

CLUB TRAVELER

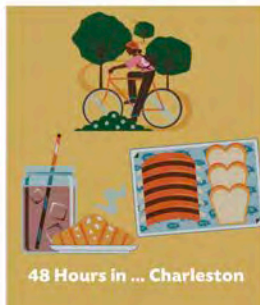
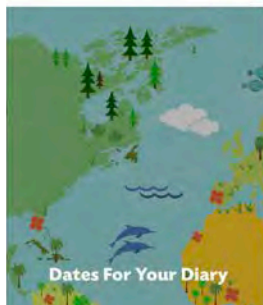
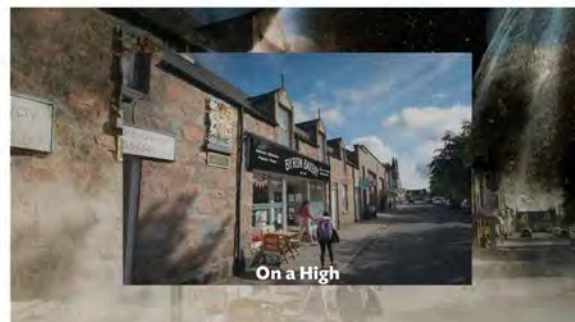
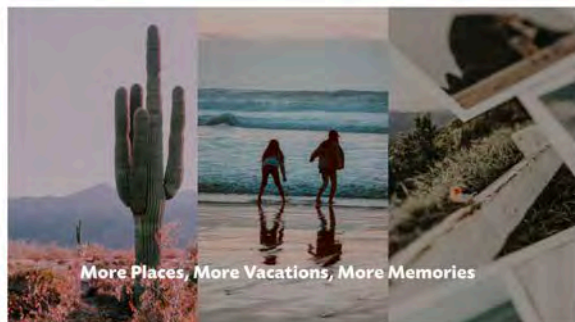
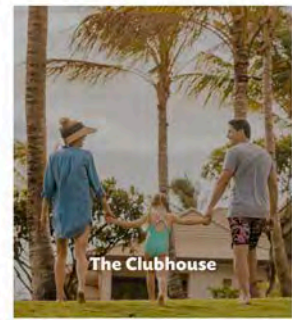
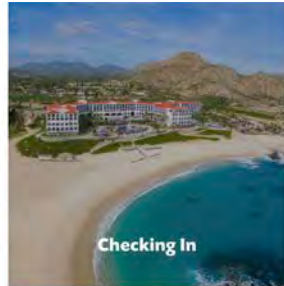
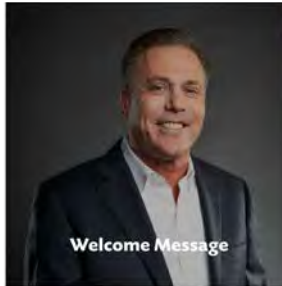
SUMMER 2022

A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES



Discover how you can enjoy more places, more vacations
and more memories with HGV Max

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Welcome from Stan Soroka

Dear Club Members,

Welcome to the Summer issue of Club Traveler magazine! I hope by now you've been able to take advantage of the slow days of summer and use your Club membership for a memorable vacation with Hilton Grand Vacations. From the sun-soaked coast of California to the hustle and bustle of midtown Manhattan, the options for travel adventures are both plentiful and varied. As always, no matter which HGV location you pick, you can expect the delivery of our outstanding service standards to help make your vacation exceptional.

More Places, More Memories

In this issue's cover story, we feature our new membership program, HGV Max. With a purchase into HGV Max, you not only keep your access to more than 60 existing properties in the HGV Club network, but also expand your access to over 80 former Diamond properties in more than 20 new destinations. Many of the former Diamond properties will be rebranded into Hilton Vacation Club, our new property collection. The rebranding effort is a phased, multi-year initiative, which started in April. Booking for all properties will be available later this year to HGV Max Members. To learn more about this exciting new program, visit my.hgv.com/hgv-max.

Sláinte Scotland

Our second feature story showcases the stunning beauty of Cairngorms National Park, home to Craigendarroch Suites, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club. Long known as the summer home of the British Royal Family, this stunning 1,748 square miles national park features epic mountain vistas and abundant wildlife. Read along as our writer uncovers the allure of this scenic region.

Dream Bigger

Further in this issue, HGV President and CEO Mark Wang participates in a Q&A that reflects on the company's past three decades and the one-year anniversary of acquiring Diamond Resorts. We also deliver a taste of island life with five ways to visit The Big Island, provide three options for a desert stay with "Checking In" and offer the perfect, two-day itinerary for exploring Charleston in "48 Hours."

Whether you're planning a vacation with us next month or next year, we remain dedicated to helping you make all your travel dreams come true!

Happy travels,

Stan Soroka
Executive Vice President & Chief Customer Officer

Executive Vice President &
Chief Customer Officer
Stan Soroka

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Checking In

Our favorite HGV properties right now

Desert Chic

If the sultry romance of the desert has always appealed to you, book a stay at one of these resorts



The Boulevard, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club

2650 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas, Nevada

The desert vibes are strong at this family-friendly resort, which features an earthy design palette and grounds dotted with sturdy palms. Each 1-Bedroom Suite comes with a full kitchen, spacious living and dining areas, and either a jacuzzi or a soaking tub. While you're here, also check out the spa, which offers an extensive menu of pampering treatments.

Wondering how best to spend your time in Las Vegas? Beyond the high-stakes hijinks of the casinos, there's plenty else to enjoy in the Entertainment Capital of the World – from eye-popping magic shows to adrenaline-pumping roller coasters. If you're looking for a desert adventure, rent a car and take a scenic drive to the Grand Canyon. Alternatively, enjoy bird's-eye views on a helicopter tour, which will take you over various sites such as Hoover Dam, Fortification Hill and the spectacular Mojave Desert.



La Pacifica Los Cabos, a Hilton Club

Carretera Transpeninsular Km 19.5, Tourist Corridor, Los Cabos

Situated on a stretch of sugary sand looking out over the Sea of Cortes, this beachfront resort is a haven for sun worshippers and water sports enthusiasts. But it's also the perfect setting for a wide variety of land-based escapades, thanks to its proximity to the rambling Baja California desert. Explore the scorched terrain on foot, in a four-wheel drive or atop a camel. Thrill seekers can even take a zipline tour across the desert's vast canyons.

After a day under the sun, you can unwind in the cool comfort of your studio or suite, go swimming in the resort's four pools or refuel at one of the on-site dining establishments – Vela, ranked the top restaurant in San José del Cabo on Tripadvisor, serves top-notch Italian fare crafted with fresh local ingredients. For a truly indulgent experience, schedule yourself a rejuvenating spa treatment at a cabana overlooking the beach.



Ocean Tower, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club

69-425 Waikoloa Beach Drive, Waikoloa Village, Hawaii

This sun-dappled resort on The Big Island's Kohala Coast is set within Hilton Waikoloa Village, which offers everything you need for a relaxing vacation – including three pools, two golf courses, multiple dining establishments and a tennis court. Its studios and suites sport a sleek, contemporary aesthetic, and many come with private balconies ideal for admiring dreamy Pacific sunsets.

For an adventurous day trip, head to the Kau Desert, which is around a 2.5-hour drive away. Technically not a true desert, it owes its distinctly arid appearance to acid rain – which inhibits plant growth – and the nearby Maunaloa volcano, which blocks precipitation. Put on your sturdiest walking shoes and explore this remote, otherworldly landscape. Along the Maunaiki trail, you'll find a field marked with mysterious fossilized footprints, giving you a peek into generations past.

Don't forget to check the official travel requirements for each destination before your trip. All travelers visiting the United States no longer need a pre-departure COVID-19 test. However, non-U.S. citizens who are not immigrants to the United States are required to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of their vaccination status to enter the country. Exceptions to this vaccination requirement are limited. For the latest regulations, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website](#).

ClubPoints Planning Tips

The Boulevard, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club

Platinum Season: 352 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 15,360 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 3-Bedroom Plus
Gold Season: 256 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 11,200 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 3-Bedroom Plus

La Pacifica Los Cabos, a Hilton Club

Platinum Season: 992 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 26,880 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 2-Bedroom Premier
Gold Season: 768 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 18,560 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 2-Bedroom Premier
Silver Season: 544 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 13,440 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 2-Bedroom Premier

Ocean Tower, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club

Platinum Season: 544 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 46,000 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 3-Bedroom Penthouse Premier
Gold Season: 384 Points per night for a 3-night stay (Mon–Thu) in a Studio to 38,400 Points per week for a 7-night stay in a 3-Bedroom Penthouse Premier

Explore More With HGV Max

Enjoy new Member benefits and future access to exciting travel destinations



Embark on a backcountry adventure at Sedona Summit, a Hilton Vacation Club

HGV Max offers you more ways to make vacation memories with exclusive Member benefits, including complimentary web and phone reservations at over 60 resorts within the HGV Club exchange program. You'll also enjoy one annual Club Dues payment regardless of the number of timeshare interests owned.

