CLUB IRA **Summer 2020** ltimate

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TRAVELER



Welcome from Stan Soroka

Dear Club Members,

Back in late May, I had the pleasure of attending the re-opening of Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Tuscany Village, one of many resorts now welcoming guests. At the re-opening, HGV Team Members gathered as part of a ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by President and CEO Mark Wang and myself.

The celebration had just ended when someone announced our first guest was arriving at the carport. I suddenly found myself lucky enough to greet our guest personally, and the story they shared with me was both memorable and impactful.

This Club Member tried to book a spring trip at Tuscany Village twice, only to have both visits canceled due to an extension of the property's temporary closure. Once an official re-opening date was announced, he immediately made a reservation. And the night before our opening, he drove for more than 12 hours with his family, deciding not to stop and stay anywhere else, because, as he told me, they only felt safe staying with HGV.

I share this story because I think it makes a key point about your expectations with us.You choose to own and stay at HGV because of what we promise to deliver — an outstanding hospitality experience, one that places our Owners at the heart of everything we do. Now, more than ever, it's important we deliver on that commitment.

Building on that sentiment, we have implemented elevated cleaning protocols under our new Enhanced Care Guidelines, which incorporate Hilton CleanStay™. This initiative furthers our promise to provide you with a clean and safe resort environment. As part of our Enhanced Care efforts we are conducting temperature checks for Team Members before they start their work day. I invite you to learn more by visiting our dedicated program webpage.

We also continue to focus on ways to inspire travel. With every new issue of *Club Traveler* now delivered in an immersive, digital format, we offer unique and detailed itineraries to aid in your planning efforts. Understanding that road travel may be an option preferred by many, we spotlight several destinations that are regionally accessible by car: Myrtle Beach, Las Vegas and Orlando.

Also with sales now open for Maui Bay Villas by Hilton Grand Vacations, we embrace the aloha spirit of Hawaii by presenting this beautiful destination five ways. I hope you use this article to identify the different travel approaches you can take when planning a future visit to this tropical oasis. In other news, La Pacifica Los Cabos by Hilton Club is set to open toward the end of the year, meaning a vacation on Mexico's beautiful Baja California peninsula will be within your reach.

Switching to a more urban environment, renowned interior designer Bill Rooney highlights his work at our new property, The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club. Reservations at The Quin are now open, with its debut in Q4 2020. As the situation in New York continues to improve, I hope you will consider booking a stay at this inspired Midtown Manhattan location. Our West 57th Street by Hilton Club property is also open and accepting reservations.

While you read this issue of *Club Traveler*, I hope you find yourself inspired to get back out and reclaim the experiences our great, big world has to offer.

Stan Soroka Chief Customer Officer

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Alexandra Arroliga Cover artwork hitandrun



Great Getaways

From New York to Florida, these are the places we're dreaming of this summer



The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club 101 W 57th Street, New York, NY

As anticipated openings go, The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club in New York City is up there with the best of them. Stories of the property, known for its art history (artist Georgia O'Keefe once called the hotel home), have been making the rounds since HGV announced they'd be taking it over and turning it into a timeshare back in 2018.

Now, after a multimillion-dollar renovation, The Quin exceeds all expectations. That's because eminent Interior Designer Bill Rooney, the talent behind some of the world's top hotels, is bringing old-school New York glamor with a classic color scheme and plenty of natural light to The Quin, all of which are accentuated by sumptuous furnishings (think velvet Chesterfields, sleek worktables and polished floorboards).

The views, too, are just as dazzling, with cream linen blinds rolling up to reveal vistas all the way to Central Park. There's no on-site restaurant per se, but walk through the lobby and out the property, and you'll arrive at The Wayfarer, Midtown Manhattan's coolest eatery.

Search the Club website for inventory availability in 2020 and 2021.

Platinum Season: 1,575 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon-Thu) in a studio to 16,800 Points for a 7-night stay in a 1-bedroom premier plus

Gold Season: 1,125 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon-Thu) in a studio to 11,600 Points for a 7-night stay in a 1-bedroom premier plus



Hokulani Waikiki by Hilton Grand Vacations 2181 Kalakaua Avenue, Honolulu, HI

Hawaii's hotel buzz in Oahu tends to congregate around Waikiki Beach Walk, making this a property you'll want to see. And, quite frankly, who wouldn't? After all, this is one goodlooking resort. Highlights include the luxurious I-bedroom suites, the smallest of which — at 558 sq. ft. — still offers two double-beds and a sofa bed, making it spacious enough to accommodate the whole family.

Each unit's furniture features a contemporary look, while patterns found in each suite's bathroom mirrors, credenzas and doors are unique to the design of Hokulani. The modern vibe continues into the kitchen, which comes equipped with a glass-top stove, soft closure cabinets, a glass door refrigerator and a pullout freezer drawer. If you're not in the mood to cook, there's no shortage of covetable restaurants in the area.

Rooms aside, there are plenty of reasons to stay around the resort. Take the elevator to the rooftop area Na Lani Sky Lounge. Enjoy cocktails around the plunge pool, lounge in one of six private cabanas and top off your evening with views over all of Waikiki.

Book now for family time during early- to mid-December.

ClubPoints Planning Tip

Platinum Season: 1,860 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon-Thu) in a 1-bedroom plus to 8,400 Points for a 7-night stay in a 1-bedroom premier

Gold Season: 1,260 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon-Thu) in a 1-bedroom plus to 5,800 for a 7-night stay in a 1-bedroom premier



Hilton Grand Vacations Club at McAlpin-Ocean Plaza 1430 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach, FL

Located on glamorous Ocean Drive, Miami's iconic street, is Hilton Grand Vacations Club at McAlpin-Ocean Plaza. The low-rise, art deco facade sets the tone right away, with its signature stepped rooftop and LED-lit signage. Inside, the art deco design continues with a striking Great Gatsby style up-lighting, patterned flooring and gold-accented furniture.

One-bedroom suites are spacious, with a master bedroom and queen-sized bed, and a living room with an in-room dining area, ideal for those wanting to make the most of the property's room service offerings. Those who prefer to make their own meals can use the in-suite kitchen with a microwave, stove, toaster and coffee machine. The queensized sofa bed can sleep up to two people, making the one-bedroom an ideal option for those wanting to travel with family or with friends.

