

# CLUB TRAVELER

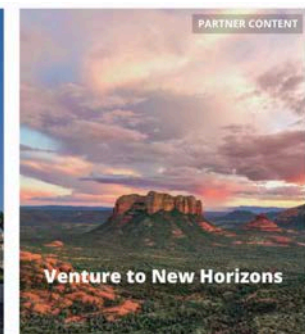
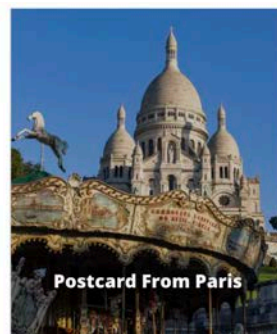
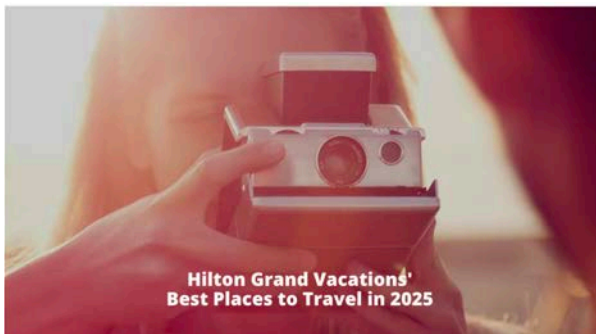
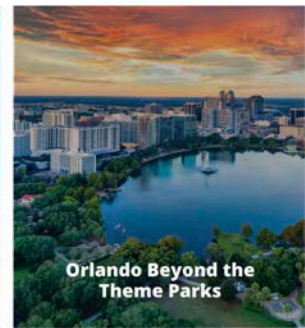
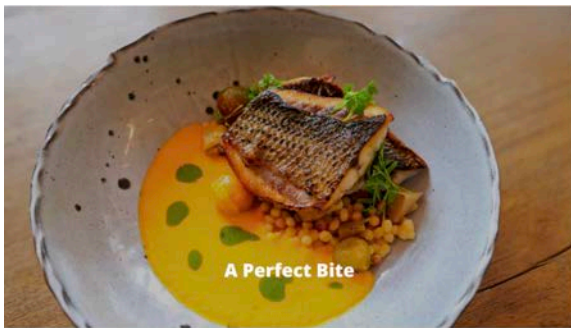
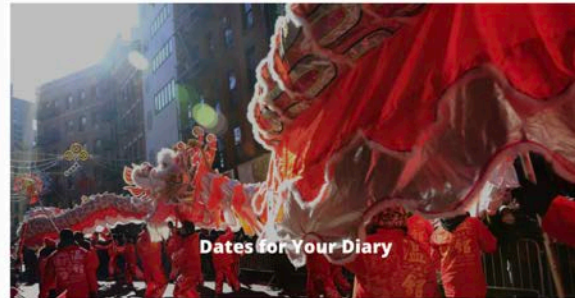
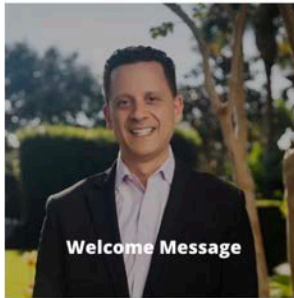
ISSUE 3, 2024



Hilton Grand Vacations' Best Places to Travel  
*10 Amazing Destinations to Visit in 2025*

CLUB  
TRAVELER

# Contents





# Welcome

## From Derek De Salvia

### FOR HILTON GRAND VACATIONS

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Dear Owners and Members,

As we wrap up another amazing year of travel, I invite you to click through *Club Traveler's* last issue of 2024 to find your vacation inspiration for 2025! Reflecting on the countless memories Hilton Grand Vacations has helped our Owners and Members to create, I can't help but be filled with gratitude. We take our role as custodians of your most cherished moments seriously and look forward to being part of your next grand adventure.

Speaking of grand adventures, I recently had the privilege of experiencing [The Beach Resort Sesoko, a Hilton Club](#) in Okinawa, Japan. From the resort staff and the architecture to the Okinawan cuisine and the pristine white beaches, it was a reminder of the transformative power of travel. If you haven't read "[Discover Okinawa](#)" in Issue 2 of *Club Traveler*, I wholeheartedly recommend you do.

As you read Issue 3, I encourage you to let your imagination wander. Picture yourself strolling the white-sand beaches of Sint Maarten or taking a romantic walk through the districts of Paris with the Eiffel Tower as your backdrop. Whatever vacation you're daydreaming about, our award-winning publication strives to be your trusted companion, offering insights and expert advice to elevate your travel adventures with HGV.

We've packed this issue with travel inspiration and ideas that can serve as the building blocks of your 2025 vacation plans. Discover a world of possibilities and experiences with HGV's expert tips, insider recommendations and beautiful photography.

### 2025's Ultimate Travel Destinations

In this issue's cover story, "[Best Places to Travel in 2025](#)," our seasoned editors and on-site vacation connoisseurs compared notes to craft the ultimate 2025 travel guide across the HGV network. This year's must-visit destinations focus on well-being, art, nature, local cuisine, theater, beaches, sports, luxury, history and solo travel. So, no matter your interests ... we've got you covered!

### Discover The City Beautiful

Our additional articles are also full of must-try locations. In "[Discover Orlando](#)," you can explore the city that locals cherish, and most visitors never see. Journey beyond the theme parks and tourist hot spots to uncover The City Beautiful's lesser-known, but just as noteworthy, must-dos. Orlando has plenty of hidden gems to choose from — including beautiful natural springs, endless shopping options, a rich history and an award-winning multicultural food scene.

### Vacation Inspiration at Your Fingertips

Also, with the Olympic crowds gone, now is the perfect time to visit the City of Lights. "[Postcard From Paris](#)" offers a photo guide to the magical metropolis, showcasing everything from sidewalk cafes and museums to shopping and panoramic views. For history enthusiasts and those seeking Southern charm, "[48 Hours in Charleston](#)" provides an enticing two-day itinerary. Meanwhile, beach lovers can discover the unique blend of cultures and stunning coastlines in "[One Island, Five Ways: Sint Maarten](#)." Lastly, your taste buds will thank you for the farm-to-table experiences featured in "[A Perfect Bite](#)" in destinations like sun-soaked Algarve, Portugal, tropical Honolulu and the mile-high city of Denver.

As you start planning your travel for 2025, remember that the greatest souvenirs are the moments you create with loved ones. With that in mind, may your holiday season be filled with joy and excitement for memories yet to be made.

Happy journeys ahead,

Derek De Salvia  
Executive Vice President & Chief Customer Officer  
Hilton Grand Vacations

# RESTAURANT CRITIC

Follow these expert tips for the best restaurant experiences on your next trip

Writer: Emma Love

When traveling to new destinations, it can be hard to distinguish between delicious food joints and less impressive dining options. James Beard award-winning food critic [Karen Brooks](#), who writes for *Portland Monthly* magazine, and [Ryan Sutton](#), chief food critic at *The LO Times*, a cheat sheet to the best restaurants in New York, reveal how to choose where to chow down — and what to order.



## LOCAL BARISTAS AND BARTENDERS ALWAYS KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE GOOD STUFF

Karen Brooks



### DO YOUR RESEARCH

“Restaurant hype often comes from Instagram influencers who typically get free meals; the reels look great but beware,” warns Karen.

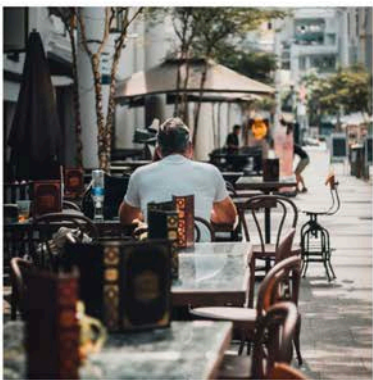
Ryan adds: “Food writers care passionately about what they do — so see what’s being written about the restaurant scene in local publications. Good food writers also don’t accept freebies so you can trust their opinion far more than Yelp reviews.”



### STUDY THE MENU

It might sound obvious, says Karen, but before making a reservation, read the menu online. “What is the restaurant known for? What is its angle? Start there. If Korean BBQ is the star, don’t order a burger — unless it’s a fresh-ground house patty hiding a little bulgogi and gochujang mayo. And do look at pictures: Most places post photos on their Instagram accounts.”

Ryan suggests researching the chef. “Find a chef you like and look up all the restaurants they run now or worked at recently. The chances are, if you like one of their places, you’ll probably like another.”



### ASK AROUND FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

“Get on-the-ground recommendations by speaking to waiters and bar staff. Asking where they like to eat nearby is a great way to expand your horizons,” adds Ryan. He also advocates for solo diners to take a seat at the bar to be in the thick of the action.

“Local baristas and bartenders always know where to find the good stuff,” concludes Karen. Insider tips will always lead you to the best places.

# Dates for Your Diary

Plan your next vacation around these exciting events in the Hilton Grand Vacations resort network

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY

● JANUARY 23–FEBRUARY 2, 2025



### SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

*When*

January 23–February 2, 2025

*Where*

Park City and Salt Lake City, Utah

*Why Go*

The critics' favorite movie gathering sees a host of indie premieres and filmmaker conversations come to the mountains of Utah. The best bit is not just that it launches over 90 feature films each year (including the likes of "Little Miss Sunshine" and "Napoleon Dynamite" over the years), but that screenings are open to everyone from studio heads to film fans.



*Where To Stay*

[Sunrise Lodge, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#)

● JANUARY 29–FEBRUARY 10, 2025



### LEXUS PIPE PRO

*When*

January 29–February 10, 2025

*Where*

Oahu, Hawaii

*Why Go*

The Banzai Pipeline that pumps just off Oahu's North Shore is the stuff of legend: During winter, powerful swells break on the shallow reef, creating massive, perfect waves. Each January, the World Surf League rolls up, bringing with it the best barrel riders on the planet and plenty of excitement for the crowds watching on Ehukai Beach.



*Where To Stay*

[Lagoon Tower, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#)

● JANUARY 29, 2025



LUNAR NEW YEAR

*When*

January 29, 2025

*Where*

New York City, New York

*Why Go*

NYC ushers in the Lunar New Year with a massive parade through Manhattan's Chinatown, weaving from Mott Street down East Broadway and finishing on Grand Street. This January will start the year of the calm and stable Earth Snake, with celebrations featuring a host of colorful performances, capped off by the famous lion dance.



*Where To Stay*

[West 57th Street, a Hilton Club](#)

● FEBRUARY 3–9, 2025



WM PHOENIX OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

*When*

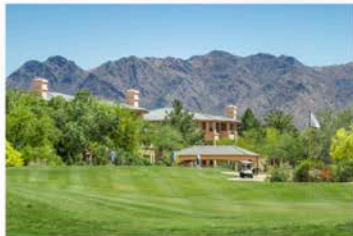
February 3–9, 2025

*Where*

Scottsdale, Arizona

*Why Go*

Known for having one of the best atmospheres on the PGA Tour, especially around the 16th hole, the WM Phoenix Open brings the pros to the Stadium Course at TPC Scottsdale. This challenging course crisscrosses through water hazards and desert with knockout views of the McDowell Mountains. Watch Canadian Golfer Nick Taylor defend his 2024 title.