Plus, later this year, you can take advantage of an expanded resort portfolio of over 140 properties and a booking window starting six months before check-out.

Interested in becoming an HGV Max Member? Please visit my.hgv.com/hgv-max or call 866-601-2582 to learn more.

Hilton
GRAND VACATIONS

Dates for Your Diary



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



Tuck into fresh seafood and more at the Hawaii Food & Wine Festival

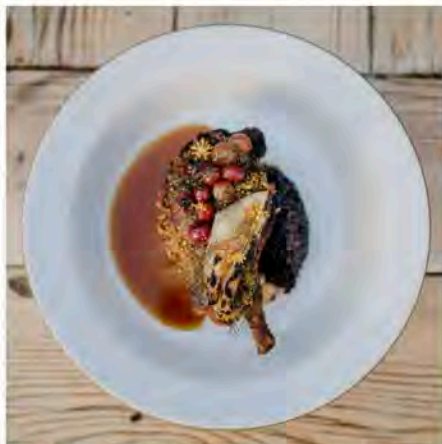
Hawaii Food & Wine Festival

When: October 20–23, 2022 (Maui), October 28–29, 2022 (The Big Island), November 3–6, 2022 (Oahu)

Where: Hawaii

Why go: Held across three islands, this epicurean extravaganza shines a spotlight on Hawaii's burgeoning culinary talent and high-quality local produce, while also supporting various nonprofit organizations that champion food sustainability. Attendees can look forward to dining experiences and wine tastings – spanning both traditional and modern offerings – headlined by a roster of more than 150 international chefs, producers and personalities from the food world.

Where to stay: Depending on when you'd like to attend the festival, you can make your base at either [Maui Bay Villas, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) in Maui, [Ocean Tower, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) on The Big Island or [Grand Waikikian, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) in Oahu, all of which provide guests with a comfortable home away from home.



Sample delectable dishes from local restaurants at Taste of Carlsbad Village

Taste of Carlsbad Village

When: October 13, 2022

Where: Carlsbad

Why go: Foodies will relish this festival, which presents the best restaurants, chefs, wineries and craft breweries that the Carlsbad culinary scene has to offer. The 2021 edition featured 31 restaurants and 15 beverage brands, so you can expect an event of a similar scale this year. Tickets are limited to ensure a quality experience for all involved, so be sure to book yours in advance.

Where to stay: [MarBrisa, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) is a 10-minute drive from Carlsbad Village. It also offers easy access to other top attractions in the area, including LEGOLAND® California Resort and SeaWorld. Members wishing to reserve a larger suite should become familiar with this popular property's booking window.



Visitors can look forward to live concerts at the Life is Beautiful Festival

Life is Beautiful Festival

When: September 16–18, 2022

Where: Las Vegas

Why go: It's all about *joie de vivre* (the exuberant enjoyment of life) at this annual music, culinary, art and comedy festival spread across 18 city blocks in downtown Las Vegas. Audiophiles will love the stellar slate of top musical artists including Arctic Monkeys and Calvin Harris, while foodies will relish the gastronomic offerings from more than 70 local and regional restaurants and bars. Do also make time to wander around the city center, which will be enlivened by immersive art.

Where to stay: Conveniently located right on the pulsating Strip, [Flara, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) offers sleek, stylish accommodations and adjoining access to the extensive shopping and dining options of the Miracle Mile.



The EPCOT International Food & Wine Festival pays homage to the classic film *Ratatouille*

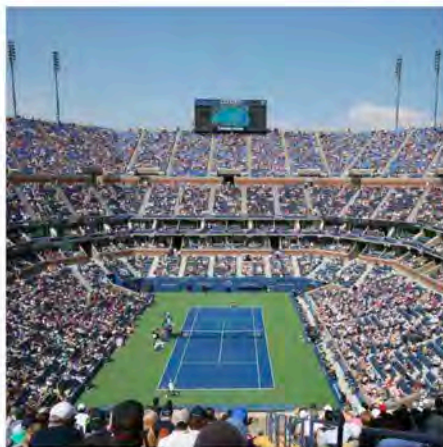
EPCOT International Food & Wine Festival

When: Through November 19, 2022

Where: Orlando

Why go: This food festival comes with a touch of Disney magic and offers something for all ages. Young ones can explore the park while embarking on a scavenger hunt inspired by the classic film *Ratatouille*, while adults can eat their way through a delectable selection of cheeses at Emile's Fromage Montage. And what's Disney without a top-notch soundtrack? Be sure to check out the festival's "Eat to the Beat" concert series, which spans genres from pop to country to R&B.

Where to stay: Book a studio or suite at [Tuscany Village, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), which is a 20-minute drive from EPCOT. With plentiful amenities including an activity center, lakefront walking paths and expansive pools with water features, the resort is ideal for families. It has plenty of availability in the fall (leading up to Thanksgiving).



Catch some exhilarating tennis action at the U.S. Open

U.S. Open Tennis Championships

When: August 23–September 11, 2022

Where: New York City

Why go: As the fourth and final Grand Slam event of the year, the U.S. Open sees thousands of tennis fans flocking to the Big Apple every summer. This year's edition is particularly exciting as the U.S. Open Fan Week (August 23–28, 2022) – on hiatus for the last two years due to COVID-19 – is set to return. During the week-long festivities, visitors will get to access the event grounds and attend the U.S. Open Qualifying Tournament completely free of charge. Other must-see Fan Week highlights include a Legends match between big-name tennis stars, plus plenty of live music and entertainment.

Where to stay: [West 57th Street, a Hilton Club](#) features luxurious studios, suites and penthouses with floor-to-ceiling windows. Its Midtown Manhattan location puts you within walking distance of the luxury boutiques lining Fifth Avenue, as well as other major landmarks including Times Square and



Enjoy creative tipples at the Barbados Food & Rum Festival

Barbados Food & Rum Festival

When: October 27–30, 2022

Where: Barbados

Why go: Besides being known for its sugar harvest, Barbados is also widely regarded as the birthplace of rum. This annual fiesta pays homage to the island's rich rum-making heritage, inviting chefs, mixologists and food connoisseurs to put their own spin on the popular liquor. Eat your way through everything from street food to gourmet dishes – all paired with the best local rum, of course.

Where to stay: Part of The Crane Resort – Barbados' first hotel founded in 1887 – [The Crane, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) is set within a sprawling complex overlooking the beautiful Crane Beach. The sumptuously decorated suites feature four-poster beds and lavish marble accents, and include modern amenities such as a full kitchen and a jetted tub.

Six Reasons to Visit ... Virginia



Why the Old Dominion state is the perfect fall destination for HGV Max Members

Words: **Nicholas DeRenzo** Images: **Unsplash**

It's been more than 50 years since the Old Dominion state adopted its beloved tourism slogan, "Virginia is for Lovers," but this motto has rung true throughout the decades. Today, Virginia is ideal for wine and art lovers, seafood and golf lovers, and especially lovers of American history, who can uncover centuries of stories within its borders. Read on to discover the region's myriad attractions, which are especially appealing in the fall, plus tips on where to stay.



1

It has a thriving culinary scene

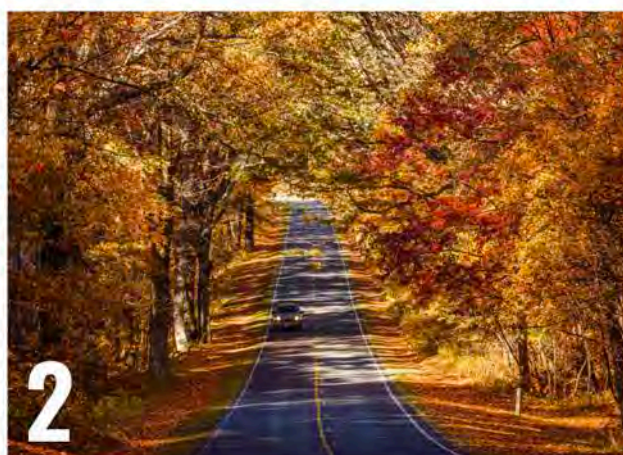
Thanks to the rich bounty of Chesapeake Bay, Virginia has always been a hub for some of the East Coast's freshest seafood. Maryland's famed blue crabs are actually born in Virginia, before the current carries them northward, and there's even a dedicated [Virginia Oyster Trail](#) spotlighting bivalve farms and raw bars.

There are plenty more tasty delights to discover around the state, too. Among this year's nominees for best chef at the James Beard Awards is Peter Chang, who runs a small empire of Sichuan restaurants in the region. And Richmond is home to one of the most exciting food scenes for a city of its size, with standouts including [Brenner Pass](#), an Alsatian-inspired restaurant, and [Lillie Pearl](#), which plumbs the West African roots of Southern cooking.