And then there are the views: Sweeping, eye-popping vistas over the Atlantic from the rooftop terrace and the property's four twobedroom suites, reminding us that Miami's best beaches are just a few steps away.

Start planning, with inventory available throughout the year.

Platinum Season: 1,440 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon-Thu) in a 1-bedroom suite to 7,000 Points for a 7-night stay in a 2-bedroom suite

Gold Season: 1,020 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon-Thu) in a 1-bedroom suite to 5,000 Points for a 7-night stay in a 2-bedroom suite



The View From Here

The Quin by Hilton Club West 57th Street

Located on the ever-coveted Billionaire's Row in Midtown Manhattan, The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club is the property we've been waiting for. Opening this September for Club occupancy, the sleek exterior of this Midtown high-rise, just around the corner from the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), is as impressive as you'd expect, though eminent designer Bill Rooney's sultry, subtle interiors are the real star, particularly the gold-toned walls that lead to big, expansive windows offering views that depict the energy and glamor Midtown is known for: Skyscrapers, yellow taxis, neon lights and hurried workers. (For more on Bill Rooney's design vision, read our Q&A with him in this issue.) Few properties reflect their storied history and location as much as The Quin. This was once one of the most eminent art hotels in the city, lodging everyone from Georgia O'Keeffe to Marc Chagall. Quite frankly, if you don't end up staying in one of the newly renovated suites, or spend an afternoon reading the design books in the library, it's almost as though you were never in Midtown at all.



Time To Dine

Steps from HGV's Midtown properties lies one of the neighborhood's most decadent dining and drinking dens, The Russian Tea Room. This is a place of revelry, where respectable Midtowners go to let their hair down over Beluga caviar blinis, poached lobster and shots of the best vodka in New York.

Soak Up The Sights

Experience jaw-slackening vistas from West 57th Street by Hilton Club, your own private retreat amongst the bustle of Midtown Manhattan. Depending on your suite, you'll see the peaceful greenery of Central Park, and, beyond that, the ever-stylish Upper East Side.

> Discover Midtown Manhattan by booking your next vacation at HGV's New York properties. Book Now.





Words: Maresa Manara

Maui: One island, five ways | Hawaii's valley island has something for everyone

Laid-back Maui isn't just about surfing, hula dancing and flower leis. Step past the stereotypes, and you'll find an island rich in culture and activities for every type of traveler.

From neighborhood restaurants run by creative chefs to locally-run watersport outfits by the beach, Maui is shaking things up. Sure, head to the beach for a surf and, by all means, pack some leis in your carry on before you leave. But while you're on vacation, be sure to check out the oft-unseen side of Hawaii's second-largest island.



The outdoor adventurer

Experiencing one (or several) of Maui's many outdoor adventures is a must during your stay. Get your blood pumping with a trip to Rappel Maui, located on the famous scenic highway, the Road to Hana. The Classic Rappelling Group Tour is open to all experience levels and sees you rappelling down a secluded waterfall valley.

If you're in the mood for water-based thrills, HST Windsurfing & Kitesurfing School in Kahului offers personalized surf lessons that aim to have you catching waves by the end of the class. And if you prefer a group experience, the outrigger canoe tour run by Hawaiian Paddle Sports teaches you about the island's history, culture and marine life as you paddle.



The gourmand

A favorite with locals is Poi by the Pound on Kele Street, which serves classic Hawaiian dishes of kalua pork, pork lau lau, chicken long rice and lomi salmon. East from there, along the rugged North Shore is a Maui institution, Mama's Fish House. The restaurant has been plating up a daily changing menu of the freshest seafood on the island since 1973.

Also on the rugged North Shore at Paia, you'll find nyloS — a hip, chef's table eatery run by husband-and-wife team Jeremy and Paulina Solyn. Head inland to the breathtaking Waikapu Valley for a visit to The Village at Maui Tropical Plantation, a restaurant, bar and events space serving seasonal food from local farms in the lush setting of Maui Tropical Plantation.

Maui: One island, five ways



The family traveler

Little ones are always welcome on the island of Maui. Take the family to see what lies beneath the ocean at the spectacular Maui Ocean Center, which boasts a live coral reef, a turtle lagoon and a rotating roster of innovative exhibitions. Older children needing to burn off energy will love hiking the Pipiwai Trail within Haleakala National Park, complete with two waterfalls (Waimoku Falls and Falls of Makahiku) for relaxing. Along the Road to Hana, stop and take a self-guided cave tour of the Hana Lava Tube, formed nearly 1,000 years ago. At Kihei by Kamaole Beach, cool off with a scoop of peanut butter and chocolate ice cream or an orange-pineapple shake from Maui Gelato.



The beach lover

A stroll away from the upcoming Maui Bay Villas by Hilton Grand Vacations is Kalepolepo Beach Park, a relaxed, uncrowded beach backed by a family-friendly park that's ideal for picnics. For tranquil waters, golden sand and quality snorkeling, rent a car and head north through the West Maui Forest Reserve to Kapalua Beach or stay closer to home with a dip at Charley Young Beach, which has tidal pools and the occasional turtle sighting.

For something wilder, check out beaches along the Road to Hana, including Honokalani Beach for its black sand and Hamoa Beach for its emerald waters. At both, there are strong currents, so stick to paddling.



The night owl

Maui may be a chilled-out island, but that doesn't mean there is a shortage of stylish drinking dens. For a fun, toe-in-the-sand tiki bar head to the aptlynamed Barefoot Bar at the Hula Grill Kaanapali Beach, which offers excellent island cocktails such as the Maui Mule, made with local vodka, ginger beer and mint. Also on Maui's northwest coast is Ohia Bar at Duke's Beach House, the go-to for a quintessential Hawaiian night out — think daiquiris, palm trees and live music.