*Where To Stay*

[Scottsdale Links Resort, a Hilton Vacation Club](#)

# MARCH/APRIL

● MARCH 20–APRIL 13, 2025



## NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

*When*

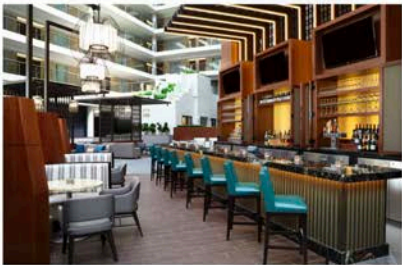
March 20–April 13, 2025

*Where*

Washington, D.C.

*Why Go*

You don't need to go further than Washington, D.C., to see froths of cherry blossoms mark the start of spring. Each year, the United States' capital commemorates Japan's gift of 3,000 cherry trees in 1912 with what has now grown into a four-week-long extravaganza of events in the Tidal Basin including a parade, Japanese cultural performances, art installations and kite flying.



*Where To Stay*

[The District, a Hilton Club](#)

● APRIL 19-20, 2025



## CELTIC SPRING

*When*

April 19-20, 2025

*Where*

Perthshire, Scotland

*Why Go*

The Scottish Crannog Centre reopened on the shores of Loch Tay in the spring of 2024. This unique outdoor museum recreates what life might have been like here in the Iron Age when Scots in these parts would live in stilted wooden round houses called crannogs on the edge of the water. The annual Celtic Spring event celebrates nature's return to life giving a seasonal twist to the center's hands-on cooking demos, craft workshops and storytelling.



*Where To Stay*

[The Kenmore Club](#)

Member Resort Availability

|                                                         | HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary<br>Escapes With<br>HGV Max |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sunrise Lodge, a Hilton Grand<br>Vacations Club         | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| West 57th Street, a<br>Hilton Club                      | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Scottsdale Links Resort, a<br>Hilton Vacation Club      |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| The District, a<br>Hilton Club                          | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| The Kenmore Club                                        |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Craigendarroch Suites, a Hilton<br>Grand Vacations Club | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |

# A Perfect Bite

Three must-try farm-to-table restaurants



Pared-back design at Austa, Portugal, lets the food do the talking

⑤

## Austa in Portugal

*Rua Cristovao Pires Norte, Almancil, Algarve*

### Why Go

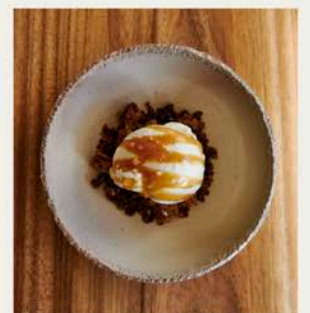
Inspired by the Portuguese farm-to-table movement, Emma and David Campus opened Austa last August within her parents' new destination retail space, Dunas Living, in Almancil. Chef David Barata, who was previously at Michelin-starred restaurant Bon Bon in Carvoeiro, focuses on seasonal and locally sourced ingredients. The respect for produce is reflected in the craftsmanship of the pared-back wooden tables, copper lights and stone banquette seating.

### What to Order

Signature dishes include cuttlefish served with turnips from the vegetable garden and seaweed from Ria Formosa lagoon. The provenance of the ingredients is second to none: The pork comes from Feito no Zambujal, renowned for its free-range, acorn-fed pigs, while the honey is from Apicultura Algarve, one of the region's few organic producers.

### Details

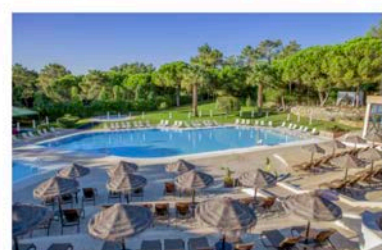
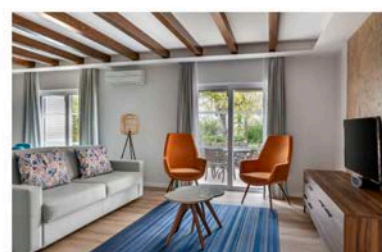
An on-site grocery store sells everything from Portuguese ceramics to sourdough. Plus, diners can pick up the "Austa directory," a free guide to the owners' favorite restaurants, beaches, experiences and vineyards.



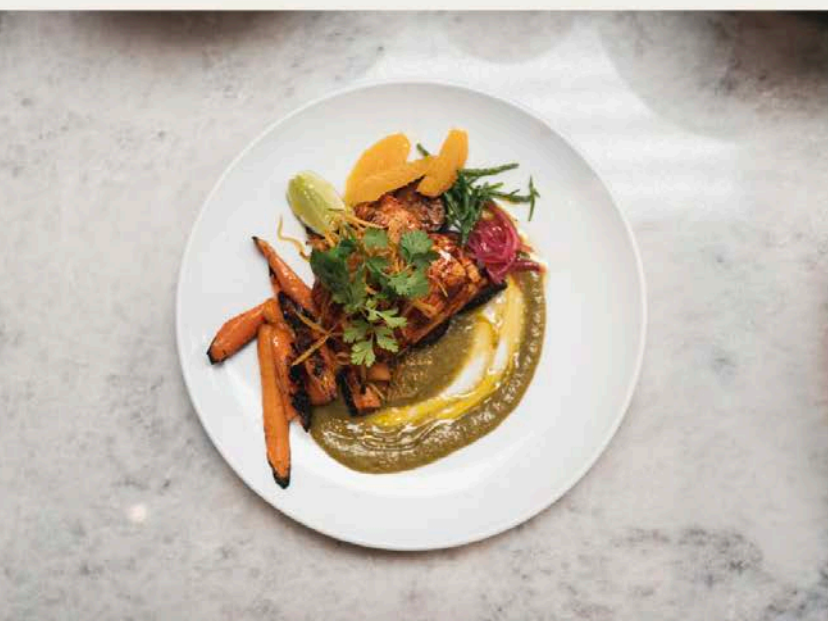
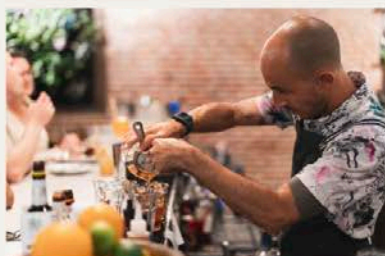
Signature dishes include cuttlefish with turnips from the garden (left); even the honey is locally sourced and organic

## Where to Stay

Close to Faro's best beaches and shopping, [Vilar do Golf](#) has 1- and 2-Bedroom Suites with spacious living and dining areas, a fully-equipped kitchen and balcony. Its location on the Quinta do Lago golf resort in the Algarve makes it a good choice for active vacations — with swimming, hiking and cycling all available for Members.



Chef Robynne Maii's modern American menu has won her a James Beard Foundation award at Fête



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## Fête in Honolulu

2 North Hotel Street, Honolulu, HI 96817

### Why Go

Co-founder chef Robynne Maii combines her Hawaiian heritage with her experience working in New York kitchens at this downtown Honolulu brasserie-style restaurant. The modern American food is rooted in the local farm-to-table movement; the look is rustic chic with exposed brick walls, reclaimed wooden tables and an open kitchen with counter seating. In 2022, Maii became the first Native Hawaiian woman to win a James Beard Foundation award.

### What to Order

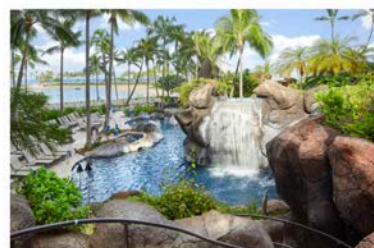
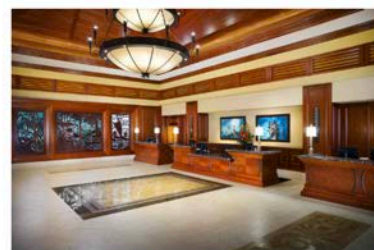
The global, all-day menu runs the gamut from light soups to substantial mains. The Korean bavette — local, grass-fed grilled beef with kochujang sauce, ginger-scallion fried rice, a sunny-side-up egg and Asian pear slaw — is a bestseller. Plus, there is always market fish (dinner only) and a pasta special (currently pork ragu, made from braised Kualoa ranch pork shoulder).

### Details

The menu has a list of the restaurant's suppliers, from farms like Hirabara and Ahiki, which provide everything from vegetables to Manoa Chocolate.

### Where to Stay

Set within the Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort, [Grand Waikikian, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) has pools, restaurants and bars on-site — everything you might need to keep you entertained on a Waikiki Beach vacation, plus a convenient downtown location.



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**Mercantile Dining & Provision  
in Colorado**

1701 Wynkoop Street, #155, Denver, CO 80202

**Why Go**

For over a decade, James Beard award-winning chef-owner Alex Seidel was behind Fruition Farms and Creamery, so he has firsthand knowledge of the farm-to-plate approach from both sides of the supply chain. At Mercantile Dining & Provision, which opened in 2014 on the edge of Union Station, he showcases elevated, seasonally driven comfort food (Seidel also owns Fruition Denver and Chook Chicken).

**What to Order**

Try sharing the summer melon and buffalo burrata or smoked heirloom corn risotto for dinner. Main dishes center around seafood (pan-seared diver scallops, red snapper and duck) or steak. Dishes are often created around the “what grows together, goes together” ethos so, for example, Hakurei turnips from Esoterra Farms are paired with new potatoes and Colorado lamb loin.

**Details**

Everything on the lunch menu can be ordered ahead to take out, including the Kewpie burger, seared tuna bowl and roasted baby beet salad.