The state park system is still growing

Make the most of fall's cooler weather and explore Virginia's natural charms. Thanks to its scenic Skyline Drive and network of hiking trails, Shenandoah National Park is a perpetually popular getaway. But it's just one of a growing roster of state parks in Virginia, which also includes [First Landing State Park](#), where English colonists first stepped foot in 1607, and [Natural Tunnel State Park](#), which features a limestone cave more than 850 feet long.

Last summer, former governor Ralph Northam announced park number 41, [Clinch River State Park](#), in the heart of Appalachia. As Virginia's first blueway state park (valued for its recreational, educational and economic potential), it's centered on a biodiverse aquatic hotspot, making it a veritable paddlers' paradise.



2



It's one of America's most exciting wine regions

Both Thomas Jefferson and George Washington tried – albeit unsuccessfully – to cultivate grapes in Virginia, but the state's modern winemakers have cracked the code in a big way. In fact, with over 300 wineries spread across nine American Viticultural Areas, Virginia now ranks among the top 10 wine-producing states.

Petit Manseng, a lesser-known white grape from Southwest France, is proving especially successful in these parts. Meanwhile, other vintners are experimenting with Norton, America's oldest native wine grape. Best of all, you can find wineries in nearly every corner of the state – from Appalachia to Hampton Roads – many of which offer gorgeous views of the fall foliage.

It offers courses for every kind of golfer

With over 220 public golf courses dotted across the state, you can expect a surprising diversity of terrain and playing experiences for all abilities. Regarded as one of the best mountain golf courses in the United States, the 99-year-old [Cascades at The Omni Homestead Resort](#) in Hot Springs offers challenging links that dip and curve with the dramatic topography of the Allegheny foothills.

In Williamsburg, hone your swing at [Golden Horseshoe Golf Club](#), ranked among "America's 50 Greatest Public Courses." Designed by renowned golf course architect Robert Trent Jones Sr. and his son Rees, it's surrounded by mature woodlands and offers 45 walkable holes across three courses.



It's a hotspot for history buffs

Virginia's Historic Triangle is home to many important colonial sites. These include Jamestown, the first permanent British settlement in the New World; Yorktown, where the last major battle of the American Revolution was fought; and [Colonial Williamsburg](#), the nation's largest outdoor living history museum.

But don't assume the state is stuck in the past – several cultural institutions are unveiling new and progressive initiatives. In 2020, the city of Williamsburg announced a \$42 million expansion to its museums, with a renewed focus on spotlighting marginalized communities. And in October 2022, the [Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg](#) will open a new show comprising works by Black creators from the 18th through 20th centuries.

You can hang out with wild horses

Straddling the border between Maryland and Virginia, Assateague Island houses numerous wild ponies, made famous by Marguerite Henry's *Misty of Chincoteague* book series. On the Virginia side, [Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge](#) is a great place to spot the horses, but remember to keep your distance – they're not nearly as cuddly as they look. Alternatively, several small-boat cruises take you to the marshlands to watch the creatures as they graze.

Planning to visit next summer? Time your journey to coincide with the Chincoteague Pony Swim, which attracts tens of thousands of spectators every year. During the festival, the ponies are rounded up and led by "Saltwater Cowboys" to swim across the channel to a neighboring island.



Where to Stay



The Historic Powhatan, a Hilton Vacation Club in Williamsburg

Surrounded by lush woodlands, this 256-acre family-friendly resort features tennis and courts, miniature golf, two playgrounds, an activity center and more. It's also home to an 18th-century manor house, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.



Oceanaire, a Hilton Vacation Club in Virginia Beach

Situated steps from the Virginia Beach Boardwalk, this luxe tower is all about glorious Atlantic views – thanks to its 10th-floor lounge that overlooks the surf. On the 17th floor in the adjacent Ocean Beach Club, the property's shared fitness center also offers spectacular ocean vistas.



Ocean Beach Club, a Hilton Vacation Club in Virginia Beach

Oceanaire's neighboring tower offers a Caribbean-inspired retreat, complete with a splash pad for kids and a sun deck. Make yourself at home in a spacious 1- or 2-Bedroom Suite, both of which feature a full kitchen for whipping up quick and easy meals with the family.

ONE ISLAND, FIVE WAYS: THE BIG ISLAND

The Big Island One Island, Five Ways

Words: Charlene Fang

Get a taste of island life in this beautiful tropical paradise

Welcome to Hawaii – both the island *and* the archipelago. Officially named Hawaii, The Big Island is the ideal destination to completely immerse yourself in nature, thanks to its gorgeous beaches, lush jungles and majestic volcanoes. But besides the great outdoors, it has plenty else to offer, too – from culinary delights to cultural performances. Here are some of the best things to see and do on the Aloha State’s largest island.

One



Enjoy delectable dishes like poke bowls at 'ULU Ocean Grill

Food

Some of the best food in Hawaii comes straight from its land and sea, and many local restaurants make the most of the archipelago's natural bounty. Get in line for [Da Poke Shack's](#) poke bowls, which are made with fresh — never frozen — fish and come with rice and a side dish. The spicy Pele's Kiss, seasoned with Hawaiian chili pepper aioli, is a firm favorite.

Shave ice is a quintessential Big Island treat. Wherever you are on the island, you'll find shops selling colorful bowls of shaved ice topped with tropical fruits, ice cream and syrups. In Hilo, try the Noelani (featuring mango, pineapple and coconut syrups, condensed cream and a coconut dessert topping) from [Original Big Island Shave Ice Co.](#) And if you're in Waimea, [Anuenue Ice Cream & Shave Ice](#) is beloved for its creamy *ube* (purple sweet potato) and zesty *liliko'i* (passion fruit) ice cream toppings.

In the mood to splurge on a meal to remember? The beachfront ['ULU Ocean Grill](#) offers delectable ocean-to-table fare, with dishes including seared ahi tuna with edamame puree. Go for the *omakase* (chef's choice) menu, which is simply sublime.



Drink in gorgeous views of the lush Waipio Valley

Nature

The Big Island's shores are nothing short of spectacular and feature a plethora of diverse natural attractions. You'll be spoiled for choice between the many white-, black- and green-sand beaches — though some, such as [Papakolea Green Sand Beach](#), require a substantial hike to get to.

For excellent snorkeling, check out [Kahaluu Beach Park](#) and [Richardson Ocean Park](#). Beginner surfers will enjoy the year-round waves at [Honoliuli Beach Park](#), while pros may prefer [Pine Trees Beach](#). You might also consider booking a [night dive](#) with manta rays, where you'll have the opportunity to swim alongside the magnificent creatures.

Once home to Hawaiian kings, the lush [Waipio Valley](#) is one of the most picturesque places on The Big Island. While you can no longer drive down to the beach, you can drink in the scenery from the [Waipio Valley Lookout](#) at the end of the Hamakua Heritage Corridor. Equally majestic is Mauna Kea, a key feature of any Big Island itinerary. Rent a four-wheel drive and make your way up to the summit, or book a stargazing trip with a [permitted tour operator](#) for glorious views of the night sky.

Of course, you can't miss the [Hawaii Volcanoes National Park](#), which is home to Kilauea — one of the most active volcanoes in the world. You may see molten lava glowing in the immense Halemaumau crater or even flowing into the ocean.

Three



The Big Island's traditional woven wares make for great souvenirs

Shopping

The Big Island's shopping scene largely revolves around homewares, art and clothing made from local materials such as milo wood, coconut and *lauhala* (leaves of the hala tree). Stop by the daily [Hilo Farmers Market](#) on Big Market Days (Wednesdays and Saturdays), when vendors sell everything from hand-poured candles to intricate jewelry. You can also check out the newly opened [Ola Hou Designs](#) boutique in Hilo for vividly patterned apparel.

In Holualoa, the fourth-generation-owned [Kimura Lauhala Shop](#) along Hualalai Road sells woven lauhala hats and baskets, *koa* (acacia) wood products and packets of Kona coffee – all of which make for lovely souvenirs.

Give Back

As part of your planned activities, consider giving back to the local environment and community through the [Malama Hawaii](#) initiative, which enables travelers to participate in enriching experiences – such as restoration projects and beach clean-ups – offered by local nonprofit organizations.



Be sure to catch a hula performance during your time on The Big Island

Arts and Culture

Every first Friday of the month, the [Holualoa Village](#) art enclave in Kona hosts a buzzing block party after dark. Soak up the live music performances and mingle with artists and gallerists as they share more about their work.

The pinnacle of The Big Island's arts and culture scene, the annual [Merrie Monarch Festival](#) in March/April culminates in an elaborate competition that sees some of the best *halau hula* (hula school) dancers performing to the sounds of traditional *oli* (chanting) and *mele* (song). Visiting at other times of the year? [Queens' Marketplace](#) on Waikoloa Beach Drive hosts a free one-hour hula show at 6 p.m. every Wednesday.