You can also enjoy a drink at the dark-wood bar or enjoy the open-air terrace at Fleetwood's on Front Street, an elegant, speakeasy-inspired affair owned by rock-and-roll icon Mick Fleetwood. The restaurant serves island-inspired cocktails and small plates until the early hours. And for those missing a pub visit, nothing beats The Pint & Cork, located south of Kihei, for its impressive selection of whiskeys (more than 100) and buzzy weekend vibe.

*In light of COVID-19, please check each location's hours of operations before finalizing your travel plans.



Las Vegas Club Member Guide | Undiscovered Las Vegas Everything you need to know for your next vacation in Sin City

Welcome to the first of our Club Member Guides, a new regular series in Club Travele In these guides, we'll bring you the best information from across our HGV properties — from the places you need to know about to the coolest neighborhoods and bars — to make your next vacation one to remember.

When it came to thinking of what destination should kick off our guide series, it was a no-brainer: Las Vegas. This exhilarating, fabulous city captivates in a way few others can, and it's not just The Strip. Sure, there are amazing casinos and some of the world's finest restaurants. But we'd like to introduce you to a little-known side of Las Vegas that features stimulating culture and exciting outdoor adventures, all in wonderful neighborhoods dotted around the city.

As we look at visiting Las Vegas in a post-COVID-19 world, we want to show you the things and places you never thought you'd see in Sin City — from the outdoor Neon Museum to the world's best hiking trails, all divided by district, so you know exactly where to go from your HGV property. For now, browse, be inspired and get ready to explore.

Best District for Family Life and Outdoor Activities: Summerlin

Head out west along US-95 N from your HGV property, and you'll arrive at Summerlin, a perfectly manicured, master-planned slice of suburbia, backed by the big-sky vistas of the Nevada desert. Summerlin is where you go to experience a greener side to Las Vegas that many staying on The Strip simply don't see. Here, locals emerge from luxury gated communities to tee off on some of the country's best golf courses, ride bicycles to nearby farmers markets or head out on family hikes or bike rides to the stunning Red Rock Canyon, just a 15-minute drive from the center of town. For those wanting to enjoy some downtime, there are plenty of parks to choose from. Quite frankly, it's pretty perfect.



Undiscovered Las Vegas



DOWNTOWN SUMMERLIN 1980 Festival Plaza Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89135

Downtown Summerlin is a massive outdoor pedestrian retail center that's home to over 100 shops and more than 30 restaurants, spanning every cuisine and price point imaginable (from Shake Shack to Wolfgang Puck Players Locker). This retail park is the go-to destination for many Summerlin residents, which gives it a community feel, while the palm-lined avenues add to the laid-back vacation vibes. There's a weekly farmers market, and The Las Vegas Ballpark, home of the professional Triple-A Las Vegas Aviators, also calls Downtown Summerlin home.



BEAR'S BEST LAS VEGAS IIIII W Flamingo Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89135

This unique Jack Nicklausdesigned golf course enjoys a stunning location with views of the mountains and the city. It opened in 2001 with 18 holes, perfectly suiting its natural surroundings. The variety of challenges — among which are black-sand bunkers, a water hazard and tight fairways — will sustain the interest of all golfers. But what truly makes Bear's Best stand out is its service: Every group gets a forecaddie, and the staff makes sure everyone feels like a VIP. Refuel at the on-site restaurant, Jack's Place, which serves soups, healthy salads and sandwiches.



RED ROCK CANYON 1000 Scenic Loop Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89161

Summerlin is nestled in the foothills of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. meaning it's just a few minutes' drive to Red Rock Canyon, one of the most breathtaking nature reserves in Southern Nevada. A hike through Red Rock Canyon's wonderful labyrinth of caves and peaks is one of the best ways to unwind, with 26 trails taking you down deep into the valleys and up to the highest peaks.Visit the Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center where the friendly staff are more than happy to offer excellent recommendations on walks that suit your fitness level and timeframe.

LOCAL'S VIEW:

TANYA MURRAY, SUMMERLIN RESIDENT



I move to Summerlin in 2002, having relocated from Reno, Nevada. I think the best thing about living in Summerlin is the location. It's truly fantastic. Of course, when many think of Las Vegas, they think of The Strip, which is a very glamorous place. We're 15 minutes from The Strip, but we couldn't be more different.

Summerlin is an outdoors-activity kind of place — it's not about gaming or casinos. We have miles and miles of walking trails, great golf courses, wonderful shopping and dining. We also have the Red Rock Conservation Area, which you can drive to for some truly amazing scenery.

On any day, you can visit the local farmers market, catch live music, or go for brunch or dinner and have a truly exceptional meal. It's a beautiful place to visit with plenty to do, and I feel lucky to live here.

Best District for a Taste of Local Culture: Downtown

Beyond the strip malls and casinos, there's a regular side to Las Vegas where locals go about their everyday lives — visiting restaurants, going to the movies, stopping by bars, seeing friends. And it all happens Downtown, in Las Vegas' historic heart. That's not to say this is your everyday kind of place. Walking through Downtown, especially at night, you'll still encounter a wonderland of light shows, 24-hour malls, zip lines and exciting exhibitions. There's no shortage of drinking and dining spots, ranging from burger joints and pizza parlors to exclusive steak and lobster houses and fabulous cocktail bars. Spend a full day and evening here for a glimpse of the Las Vegas that locals know and love.

NEON MUSEUM 770 Las Vegas Blvd N, Las Vegas, NV 8910

The Neon Museum is home to one of the most fascinating outdoor exhibitions in town: An outdoor jumble of discarded signs from old casinos and other businesses, set across more than two acres. Admire the I20 vintage signs, iconic typography, peeling paint and pops of color and light, all of which make for fantastic photos. The guides, too, are excellent, taking visitors through tales of Las Vegas' once murky underworld as they tell the stories of the signs' history. As the museum is outdoors, be sure to pack a hat, water and sunscreen.







FREMONT STREET EXPERIENCE Fremont St, Las Vegas, NV 89101

For a memorable time out in Las Vegas, make for the Fremont Street Experience, a pedestrian mall in Downtown. There are so many things to do here that it can be hard to know where to start, but if you only have time for one activity, make it the exhilarating SlotZilla, a slot machine-inspired zip line. There are two ways to "fly."You can take the Zipline down to the Fremont Street Experience pedestrian promenade or jump on the Zoomline, which whisks you up to 1,750 feet, superhero herostyle, all the way to iconic casino Golden Gate.

DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK 707 Fremont St, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Shopping in an old shipping container isn't necessarily the first experience you'd associate with Las Vegas, but that's all part of the unusual charms of Downtown Container Park. Here you can browse interesting retail outlets for souvenirs or cool off with a delicious gelato from Waffelato. If you're traveling with kids, your family will love the playground (complete with a 33-foot slide) and free outdoor concerts. Little ones will also enjoy The Pixel Sticker Room, an art installation consisting of a room that guests can color in by leaving stickers all over the walls, floors and furniture.



Best District for Culture and Innovation: The Arts District

Innovative art isn't the first thing that springs to mind when thinking of Las Vegas. Yet, a few steps from Downtown, south of Fremont Street, lies The Arts District, also known as the 18b. The district is an 18-square-block area of low-rise offices and warehouses remodeled into vibrant art and photography galleries, avant-garde theaters, architecture studios, jewelry workshops and even a yoga school. This area is home to Las Vegas' thriving community of creatives: People who have traveled from around the world to congregate in a supportive, friendly space. Stop by for a glimpse of this little-known side to Las Vegas; you might even find that perfect piece of art that will forever remind you of your vacation.



ART SQUARE 1025 S 1st St, Las Vegas, NV 89101

At the center of 18b is Art Square, where you can catch outdoor performances by local artists and cultural icons. It's also the meeting place for the Art Walk that takes place on the first Friday of every month as part of the First Friday Festival in Las Vegas. If you're in town on the Thursday before, head down in the evening for an exclusive preview of new art and a meet-and-greet with local artists. There's a definite "street party" feel to these evenings, with everyone in a good mood and curious to see the latest art in the area.

Art Square is a place for both tourists and locals, so if you're wondering where to go or what to see, simply ask one of the local artists for advice. While you're there, look out for the murals painted across various buildings, or book onto the Vintage Vegas Small Groups Arts Tour to learn about the history and evolution of the area.

If you're visiting in the summer and want to escape the often-relentless heat, head for the Art Square Theatre. This 99-seat, black-box-style performing arts venue is located at 1025 S. First Street, and runs a regular roster of innovative theatre shows and concerts by Las Vegas actors and musicians. The area is also home to many galleries and design studios, including Brett Wesley Gallery, a bright, airy space specializing in contemporary paintings, photography and sculpture by established and emerging artists.



THE ARTS FACTORY 107 E Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89104-1060

Arguably the creative hub of the Arts District, The Arts Factory is a collection of galleries, boutiques and eateries, housed in a cavernous converted warehouse covered in an eye-popping and colorful city-pride mural. Its galleries feature works by over 21 artists, many of whom are often on hand to chat about their work. For contemporary art by local and international artists, stop by Anja Whitemyer AW Gallery. Grab a bite to eat at 18bin, a cooler-than-cool eatery serving flavorful sandwiches and sharing plates.



VELVETEEN RABBIT 1218 S Main St, Las Vegas, NV 89104

Keeping up the art theme is Velveteen Rabbit, a stylish drinking den that combines creative cocktails with eclectic decor and live music. Peruse local art on the walls (much of which is for sale) or call ahead to book into one of the private cocktail classes they run. To coincide with the First Friday walking tours, the team at Velveteen Rabbit offers a menu of specialty beers and intriguing, culture-themed craft cocktails. Grab a seat at the bar and chat with the skilled mixologists who will happily prepare a drink to suit your tastes.

LOCAL'S VIEW:

ANJA WHITEMYER, OWNER OF ANJA WHITEMYER AW GALLERY



I run the Anja Whitemyer AW Gallery here in the Arts District and absolutely love this area. I'm originally from Germany, but I moved to Las Vegas six years ago after 13 years in Los Angeles. What drew me here is the fact there's a lot of smaller businesses in the Arts District, and there's something friendly and down-to-earth about it. Even though it's a big city, we all connect with each other and know one another, just like in smaller cities. There's a lot of trees here, and it's got a good mix of locals and tourists, making it a good, healthy, fun place to be. More and more individual artists are coming to the Arts District now. My gallery is in the Arts Factory, which is one of the oldest factories in the area. It's just been painted and is colorful and vibrant. On the first Friday of every month, there's a huge street party where up to 2,000 people come to meet the artists, visit the studios and walk around. It's wonderful.

3 DESTINATIONS FOR A LAS VEGAS ROAD TRIP

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*In light of COVID-19, please check each location's hours of operations before finalizing your travel plans.

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Enhanced Care for Your Stay

Offering all Club Members and guests a clean and safe resort environment is our top priority. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we released our Enhanced Care Guidelines in May, a series of elevated housekeeping and sanitation measures that incorporate Hilton CleanStay™. The guidelines also integrate health and cleaning best practices from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization.

As part of the HGV-wide effort, all rooms are cleaned and disinfected with EPA COVID-19-approved virucidal solutions. We also incorporated new social distancing standards in communal high-traffic areas, including pool decks, check-in spaces and food and beverage outlets. To learn more, visit our dedicated CleanStay webpage.

To minimize the spread of germs and ensure you have the safest vacation possible, all guests must wear face coverings in all indoor public spaces while vacationing at our properties. Please note that in some destinations, face coverings are mandated by the government and additional requirements might be in place regarding their use.



An Award-Winning Experience

We're thrilled to announce HGV was awarded four coveted Stevie Awards in the 18th Annual American Business Awards, including a Gold Stevie for Company of the Year — Hospitality and Leisure, and a Silver Stevie for Customer Service Team of the Year (Ocean Enclave by Hilton Grand Vacations Club). The Stevie Awards recognize achievement in every facet of the workplace across the United States. Visit this page for more details.