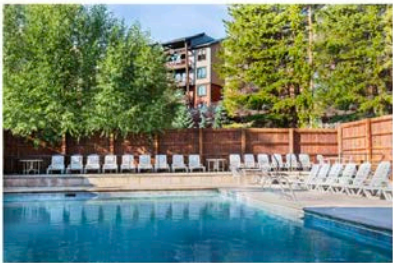
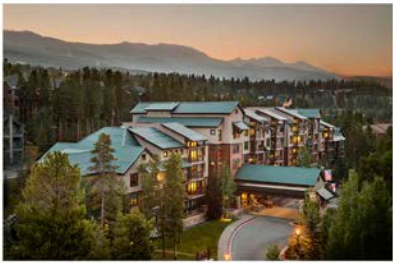


Seasonally driven comfort food is the mainstay at Mercantile Dining & Provision in Denver



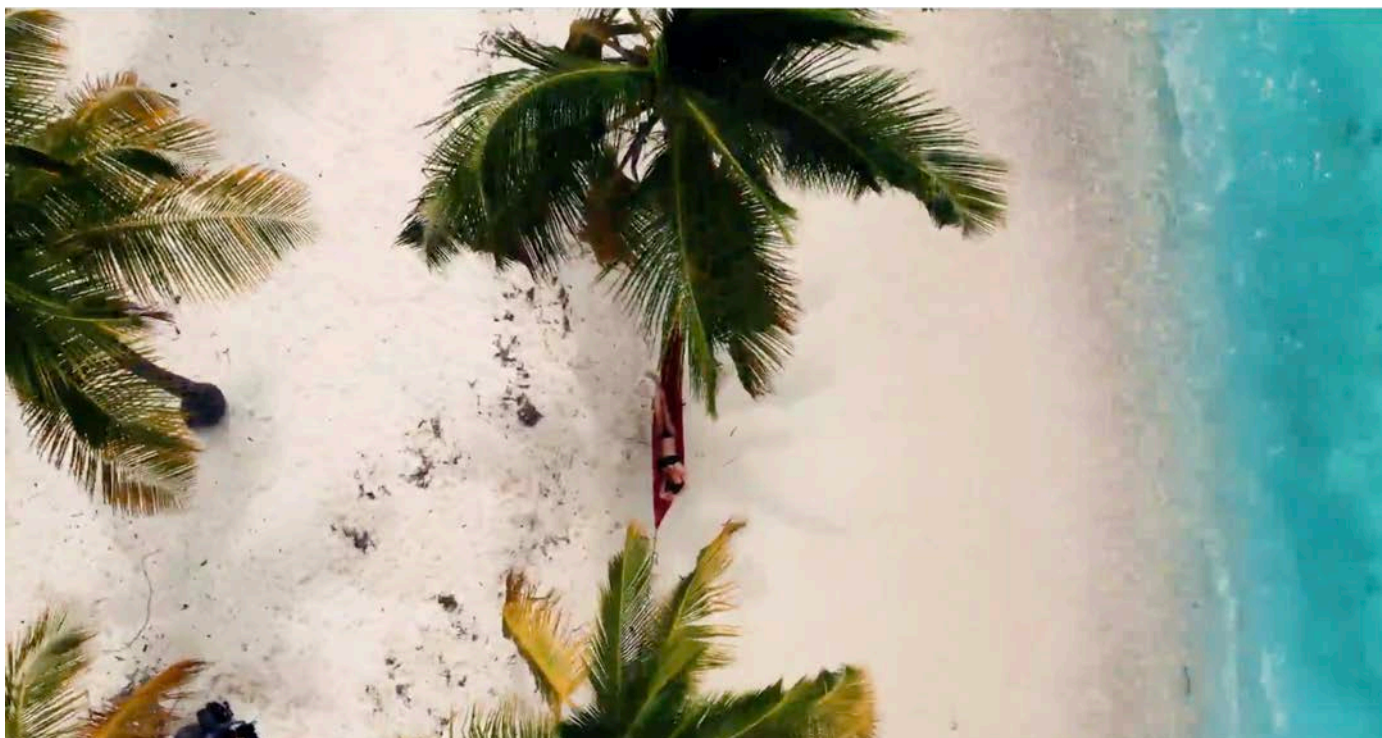
**Where to Stay**

At the base of Breckenridge Ski Resort, [Valdoro Mountain Lodge, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) has knockout views of the Rockies, easy access to the slopes in the winter and fly-fishing and whitewater rafting in the summer. It also has a wonderful heated pool and steam room for relaxing at the end of an activity-filled day.



**Member Resort Availability**

|                                                          | HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes<br>With HGV Max |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Vilar Do Golf                                            |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                     |
| Grand Waikikian, a Hilton<br>Grand Vacations Club        | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                     |
| Valdoro Mountain Lodge, a<br>Hilton Grand Vacations Club | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                     |



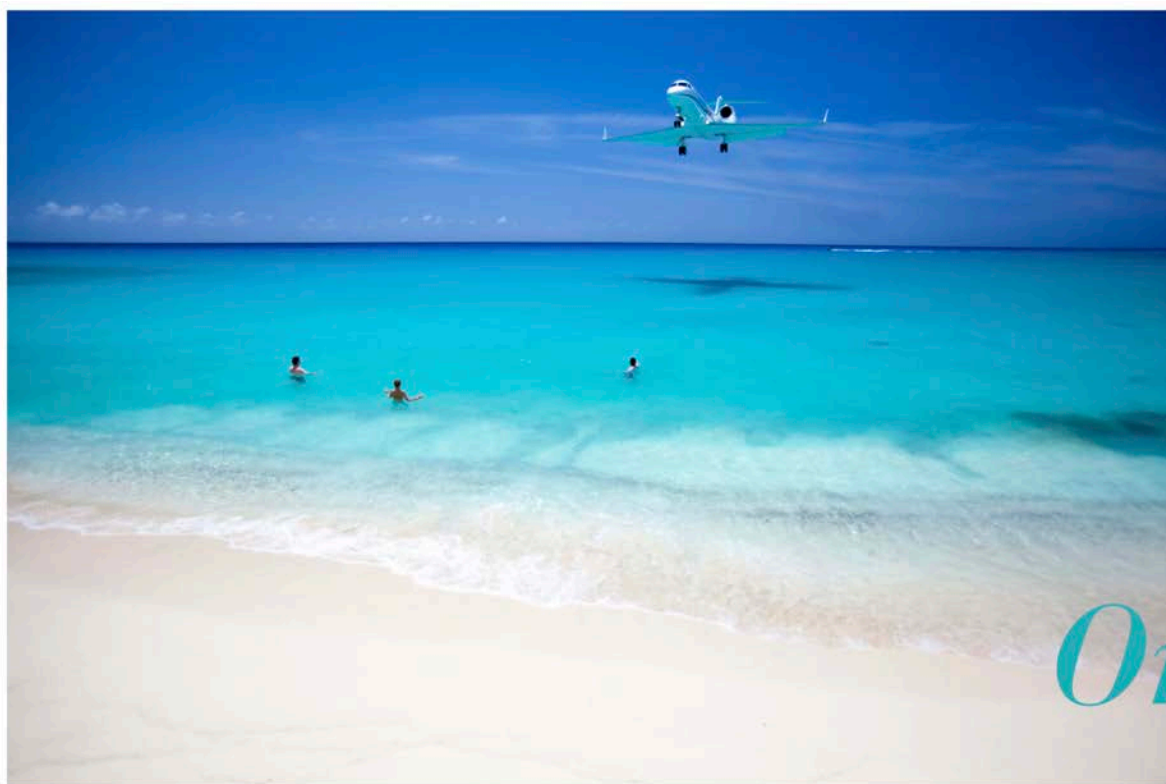
# One Island, Five Ways

## *Sint Maarten*

**Words:** Emily Mathieson

Discover the quirks and charm of this ultimate Caribbean paradise

With its unique blend of Dutch and French influences, Sint Maarten has a distinctive vibe of its own. Often referred to as “The Friendly Island” due to its welcoming atmosphere, it features breathtaking landscapes and a rich cultural heritage that melds Caribbean and European architecture, cuisine and languages. More laid-back and less commercialized than other Caribbean destinations, Sint Maarten offers something for everyone — whether you’re looking to lounge on a secluded beach, explore nature trails or shop for one-of-a-kind treasures. Here’s how to make the most of your visit.



*One*

Where the runway meets the waves: Sint Maarten's Maho Beach  
*Image by Getty Images*

### On the Beach

The beaches of Sint Maarten are legendary. Those seeking tranquility should head to Happy Bay, a lesser-visited gem reached by a short hike that rewards visitors with the picture-perfect Caribbean vista of soft white sands and turquoise-clear waters. It's an ideal spot to snorkel or lose yourself in a good book. By contrast, Maho Beach, on a pristine bay, is a busier spot that draws visitors wanting to experience the thrill of planes landing practically overhead. The beach is next to the end of the island's runway, initially built by the United States Army in the Second World War as a hub for search flights for German submarines. For a more adventurous beach day, head over to Guana Bay. Popular among surfers and hikers alike, Guana Bay offers stunning views and access to some of the island's most rugged and beautiful coastal trails.

## Two



The island's main town of Philipsburg is full of historic charm  
*Image by Getty Images*

### In the City

The small but charming main town of Philipsburg was founded in 1763 by John Phillips, a Dutch Navy captain and former pirate. Now it spreads outward from Font Street, which thrums with duty-free shops that attract cruise ship passengers with an eye on bargain-priced jewelry, perfume and electronics. Epitomizing the island's welcoming atmosphere is the wooden courthouse topped with a pineapple, a local symbol of hospitality. While the island was a salt trading post for many years, one of its most popular exports now is a unique liqueur called Guavaberry. Popular during Christmas, the local spirit is made from rum and wild guava berries. For a special experience, visit Colombier Traditions on the French side of the island, where you can learn more about the drink's history and purchase a bottle (or two) to take home.



Getting the party started: Carnival in Sint Maarten takes place twice a year  
*Image by Richard Hazel*

### At the Carnival

Sint Maarten's Carnival is one of the most vibrant and colorful events in the Caribbean. Held annually in February (French side) and April (Dutch side), the festivals are a lively celebration of the island's culture, featuring parades, music, dancing, elaborate costumes and festivities that go on for weeks. The event's highlight is the J'ouvert parade, where revelers covered in oil, paint or mud take to the streets in a spirited display. Whether you're participating or just watching, the Carnival is an unforgettable experience that embodies the island's vibrant spirit.

# Four



The island of Tintamarre is a scenic spot for nature lovers to explore  
Image by Getty Images

## On the Nature Reserve

For those who love the outdoors, Sint Maarten has several serene nature reserves and parks to explore. One of the most remarkable spots is Tintamarre — a small, uninhabited island on the French side that makes for a lovely day trip. With its empty beaches, clear waters and wildlife that includes rays and turtles, Tintamarre offers an away-from-it-all Robinson Crusoe experience. You can take a boat tour or rent a kayak to reach the island and spend the day snorkeling, sunbathing and exploring the secluded coves.

# Five



Dialing up the party vibes at Lotus nightclub inside an old cinema  
Image by Unsplash

## At the Music Venue

Sint Maarten is renowned for its lively nightlife, and islanders know how to have a good time at the many clubs, bars, casinos and music venues. For an authentic island experience, head to Maho Village, where you can dance the night away to reggae and soca music at places like the iconic Sunset Bar and Grill or the glamorous Lotus, inside an old cinema. To amp things up, you could go on a taxi bar tour, charter a party boat or hit one of the island’s many casinos. If you prefer a more relaxed evening, there are plenty of laid-back beachfront bars where you can enjoy a cocktail while watching the sun disappear over the Caribbean.

## Where to Stay

The stunning [Royal Palm, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) has a fantastic beachfront location with direct access to the shoreline. The resort is the perfect place to unwind and enjoy the relaxed island rhythm, thanks to spacious and airy Suites — all with ocean views — multiple dining options and rejuvenating spa treatments.



