital International Airport, Beijing, China

GATES 1-35

Icelandair



TERMINAL 2

Int'l flights

With gateways in Seattle and San Jose, earn miles traveling to Beijing, Shanghai and to other destinations throughout China.

Tip:

MVP Gold and MVP Gold 75K members receive complimentary access to Hainan's VIP Lounge.

Customs and immigration

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 Preè
eligibility and
access to
expedited entry
in other countries.
Apply at www.
cbp.gov.



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. 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 porporcionan a continuación. Las formas completas seran presentadas en la Terminal Internacional.

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."

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."

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.

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.

Your safety and comfort

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.

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 airpurifying devices.

The Federal
Aviation
Administration
(FAA) and
Alaska Airlines
have set these
rules and
regulations to
assure your safety
and comfort.

CONTACT US

Customer care: 800.654.5669 (Mileage Plan, Web Support, Customer Care)

Toll-free reservations: Within the U.S. and Canada: 800.ALASKAAIR (800.252.7522) (TTY 800.682.2221) alaskaair.com

En Español: 800.858.5525 From Mexico: 001.800.252.7522

Alaska Airlines Vacations: 844.762.0087 vacations.alaskaair.com.

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 and Bluetooth headphones
- · Cellphones (prior to door closure only)

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





Order your free Visitors Guide on Fairbanks, Denali, Interior & Arctic Alaska.

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Visitor information at 101 Dunkel Street in Downtown Fairbanks



IN THE BEAUTIFUL GOLDSTREAM VALLEY 8 EASY MILES FROM UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

Featuring Alaskan Seafood, Prime Beef, Large Appetizers, Sandwich Menu All Major Credit Cards

Off-Premise Liquor Store

Open daily 11 A.M. to 10 P.M., Fri.-Sat. to 11 P.M. Serving Lunch and Dinner • Weekend Breakfast Reservations Accepted (907) 455-6666
Call for Directions





GAMES

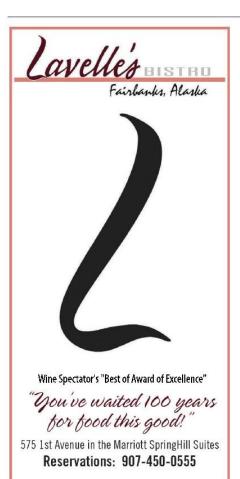
>> SUDOKU

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 on page 193.

						DI	FFICULT	Y: EASY
	3		2	1		6	9	
6		8	3	20	5			1
		9				7	5	
					8	9	1	
7				4				5
	5	6	7					
	9	5				1		
2			4		9	8		6
	6	7		3	2		4	

6						1	ULTY: N	9
		5	1	4	9			
	9	1			8			
	7		8	9				5
	6	3				2	9	
9				1	6		7	
			4			9	2	
			6	2	3	8		
4		8				2		3

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GAMES

>>> BRAIN BOOSTERS

LADDERGRAM

First, write the word that fits the first definition into space 1. Then drop one letter and rearrange the remaining letters to form the answer to definition 2. Drop one more letter, rearrange, and get the answer to definition 3. Put the first dropped letter into the box to the left of space 1 and the other dropped letter into the box next to space 3. When you have correctly solved the puzzle, the dropped letters on the left and right, when read down, will spell out related words.

1.	2.	3.	
4.	5.	6.	
7.	8.	9.	_
10.	11.	12.	
13.	14.	15.	
16.	17.	18.	
19.	20.	21.	

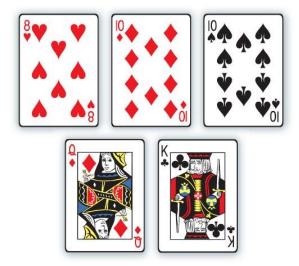
DEFINITIONS

- 1. Final sum
- 2. Female choir voice
- 3. Portion of land
- 4. City head
- 5. "Contrary" girl of rhyme
- 6. Beam of light
- 7. L. Jackson, actor
- 8. Capital of Oregon
- 9. Shut (a door) noisily
- **10.** Wed
- 11. Military branch

- 12. Orange root vegetable
- 13. Not out of the house
- 14. Slyly spiteful
- 15. E-mail command
- 16. Middle
- 17. Greek island
- 18. Elm or oak
- 19. Author Allan Poe
- 20. Bold challenge
- 21. Bright lipstick color

CARD SENSE

Five playing cards were shuffled and put in a pile, one on top of another. Using the clues, can you identify each card's position in the pile?



- 1. The diamonds are adjacent.
- 2. The tens are not adjacent.
- 3. The eight is somewhere above both tens.
- 4. The heart is not on top.
- 5. The spade is not on the bottom.

ANAGRAM MAZE

The diagram contains 36 words, 23 of which are anagrams of other everyday words. Start at the top arrow and anagram DENT. While solving, move up, down, right, or left to the only adjacent word that can be anagrammed. Continue until you arrive at the bottom arrow. There is only one path through the maze.