Five

Little ones will be wowed by Rainbow Falls in downtown Hilo

With the Kids

For the active child, [Akaka Falls State Park](#) along the northeastern Hilo Coast promises not one but two waterfalls accessible via a paved trail. Alternatively, [Rainbow Falls](#) near downtown Hilo is easier to get to and features a large viewing area.

You can also choose to combine a fun outing with an unofficial history lesson. Look for petroglyphs at [Puako Petroglyph Archaeological Preserve](#), where there are over 3,000 ancient rock carvings depicting animals and people – thought to be records of births and other significant events that occurred in Hawaii centuries ago.


Many farms on The Big Island are open to visitors of all ages. Take your pick from a [Kona coffee tour](#), a visit to a [seahorse farm](#) or exploring a [macadamia nut factory](#) up on the North Shore. There are also a number of [chocolate farms](#), which will surely be a hit with the little ones.

Use Your Points

Planning to visit the Aloha State soon? If you have any unused Bonus Points, you can convert them into Hawaiian Airlines miles for flights to and among the islands. Find out more on the [Club website](#).

The Q&A

With Mark Wang



Hilton Grand Vacations' President and CEO sits down with *Club Traveler* to discuss the state of the company

With the acquisition of Diamond Resorts in 2021 and the launch of HGV Max this April, it's certainly an exciting time for Hilton Grand Vacations. What's more, 2022 marks HGV's 30th anniversary – three decades of turning travel dreams into reality. Here, HGV President and CEO Mark Wang reflects on the past three decades and what the future holds for the company.

HGV has come a long way since its inception in 1992. How has the company evolved over the years?

I joined Hilton Grand Vacations while I was living in Hawaii in 1999. Since then, we've added great products and offerings in new and existing markets. In 2018, we committed to invest over \$1.5 billion over six years in new resorts. We began to see the benefits of that investment last year with projects opening in Maui, Charleston, Los Cabos, Okinawa and additional offerings on The Big Island and in New York City. And last August, we acquired Diamond Resorts, more than doubling our properties while adding 20 new markets.

The importance of sustainability has grown in recent years. How does HGV help care for the environment?

At HGV, we're always striving to minimize our environmental footprint. Our sustainability efforts include using energy-efficient appliances across our new resorts, eliminating single-use plastic straws at all HGV-branded properties and recycling soaps and toiletries through our partnership with Clean The World. Our employees all around the world are also committed to the cause – for instance, our Team Members in Japan participate in beach clean-up efforts and we're part of the Malama Hawaii program in Hawaii.

As the CEO of HGV, what accomplishments are you most proud of?

I truly believe people are the heart of everything we do, so I'm always looking at how we can wow our Owners and have the best team in the industry. I'm proud of the product we've developed – it's by far the highest quality offering in the vacation ownership industry. I'm proud of our dedicated Team Members who serve our Owners and guests every day. And I'm proud of how loyal our Owners have been – they've allowed us to succeed through both good and more challenging times.



Mark and members of his leadership team visited the Ridge on Sedona Golf Resort in 2021 as part of his tour of Diamond properties

You traveled to several legacy Diamond properties last year. Did you manage to connect with new Team Members and, if so, what was the experience like?

Together, my leadership team and I have managed to visit almost every single Diamond property in North America. At the end of the day, it's the similarities between HGV and Diamond – in particular, the high level of care and concern that Team Members have for Owners and guests – that have made the acquisition such a smooth process. For me, this has been a really positive and rewarding experience. That said, we're highly focused on the rebranding of many of these resorts to the new Hilton Vacation Club collection to ensure they align with the quality and service standards associated with our brand.

It's been almost a year since HGV acquired Diamond. How has the acquisition enhanced the HGV brand?

We feel that going into 20 new markets – many in drive-to destinations – is great for both existing and new Owners. This gives us more flexibility and enables us to offer a wider range of resorts, from upscale to luxury. Our integration efforts are also going as planned, and I think our Owners will have a wonderful time experiencing these new properties through our new membership program, HGV Max.



Mark chats with Team Members on a recent visit to a call center in Las Vegas

Can you also tell us more about HGV's corporate social responsibility efforts?

HGV has always been a company that truly cares about the environment and community. Previously, our efforts were more informal, with each property or area of the company doing its own thing. But as we've matured, we've rolled out a more structured corporate social responsibility program, HGV Serves, with four pillars – disaster relief, homelessness, youth development and veterans. We've also forged relationships with national and international nonprofit organizations, including the United Service Organizations and Habitat for Humanity.



Mark and members of HGV's executive leadership team gather with LPGA player and TOC champion Danielle Kang



Mark meets with Team Members at Riviera Beach Resort and Riviera Shores Resort

What are your views on the recent Tournament of Champions, HGV's first title sponsorship event?

First of all, I'm a big fan of golf, so supporting the LPGA and what it does not only for female athletes, but also for the world of golf is extremely important to me. The tournament also kicked off the launch of HGV Ultimate Access, our new experiential events platform, and being able to see the program's offerings for the first time was incredible. Watching Sheryl Crow and LeAnn Rimes perform was amazing! Plus, the tournament and events gave me a great chance to chat with Owners and hear more about their experiences. Through events such as these, we hope to take Owners' vacation experience to the next level by providing exceptional offerings they can't get anywhere else.

Finally, how do you see HGV further evolving as a company in the future?

When I think about the company's evolution, it's important to look at the substantial growth HGV made before acquiring Diamond. In the previous four years, we made significant investments in property development, with the opening of exciting destinations. We also added inventory in already popular locations, not to mention our second resort in Japan. When you look back at that growth, it's exciting to see what we were able to deliver in such a short timeframe. Add in the acquisition of Diamond and launch of HGV Max, and I feel we've increased the overall value we bring to our Owners.

Looking forward, we hope to evolve in line with what's most important to our Owners, and I believe they truly value experiences. I'm not just talking about the on-site experience at our properties, but also the opportunity to experience moments that result in an exceptional vacation with their loved ones. And this is one of the reasons why I'm excited about HGV Ultimate Access. The experiential component of HGV Ultimate Access delivers our Owners exclusive and even once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to enrich their lives, while also learning about new vacation possibilities and promotions. As we evolve the company into the future, enriching our Owners' vacation experience is what I'm most excited about.

Can you tell us a little bit about HGV Max and how that came about?

We're extremely excited about the introduction of HGV Max – this is the most robust membership program we've launched in 30 years. When we first acquired Diamond Resorts, we faced the challenge of having distinct Club programs with separate sets of rules operating under one company umbrella. As we planned how to best bring more options and experiences to all our Owners and Club Members, we knew we wanted to avoid disrupting anything they already had in place, while pulling the strengths of each Club into one offering. The result is HGV Max, a program everyone can participate in and one that bridges both Club programs. As we worked on designing HGV Max, we took into account feedback Members have given us about both programs and focused on adding the best of both Clubs while adding new tangible benefits.

How do you see HGV Max enhancing Members' vacation experiences?

With HGV Max, we've expanded vacation possibilities by offering Members more destinations and experiences while not impacting their existing ownership options. We've listened carefully to Members' feedback over the years – things such as the bundling of fees and enhanced Hilton benefits – and have integrated these into the program.

Mark's Favorite HGV Destinations



Hawaii

"Hawaii has a special place in my heart. I lived there for 25 years and it's where I spent the first chapter of my career. It's also where my HGV Home Weeks are!"



South Carolina

"I've played golf in Myrtle Beach several times and I love its oceanfront setting."



Borgo alle Vigne, Italy

"My family and I love to travel, and Italy combines so many of our favorites – spectacular cities, beautiful scenery and, of course, great food!"



30 for 30

In celebration of Hilton Grand Vacations' 30th anniversary, we've launched a campaign called "30 for 30" that will expand on our current CSR program, HGV Serves. Through 30 volunteer and philanthropic initiatives, we'll focus on supporting organizations based on four philanthropic areas – disaster relief, homelessness, veterans and youth development. The first initiative includes the completion of a successful \$50,000 matching gift campaign with the American Red Cross to assist with domestic disaster relief efforts.

In Europe, we've proudly partnered with the We Are Water Foundation to bring clean drinking water to countries in need. With the recent humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, We Are Water is working to provide access to adequate sanitation for refugees sheltering in Romania and Moldova. To support this important mission, we're accepting donations at all our properties in Europe. Simply speak to our Front Desk team if you wish to donate. We'll forward all collected funds to We Are Water to help with this worthy cause.



More Places, More Vacations, More Memories

The world is your oyster with HGV Max, our new membership program offering

Looking to broaden your travel horizons? You can do just that with HGV Max.