Royal Palm, a Hilton Vacation Club is in a picturesque coastal spot

## Member Resort Availability

|                                       | HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes<br>With HGV Max |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Royal Palm, a Hilton<br>Vacation Club |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                     |

# Orlando Beyond the Theme Parks

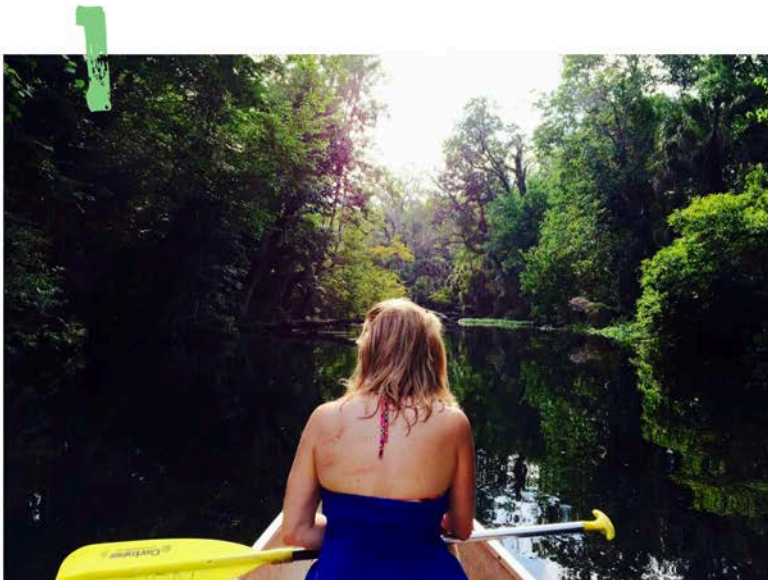
Take a break from the crowds and discover The City Beautiful's lesser-known treasures



Scenic Lake Eola Park in downtown Orlando, Florida

**Words:** Alexandra Owens    **Images:** Unsplash, Getty Images, Shutterstock

Orlando might be called the Theme Park Capital of the World — but that's not the only reason it attracts 74 million visitors a year. Natural wonders, endless shopping, rich history and an award-winning, multicultural food scene make Orlando a destination that's worth exploring time and time again for travelers of all ages. Whether you're swimming in freshwater springs or indulging in Michelin-starred sushi, magic abounds here. Read on for your guide to the city's must-dos.



## Immerse Yourself in the Great Outdoors

Orlando might be famous for its theme parks, but its natural playgrounds merit a visit, too. If you only have time for one, make it [Wekiwa Springs](#), home to one of the most beautiful swimming holes in Florida. Located less than 20 minutes from the center of the city, the stunning state park offers more than crystal-clear waters. Hike along meandering trails in 7,000 acres of lush forest or book a [guided kayak tour](#) on the Wekiva River, one of two National Wild and Scenic Rivers in the state. Along the way, keep an eye out for iconic Florida wildlife like alligators and manatees.

## Dig Into Orlando's Multicultural Food Scene

Move aside, Miami! Orlando is quickly becoming one of the top food destinations in the country. In 2024, its restaurants earned [more new Michelin Stars](#) than any other Florida city.

Many of Orlando's coveted tables are globally inspired, including omakase sushi hot spots [Natsu](#) and [Soseki](#). Craving more but want something low-key? Go to [Prato](#) for wood-fired pizza that's worthy of Italy, [Hunger Street Tacos](#) for creative Mexican street food and [Z Asian](#) for authentic Vietnamese noodle soup.



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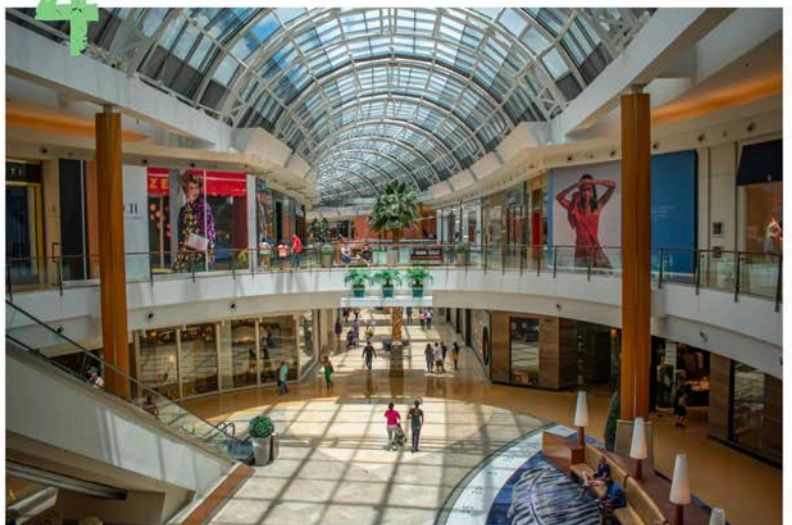


## Stroll Through Historic Gardens

Despite their proximity to downtown Orlando, the [Harry P. Leu Gardens](#) largely remain a hidden gem. The house at the center of the 50-acre botanical oasis, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, showcases turn-of-the-century Florida living and architecture. Wander below the canopies of 200-year-old oak trees and breathe in the sweet aroma of Florida's largest formal rose garden. Little ones will love the butterfly garden where vibrant blooms also attract hummingbirds in search of nectar.

## Treat Yourself to a Souvenir (or Two)

Some of the best shopping in Florida can be found in Orlando, which boasts everything from the luxurious [The Mall at Millenia](#) (pictured right) to the quaint [East End Market](#), packed with Central Florida's beloved artisans, makers and chefs. If you're looking for a great deal on designer fashions, head to [Orlando International Premium Outlets](#), right next door to [Tuscany Village, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#). The largest outlet mall in the state offers over 180 in-demand brands, including Coach, Armani, H&M, Nike, Disney, Saks Off 5th and more.



5



## Go on a Scenic Family Bike Ride

Soak up some sunshine and culture while biking along the 22-mile [West Orange Trail](#). Built on 19th-century railroad alignments, the award-winning paved path offers a peek at old Florida, passing directly through [Historic Downtown Winter Garden](#). Settled in the 1850s, this charming district grew significantly after the arrival of the railroad in the 1880s. Today, it's still full of bustling, one-of-a-kind boutiques, cafés and museums that are worthy of a stop. Don't miss the [Winter Garden Farmers Market](#), which has repeatedly been voted the best farmers market state- and nationwide, the interactive [fountain and splash park](#) and [Scoops Old Fashioned Ice Cream Store](#).

## Where to Stay



Located within easy reach of Orlando's top attractions, [Tuscany Village, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) provides everything you need for a fun-filled, multigenerational vacation. Perks include family-friendly amenities like a resort-style pool, kids' activity center, sports courts, on-site dining, state-of-the-art fitness center and manicured lakeside trails. Make yourself at home in one of the spacious Studios or 1-, 2- and 3-Bedroom Suites, complete with convenient kitchenettes or fully equipped kitchens and screened balconies or patios.

## Member Resort Availability

|                                                   | HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes<br>With HGV Max |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tuscany Village, a Hilton<br>Grand Vacations Club | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                     |



Hilton Grand Vacations’  
*10 Best Places to Travel in 2025*

From city lights to restorative retreats, HGV has amazing options for every type of vacation

**Words:** Delle Chan    **Images:** Unsplash & Getty Images

Already dreaming of your next getaway but can’t quite decide where to go? Thanks to Hilton Grand Vacations’ network of over 200 locations across the globe, the possibilities are boundless. Whether you’re looking for a foodie trip, a cultural immersion or a wellness break, there’s a resort that checks all the right boxes.

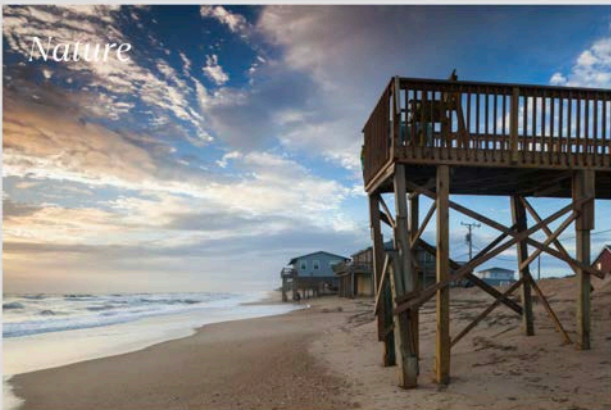
Click below to discover each of Hilton Grand Vacations’ top destinations for 2025



*Well-being*



*Art*

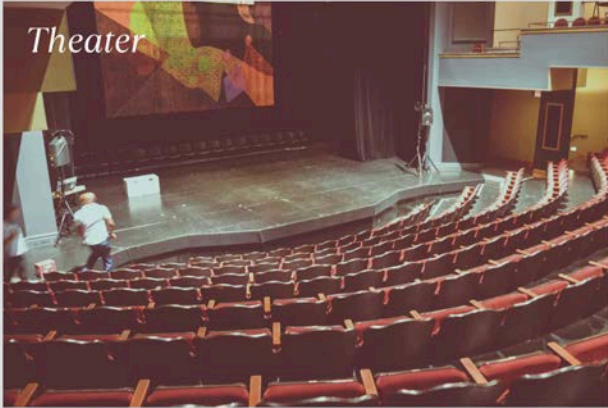


*Nature*

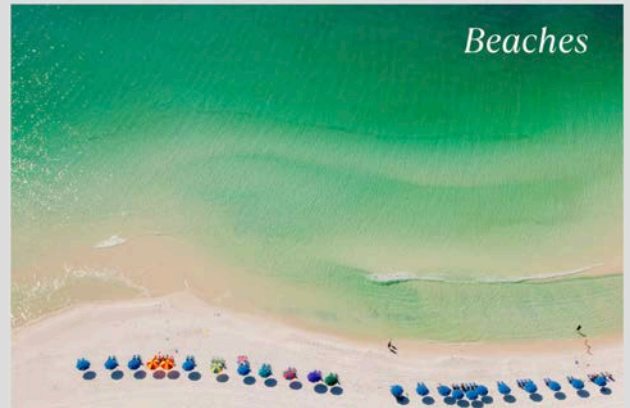


*Local Cuisine*

Theater



Beaches



Sports



Luxury



History



Solo Travel



## Well-being: Sedona, Arizona

Deeply rooted in spirituality and mysticism, this desert town is a popular wellness destination. This is due partly to its dramatic sandstone formations, which many believe are the sites of energy vortexes conducive to healing, while others claim that the rocks' striking reddish-orange hues enhance creative thinking. Elsewhere, Sedona's lush forests and spring-fed creeks offer a restorative escape for the mind and spirit.

**Where to stay:** The wellness theme continues at [The Ridge on Sedona, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) with amenities including heated pools, whirlpool spas and a fitness center. You can also enjoy a round or two at the adjacent 18-hole golf course.



## Art: New York City, New York

New York City's cultural clout is undeniable. After all, the Big Apple is home to numerous world-class art institutions, from stalwarts like [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) (the Met) and [The Museum of Modern Art](#) (MoMA) to recent openings like the [Banksy Museum](#), dedicated to the eponymous street artist. You can also discover over 1,000 galleries, including Gladstone Gallery, which specializes in blue-chip art.