1	2	3	4	5	6
DENT	UNDO	REAM	BANE	LOAF	BEAK
7	8	9	10	11	12
IDLE	WISH	RUBY	BANG	MICE	REAL
13	14	15	16	17	18
PANS	CLAP	STEP	BATH	BEAT	RIDE
 19 TUGS	20 TERM	21 MOAT	22 TINY	23 NONE	24 CLIP
25	26	27	28	29	30
TRIO	FOUL	REFS	LOOK	SACK	TEAK
 31 RAGE	32 BARE	33 ROCK	34 ZINC	35 DANK	36 CARS

SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 196.

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GAMES

>> CROSSWORD

ANIMAL KINGDOM

22

26

ACROSS

- 1 Twine
- 5 Ancient city of Rome

23

43

47

- 10 Workout aftermath
- Preliminary races

- 21 Spoils
- 22 Ghana's capital
- He's not really brave
- Cain raiser? 27
- Diamond failures
- Mountaineering tool
- Greek island 31
- Dress down
- 39 Predicament

- 45 Whimper
- Oliver's request 46
- 49
- Shakespeare's Belcher
- 52
- 53 Physique
- **54** ____ Minor
- 55 Lanka
- 57 Poetic daybreaks
- Made tracks
- 61 Aluminum ore

- Ruhr Valley hub 65
- Shopper's delight
- 68 Petition
- 71 Air
- 72 Scoundrels

- 75 Goes on and on
- 76 At any point
- 77 Blue or White
- Tarzan's transport?
- 79
- Ship's company 80
- 81 Mock butters

- 86 Bee-related
- 87
- Author McEwan 88
- 89
- 90 Champagne word
- Waterunderthebridge?
- 95 Suitably
- Frustrate

- 19 Mishmash
- 20 Dust jacket come-on

- Family embarrassment 25
- 29

- Mug
- Smell them 33
- Dupin's creator 34
- Rye fungus 38
- Coal scuttle
- 43 Speechify
- 44 Roll with a hole
- 47 Spheres
- 48 Nuts
- Fish story
- Harder to find 50
- First place?

- Not e'en once
- 58 Dappled
- Trepidation
- Stepped on the gas

- Christiania, currently
- Port of Yemen 74

- Mythical monsters
- Old hat 83
- 84 Utmost
- Indistinctness
- Deep cuts
- Delay

97 Exist

100

105

109

- 100 Major portion
- Seem to sleep 102
- 105
- 106 Still
- Attention getter 108
- 109 Niels Bohr et al.
- 110
- 111 Discourage
- 112 Vega's constellation

DOWN

- 1 Manage
- 3 Fully mature
- 5
- 6 Narrow openings
- Choler 8
- 9 10 Finney of film

- 12 Piltdown man, e.g.

20

48

72

24

13

88

- Pointless
- 107 Lovers' lane?
- Repair

- 2 King of Norway
- Anonymous Jane
- Imperceptive
- 7 Harbor helpers
- Condense

- 11 Soft drinks

101

106

- Catchall abbr.
- 14 Minced
- 15 Radar's detection
- 16 Served perfectly
- 17 Corner
- 18 Tires
- 24 Course Copenhagen coin 26
- 30 Composed
- 32 Fall guy 33 Church keys?
- Stacked
- 35 Waders
- 36 Slip-up
- Blow to the neck 38 Zealous type
- 39 Informal talk 40 Pungent condiment
- 41 Mountain nymph 42 "____ Rosenkavalier" 44 Ordered

- 45 Canvas covering
- Opera's Callas

103

102

73

- Turned right 48
- 49 Shroud site Indian money
- 50 53 Movers' burdens

21

- 56 Knots
- 57 Thinker 60 Lets
- 62 Crooked
- Drifting sheet 64 Jerk
- _ Well . . . " 67
- Perception 69
- 70 Lower joints
- 72 Second showing Top center
- 74 Nautical call 75 Silver on the screen
- Chowder mollusks Hyalite, e.g. 81
- 82 Pond floater 83 Sao ____

- 85 Predilections 86 Wait upon

104

- Complainer
- Tempter of Odysseus 89 "Young Frankenstein"
- actor Went home, in a way
- 93 Speckled steed Feminine suffix 94

92 Ms. Turner

- 95 Slangy preference 96 Fleet
- Pallid 97
- He's very sorry 99 Austen novel
- 101 Sewn edge
- 103 Invention 104 Erie Canal mule

SOLUTION ON PAGE 194.

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#IFLYALASKA



>> "I was on a pedestrian bridge that night, taking photos of the San Diego skyline. The sky was turning into a beautiful bright red, and an Alaska Airlines plane was coming down for landing. I had my camera ready and waited for the perfect timing to capture it going right above the freeway," says Instagram user Alec Basanec (@alec_basanec). Tag your journey with #iFlyAlaska so we can all share in your adventures.







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