

CLUB TRAVELER

SPRING 2020

Two perfect days
in Washington, D.C.

Plus

VACATIONS
FOR EVERY
GENERATION

New home
New stories
New York



Welcome Letter

Stan Soroka shares his views about travel in light of COVID-19 and your future vacations with HGV.

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Secrets of New York

An insider's guide to the best places to sleep, eat, drink and shop during a stay in Midtown Manhattan.

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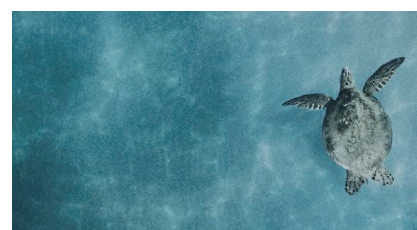
The View From Here

Stellar vistas from Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Borgo alle Vigne.

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Thrills and Chills on The Big Island

From extreme adventures to total zen, discover how Hawaii caters to every type of traveler.

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Welcome to the Club

Everything you need to know about your membership this quarter.

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City Slicker

How to spend the best 48 hours in Washington, D.C.

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Club Traveler is published three times a year by Hilton Grand Vacations, 5323 Millenia Lakes Boulevard, Suite 400, Orlando, FL 32839.

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Club Traveler magazine was created to serve as an aspirational tool for you — our Club Members. Our purpose is to encourage you to Dream, Plan and Go on your dream vacation, creating the memories of a lifetime.

As we worked on the spring issue, news of the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) outbreak began to evolve. And as we were about to publish this magazine, the health implications of the pandemic were already impacting many of us, with travel restrictions and recommendations implemented around the globe to lessen the outbreak's rapid spread.

It's often easy to take for granted life's everyday liberties, one of those being the ability to travel where we want, when we want. Travel has gifted us with expanded horizons, allowed us to cross borders, gain insight and experience many different cultures.

Now, the advice we are given is to isolate ourselves, withdraw from large gatherings and limit our exposure to others. But this raises the question: How do we even begin to inspire our Members to travel when current advice is to do the exact opposite?

We've been through situations like this before, defining moments that changed our lives in ways we could never have foreseen. The days after September 11, 2001, first come to my mind. Following that event, it took a while for everyone to figure out how to get back to doing what we love and defining what would ultimately become the new normal.

I have no doubt we will persevere through this situation. As we all do our part to flatten the curve, my wish is that you'll use this time of self-isolation to access our online tools to keep up-to-date with our Club programs, whether it be the online [Club Member Webinar archive](#) or [Travel Updates webpage](#), and follow along as we continue to make adjustments to our Club policies. Speaking of adjustments, we have extended previously saved Points through 2021, and extended expiring Bonus Points. And don't worry if you still need to cancel a reservation using previously saved Points. We will extend those for you automatically once your cancellation is processed. Details about our policy adjustments are found on our [Club News webpage](#). Once the situation improves, I hope that you can use the stories in this issue as inspiration when planning your next dream vacation.

I wish good health and safety to you and your loved ones.

Stan Soroka
Chief Customer Officer

Welcome to the Club

Everything you need to know about your membership this quarter, from unbeatable Member exclusives to new openings across the Club network

At first glance, Barbados' picturesque streets (above) and Chicago's windy streets seem to have little in common, but add the buzz of New York City and the spectacular desert-meets-ocean landscape of Los Cabos, Mexico, and there's no denying a truly covetable vacation list begins to form. Luckily, these destinations are all accessible through your Hilton Grand Vacations Club membership.

With these openings come new services, discounts and ways to boost your ClubPoints, meaning that traveling to far-flung places and making new memories with friends and family is easier than ever.

Take the exclusive Owner Check-In, for example, which offers a fast and personalized arrival for Club Members. Or take advantage of HGV's discounted offer with [Luggage Forward](#), a door-to-door delivery service that sees your luggage whisked straight from your house to your desired resort. [The Leisure Pass Group](#) Go City Cards, meanwhile, will connect you to the best local attractions and tours in your chosen vacation destination, wherever that may be.

You're now part of the Club, so read on to make the most of the exclusive opportunities that come with your Hilton Grand Vacations Club membership.