### Where to stay:

At [The Quin, a Hilton Club](#), Guests can marvel at the hotel's impressive art collection — from contemporary works by renowned artists, such as Blek le Rat and Nick Walker, to an enormous digital art wall in the lobby.



## Nature: Kitty Hawk, North Carolina

Immerse yourself in the great outdoors in Kitty Hawk, which is a veritable biodiversity hotspot. Spend a day exploring the [Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve](#), a sprawling 1,890-acre sanctuary home to otters, turtles, raccoons and more. You'll also find unique, colorful flora, including four species of orchids. Intrepid travelers can sign up for a [kayak tour](#) for a truly unforgettable adventure.

**Where to stay:** Book a spacious Suite at the beautifully landscaped [Beachwoods, a Hilton Vacation Club](#), surrounded by a 100-acre maritime forest and right next to the Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve.



## Local cuisine: Maui, Hawaii

One of the best ways to discover a destination is through its food. Maui is dotted with excellent restaurants — from homely, family-run eateries such as [Leoda's](#), which doles out hearty sweet and savory pies, to trendy joints like [Duke's Beach House](#), which serves delectable seafood dishes. Don't forget to make room for dessert at [Maui Sweet Shoppe](#) and enjoy some of the best ice cream on the island.

**Where to stay:** Located a 15-minute walk from Duke's Beach House, [Hilton Vacation Club Ka'anapali Beach](#) features a wide range of amenities including an outdoor pool (complete with a poolside bar), an on-site restaurant, a fitness center, mini golf and more.



## Theater: Chicago, Illinois

Theater aficionados regularly flock to New York City for its Broadway shows, but Chicago also has a top-notch performing arts scene. The city has more than 200 performance venues — from cavernous halls in The Loop area to tiny storefront theaters scattered across residential neighborhoods. Take your pick from popular shows including "The Book of Mormon," "Back to the Future: The Musical" and more.

**Where to stay:** The sleek, stylish [Chicago Magnificent Mile, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) offers easy access to some of the Windy City's best theaters, including the [Chicago Theatre](#) and the [Goodman Theatre](#), which are both a 15-minute subway ride away.



## Beach: Destin, Florida

Part of Florida's beautiful Emerald Coast — named for the distinctive green hue of its waters — Destin is the perfect place for a beach getaway. There's plenty to see and do here, from jet-skiing to parasailing; you can even go on a [dolphin-spotting cruise](#). Once you've had your fill of sun, sea and sand, head to one of the area's golf courses to hone your swing.

**Where to stay:** Located along Miramar Beach, [Hilton Grand Vacations Club in Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort™](#) offers spacious, well-appointed Studios and Suites complete with large balconies — perfect for watching the sunset over Choctawhatchee Bay.



## Sports: Las Vegas, Nevada

If you're a football fan, be sure to catch the Las Vegas Raiders at [Allegiant Stadium](#). This is one of the most impressive sports venues in the country, with a retractable natural turf field and walls that open to amazing views of the Las Vegas Strip. Alternatively, catch the Vegas Golden Knights in an ice hockey game at the enormous T-Mobile Arena. If you can't get tickets, fret not — there are plenty of excellent sports bars in town, like [Caesars Sportsbook](#), which has a 98-inch screen for the ultimate viewing experience.

**Where to stay:** Stay in the heart of the action at [Flara, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), located right on the Las Vegas Strip. Each Studio or Suite has either a kitchenette or a fully equipped kitchen, plus floor-to-ceiling windows for unbeatable views of the city below.



## Luxury: Oahu, Hawaii

For an indulgent escape, look no further than Oahu, home to several world-class spas and restaurants. Decompress with a relaxing rubdown at [Abhasa Spa](#), which offers pampering treatments in a tropical garden setting. Then, enjoy a memorable fine-dining experience at oceanfront restaurant [53 By the Sea](#), where you can tuck into exquisite seafood dishes made with local, seasonal ingredients.

**Where to stay:** Live in the lap of luxury and book a Penthouse Suite at [The Grand Islander, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), which features a private balcony, a spa-like bathroom with a deep-soaking tub, a separate formal dining area and a fully equipped kitchen.



## History: Williamsburg, Virginia

Williamsburg brims with old-world charm. At its heart lies [Colonial Williamsburg](#), the largest living history museum in the world, where costumed actors depict what life was like during the 18th century. You can also trace the footsteps of Pocahontas and John Smith at [Historic Jamestowne](#), the site of the first permanent British settlement in North America back in 1607.

**Where to stay:** Set on a former plantation, [The Historic Powhatan, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) occupies an 18th-century manor house. Amenities include indoor and outdoor pools, on-site fishing ponds, a fitness center, racquetball and tennis courts and more.



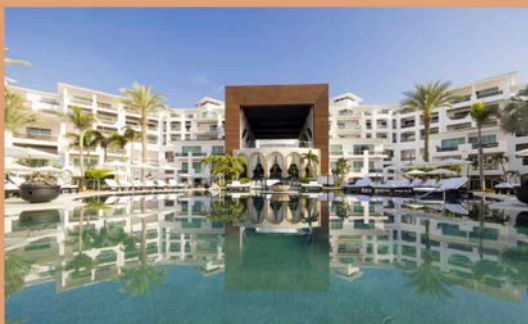
## Solo Travel: Cave Creek, Arizona

Embark on a fun-filled solo adventure in Cave Creek, where you'll find a small-town vibe, friendly locals and year-round sunshine. Channel your inner cowboy or cowgirl on a ride with [Arizona Horseback Adventures](#), sign up for a bourbon tasting at [Carefree Spirits Distillery](#) and explore the rugged trails of [Cave Creek Regional Park](#). Then stop by [Harold's Cave Creek Corral](#) for some live music and country dancing.

**Where to stay:** Set in Cave Creek's desert foothills, [Rancho Mañana, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) offers a cozy home away from home with comfortable Suites kitted out with kitchens and fireplaces. Take a dip in the outdoor heated pool or gear up for a round of golf at the Rancho Mañana Golf Club next door.



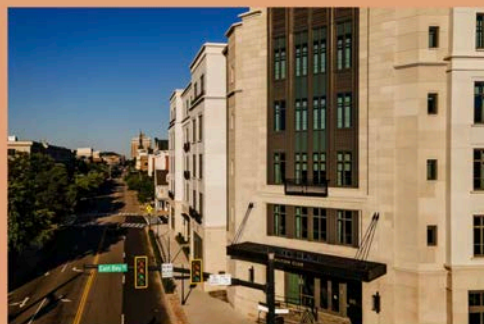
### Honorable Mention – Wellbeing



#### *San Jose Del Cabo, Mexico*

Relax and unwind in Cabo San Lucas, one of Mexico's most popular resort towns. At the oceanfront [Cabo Azul, a Hilton Vacation Club](#), you can take a relaxing dip in the tri-level infinity pool or lounge on white-sand beaches lapped by cerulean waters.

### Honorable Mention – Art



#### *Charleston, South Carolina*

If you've set your sights on Charleston, be sure to visit the [Gibbes Museum of Art](#) where you can enjoy more than 10,000 works. Make your base at [Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club](#), where the Studios and Suites are adorned with locally curated art.

### Honorable Mention – Nature



#### *Whistler, Canada*

For a mountain getaway, [Hilton Grand Vacations Club Whistler](#) is your ideal base. Here, you can ski Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains to your heart's content in the winter and explore the area's lush forests and pristine lakes in the summer.

### Honorable Mention – Local cuisine



#### *San Juan Capistrano, California*

In Orange County, [Trevor's at the Tracks](#) — an easy 10-minute drive from [Riviera Beach & Shores, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) — is known for its creative take on New American fare, while [Chart House](#) is the place to be for quality seafood and stellar ocean views.

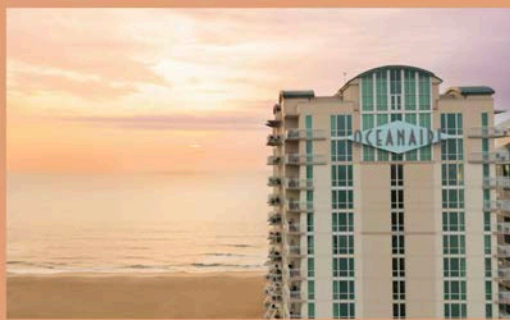
### Honorable Mention – Theater



#### *Orlando, Florida*

Beyond its famous theme parks, Orlando also plays host to Broadway shows like “The Lion King” and “Mean Girls.” If you’re taking the kids, book a 2- or 3-Bedroom Suite at the family-friendly [Aqua Sol, a Hilton Vacation Club](#), which has an on-site water park.

### Honorable Mention – Beach



#### *Virginia Beach, Virginia*

This coastal city in southeastern Virginia offers miles and miles of uninterrupted sand and surf. Check into a contemporary Studio or Suite at [Oceanaire, a Hilton Vacation Club](#), located along the Virginia Beach Boardwalk.

### Honorable Mention – Sports



#### *Miami, Florida*

Home to five major league teams, including Miami Heat and Inter Miami CF, the Magic City is a paradise for sports enthusiasts. You can’t go wrong with a stay at [McAlpin Ocean Plaza, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), which offers easy access to the beach, restaurants and nightlife.

### Honorable Mention – Luxury



#### *Palm Desert, California*

This vibrant city in the Coachella Valley is another great place for a luxury vacation thanks to its upscale spas and top-notch restaurants. Check into [Hilton Grand Vacations Club Palm Desert](#), close to popular attractions including the El Paseo Shopping District.

### Honorable Mention – History



#### *Tuscany, Italy*

Famous for being the birthplace of the Renaissance, Tuscany’s historic cathedrals, ancient monuments and museums are a must-see. During your trip, be sure to visit the intriguing [Uffizi Gallery](#) in Florence before returning to your elegant Suite at [Borgo alle Vigne, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), a little over an hour’s drive away.

### Honorable Mention – Solo Travel



#### *The Big Island, Hawaii*

Hawaii is a popular honeymoon destination, but it’s also great for solo travelers thanks to its warm hospitality. If you’re planning to stay on The Big Island, book a 1-Bedroom Suite at [Kings’ Land, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), which comes with a private lanai, perfect for sipping a morning coffee.

Member Resort Availability

|                                                                | HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary<br>Escapes With HGV<br>Max |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| The Ridge on Sedona, a Hilton Vacation Club                    |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Cabo Azul, a Hilton Vacation Club                              |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| The Quin, a Hilton Club                                        | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Liberty Place, a Hilton Club                                   | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Beachwoods, a Hilton Vacation Club                             |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Hilton Grand Vacations Club Whistler                           |         | ✓                       |          | ✓                        | ✓                        | ✓                                        |
| Hilton Vacation Club Ka'anapali Beach                          |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Riviera Beach & Shores, a Hilton Vacation Club                 |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Chicago Magnificent Mile, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club        | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Aqua Sol, a Hilton Vacation Club                               |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Hilton Grand Vacations Club in Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort |         | ✓                       |          | ✓                        | ✓                        | ✓                                        |
| Oceanaire, a Hilton Vacation Club                              |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Elara, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club                           | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| McAlpin Ocean Plaza, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club             | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| The Grand Islander, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club              | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Hilton Grand Vacations Club Palm Desert                        |         | ✓                       |          | ✓                        | ✓                        | ✓                                        |
| The Historic Powhatan, a Hilton Vacation Club                  |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Borgo alle Vigne, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club                | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Rancho Mañana, a Hilton Vacation Club                          |         | ✓                       | ✓        | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
| Kings' Land, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club                     | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                        |
|                                                                |         |                         |          |                          |                          |                                          |

POSTCARD FROM ...