Earlier this year, we launched our exciting new HGV Max program that brings together the best of Hilton Grand Vacations Club and Diamond Resorts' The Club. Members who join HGV Max can enjoy more properties in more destinations and receive attractive discounts across the Hilton portfolio of hotels and resorts.

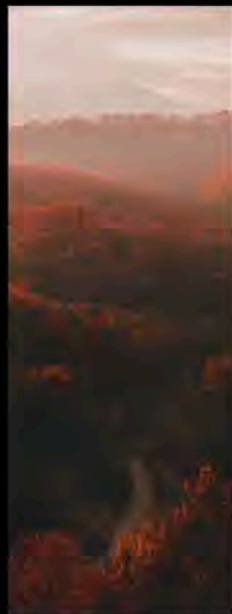
"The ultimate aim of HGV Max is to take all of the great features of both programs, as well as new and exciting benefits, and offer the best of both worlds to our Club Members," explains Gordon Gurnik, Hilton Grand Vacations' senior executive vice president and chief operating officer. Read on to find out more about HGV Max.

More Places

HGV Club Members who are part of HGV Max will keep access to more than 60 existing resorts within the Hilton Grand Vacations Club network and over time will get to experience over 80 former Diamond properties in more than 20 new destinations – ranging from Arizona to Sint Maarten. What's more, HGV Max Members will enjoy complimentary reservations for in-network resort bookings, as well as a new HGV Max Reservation Window starting six months before check-out for former Diamond properties.

"As a result of the Diamond acquisition and our rebranding effort, HGV now has one of the widest ranges of properties in the timeshare industry," Gordon says. "Members of HGV Max will have future access to new and desirable markets we're excited about adding, including Lake Tahoe, The Great Smoky Mountains and Virginia Beach."

For HGV Max Members, booking at these new properties is anticipated to start later this year. If you're an HGV Club Member who is not an HGV Max Member, you can still book these properties through RCI Exchange or rentals, subject to availability.



Explore new destinations, such as The Great Smoky Mountains and Sint Maarten, with HGV Max



With HGV Max, you can share the joys of vacation ownership with loved ones

More Vacations

HGV Max also helps you stretch your Points – and dollars – so you can travel more, for less. Your key HGV Club membership benefit of borrowing Points from next year’s allotment without incurring transaction fees remains unchanged. But as an added HGV Max exclusive benefit, you’ll enjoy Members-only savings on regularly published rates when booking at Hilton hotels and resorts.

An HGV Club Member who is part of HGV Max will also receive an annual allotment of complimentary Guest Certificates (based on your Member tier). These certificates can then be used to invite additional family and friends along on your trip.

Introducing Hilton Vacation Club

We’re pleased to continue integrating the Diamond properties, which are being rebranded to Hilton Vacation Club — a new collection of properties that complements our existing Hilton Grand Vacations Club and Hilton Club properties. Once rebranded, these properties will align with HGV’s stringent safety guidelines and top-notch service standards.

Many of these resorts are in new locations and within driving distance from where our Club Members live. What’s more, some Hilton Vacation Club resorts offer unique amenities that are new to HGV. For instance, Mystic Dunes, a Hilton Vacation Club in Orlando, Florida, features an on-site golf course designed by

Champions Tour player and NBC golf analyst Gary Koch.

The rebranding process is a phased, multi-year effort, which started earlier this year and is scheduled for completion in 2026. As of summer 2022, we’ve successfully rebranded eight properties, with more in the pipeline every few months.

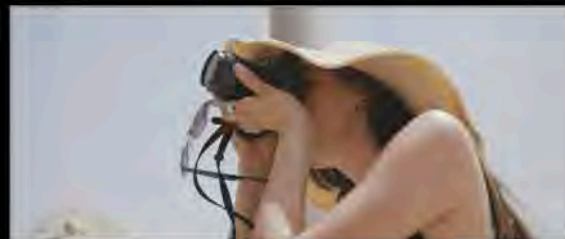
HGV Max Members will be able to book at the newly rebranded Hilton Vacation Club properties sometime later this year. Bookings will initially be available via phone by contacting Club servicing and, ultimately, through the Club website. Learn more about Hilton Vacation Club [here](https://www.hilton.com/hvac).

More Memories

Travel opportunities with HGV Max aren’t limited to the program’s resort portfolio. As with your HGV Club membership, you can deposit your Points into RCI for immediate or future stays at properties within RCI’s global network, expanding your horizons even further.

Likewise, you’ll continue to enjoy Partner Experiences, such as luxury cruises and guided journeys, curated to create even more precious vacation memories.

Of course, these benefits are merely the tip of the iceberg. “HGV Max will evolve in the coming years, and we’ll continue to add new features designed to enhance Members’ vacation experiences. For instance, we’ll look at expanding opportunities to use Points for other travel-related offerings,” Gordon says. For more information about the program, visit my.hgv.com/hgv-max.



Make precious vacation memories with HGV Max

Resort Spotlight

Three HGV Max resorts to consider for future vacations

Mystic Dunes, a Hilton Vacation Club

Orlando, Florida



Located close to Orlando's beloved theme parks, this resort features spacious 1-, 2- and 3-Bedroom Suites, outdoor pools, an all-day restaurant and a fitness center. However, its headline attraction is undoubtedly the on-site Mystic Dunes Golf Club, a par-72 public course designed by Champions Tour player and NBC golf analyst Gary Koch.

Scottsdale Links Resort, a Hilton Vacation Club

Scottsdale, Arizona



Golfing aficionados will similarly relish a stay at this sprawling resort, which offers easy access to several championship golf courses including TPC Scottsdale and Silverleaf Country Club. Of course, there's plenty to do off the green, too. Take a dip in one of the property's heated pools, try your hand at table tennis, whip up a barbecue feast or simply relax in your 1-, 2- or 3-Bedroom Suite.

Lake Tahoe Resort, a Hilton Vacation Club

South Lake Tahoe, California



Surrounded by lush woodlands, this lakeside lodge – which offers Studios, 1- and 2-Bedroom Suites – is ideal for outdoor enthusiasts. Here, you can hit the water for kayaking in the summer, or take to the slopes for skiing and snowboarding during the winter. After all that action, unwind in the resort's hot tub or relax fireside and bask in the glorious views of Lake Tahoe.

An HGV Explorer Speaks

HGV Explorer Laurie L., who hails from Iowa, has been a Club Member since 2013. Here, she tells us what spurred her decision to upgrade to HGV Max.

Why did you decide to upgrade to HGV Max?

“My favorite thing about traveling with HGV is going back to a familiar place and knowing what to expect in terms of accommodations. However, there are a few destinations I like to visit where HGV doesn't have resorts yet, so the idea of having better options in these places is enticing to me.”

Which HGV Max destination is top of your list?

“My family and I go to Hawaii a couple of times a year, as we like to island-hop and visit the different resorts. The first Hilton Vacation Club resort we're hoping to book will be in Kauai. Aloha!”

On a High

With its dramatic peaks, whisky distilleries and star-speckled night skies, Scotland's Cairngorms National Park is a spirit-soaring joy

Words: [Robin McKelvie](#) Photography: [Epic Scotland](#) Video: [Ella Howlett](#)

All seemed to breathe freedom and peace, and to make one forget the world and its sad turmoils.

This was what Britain's Queen Victoria eulogized on her first visit to Cairngorms National Park in 1848. The monarch fell in love with the area so much, she built her Scottish holiday home, Balmoral Castle, here. Today, as I stand atop Craigendarroch Hill on a beautiful morning, it soon becomes clear what draws the British royal family back to the park every summer.

At 1,748 square miles, the Cairngorms isn't only Scotland's biggest national park – it's also the largest in the United Kingdom. The massive landscape is dotted with epic mountains, including over 50 of Scotland's 282 Munros (peaks standing at over 3,000 feet tall). Then there are swathes of Caledonian Forest, the original woodland that covered Scotland well before today's commercially forested Scandinavian pine. This wilderness is teeming with animals, from red squirrels to pine martens, ospreys and even red deer, the largest land mammal in Britain.

From Craigendarroch Hill, I gaze over rich oak and pine forests that sweep upward from the roar of the fast-flowing River Dee. Above it all presides Prince Charles' favorite mountain, Lochnagar, which the English poet Lord Byron hailed as "wild and majestic." It's the sort of scene you may recognize from films such as "Braveheart" – and indeed, being in the Cairngorms is like immersing yourself in a movie.