Making a Difference

At HGV, we're always looking for ways to ensure our properties are as eco-friendly and sustainable as possible, including efforts to improve our carbon footprint. According to a 2019 report from Hilton measuring the environmental impact of our operations, over the past decade, HGV has managed to reduce:

Energy Consumption by

13%

Water Consumption by



Annual carbon emissions by

5.5 million lbs

> Annual waste disposal by

34%

The Clubhouse

Happy to meet you



Every issue, we ask a Club Member how HGV has helped change their life. For Club Member Derek R., his ownership with Hilton Grand Vacations has let him and his family experience the world in a way they never imagined. To learn more about Derek's journey with HGV, visit our Expert Advice page.

Got Points?

It's never too early to start planning your next getaway, no matter how far out. You can start by familiarizing yourself with your Points Summary. To do this, log in to the Club website. You'll find your Points Summary below your Member Dashboard details on the left-hand side, including how many ClubPoints you have available to spend visiting an HGV resort this year.

Your Summer by the Numbers

Get inspired for some time in the sun with these little-known HGV facts



Recognising Loyalty - Elite Tiers

There's truly something for everyone with an HGV Club membership. And by becoming a Member with Elite status, you can enjoy access to a new range of privileges, including discounts, offers and exclusive access to wonderful rewards.

Elite recognition begins at 14,000 ClubPoints and runs across three tier levels: Elite, Elite Plus and Elite Premier: Members with Elite and Elite Plus status automatically receive Hilton Honors Gold membership. And Elite Premier status lets you enjoy the benefits of Hilton Honors Diamond membership, including a guaranteed room when booking a rental reservation up to 48 hours before arrival.

No matter which Elite tier you qualify for, you'll enjoy access to a dedicated team of Elite Club Counselors, who will be ready to assist you with your travel plans. You will also have a designated check-in area at select HGV properties.

So what are you waiting for? To explore HGV's Elite Membership program, read the February issue of eClub Traveler or view our Club Membership Elite webinar.

The other side of Orlando

Florida's fourth-largest city is home to a thriving cultural scene boasting contemporary galleries, performing arts venues and new artistsWords:

Words: Mandi Keighan



Think of Orlando, and chances are your mind will conjure images of golfing, shopping or all-day theme park adventures. However, there's more to Orlando than manicured greens, retail therapy and theme park characters. Dig a bit deeper, and you'll discover a world of creativity bubbling under the surface and waiting for exploration. From a professional concert hall in a living room and an augmented reality art treasure hunt to world-leading galleries and performance spaces, Orlando is an art wonderland. But, according to those in the know, it hasn't always been this way.

"When my wife, Holly, and I moved from Los Angeles to Orlando about 12 years ago, our first impression was that we had landed in a cultural desert," says Patrick Kahn, founder of the contemporary arts organization, Snap! Orlando. "Over the next few years, however, we started to see a steady growth in the arts scene ... with a stronger contemporary approach."

This growth, says Patrick, is driven by changing leadership in some of the city's major arts organizations, which brought in creative management with new perspectives from outside of Florida. And the impact of Art Basel Miami Beach — an international art fair that takes place just three and a half hours from Orlando — can't be underestimated: "It definitely impacted invigorating artists and art organizations here," adds Patrick.

The Kahns — Patrick co-directs Snap! with his wife Holly — have actively played a part in the city's cultural evolution. After initially producing a large photography festival in Orlando, they ran gallery Snap! Space from 2014–2020 in a historic venue in the Park Lake/Highland neighborhood. Today, they run a contemporary space comprising three galleries at Church Street, in the heart of Downtown Orlando, as well as running collaboration projects with United Arts of Central Florida and local art studio Flying Horse Editions. They even worked on a light installation project with Red Bull that involved illuminated wakeboarding.

Every time they open a new gallery or launch a collaboration, their aim remains the same: to introduce established and emerging international talent to Orlando. In doing this, the Snap! team is demonstrating there's more to Orlando than tourist attractions. "Over the years, we've collaborated with local businesses to highlight the fantastic food scene, local makers and homegrown fashion we have here," says Patrick. "These events give visitors a glimpse of how Orlando thrives."



An exhibition run by Snap! Orlando / Image courtesy of: Snap! Orlando

The Creation of an Arts City

One of Snap! Orlando's most popular public art projects is CITYunseen, which launched in 2018 and has been described on social media as "Pokémon GO for art lovers." The augmented reality project allows patrons to experience contemporary art in new ways via an app — think static paintings on gallery walls that transform into animated digital artworks, or interactive murals that are visible only through the screen of a smart device. One such piece of digital street art is a colorful, 30-foot-high mural by local artist Boy Kong, located at the Orlando Information Center in Downtown (201 S. Orange Avenue). When viewed through the CITYunseen app, the abstract forms come to life and inhabit the city, rather than being limited to walls.

Boy Kong is just one of the many Floridian artists who have recently taken the art world by storm. He is also one of the founding members of the Downtown Arts District's Young Artists Group,, which helps artists share their work with audiences throughout the city.

The Young Artists Group is one of several initiatives run by the Downtown Arts District (DAD), a nonprofit dedicated to advancing arts and economic development in Orlando. The organization launched in 2000 with a brave remit — to develop an exciting, innovative and economically viable cultural district in Orlando.

Today, it's home to more than 20 galleries and initiatives, such as the Young Artists Group and multipurpose venue CityArts Factory. In the last year alone, the Downtown Arts District has produced 287 events, hosted 65 exhibitions and displayed 3,083 works of art by 696 individual artists. Not bad for an organization that began when a group of interested citizens gathered in 1997 in response to an article that appeared in a local paper charging the community to "fulfill the need for a theater district."



The Rogers Kiene Building in Downtown Orlando is one of the few remaining Victorian-era structures in the city, and is home to Orlando's eminent cultural venue CityArts Factory



An artist creating a piece as part of one of Snap! Orlando's numerous exhibitions



Avant-garde artwork lines the walls at CITYunseen, an ongoing public art project with installations across Orlando, run by Snap! Orlando

Championing local talent

Multipurpose cultural venue CityArts Factory, part of the Downtown Arts District, is a testament to the nonprofit's success. Located in Downtown Orlando's historic Rogers Kiene building — one of Orlando's oldest buildings and few surviving Victorian structures — it's home to six, free-to-visit galleries where local artists can display and sell their works. This benefits the community in two ways. First, artists earn a living without leaving their home city (in the past, many artists had to move to art hubs such as Miami or New York). And second, they're boosting an appreciation for art among Orlando's visitors and residents, who tend to stop by the galleries after work, taking advantage of their handy downtown location.