Club Membership by numbers



ClubPoints needed to
become a Club Member
with Elite status



James Beard Celebrity
chef dinners enjoyed
throughout 2019



328,217
The number of Hilton
Grand Vacations
Owners worldwide



55
owned and managed
properties in the HGV
resorts portfolio

Stay Connected

Learn about the new services and events available to you as part of your Club membership

Owner Socials

Exclusive gatherings that offer Members the chance to mingle with resort staff and one another, while scoping out the hottest news and latest Club program developments.

Club Member Webinars

Last year, 1,800 Members took part in our live [Club Member Education Webinars](#), which explain different aspects of your HGV membership in 60 minutes or less. Check out the [webinar archive](#) if you can't make it to one of our live sessions.

Club Member Exclusives

In addition to Bonus Point opportunities, [ClubPartner Perks](#) and [exclusive travel offers](#), you can now [book a 2020 or 2021 stay online](#) by May 31, 2020, and pay no reservation fees (Club booking windows apply).

Member Tip



Hailing from Perris, California, HGV Explorer Marilyn M. has been a Club Member since 2017. Here, she shares her favorite travel tip.



The HGV Mobile App

The Hilton Grand Vacations app allows you to make reservations, view trips, book an Uber, share advice with Members and request concierge services. Download the app today on [Google Play](#) and the [Apple App Store](#).

The need to know

If you're new to Hilton Grand Vacations, here are some things you may not know about your Club membership



What are ClubPoints?

Each year, Members automatically receive an allotment of ClubPoints for use to reserve your travel plans. The number of ClubPoints you receive varies based on your Home Resort, season and unit type you own. If you own a biennial Home Week, you receive your allotment of ClubPoints every other year.



What are Bonus Points?

These guys are typically awarded at the time of purchase through various Club programs. Bonus Points are valid for two years and can be used for reservations, redeemed for gift certificates and ClubPartner perks, used toward your maintenance fee payment or converted to Hilton Honors points.



What's the Member Dashboard?

Like your car, this dashboard provides information needed to manage your membership including your Member number, status, ClubPoints allotment and balance, and Home Resort.

For everything you need to know about your Membership
visit our [Club Navigator](#) page

[Learn More](#)



Midtown Manhattan: A NEW TWIST on an *old classic*

Read More

Words: Maresa Manara Images: Ricky Rhodes



Urban, big and bustling, Midtown Manhattan is known for its skyscrapers and corporate lifestyle. But lately, this square strip of neighborhood, hemmed between 34th and 59th streets, has been enjoying a renaissance, with independent coffee shops, refined cocktail bars and luxury hotels opening their doors, including [The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club](#). And that's not forgetting those quintessential New York establishments, like the game-changing Museum of Modern Art or the iconic Grand Central Terminal (above). Yet, with so much to see, it can be difficult to know where to start. To make the most of your trip, follow this local's guide.

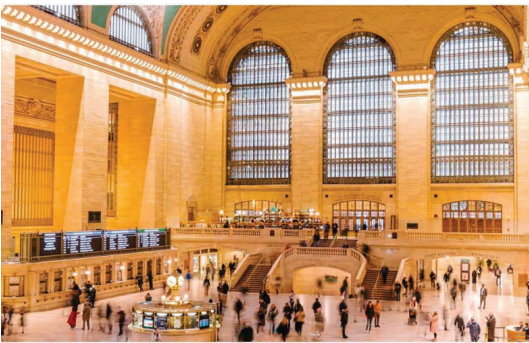
Grand Central Terminal, 89 E 42nd St

It's no secret Grand Central Terminal is one of New York City's most iconic landmarks. Saved from demolition in the 1970s by Jackie Onassis, on any given day 750,000 commuters pass through to catch trains across 63 platforms. But despite its heft, this century-old train terminal — the largest in the world — still has a few surprises of its own. Take the elevator up to the fourth floor to the Vanderbilt Tennis Club, which has a junior court and a main court (complete with U.S. Open official surface DecoTurf), plus a fitness area. Court hire isn't cheap — \$315 an hour for early risers and \$240 throughout the day. They also tend to book out a year in advance, but last-minute lessons are available on fitness app ClassPass.