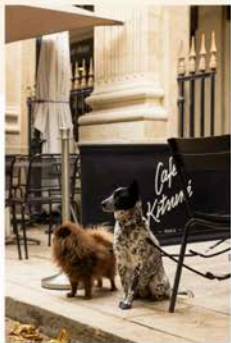
# PARIS



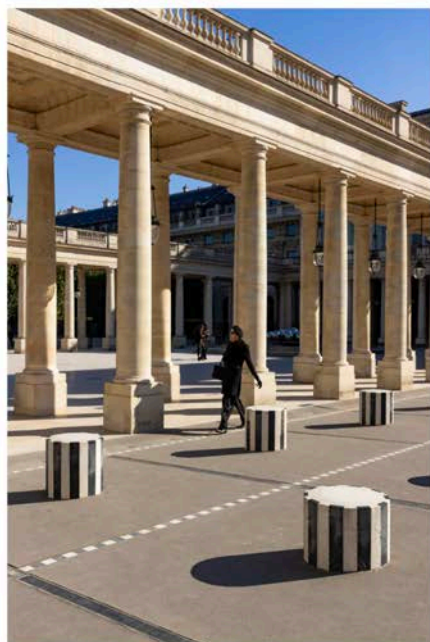
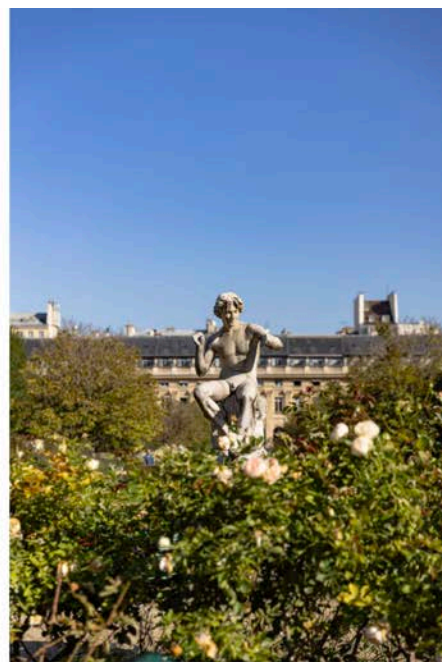
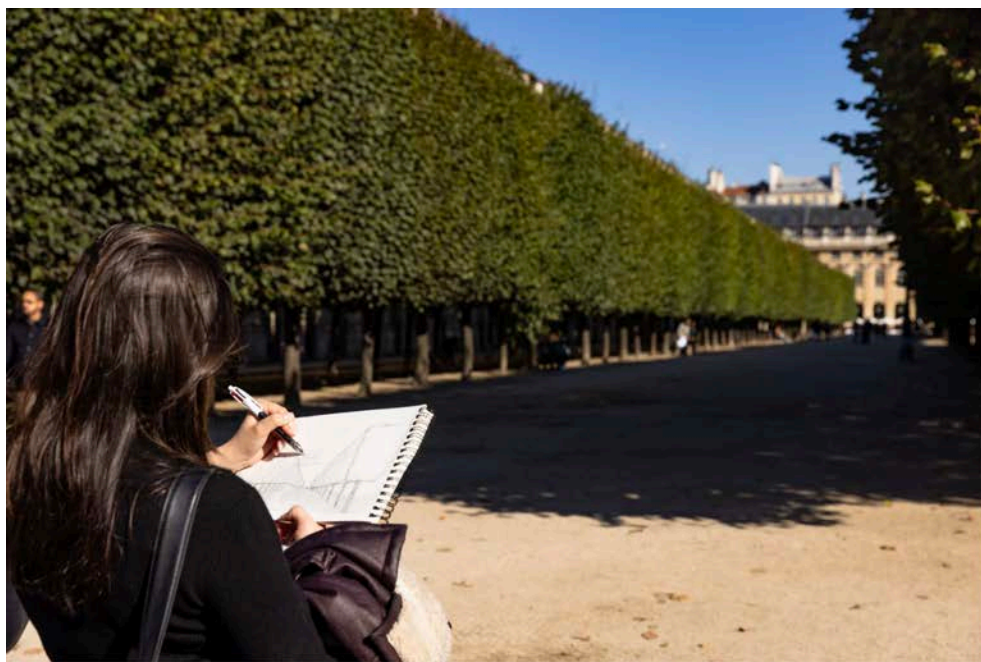
Explore the magical views, sights and culinary treasures of the City of Lights with our photo guide to the French capital

**Words:** Lindsey Tramuta **Photography:** Laura Stevens

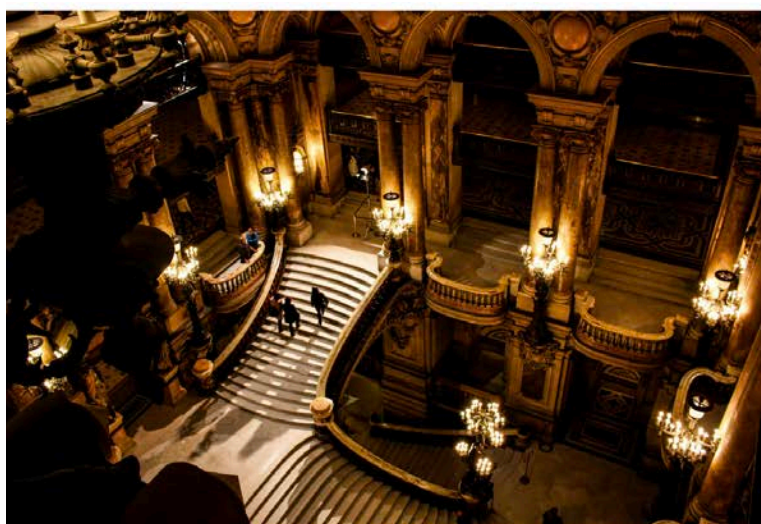
*The allure of Paris, from its storybook sidewalk cafés and lush parks to its fragrant bakeries dotting every street corner, can be felt in each of the French capital's 20 arrondissements (districts). The key to taking in its magic is to explore leisurely; one spectacular and delicious stop at a time.*



*Begin at the city's beating heart with a stroll through the Palais Royal and its manicured gardens, dating back to the 17th century. Surrounding the gardens are elegant arcades that house art galleries, designer and vintage shops and pocket-sized bistros like Kitsuné Café. We suggest ordering a café crème or a hot chocolate to go and relaxing on one of the olive-green Fermob chairs facing the central fountain — Parisian icons in their own right.*

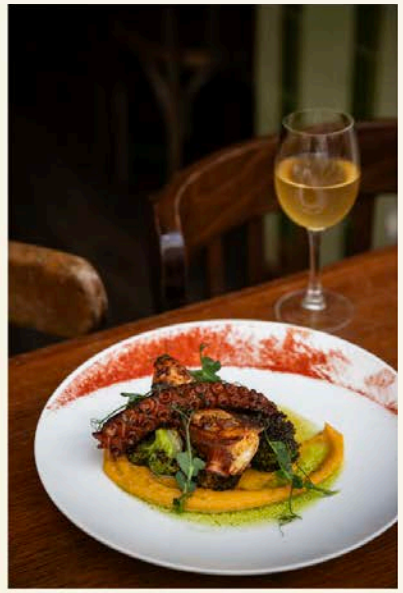


*On the southern edge of the Palais Royal, you'll pass through the Cour d'Honneur courtyard, made famous by the artist Daniel Buren's contemporary art installation of 260 black and white marble columns of varying heights. It's the perfect place to take a few photos and consider how the columns contrast with the Palace's stately architecture.*



*Head to Galeries Lafayette, only a few blocks from the Opéra Garnier, for a shopping break. The turn-of-the-century Art Nouveau jewel of a department store is known as much for its opulent domed roof with stained glass windows as it is for its vast selection of French fashion brands and emerging designers.*





*For dinner in a space that feels beautifully frozen in time, make a reservation at Poulette. This classic, family-run Parisian bistro with zinc countertops, gently worn-in chairs and stunning Art Nouveau tiles laid the backdrop for Brad Pitt’s 60th birthday celebrations. Order the steak frites or pork belly or opt for the fish of the day.*



*After your meal, keep the evening going with tickets to the most famous windmill in Paris — the 135-year-old Moulin Rouge and its legendary cabaret show “Féerie.” It is still the best place to see world-class dancers in shimmering costumes kick up their heels in high-energy can-can routines.*



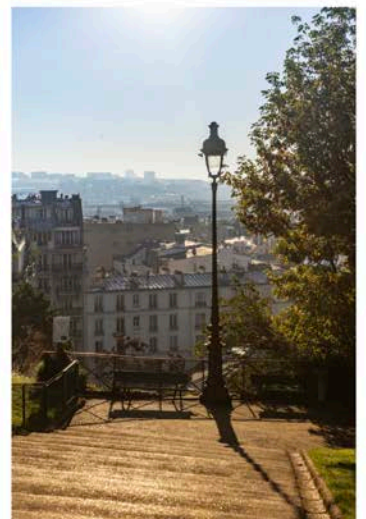
*Culture awaits along the river at the Musée d'Orsay, a former railway station turned museum that houses the world's most extensive collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works. Take your time discovering thousands of paintings, photographs and sculptures, and don't leave without swinging by the 5th floor for river views from behind the station's mammoth clock and kicking back for a glass of wine at Café Campana.*



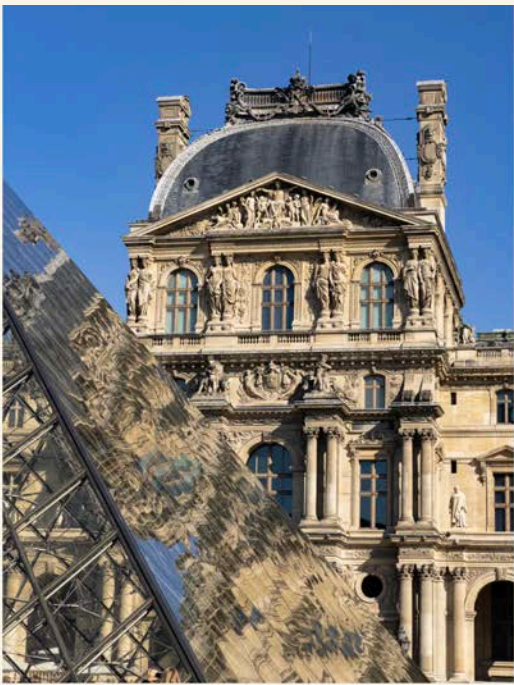
*Paris's iconic Art Deco métro signs, with their green ironwork and distinctive lettering, are more than mere street furniture. These elegant sentinels, designed by Hector Guimard in 1900, capture the city's Belle Époque spirit.*