"CityArts serves one of the greatest needs of the local creative community," says Executive Director Barbara Hartley. "We open our doors to the public, free of charge, which provides an amazing opportunity for artists to be seen by people from all walks of life and to serve populations who might not get the opportunity to experience art on a normal basis."

The Orlando Museum of Art (OMA), on the other side of town, is another gallery with a mission to inspire. Located at the heart of Loch Haven Park — an exciting cultural area in 45 acres of pretty parkland nestled between three lakes — OMA is one of the leading cultural institutions in central Florida and is dedicated to championing local talent.

Each year, it showcases the annual Orlando Museum of Art Florida Prize in Contemporary Art, featuring 10 of the most progressive emerging and midcareer Floridian artists. Past winners include Miami-based multimedia artist Carlos Betancourt, who won the People's Choice Award in 2018 for "Let Them Feel Pink", a 25 foot-long table adorned with hundreds of kitschy pop-culture objects collected on the artist's travels through Florida. The objects are drenched in Schiaparelli-pink paint — including the triumphant pelican perched atop the assemblage. A testament to the city's cultural ambitions, OMA is a one-stop-shop for people wanting to engage with multiple types of art. Nearby, within walking distance to OMA, there is the Mennello Museum of American Art and the Orlando Shakes theater, which produces acclaimed contemporary, classic and children's plays. The Orlando Repertory Theater and theOrlando Science Center (also within walking distance) both have a mission to entertain and enlighten families and young visitors.



Let Them Feel Pink by Carlos Betancourt won the People's Choice Award at the Orlando Museum of Art Florida Prize in Contemporary Art



Unidentified 105A from the series Interwoven by Kyle Meyer, one of the works on display at the Orlando Museum of Art

The Alternative Arts Scene

It's not only more established venues, like those in Loch Haven Park, that are thriving in Orlando. The area is home to smaller, pop-up events taking place in unexpected spaces, which add intrigue and a new flavor to the city's art scene. "These are purely word-of-mouth events, and the setting can be raw at times," says Snap! Orlando's Patrick. "But, the experience can have a much deeper impact than a louder, mass-attended event."

Timucua Arts Foundation is a unique, not-for-profit concert hall surprisingly nestled in the SoDo (South Downtown district) home of founders Benoit Glazer, a former music director for Cirque du Soleil, and his wife, Elaine Corriveau. The venue started in the couple's living room in 2000, hosting music events for 20 to 25 people. The aim was to create a dedicated destination in Orlando for chamber music and drive a grassroots economy for artists. As attendance grew, the couple moved to a larger home to expand their living room space.

"We present intimate concerts, live painting, plays, poetry and film events in a custom-designed, living-room-concert-hall," says Executive Director Christopher Belt. "It's literally a living room in a family home, but it's also an acoustically designed, three-story concert hall that comfortably seats 100 people. First-time guests are often surprised to find themselves in a residential neighborhood — but it offers a heightened aesthetic experience in a comfortable setting."



Regular jazz gigis and concerts take place at Timucua Arts Foundation

Guests can bring their own food and wine to share and enjoy gigs by the likes of jazz and blues guitar hero Charlie Hunter, Grammy-winning jazz drummer Ulysses Owens and Latin jazz star Néstor Torres. In its two decades, Timucua has hosted close to 1,000 events, most of them free to attend."

Since I moved to Orlando in 2003, the arts and culture scene has expanded and matured," says Christopher. "There are multiple generations of artists across all disciplines, which has led to a renaissance over the last 10 years. I love how many venues there are for every conceivable artist and genre, from rising stars in independent music to world-class opera and classical music — virtually every subculture or artistic genre is represented."

Moving to the Mainstream

Not far from Timucua Arts Foundation in the heart of Downtown Orlando is the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Located in a spectacular building designed by world-leading architects Barton Myers Associates, it's one of the city's premier venues for more mainstream live events, from ballet and Broadway to comedy acts and kids' shows. "Even when the arts center was just an idea on the back of a napkin, the vision was always crystal clear: Make the arts warm, accessible and welcoming, so that everyone feels like they belong," says Foster Cronin, the center's vice president of programming.

According to Foster, the city's thriving performing arts scene owes much to the abundance of theme parks. "Many artists come here to work with Disney or Universal and found new outlets for their music and art," he reveals. "In fact, a lot of them have created original programming, founded theater companies and clubs, and now mentor and help promote the careers of other young performers."

Over the years, the Dr. Phillips Center has hosted such diverse acts as comedian Jerry Seinfeld, the family show "Baby Shark Live!" and the musical "Hamilton". "One of the most exciting local acts, though, is our ownJazz Orchestra," says Foster. "It performs at the arts center at least four times a year and includes some of the best jazz artists in the country — many of whom are based right here in Orlando." Over the coming year, starting this fall, another two performance spaces are set to open to complete the original vision of the arts center.

After delving into the city's ever-evolving art scene, one thing becomes crystal clear: Orlando's galleries, theaters and art districts are just as magical as any theme park and as thrilling as any rollercoaster.



The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts concert hall is known as one of the city's most striking buildings

Coffee and Brunch in Orlando

Aside from a thriving arts and culture scene, there's plenty more to be discovered in Orlando — especially during the week when there are more rooms available in our four HGV properties in the area, and nearby venues aren't as crowded. These are some of the coolest destinations to check out, from brunch spots to hot springs.

Kickstart the day with a caffeine hit at Foxtail's Coffee Bar inside the popular dining spot DoveCote along Downtown Orlando's Orange Avenue, where you can also see Can Büyükberber's hypnotic digital artwork UNFOLD using the CITYunseen app. This charming coffee bar is located in the restaurant's light-filled atrium and serves up everything from espresso to syphon brew. It's the perfect accompaniment to DoveCote's French-inspired brunch menu, highlights of which include the herb omelet (made with three eggs and boursin cheese), and the classic croque madame.