The Tiffany Information Booth Clock is one of the most iconic timepieces in Manhattan

Later, head downstairs to the Grand Central Oyster Bar. Set up in 1913, this beloved 450-seat New York institution has been serving market-fresh seafood to New York's highest rollers for over a century. This is straight-up, old-school New York: no bookings, no half and halves, no fancy coffees (espressos only, thank you very much). Take a seat in the saloon area for a classic city lunch: a plate of oysters, a bowl of Manhattan clam chowder and a house martini. For those with a sweet tooth, there's a daily-changing list of traditional desserts, alongside seasonal plates such as New York State apple pie. Interiors reflect the restaurant's art deco aesthetic, with curved ceilings made from laminated terracotta tiles and polished marble bar counters. As waiter Ty Paz-Kaiser so perfectly puts it, "We're New York, without trying to be New York."



Grand Central Terminal is a major commuter hub, with around 750,000 commuters passing through each day



The Grand Central Oyster bar has been serving fresh seafood to New Yorkers for over a century



Vanderbilt Tennis Club is located inside Grand Central Terminal



Locals love Valerie for its cocktails and nightly happy hour

Valerie, 45 W 45th St

Midtown's not short on cocktail bars, but Valerie stands out from the crowd with its bottles of spirits, bitters and infusions on brass-and-marble shelves, and suave Art Deco interior. This is a favorite with the after-work crowd, who tend to go for the signature citrus gin and tonic (London Dry Gin, maraschino liqueur and thistle tonic), while snacking on plates of black fig and smoked bacon-topped flatbread and crunchy whitebait during happy hour (5 p.m.–8 p.m). The tattooed mixologists may seem brisk, but they're always up for a cocktail chat during (rare) downtime.



Meret Oppenheim's Surrealist Object (fur-covered teacup, saucer and spoon)

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), 11 W 53rd St

There's so much to see at MoMA, but those on a tight timeframe should make a beeline for Meret Oppenheim's Surrealist Object (fur-covered cup, saucer and spoon), which comes with a most intriguing purchase story.

"MoMA Director Alfred Barr wanted to buy it in 1936, but the trustees disagreed," Ann Temkin, chief curator of the Fifth Floor Painting and Sculpture Galleries, told *Time Out* magazine. "Barr was so convinced ... that he bought it with his own money for \$50. Ten years later, enough time had passed that the trustees agreed. All that time it was in the museum, under the label 'extended loan,' kind of in this purgatory. It's one of the great stars of our Surrealism collection; to think that our director had to sneak it in!"



Ground Central Coffee is known for its friendly service and freshly roasted coffee beans

Ground Central Coffee Company, 155 E 52nd St

For Midtowners, Ground Central Coffee is so much more than a coffee shop — it's a second home. Everyone from *The Late Show* writers to local artists come here, drawn to the décor (copper lampshades, wall sketches of the neighborhood), the service (the staff know locals by name) and, of course, the Joe. The order-at-the-counter area lets customers choose their coffee blend and milk (almond, oat, macadamia, hemp), as well as light bites (smoked salmon bagels, fennel raisin scones).



The luxurious lounge at The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club

The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club, 101 W 57th St

There's no property quite like **The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club**, Hilton Grand Vacations' soon-to-be-opened New York property. Located on Manhattan's ultra-luxurious Billionaires' Row, The Quin will enjoy a newfound shine, thanks to its recent multi-million dollar renovation.

Rooms and suites will be bright and airy, with high ceilings and big, expansive windows, where cream linen blinds roll up to reveal stellar skyline views all the way to Central Park. Suites have their own separate sleeping quarters, but even the smaller rooms, once completed, will feel homely, with stylish worktables and chaise longues that seamlessly transform into a private dining area.

Polished floorboards and plush velvet chesterfields will add an aristocratic air. However, it's the artwork and design pieces (a chess board by American pop artist Keith Haring here, MoMA's granite and aluminum Cube Collection there) that truly make the hotel stand out. The Quin has a storied art history of its own, with American artist Georgia O'Keeffe once calling the hotel home. No surprise, then, there's an artist-in-residence program in the pipeline, and all Owners get a year-long membership to MoMA when they buy. Keep an eye out for the in-room water bottles, which forgo standard bottle labels for beautifully illustrated sketches. Owners, Club Members and guests will be able to head to the sleek downstairs library, where they can thumb through Taschen design bibles, while reclining on ever-so-comfortable mid-century-style tub armchairs.



Start planning your next New York vacation now.