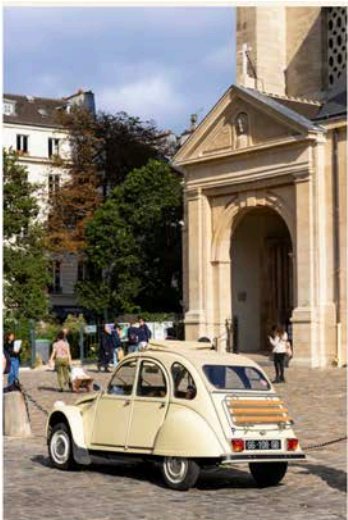
*Do as the locals do and pick up something sweet for your goûter, or afternoon snack, at Mamiche. The South Pigalle neighborhood bakery will have an abundant display of breads, classic French viennoiseries and comforting cakes, but Parisians know the chocolate babka, orange blossom brioche and vanilla cream puff soar above the rest.*

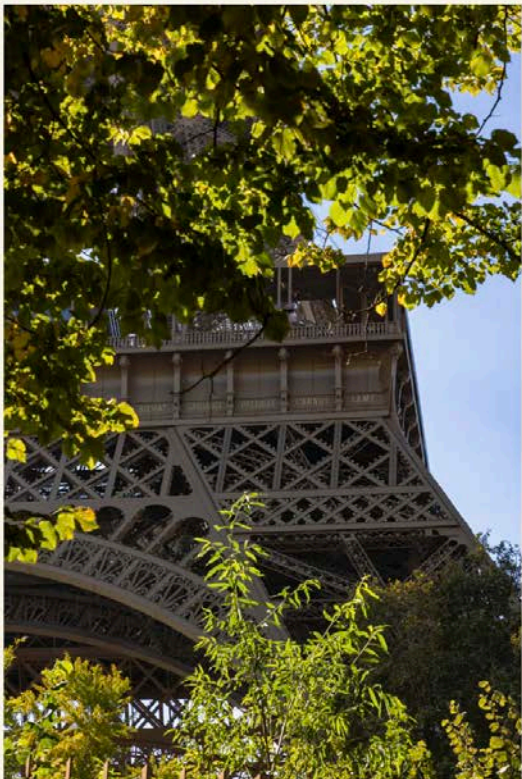


*Make your way north — on foot or by funicular — to the hilltop neighborhood of Montmartre, where the 19th-century Sacré Coeur Basilica towers over the city. Admission to the church is free, but with tickets you can ascend the dome's 300 winding steps for an unforgettable panoramic view of Paris.*

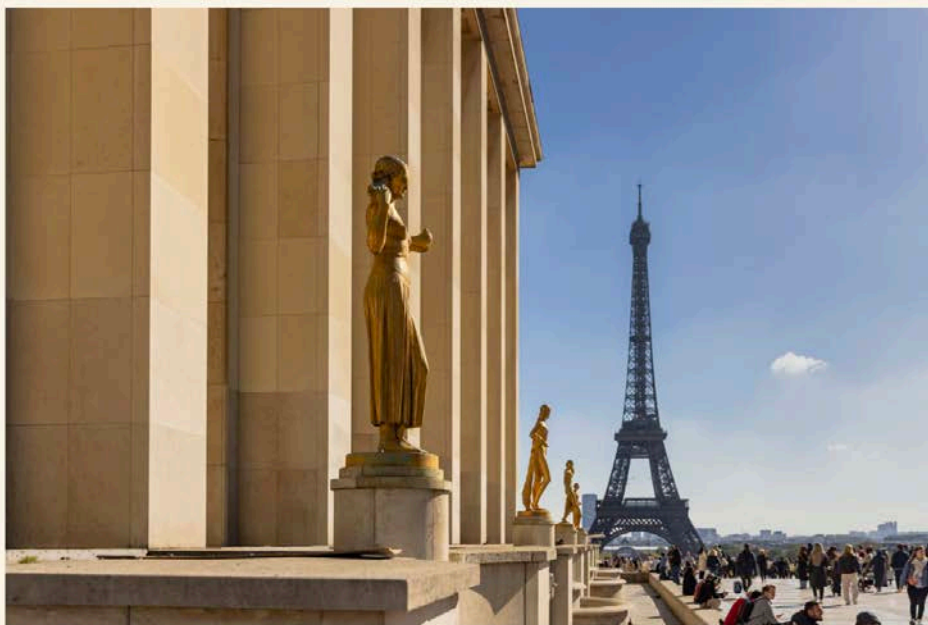


*In Paris, each quartier has its own identity. In The Marais, aristocratic mansions house buzzy cheese and wine joints and chic boutiques like the charming beauty and fragrance brand Officine Universelle Buly. Nearby, ornate archways reveal the iconic Louvre building and across the Seine, Saint-Germain-des-Prés maintains its intellectual spirit and is still the place to come for bookshops old and new.*





No visit to Paris is complete without taking in the Eiffel Tower. The only thing better than glancing at the Iron Lady from Champs de Mars Park or climbing up to the top is dining inside of it. At Le Jules Verne, the Michelin-starred restaurant on the second floor, you can experience the best of contemporary French cooking with a multi-course tasting menu where highlights include the chef's signature langoustine ravioli and luscious chocolate soufflé.



## Where to Stay



Located near the Château de Vincennes, a quick metro ride from Paris, [Royal Regency Paris Vincennes](#) offers a relaxing retreat from the bustle of the big city. Each Apartment provides a quiet escape with plenty of amenities, from access to a billiard table to a relaxing sauna.

## Member Resort Availability

|                               | HGVClub | HGVClub With Max | The Club | The Club With Max | Extraordinary Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes With Max |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Royal Regency Paris Vincennes |         | ✓                | ✓        | ✓                 |                       | ✓                              |



# Venture to New Horizons

Getaways around the globe

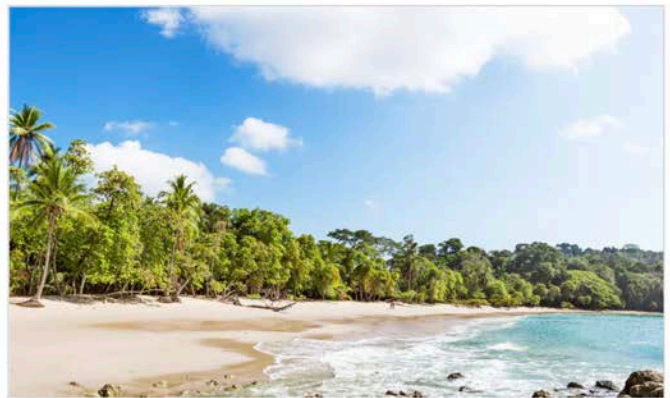
Explore more extraordinary destinations and beautiful resorts with Destination Xchange. Reserve your stay now to enjoy generous accommodations with the comforts of home and memories to last a lifetime.

## An Incredible Vacation Is a Step Away



### Bask in Sun-Kissed Days in Southern California

Beyond its breathtaking coasts, Southern California's mild climate offers endless outdoor adventures from hiking trails to surf-ready waves.



### Immerse Yourself in Costa Rica

Lush rainforests, beautiful beaches and a vibrant night life create an unforgettable stay in paradise everyone will enjoy.



### Embark on Lively Adventures in Brazil

More than just the allure of Rio, this diverse destination offers serene beaches, lively cities and natural beauty. There's something for every traveler.



### Explore Rugged Coastal Charm in Outer Banks, North Carolina

Unspoiled coastline, charming seaside towns and a rich history offer a perfect blend of relaxation and adventure.

## Destination Xchange Program Availability

| HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes<br>With HGV Max |
|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|         |                         | ✓        | ✓                        | ✓                        | ✓                                     |

THE CARRY-ON

# SUNSHINE STYLE

Brighten up your summer vacation with these color-pop picks



**Merit Beauty Great Skin  
Moisturizer**

**\$38 / £29 / €34**

The latest release from celebrity-loved Merit, this multi-functional moisturizer is a brilliant, does-it-all packing hack. The lightweight texture is suitable for all skin types: Hyaluronic acid counters the drying effects of travel while oat extract and glycerin help soothe. Plus, it acts as a primer if you want to follow the hydrating pick-me-up with make-up.



**Rains Boonie Hat**

**\$27 / £20 / €24**

Danish brand Rains is the cool kid go-to for high-style waterproof gear. Its popular rubber raincoats come in a kaleidoscope of chic muted colors but for something more eye-catching, opt for this silver wide-brimmed hat. It beats wrestling with an umbrella and is just as handy come rain or shine.



**Pleasing Big Lip Moisture  
Balm**

**\$25 / £19 / €22**

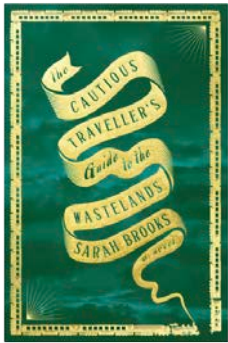
Harry Styles's unisex beauty and apparel line launched with cult nail polishes in shades like Hairy Mermaid and Granny's Pink Pearls, all made with plant-based solvents and now spanning fragrances to knitted scrunchies. This colorless balm is infused with cooling peppermint and nourishing honey to seal in moisture and repair winter-battered lips. Very pleasing indeed.



**Bang & Olufsen Beoplay H95  
Over-ear Headphones**

**\$999 / £879 / €904**

Tune out the noise of any journey with these elegant headphones. The soft cream lambskin and memory foam ear cups will keep the high-fidelity sound supremely comfortable for every minute of the up to 38-hour battery life. They also come with a gold-tone aluminum case for stashing safely in your carry-on.



**A Cautious Traveller's Guide  
to the Wasteland by Sarah  
Brooks**

**\$26.96 / £20 / €24**

The compelling novel is set onboard the Trans-Siberian Express in an alternative 19th century, thundering on a dangerous journey through an empty yet ecologically rich swathe of Asia and Russia known as "the Wasteland." Sarah Brooks' gripping debut is an international bestseller and a transporting read, whether you're traveling near or far this season.



**State Bags Bensen Toiletry  
Kit**

**\$68 / £52 / €62**

This Brooklyn company is a hit with the school crowd for its fun and durable backpacks but also does a solid line of luggage for grown-ups, including totes, weekend holdalls and this gold hanging toiletry kit. The tri-compartment bag hooks up for easy access and has mesh slots and a separate snap-off waterproof pouch to keep all of your lotions and potions organized.



**TOMS Alpargata Plus Shoes**

**\$69.95 / £53 / €63**

The original socially conscious shoe brand still puts one-third of its profits toward grassroots projects and has given away 100 million pairs of shoes. Their famous Alpargata slip-on style doesn't just do good, but feels good, too, with its roomy fit, custom CloudBound insoles and padded heels. It's the ultimate travel shoe.