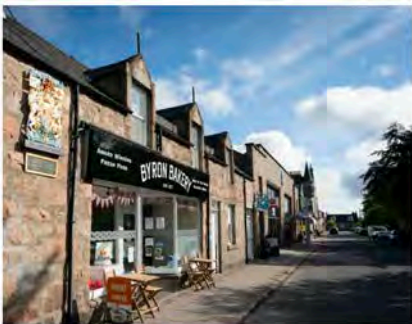
Above, top row:
Loch Morlich Beach

Bottom row, left to
right:
Loch an Eilein;
River Dee



Below, the village of Ballater sparkles in the sunshine: all stoic local granite, trim streets and neat green spaces, the salmon-rich River Dee framing the foreground. Construction on the rail line from Aberdeen was halted here, so Queen Victoria wouldn't be disturbed at the nearby Balmoral Castle. Today, the Old Royal Station still stands – or rather, a brilliant rebuild of the wooden old dame that was ravaged by a fire in 2015.

Walking around the village, I can't help but notice the Royal Warrants (granted to establishments that supply goods and services to the British royal family) proudly displayed outside bakeries, butchers and delis – even the store where Prince Philip apparently sourced his barbecue coals. And, as a manager at a local pub tells me, Princess Anne was purportedly a regular at the bakery across the square. Clearly, the monarchy has left its mark around Ballater, so a visit to Balmoral Castle is very much in order.



Above, left to right:
A bakery in Ballater;
Glenmuick Church;
the Old Royal Station

Cutting west, the River Dee's ice-clear waters guide me to the castle, where I spend a few hours learning how the current incumbent, Queen Elizabeth II, has brought her own style to the country property. Then, after a lunch of smoked salmon infused with Ballochbuie Gin – spiced with botanicals foraged from the castle's surroundings – I tackle the estate's two new walking trails. New too are the Land Rover safari tours, which culminate in decadent style with afternoon tea back at the castle.

I can't resist returning to those forests, so I end my first day exploring a stretch of the 41-mile-long Deeside Way, a walking route that follows the disused railway line from Ballater to Aberdeen. But of course, there's no such thing as "just" a walk in the Cairngorms. A deer startles across my path and I spot an eagle soaring high above me, a distant speck in the sky.



Above:
The grounds of
Balmoral Castle

The next morning, I find myself yearning for whisky – and adventure. In the village of Newtonmore, Dave Craig, who runs canoeing tours through his company Spirit of the Spey, promises both. "Rather than just visiting a distillery, Spirit of the Spey literally immerses people in our rich whisky heritage with canoe trips on the river, where all that glorious water goes into the famous Speyside whiskies," he says with a smile.

As we glide downriver under big Highland skies, the world of cell phones and tarmac roads dissolves, and time seems to stand still. We pause twice – once to help a lamb that has slipped down a muddy bank and been separated from its worried mother, and again to sip Balvenie whisky right in the middle of the river. It's an experience I know I will dream about every time I taste Balvenie anywhere in the world.

We eventually return to the world of man, paddling into the resort town of Aviemore. In the summer, mountain bikers and hikers fill the streets; in the winter, skiers and snowboarders take over. Here, I hop on the heritage Strathspey Railway, which transports me away from Aviemore with a toot of the whistle and a puff of steam. We chug back to a gentler time, easing through Speyside toward Broomhill station, passing mountains and wildlife along the way. We stop only at Boat of Garten, famous for its golf club, which has arguably the finest views of any golf course in Scotland.



Above:
A canoeing
tour with Spirit
of the Spey

Stepping off the train, I'm greeted by Ian Kirkbride, the senior project manager at Scottish whisky company William Grant & Sons, which owns the Balvenie and Glenfiddich distilleries. He's accompanying me along a section of another long-distance walk, the 85-mile Speyside Way, which follows Scotland's fastest-flowing river out to the North Sea. Admiring the views, we chat about the local whisky culture and how it's influenced by the environment. "The distilleries have always worked with the landscape," Ian explains. "Indeed, we rely on the purity of the water for our whisky."

I decide to end the day in spectacular style. I'd read that Glenlivet and Tomintoul are designated as International Dark Sky Parks, so I drive to the Field of Hope in the latter, which is one of the highest villages in Scotland. Given its low levels of light pollution, it's a stargazer's dream, with constellations and planets visible to the naked eye. I'm not expecting shooting stars, but I witness a trio, and spend a moment marveling at their enigmatic, teasingly fleeting beauty.



Above:
A star-speckled night
sky in the Cairngorms
Image by Getty
Images

My third and final morning takes me back around the Cairngorms massif to the Rothiemurchus estate, a 7,000-acre wild wonderland of forest and flowering moorland that is perhaps best explored on horseback. Here, I seek out the impossibly pretty Loch an Eilein ("loch of the island"), a sinewy, pine-shrouded lake with a 13th-century island castle.

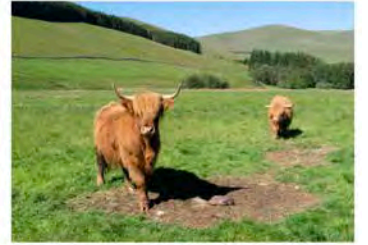
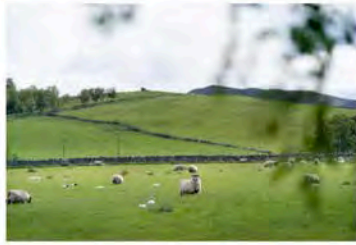
In this land of myriad adventures, I still have one more afternoon of action left, so I decide to hike up the mountain of Meall a' Bhuachaille. Under the vivid blue skies that bring out the best of the Scottish landscape, I trek past the shimmering An Lochan Uaine ("green loch"). The panorama from the summit is awesome in the truest sense of the word, with the Cairngorms towering above Aviemore below, and the Spey valley slipping toward the sea.

Reluctant to leave this land of epic mountains, gushing rivers and thick forests, I think back to the oak- and pine-clad Craigendarroch Hill, where my adventure began. At its summit, there's an information board reciting Lord Byron's verse, which, if anything, surpasses even Queen Victoria's lavish praise for the Cairngorms:

*England! Thy beauties are tame and domestic
To one who has roved on the mountains afar.
Oh for the crags that are wild and majestic!
The steep frowning glories of dark Lochnagar!*



Above:
Horse riding at the
Rothiemurchus estate



Above:
The Cairngorms is home
to diverse wildlife
including reindeer, sheep,
robins and Highland cows

Where to stay

Soak up the charms of the Scottish countryside with a stay at [Craigendarroch Suites](#), a [Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#). The country house is set in a private, 36-acre resort within the Cairngorms National Park, so you'll be perfectly placed to experience all that the park has to offer. After a day out in nature, unwind in your spacious studio or suite, enjoy a relaxing treatment at the on-site spa or take a dip in the indoor pool.



A dish of citrus-cured Scottish salmon at Craigendarroch Suites

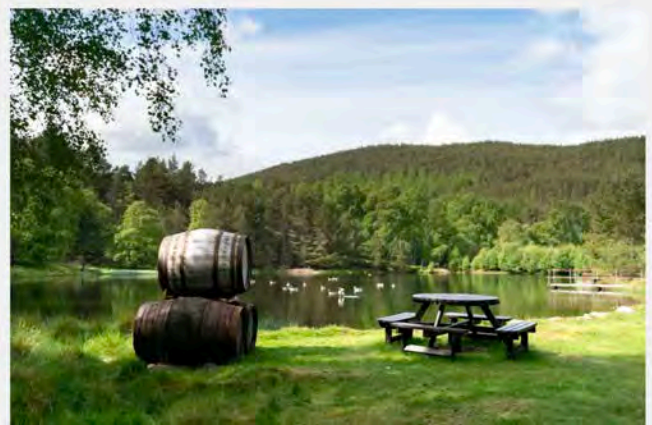


Lodges at Craigendarroch Suites are ensconced in greenery

Around the Area

Three notable attractions and events you shouldn't miss while in the Cairngorms

Royal Lochnagar Distillery





Visiting a whisky distillery is a quintessential Scottish experience. At the [Royal Lochnagar Distillery](#), you'll learn how only three ingredients are used to conjure up its delicious single malts – yeast, malted barley and water from the Sarnock springs. Choose from a number of tour options, including one that features a whisky and chocolate pairing.

The Braemar Gathering



On September 3, 2022, the [most famous event](#) on the Highland Games circuit will take over the village of Braemar. It's something of a tradition for the British royal family – Prince Philip was said to have been especially enthused by the tug o' war. Other sports include the caber toss and the hammer throw.

Crathie Kirk



This charming [parish church](#) in the village of Crathie – which is constructed in the Gothic Revival architectural style – counts the British royal family among its summertime attendees. Queen Victoria first worshipped here in 1848, and every subsequent British monarch has done the same ever since.

An HGV Explorer's Scotland Experience

"My fiancé and I, plus three of our teenagers, spent nine days in Scotland in June 2021, staying at [Dunkeld House Lodges, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#). We absolutely loved the resort's proximity to nature – we could see mature forests and mountains right from our balcony. Also, the nearby village is a gorgeous little place with kind locals and great food!