Foxtail's coffee is roasted locally — a few miles down Orange Avenue in the flagship Winter Park Roastery, which combines a café with roasting and packaging room. Here, coffee aficionados can sign up for a workshop to learn all about coffee from plant to cup, and roast their own beans.



Orlando is home to a vibrant dining scene, spanning everything from independent coffee houses to eateries with live music and art shows

For coffee with a serious social conscience, head to one of Downtown CREDO's two "name-your-price" coffee shops found in Health Village and North Quarter. Beans come direct from independent growers in Nicaragua and Guatemala who share the same altruistic ethos as the founders — and the group also organizes community events, including trash clean-ups, coffee origin trips, poetry readings and sustainability workshops.

Like coffee, brunch is having a moment in Orlando. Another must-visit spot is Ace Café Orlando. Since opening in London in 1938, Ace Café has become an institution, turning from a simple transportation café to a global phenomenon, with six locations around the world celebrating all things auto and rock 'n' roll. The bountiful brunch buffet features creative comfort food, such as crème brûlée French toast, citrus-marinated flank steak, fried chicken and buttermilk biscuits, as well as key lime pie. After brunch, check out the exhibition dedicated to bikes and cars, or stick around and catch live music in the backyard.

The Q&A _____Bill Rooney



Get to know ... Bill Rooney

The Quin Central Park by Hilton Club will soon open its doors to Club Members — and here, Interior Designer Bill Rooney tells us what makes the property one-of-a-kind

How important is The Quin's midtown Manhattan location in the property's interior design?

When designing The Quin's interior, we wanted to create something that defined New York City. We were looking to design rooms that had a residential appeal, with that New York City feeling. We also wanted rooms to feel lush and inviting, so we selected a soothing color palette of creams and beiges. In every suite, there will be a channel-quilted leather headboard and walls with applied molding and gold tones that offer a hint of heirloom, while newer pieces of furniture remind us that we're moving into the 20th century.

What, if any, challenges did you face when designing parts of The Quin?

The Quin is an older building, which meant there were some complex spaces to design. A property renovation in New York City brings unique challenges, but with these challenges come unique possibilities. Rooms in this city tend to be smaller than in other American cities, but when space is compact, you can create wonderful and interesting areas with views you wouldn't normally have.

How did you use interior design to elegantly convey information about the room's key elements?

We made each property room as intuitive and user-friendly as possible. By this, I mean the suite items are not in your face but, at the same time, it's obvious they're there. For example, we all need power, but in our design, power outlets were seamlessly placed into the adjacent nightstand. Workspaces have chaise longues nearby, which are perfect for couples and can be easily transformed into in-room dining areas. Design-wise, we used furniture placement and color to make rooms feel larger and give the impression of a brighter, bigger space.

We tend to think of luxury properties, such as The Quin, as being comfortable and homely, while also being elegant and sophisticated. Yet something that is homely is not always sophisticated. How do you strike the balance between these two very different things?

I believe that in luxury properties such as The Quin, sophistication should never be off-putting. I see luxury as aspirational, but it needs to be something you can wear easily. As a designer, I want to make sure our rooms feel like an extension of your home and your aspirations. To do this, we try to anticipate guests' needs, such as ensuring there's the perfect amount of space for luggage and the room isn't overloaded.

We integrated other elements to ensure a softer, aspirational environment, too. For example, closets are beautifully appointed armoires that resemble mini-versions of the ones people have or would like to have, in their own home.

What feeling did you want to convey when designing rooms at The Quin?

I like to think of the rooms at The Quin as private dressing spaces, where you relax as you're getting ready to go on stage in New York City. There's an innate sense of New York grandeur and glamour that we wanted to reflect in the room design, and I think we've achieved this.



Pieces of furniture in the suites, such as lounges and coffee tables, have been arranged to ensure a spacious feel.



Bathrooms are sleek and elegant, with large mirrors, marble basins and luxurious, scented toiletries.



Expansive windows let the sunlight shine in, and offer striking views across New York City.



Words: Gabriella de Medici

48 hours in ... Myrtle Beach

Summer is peak season in Myrtle Beach — and, with funfairs, theme parks and a brand new arts district, this beachside town doesn't disappoint



Day One 11 a.m.

Get your bearings by heading to the Grand Strand, a sweeping arc of white sand beach stretching more than 60 miles from Little River in North Myrtle Beach to Winyah Bay in eastern South Carolina. Walk down Cherry Grove Pier and climb the two-story observation deck for views of the water, before stopping by Boardwalk Beach Cafe for lunch.

5 p.m.

For alfresco sundowners with beach views, look no further than Rendez-Views, the open-air bar and restaurant at Ocean Enclave by Hilton Grand Vacations Club. Ask one of the bartenders for their signature Lo-Tide Rhum Bucket, made with coconut rum, lime vodka, Sprite and lime juice.



2 p.m.

After lunch, head to downtown, home of the brand new Arts and Innovation District. Steps from the boardwalk, this fully-pedestrianized zone includes a microbrewery, an arts and crafts center, museums and a performing arts center, meaning there's something for the whole family to enjoy.

8 p.m.

Freshen up at your Hilton Grand Vacations property, then head out to upmarket gastropub Fire & Smoke. The pub draws local gastronomes and day-trippers alike for its perfectly charred steaks and grilled fish dishes, along with more daring takes on American comfort food, including lobster cobbler with fennel pollen ice cream.

DAY TWO

10 a.m.

After breakfast, walk to the Franklin G. Burroughs-Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum, a beautiful colonial-style building that's home to regularly changing collections by local artists. Don't miss the upstairs area, packed with historical items from Myrtle Beach and the surrounding counties.



12 p.m.

While there are plenty of boutiques and souvenir stores lining the beachfront, for proper take-home gifts, take a detour to the shopping and entertainment hub The Market Common. Rummage through the shelves at Francesca's, filled with colorful scarves, summer dresses, candles and jewelry, much of which are sourced locally. Or pick up a pack of light-as-air fudge at chocolate house The Uncommon Chocolatier (they do gluten-free and vegan options, too). Then stop by electric bike company, Pedego, and explore the local area on two wheels.