**Allmansright Kraf Stuff Sack**

**\$28 / £22 / €25**

Inspired by the Swedish tradition of allemansrätt (the right to roam), allmansright designs ultralight gear to help everyone explore the great outdoors. The minimalist bag is handy whether hiking trails or around town and is made from innovative Dyneema — a fiber that's 15 times stronger than steel, yet light enough to float on water.



**RIMOWA Essential Cabin Suitcase**

**\$900 / £680 / €806**

Blending cutting-edge technology with timeless style, RIMOWA is the in-the-know, jet-setter luggage brand of choice. The Essential cabin has everything you'll need, from ultra-lightweight perfect for airplane cabins to TSA-approved locks and a unique Multiwheel® system ensuring a smooth glide when traveling across any terrain. This is an investment piece that comes with a lifetime warranty.



**Solios Rainforest Classic Watch**

**\$320 / £244 / €290**

The ethical Canadian brand is on a mission to eliminate single-use batteries from the watch industry with its clever solar-powered timepieces. Just two hours of exposure to light (natural or artificial) gives six months of charge and for every watch sold, Solios donates 1% toward restoring the rainforest through the Rainforest Trust.



**54 Thrones African Body Butter**

**\$24 / £20 / €18**

Named after the 54 countries that make up Africa, Black-founded beauty brand 54 Thrones sources its botanical ingredients from cooperatives and artisans across the continent. Their shea-rich hand and body butter is super-hydrating and features scents ranging from Nigerian lemongrass or Kenyan hibiscus to this one packed with Ugandan vanilla and Ethiopian honey.



**Nodpod Silk Weighted Eye Blanket**

**\$62 / £47 / €56**

Sleep masks can soothe every step of your travels, whether trying to nap on the plane or creating a cocoon-like night in a new bedroom. Nodpod's unique design not only blocks out the light but also has four pods filled with microbeads to target key pressure points for deeper relaxation.



48 HOURS IN ...

# Charleston

For a weekend of history, southern charm and award-winning food, head to Charleston

Words: Stratton Lawrence Illustrations: Michael Driver

Historic charm, gorgeous beaches and bucket-list meals await with this insider's itinerary for an enchanting two-day trip to Charleston



## Day One 9 A.M.

Charleston's oldest homes date to the early 1700s. Strolling among its well-preserved neighborhoods can be the highlight of a trip. Get oriented on the [Gateway Walk](#), a three-block circuit that meanders from the French Quarter to Harleston Village. Along the way, you'll walk through the gardens and cemeteries of four churches, as well as by [the South's oldest library](#).



12 P.M.

Walk a block down King Street to [Millers All Day](#) for a Hot Honey Chicken Donut smothered in peach preserves. If you need a nudge into full vacation mode, treat yourself to the signature Bloody Mary with candied bacon and bourbon. You're in the heart of King Street shopping here — dip into [Croghan's Jewel Box](#) after lunch to see the family-run business that's helped Charlestonians look their best for over a century.

2 P.M.

An hour in the [Gibbes Museum of Art](#) offers many benefits: stunning oil paintings and modern art (including [a room-sized installation by sculptor Patrick Dougherty](#)), a historical primer in Charleston culture and a welcome respite from the afternoon heat in a gorgeous, naturally lit space.



### 7 P.M.

Cap your day with a stunning seafood tower at [The Ordinary](#), a temple to the Atlantic's local harvest from chef/owner Mike Lata. Save room for an oyster slider and a plate of blue crab spaghetti to share. Then walk back to [Liberty Place Charleston](#), a [Hilton Club](#) via [Marion Square](#) to see the Holiday Tree of Lights, an annual 64-foot-tall sculpture flanked by trees with trunks wrapped in white lights.



### 4 P.M.

Downtown Charleston could fill a week of exploration, but the city's beaches are a big reason people never leave. Drive out to the Isle of Palms — with a slight detour down Sullivan's Island's Middle Street — to walk on the wide beach before grabbing a drink (or an evening show) at [The Windjammer](#), an oceanfront live music venue that helped launch Hootie & the Blowfish.

## Day Two 8 A.M.

If you're up early, the iconic Ravenel Bridge is nearby and offers incredible views over Charleston on a run or walk.

Or just relax and enjoy the on-site [Beech Café](#) before the day's itinerary begins just steps away.



### 10:30 A.M.

The [International African American Museum](#) presents the stark reality of our nation's history — its waterfront locale sits atop the wharf where enslaved people first entered America — and a celebration of Black culture, music and achievements.



### 12 P.M.

Drive ten minutes north of town to [Bertha's Kitchen](#), a beloved neighborhood café serving smothered pork chops, collard greens and cornbread since 1981. Take note: it is only open Weds-Sat from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### 3 P.M.

Back downtown, board the *Dolphin Queen* for a tour of Charleston Harbor with [Flipper Finders](#). You'll see [Fort Sumter](#), the *USS Yorktown* and the Battery from a unique perspective — and hopefully get a view of the harbor's resident dolphin pod. Grab a glass of icy "frosé" at the waterfront [Island Cabana Bar](#) to cap the experience.



### 8 P.M.

Conclude your trip with a classic Charleston meal, dining in the courtyard at [Circa 1886](#). In a city where restaurants compete for national awards, the seasonal tasting menus at this stalwart within the grounds of the stately Wentworth Mansion are consistent stunners, from roasted local grouper with butternut squash ravioli to quail breasts over Carolina Gold rice.



## Where to Stay

Steps from both the waterfront and King Street's shops and restaurants, [Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club](#) puts you in the heart of the city. Relax on the second-floor terrace with cold-pressed juice from the on-site Beech Café and Marketplace.

After exploring the town or working up a sweat in the fitness center, chill out with a signature drink from Muddle Cocktail Bar beside the modern, luxurious lobby. There's a comfortable option for everyone among the Studios and 1- and 2-Bedroom Suites, and the best of the Holy City is just outside your door.



Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club has historic charm and a central city location

## Club Program Resort Availability

|                                            | HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes<br>With HGV Max |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Liberty Place Charleston, a<br>Hilton Club | ✓       | ✓                       |          | ✓                        |                          | ✓                                     |



# Uncork Adventure in Virginia's Wine Country and Wilderness

From outdoor explorations on the Appalachian Trail and Shenandoah River to some of the best wineries in the county, the Shenandoah Valley has something for everyone

The Shenandoah Valley offers one-of-a-kind experiences with breathtaking scenery around every corner. From hiking and horseback riding to photography and biking, the region has an activity or destination for every outdoor enthusiast and every skill level. Shenandoah National Park offers visitors more than 500 miles of trails and endless panoramic views along the 105-mile Skyline Drive. Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Virginia's first national park combines beautiful waterfalls, fields of wildflowers and plentiful wildlife in a nature-lover's paradise.

The valley is also home to remarkable underground wonders. Luray Caverns, a U.S. National Landmark and the largest cave system in the eastern United States, showcases stunning formations like Titania's Veil, Frozen Fountain, and Empress Column. Nearby, Shenandoah Caverns dazzles visitors with its Rainbow Lake, where iridescent mineral deposits create a vibrant spectrum of colors.



## Sips with sights

Did you know Virginia is also a destination for wine lovers? The Shenandoah Valley's high elevations, fertile soil and favorable growing season make this region ideal for a variety of wine grapes. You'll find award-winning wineries are as plentiful as vineyard tours and events. Wet your taste buds and drink up the valley scenery in Virginia wine country.

## *Step back in time in Charlottesville*

Virginia is rich with historical battlefields, presidential estates and fascinating destinations that were the foundation of our nation. On the outskirts of the Shenandoah Valley, Charlottesville was home to Thomas Jefferson, a Founding Father and third United States president. He not only designed the University of Virginia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, but also established it as the first nonreligious university. After a tour of UVA, dine at Charlottesville's oldest restaurant, The Virginian, which opened in 1923. Or learn more about Thomas Jefferson at his mansion on the expansive 5,000-acre grounds of Monticello. Whether you're seeking outdoor adventures, underground wonders, world-class wines or a journey through America's past, this enchanting region of Virginia promises unforgettable memories and a deep connection to both nature and history.



### RCI Program Availability

| HGVClub | HGVClub<br>With HGV Max | The Club | The Club<br>With HGV Max | Extraordinary<br>Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes<br>With HGV Max |
|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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# The Most Exciting New Cruise Ships for the Year Ahead



Norwegian Aqua has mega-resort-style amenities

2025 will be a big year for new cruise ships. Among the most eagerly awaited are the *Norwegian Aqua*, *Sun Princess* and *Star of the Seas*. Spots for 2025 cruises are filling up fast and new ships are typically the first to sell out. To ensure you don't miss out on these groundbreaking experiences, we recommend booking your cabin now. Pay with points, cash or a combination of both to secure your spot on one of these floating marvels today.



From top: *Sun Princess*, *Star of the Seas*, *Norwegian Aqua*

## Norwegian Aqua

*Norwegian Aqua* will feature the same mega-resort-style amenities we know and love, plus more open spaces and personalized service. It's perfect for multi-generational families and cruisers looking for a higher-end experience but who also enjoy the variety of amenities found on big ships. Highlights include:

- **An industry-first Aqua Slidecoaster** with a three-story hybrid rollercoaster and waterslide.
- **A new-to-Norwegian Glow Court** within the digital sports complex with an interactive LED floor offering a variety of interactive activities by day and transforming into a nightclub in the evening.
- **A range of itineraries** including Port Canaveral to the Bahamas and the Caribbean or from New York to Bermuda.

## Sun Princess

Princess® is entering an all-new cruise era with the *Sun Princess*. The new ship is larger, livelier, more kid-friendly and packed with more dining and entertainment options than any other Princess ship. Some new elements to look out for include:

- **New family-friendly activities** on the top deck like a ropes course, hang-gliding, kids' clubs and more.
- **New restaurants and bars** providing over 30 dining options, featuring three new Asian eateries and a new partnership with celebrity butcher Dario Cecchini.
- **Sanctuary Suites**, a separate suite complex offering inclusive amenities, access to exclusive restaurants and a pool and lounge area.
- **Itineraries** sailing the Mediterranean from Athens, Barcelona, Rome, Naples and Istanbul or the Caribbean from Fort Lauderdale.

## Star of the Seas

Get ready for the ultimate family vacation as the new *Star of the Seas* joins her sister ship, *Icon of the Seas*, to share the title of "world's largest cruise ship." Setting sail from Port Canaveral in summer 2025, the groundbreaking ship is brought to you by the cruise line that has been voted "Best Overall" by *Travel Weekly* readers for 21 consecutive years. Amenities, features and activities include:

- **20 decks** with over 2,800 staterooms.
- **The largest waterpark** at sea with free activities.
- **Six record-breaking waterslides** with the first open freefall slide at sea.
- **Seven pools plus 10 whirlpools** with a suspended infinity pool, swim-up bar and adults-only pool.
- **40 ways to drink and dine** with Royal Caribbean's first-ever food hall.

For more information, call us or visit us online!

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## Program Availability

| HGVClub | HGVClub With HGV Max | The Club | The Club With HGV Max | Extraordinary Escapes | Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max |
|---------|----------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| ✓       | ✓                    | ✓        | ✓                     | ✓                     | ✓                                  |

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