I'd highly recommend renting an all-terrain vehicle and driving through the fields, woods and hills. The scenery is beautiful and if you're lucky, you'll come across a herd of red deer that will race with you. Another must-see is Blair Castle. Just 30 minutes north of Dunkeld by car, it's filled with exquisite furnishings, decor and artwork."

– Irene C., Connecticut

48 hours in ... Charleston

Cosmopolitan Charleston offers plenty of food, history and nature, all served up in a charming small-town package — here's a two-day itinerary to get you started

Day one 9 A.M.

Begin your trip with a hearty breakfast of Southern biscuits and grits at [Millers All Day](#), which features mid-century-style decor and a bar design inspired by a retro drugstore. Alternatively, head to [Daps Breakfast and Imbibe](#) in the West Side district for its beloved chickpea sandwich served on an English muffin. Before leaving, pick up a few canned mimosa cocktails — and stash them in your studio or suite at [Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club](#) for future enjoyment.

10 A.M.

Depending on your dining venue of choice, you'll either be close to [The Battery](#) (a 12-minute walk from Millers All Day) or [Hampton Park](#) (a 20-minute walk from Daps Breakfast and Imbibe), so take advantage of the South Carolina sunshine and go for a post-breakfast stroll. While The Battery — with its rows of mansions facing the Charleston Harbor — offers picturesque views, Hampton Park is a favorite among locals, who enjoy walking and biking its winding paths lined with oak trees.

1 P.M.

For a taste of traditional barbecue, get in line at [Rodney Scott's Whole Hog BBQ](#) on King Street. Scott is a James Beard Award-winning chef who honed his craft at his family's barbecue joint in Hemingway, South Carolina. Be sure to fill your red cafeteria-style tray with other classic dishes too, such as cornbread, collard greens and the delectable banana pudding for a sweet end to your meal.

5.30 P.M.

Look for the Upper King Street entrance to [The Cocktail Club](#). It's housed in a 19th-century building whose bones — from the original beams to the antique fireplaces — have been beautifully preserved over the years. The steps from the sidewalk lead up to a dimly lit space serving expertly crafted cocktails like The Double Standard, a piquant gin-based concoction. Grab a seat at the petite rooftop terrace, which is perfect for enjoying the sea breeze.

11.30 A.M.

Delve into history at the [Charleston Museum](#), which houses a wide range of centuries-old artifacts. Don't miss the impressive textile collection — one of the best in the Southeast — which includes quilts, wedding dresses and more. While you're there, purchase advance tickets for the [Aiken-Rhett House Museum](#), which will save you time during your visit the next day.

3 P.M.

Sample the city's shopping scene at [Fritz Porter](#), a design showroom with an eclectic mix of antique and new furnishings that encapsulate Charleston's outlook — of having one foot in the past and the other in the future. If it's clothes you're after, the curated collections at King Street's finest independent boutiques, [Hampden Clothing](#) and [M. Dumas & Sons](#), will surely please the discerning dresser.

7.30 P.M.

For dinner, head to intimate European restaurant [Chez Nous](#), which ranks among Charleston's hottest tables (reservations are essential). Helmed by talented chef Jill Mathias, its daily changing menu features six items that spotlight high-quality local ingredients and superb culinary techniques.

Day two 9 A.M.

Before leaving [Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club](#) for the day, place an online order for breakfast to-go at [Sightsee](#), a coffee bar and retail store in the Elliotborough neighborhood. Upon arrival, you can pick up a beach tote or blanket along with your pastries and cold brew, which will come in handy for your next activity.

1.30 P.M.

Have a late lunch at [The Bounty Bar](#), the latest concept from the team behind beloved Charleston dive bar [The Royal American](#) and one of the newest openings in Folly Beach. Have your fill of loaded fries, buffalo wings, coconut shrimp and other bar snacks, all best enjoyed with an ice-cold drink.

5 P.M.

New Orleans may be credited as the birthplace of jazz, but Charleston also has deep roots in the genre. Celebrate the city's rich musical history by attending an early performance of the [Charleston Jazz Orchestra](#) at Charleston Music Hall. Part of the nonprofit Charleston Jazz organization founded in 2008, the orchestra aims to keep the spirit of jazz alive in the Lowcountry.

10 A.M.

Spend a leisurely morning in Folly Beach, which is a 20-minute drive from Charleston. An island town with six miles of beaches, Folly Beach is known for its laid-back vibe and thriving surf scene. Watch the pros carve the challenging waves at the Washout area (the folks at [Bert's Market](#) can point the way), try your hand at beachcombing (the shores here are an abundant source of fossilized shark's teeth) or simply lounge by the water.

3 P.M.

Head back to [Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club](#) to freshen up before visiting the nearby [Aiken-Rhett House Museum](#). One of the best-preserved townhouse complexes in the country, it offers a glimpse of urban life in antebellum Charleston. You can download the [free app](#) and take a self-guided tour of the space.

8 P.M.

Enjoy dinner after the show at [Wild Common](#), an elegant restaurant where chef Orlando Pagán wows diners with a tasting-only menu that combines local ingredients with a dash of whimsy. Opt for a seat at the counter, where you'll be treated to unobstructed views of the magic happening in the open kitchen.



The Clubhouse

Everything you need to know about your Club membership this quarter, from travel updates to insider tips

Plan your next family vacation with Hilton Grand Vacations

More Events to Enjoy

Hilton Grand Vacations Club Members now have the opportunity to access an array of exclusive events with the launch of HGV Ultimate Access. Formerly known as Events of a Lifetime (the best-in-class program founded by Diamond Resorts in 2011), this experiential offering consists of:

- **HGV Live!** – From private concerts with artists including Lee Brice, Carly Pearce, Joey Fatone and Travis Tritt to engaging shows, you'll get front-row access to intimate, world-class performances.
- **HGV Members Table** – Share unique culinary indulgences and great conversations with fellow Members.
- **HGV Presents** – Whether it's attending a popular sporting event with a celebrated athlete, playing golf with an LPGA winner or being on the green for the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, this is your ticket to unforgettable experiences.

As the program grows, we'll survey participating Club Members to keep our offerings relevant and add new events tailored to enhancing your overall vacation experience. Watch this [video](#) and visit this [page](#) for more details.

Open for Booking Now!

As part of HGV Ultimate Access, you can join us for a two-day experience at the renowned Bali Hai Golf Club in Las Vegas. The festivities begin Monday, September 19, 2022, with brunch, live entertainment and HGV's first Member Golf Tournament. Complete your day with dinner and a private concert featuring country music singer Michael Ray. Then on Tuesday, September 20, guests can enjoy dinner and a private concert starring Joey Fatone & Friends.

Space is limited. Reserve your Viva! Las Vegas experience for two for \$149 (valued at \$1,900 per person) when you book your Membership Review today. Email VivaLasVegas@hgv.com to secure your spot.



With HGV Ultimate Access, you can enjoy private concerts by the likes of Lee Brice
Image by Jason Koerner/Getty Images

HGV Ultimate Access Unlocks ...



4,000+
events



70+
private concerts

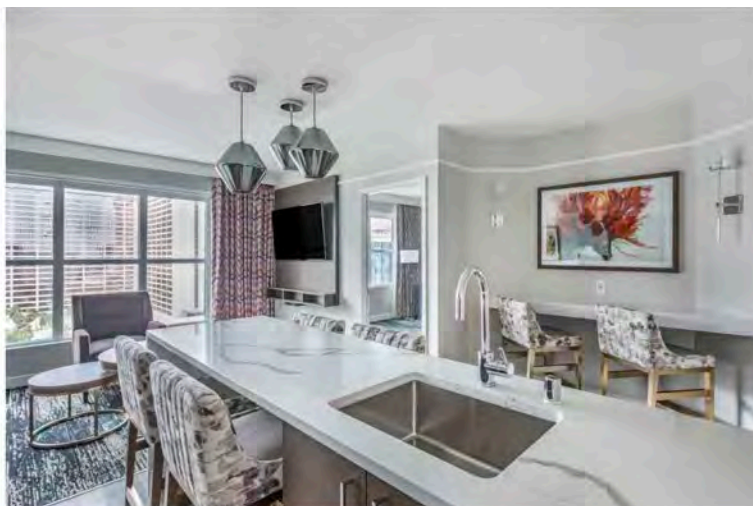


280+
dinners

Assessment Billing Season Is Here

This year's assessment billing season will be conducted as in previous years, and the same payment options will be available to you. Look out for your assessment billing notice in the fall, which will contain all the payment instructions you need. To obtain your 2022 maintenance fees and Club Dues statement sooner, we recommend opting in to receive digital loan and association communications from Hilton Grand Vacations [here](#).

In addition, international HGV Owners of properties in the United States may be able to save on bank fees and exchange rates when selecting to pay in their local currency through Flywire. Visit our [dedicated page](#) on the Club website for more details.