[Book Now](#)

The view from here



Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Borgo Alle Vigne

A place of perfectly stepped vineyards, trimmed olive groves and undulating hills in every shade of green, Tuscany ticks all our boxes. And nowhere else provides a more quintessential Tuscan experience than [Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Borgo alle Vigne](#). Located on a sloping hillside not far from Pisa, Borgo alle Vigne – which translates as village of the vines – is a luxurious palazzo divided into one-, two- and three-bedroom suites, all with panoramic views over the countryside. Take a daytrip to the Renaissance cities of Florence and Pisa, perfect your tee at the nearby golf courses or simply relax in one of the property's ever-so-smart suites.

[Click on the pins below to discover more](#)



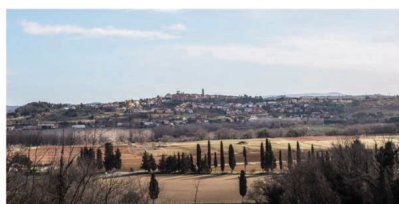
The view from here

Your Window



Hit the Road

Borgo alle Vigne is a 40-minute drive from Pisa, and around 1.5 hours from Florence, meaning a day trip to both cities is easily doable during your vacation.



Stay Local

There are two vineyards within walking distance of Borgo alle Vigne, both of which take wine tasting to the next level. Whether you're after easy-to-drink white wines or full-bodied red wines, they're guaranteed to go down a treat.



Soak Up the Countryside

Borgo alle Vigne's whitewashed bungalows are surrounded by vines of sangiovese, bountiful vegetable plots and herb gardens, all nestled among the sun-drenched Tuscan countryside.



Discover Italy now by booking your next vacation at
Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Borgo alle Vigne.

[Book Now](#)

SPLIT PERSONALITY

Whether you're after adventure or some serious rest and relaxation on your next vacation, Hawaii will not disappoint

Words: Vicky Lane

What are you looking to go big on?

LUXURY AND RELAXATION

ADVENTURE AND ACTIVITIES

It's no surprise the island of Hawaii, or the Big Island as it's also known, attracts almost 2 million travelers every year. Go for the shortest of hikes and you'll pass crystal waterfalls tumbling into jungle pools. Or, head to one of the island's golden beaches and it won't be long before you're snorkeling alongside technicolor coral reefs. Whether you're after luxury or relaxation, choose your own adventure today.



Experience Hilton Grand Vacations' renowned hospitality today.
Visit our website to book your next stay.

[Book Now](#)

What are you looking to go big on?

LUXURY AND RELAXATION

ADVENTURE AND ACTIVITIES

GO BIG ON LUXURY AND RELAXATION

Nicknamed the Healing Island, Hawaii was a health retreat long before they existed, with the kupuna (elders) drawing on the tranquil settings, medicinal plants and aloha spirit in their healing practices.

Click on the pins for total relaxation.



Enjoy Family Time

Find a spot on the sand with a prime view of the nightly torch-lighting ceremony held by most resorts along the island coastline. Watch as a man blows into a conk shell and runs around to light all the tiki torches for the evening, signifying it's time for music, dancing and even more fun.



Get Outdoors

Wellness goes beyond the island's spas and pools. In Kona, you can join Hawaii Beach Yoga at one of their free daily morning or sunset beach classes, or explore the area on foot with [Big Island Running Company](#).



Go Shopping

For some serious retail therapy, head to Kings' Shops and Queens' MarketPlace in Waikoloa Village. It's also home to upscale, oceanfront restaurant [Kamuela Provision Company](#), which serves some of the freshest seafood on the island.



Have Spa Time

[The Bay Club at Waikoloa Beach Resort](#) has two swimming pools and a whirlpool spa designed to stimulate the senses. It's conveniently located near Hilton Waikoloa Village, which has a saltwater lagoon accessible to Hilton Grand Vacations' Owners.



What are you looking to go big on?

LUXURY AND RELAXATION

ADVENTURE AND ACTIVITIES

GO BIG ON ADVENTURE AND ACTIVITIES

Adventure isn't hard to find on the Big Island. Whether you choose to take part in one adventure activity or all of them, Hawaii is sure to add some adrenaline-fueled fun to your next vacation.