4 p.m.

Walk along the seafront from any HGV property, and you'll come to SkyWheel, the 187-foot tall observation wheel that's one of the highest in the country. Skip the lines by purchasing tickets online, then get ready for more bird's eye views across South Carolina. Book the VIP Gondola experience for ultra-comfy leather seating and exclusive photos mid-air.

ClubPoints Planning Tip

Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Anderson Ocean Club

Platinum Season:660 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a studio to 9,600 Points for a 7-night stay in a 3-bedroom plus suite Gold Season:480 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a studio to 7,000 Points for a 7-night stay in a 3-bedroom plus suite

Ocean 22 by Hilton Grand Vacations Club

Platinum Season: 1,440 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a I-bedroom suite to 9,600 Points for a 7-night stay in a 3-bedroom plus suite **Gold Season:** 1,020 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a I-bedroom suite to 7,000 Points for a 7-night stay in a 3-bedroom plus suite

Ocean Enclave by Hilton Grand Vacations Club

Platinum Season: 1,440 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a 1-bedroom suite to 18,000 Points for a 7-night stay in a 3-bedroom premier suite **Gold Season:** 1,020 Points for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a 1-bedroom suite to 12,800 Points for a 7-night stay in a 3-bedroom premier suite

*In light of COVID-19, please check each location's hours of operations before finalizing your travel plans.

Experience the best Myrtle Beach has to offer by booking a stay with Hilton Grand Vacations today. Book Now.

2 p.m.

Just outside North Myrtle Beach is La Belle Amie Vineyard, a former tobacco plantation. Tastings are run by the owners daily, and there are often live music sessions in the afternoons. All the wines here are excellent, but the red wines, in particular, stand out for their full, fruity flavor profile.



The beautiful Hungarian Parliamen Building in Budapest, Hungary

ClubPartner Perks and and ClubPartner Perk Grand Adventures Experience the world's greatest waterways with Tauck and Hilton Grand Vacations

Why planning ahead could lead to the vacation of a lifetime

A voyage down the Danube River, from the Czech Republic to Hungary, is certainly a memorable way to spend a vacation — and in August 2021, this experience can become a reality for Club Members.

The Blue Danube Tauck Guided Journey-River Cruise is an 11-night adventure across Europe, with seven of those nights spent aboard a luxurious custom-designed riverboat. The trip starts in classic HGV style with a cocktail party and dinner at Prague Castle's Lobkowicz Palace, where original manuscripts by Mozart and Beethoven are on display.

The next day is just as glamorous, with Club Members treated to a private tour of the city's beautiful Baroque libraries and Strahov Monastery, renowned for its ornate fresco-covered ceiling and eclectic cabinet of curiosities. But it's the seven-night cruise along the Danube that's the real jewel in this vacation's crown, with Members able to experience the charms of Europe's second-longest river.

Onboard accommodation is as stylish as ever, with luxuriously-appointed rooms and, of course, ever-changing views of the open water. Long, languid days are spent sailing down the river's wide, calm waters, while evenings see the custom-designed riverboat transformed into the most elegant of restaurants for formal guest dinners. All onboard meals and shore excursions are included in the cabin price. Club Members wanting something ultra-special can look forward to Tauck's Private Imperial Evening experience, which is also included in your cruise total and features a gala dinner in a private palace in Vienna.

The Blue Danube Guided Journey-River Cruise is one of Tauck's most anticipated trips of 2021, so interested Club Members should secure a cabin as soon as possible. You can plan ahead by saving 2020 ClubPoints, combining your 2021 Points and even borrowing 2022 Points to put toward a Tauck certificate — offsetting a portion of the cash rate in the process.

Visit the ClubPartner Perk Grand Adventures webpage for further details and call Tauck today to secure your cabin for this special Hilton Grand Vacations event.



Continued...

ClubPartner Perks and and ClubPartner Perk Grand Adventures Experience the world's greatest waterways with Tauck and Hilton Grand Vacations

Tour the Great Lakes With Tauck

Also in September 2021, you could be enjoying the Tour the Great Lakes With Tauck, a 12-day journey from Toronto to Chicago across the Great Lakes, with a seven-night cruise aboard the yacht Le Champlain and luxury stays in Fairmont Hotels included.

This luxurious trip begins in Toronto, with a two-night stay in the exclusive Fairmont Royal York. Club Members can explore the best of Toronto, with a tour and tasting lunch at the picturesque Château des Charmes winery.

From there, Members set off on a seven-night voyage aboard the yacht Le Champlain, cruising Lake Ontario and down the Welland Canal into Lake Erie, before stopping in Detroit to explore the city's many charms. Life on the water resumes with a cruise along Lake Huron and up the scenic east coast of Michigan to the picture-perfect resort island of Mackinac.

There are plenty of activities to be enjoyed, including exploring the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and riding a dune buggy along the shores of Lake Michigan. From there, the glitz and glamor of Chicago await with sightseeing tours of The Art Institute of Chicago or Wrigley Field.

Whatever your travel preferences, you can use current-year, saved or borrowed ClubPoints plus Bonus Points, or a combination of these to make any of our extraordinary experiences a reality.

Partner Spotlight: El Monte RV

Those wanting to plan an unforgettable vacation on the open road need look no further than El Monte RV. The exclusive RV rental outfit offers the freedom of a driving holiday, along with a personalized round-trip itinerary. Or, if you're planning a more extended trip, take advantage of their one-way rental system where you can take an RV to a desired destination in or near an HGV property in cities such as Las Vegas, Orlando, Denver and more.

RV travel reservations using current-year, saved or borrowed ClubPoints or Bonus Points are accepted based on availability for travel. Reservations must be made at least 60 days in advance of the travel date.

To book any of the above holidays or for more information, visit the Club website.





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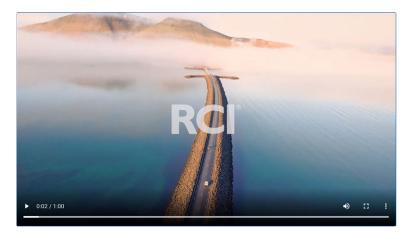
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