[Click on the pins to discover adventurous activities.](#)



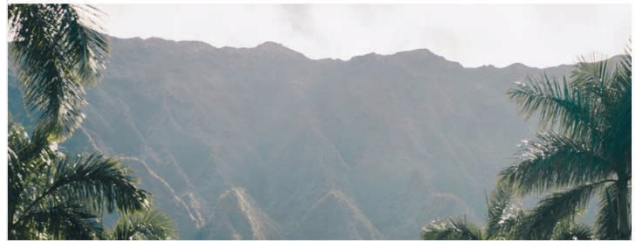
Try Skydiving

Take things up a notch by jumping out of a plane at 12,000 feet with [Skydive B.I.G.](#) for what's surely the most exhilarating way to see the island's ruggedly beautiful Seven Sacred Valleys and Kohala Coast.



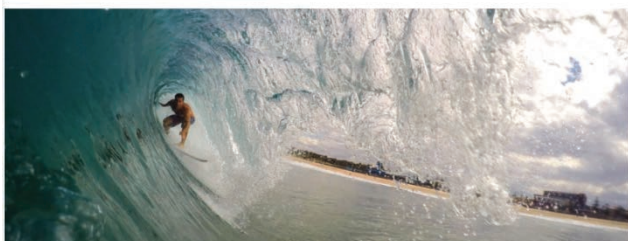
See the Great Outdoors

Go for a hike in the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and take the opportunity to peer into the steaming crater of Kilauea, which is one of the most active volcanoes on Earth. While there, check out Nahuku, a cylindrical cave formed out of hot flowing lava.



Do Water Sports

The town of Kona, a 40-minutes-drive south of Waikoloa, is a hotspot for water sports including kitesurfing, jet-skiing, surfing, paddleboarding and even snuba diving — an intriguing combination of snorkeling and scuba.



Visit Umauma Falls

This scenic spot has activities all the family (age four and up) will rave about, including a thrilling zipline tour through the area's rainforest, and a waterfall rappel that culminates with a giant 50-foot swing over the spectacular [Umauma River](#).





Beautiful cherry blossoms frame D.C.'s Thomas Jefferson Memorial perfectly.

Words: Clodagh Kinsella

It's election year in the U.S. capital but, from stellar food to world-class museums, there's more to The District than politics.

Day one 9 A.M.

Start the day by strolling down the eastern half of the National Mall (also known as "America's front yard"), a green lawn stretching two miles from the Capitol Building to the Lincoln Memorial. Of the 17 free, local museums run by the Smithsonian, the National Museum of African American History and Culture is the newest and a must visit. The museum's Sweet Home Café serves delicious takes on classic African-American dishes.



7 P.M.

Freshen up at [The District by Hilton Club](#), then hail a cab to Le Diplomate, a French brasserie that exudes the charm and style of Boulevard Saint-Germain in Paris. Look out for celebrity faces enjoying a bowl of bouillabaisse.



2 P.M.

Energy levels replenished, find a Capital Bikeshare station and head west on two wheels. Scope The White House and Washington Monument, then loop south via the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, skirting the Potomac River, en route to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in time for sunset.





Day two 10 A.M.

After feasting on omelettes at The District, take a 10-minute stroll to the Post-Impressionist and modern art museum The Phillips Collection, home to Renoir's Luncheon of the Boating Party. Don't miss landmark indie bookstore Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café just around the corner.



5 P.M.

Discover Cady's Alley, an outdoor shopping mall in Georgetown's design district, full of cute cafés and boutiques. Enjoy an aperitif by the C&O Canal or stroll to the enchanting 27-acre gardens at stately Byzantine and Pre-Columbian art museum Dumbarton Oaks.



10 P.M.

Hank's Cocktail Bar, only a few blocks away, is a classy, but casual, Dupont Circle watering hole, which opened in 2019 above the flagship Hank's Oyster Bar. Can't decide what cocktail to choose?

Ask for the Dealer's Choice and let the bartenders do all the work for you.



1 P.M.

Take an afternoon to eat your way around the cobbled streets of Georgetown, D.C.'s oldest quarter. The Mangia DC Georgetown Foodie Tour takes in five under-the-radar food stops such as the Dog Tag Bakery and doubles as a history lesson, passing the former abodes of the Kennedys and legendary Californian cook, Julia Child.



8 P.M.

Blues Alley, founded in 1965 in a Georgetown carriage house, has hosted greats such as Dizzy Gillespie and Eva Cassidy over the years and is now the nation's longest running jazz supper club. Reserve ahead for big-name artists, and enjoy cocktails and authentic Creole food on the night.

Experience the best Washington D.C. has to offer by booking a stay with Hilton Grand Vacations today.

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