Rooms at Flamingo, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club now feature revamped kitchens with quartz countertops

Property Refurbishments in a Nutshell

In early 2022, we made improvements to several HGV properties. The rooms at [Flamingo, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) in Las Vegas recently underwent a facelift and now feature bright, modern interiors: Think revamped kitchens with quartz countertops and fresh cabinetry, bedrooms with deluxe platform beds and bathrooms sporting new vanities. The refurbishment also includes the installation of energy-efficient LED lighting and updated internet infrastructure.

We also renovated the pool at [Tuscany Village, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) in Orlando by replacing the decorative tiles and depth markers, as well as adding other enhancements to improve everyone's vacation experience. "Our Owners will find an immaculate, well-maintained pool that is easily and safely accessible to all guests, regardless of mobility restrictions," says General Manager Georgie Feller.



Happy to meet you

HGV Explorer Jan K. from Atlanta has been an Owner for 15 years and counting. Here, she tells us more about her experience traveling with Hilton Grand Vacations over the years.

Latest Travel Requirements

United States: All travelers visiting the United States no longer need a pre-departure COVID-19 test. However, non-U.S. citizens who are not immigrants to the United States are required to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of their vaccination status to enter the country. Exceptions to this vaccination requirement are limited. For more information, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) website](#).

Hawaii: Hawaii is open and welcoming travelers, and visitors are no longer required to complete a Safe Travels application to enter the state. All international travelers entering the United States, regardless of vaccination status, must still comply with CDC travel requirements.

The United Kingdom: The United Kingdom has lifted all COVID-19-related restrictions on international travel. All visitors, regardless of their vaccination status, can enter the country without any additional testing or quarantine requirements.

Barbados: Fully vaccinated travelers no longer have to take a COVID-19 test to enter the country, while unvaccinated travelers are still required to present proof of a negative PCR or rapid antigen test taken within three days before arrival.

Italy: Travelers are not required to provide any proof of vaccination, a negative test result or a COVID-19 recovery certificate to enter the country, regardless of their vaccination status.

Portugal: All travelers must present a vaccination certificate to enter mainland Portugal and the Azores. Those who are not fully vaccinated will need to show proof of a negative PCR test (taken no more than 72 hours before boarding), a rapid lateral flow test (taken no more than 24 hours before boarding) or valid evidence of recent recovery from COVID-19.

Japan: Currently, Japan is only permitting entry to travelers from certain countries who are part of organized tours. All travelers will need to complete an online questionnaire and present proof of a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of departure. U.S. passport holders will also need to [obtain a visa](#) to enter the country.



Workplace Accolade

We're proud to say that Hilton Grand Vacations is certified as a Great Place to Work, with 81% of Team Members agreeing as such (compared with 59% of employees at a typical U.S.-based company). What's more, 88% of Team Members say that when they joined HGV, they were made to feel welcome. Here's to building an even more positive company culture for all!

Your Key to the City

Get access to top attractions and activities with a
Go City All-Inclusive or Explorer Pass

Your Go City Explorer Pass lets you see Chicago from the water

Planning your next vacation? Whether you're embarking on a solo trip, a romantic getaway or a family break, consider purchasing a Go City All-Inclusive or Explorer Pass from our ClubPartner [Leisure Pass Group](#). These passes give you access to numerous sights, museums and tours at your destination – all for a single price. Plus, you won't have to spend precious time waiting in line for tickets, making your vacation experience all the more enjoyable. Below are some of the major attractions and activities covered by these passes.



Enjoy expansive views of Las Vegas on the High Roller

[High Roller, Las Vegas](#)

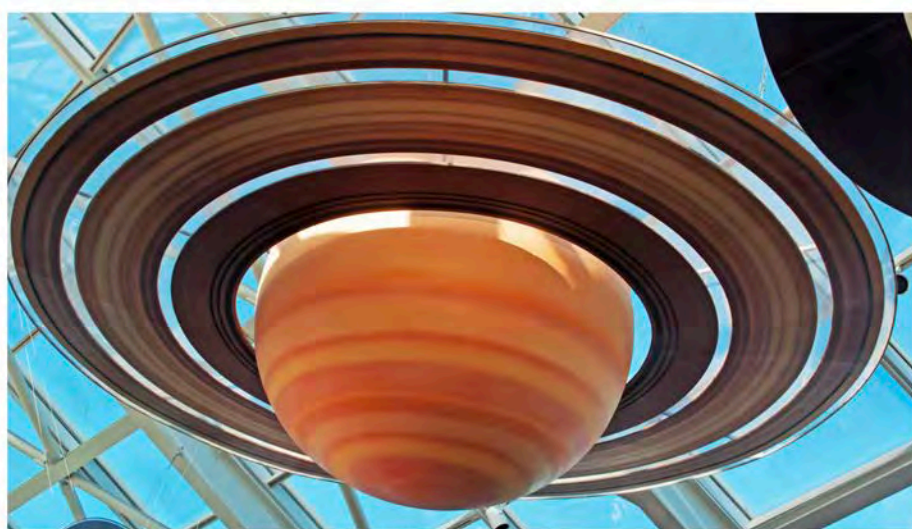
Take a 30-minute spin on this observation wheel for bird's-eye views of the glittering Las Vegas Strip – and even glimpses of the Mojave Desert in the distance. At 550 feet tall, it's the largest observation wheel in North America and the second tallest in the world. Your Go City pass includes a daytime ticket to the High Roller, which must be used between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.



Admire works by some of the world's most famous artists at MoMA

[The Museum of Modern Art, New York City](#)

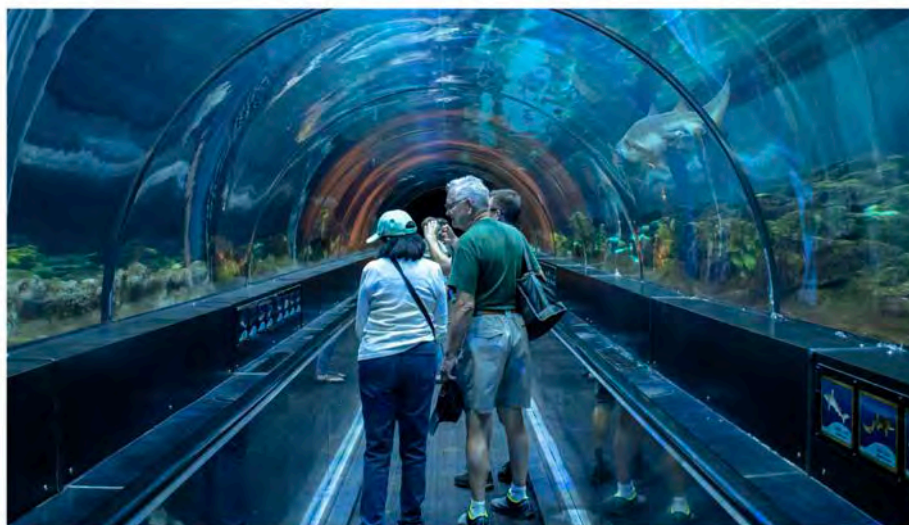
Known as MoMA for short, this glass-fronted museum is one of the crown jewels of New York City's vibrant art scene. Visitors will encounter roughly 200,000 works by some of the biggest names in modern art: Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, Vincent van Gogh, Jackson Pollock and many more.



The Adler Planetarium is home to numerous astronomy exhibits

[Adler Planetarium, Chicago](#)

Space aficionados can enjoy an out-of-this-world experience at America's first planetarium, dedicated to the study of astronomy and astrophysics. Here, you can look forward to immersive theater programs, special exhibitions and even viewing parties that enable you to explore the myriad wonders of the universe.



The 360° Ocean Tunnel at SEA LIFE Orlando Aquarium is the only one of its kind in Florida

[SEA LIFE Orlando Aquarium, Orlando](#)

Beat the snaking lines at this indoor aquarium, which is especially popular with families. Here, you can get up close and personal with more than 250 marine species, from sharks and stingrays to seahorses. Be sure to also check out the 360° Ocean Tunnel, where you can watch an assortment of sea creatures swimming above, beneath and all around you.

Use Your Points

Club Members can use current-year, Saved or Borrowed ClubPoints and/or Bonus Points to purchase Go City All-Inclusive and Explorer Passes. Attractions and prices are subject to change and vary by destination city. Please refer to the Club website for current rates.

Reshape Your Summer Escape

Visit a lesser-known destination this year with RCI



Planning your summer getaway? The beach is always a solid choice — but there's so much more to explore beyond the shore if you know where to look. Have fun in the sun in "Arizona's Playground," find adventure in the Great Smoky Mountains or explore a hidden gem in the Everglades. Wherever you want to go, RCI, your global travel network, can help you get there.

Lake Havasu City, Arizona

Most people go to Arizona expecting mountains and deserts, so you may be surprised to discover 400 miles of coastline in Lake Havasu City — so named after its eponymous lake. With 60 miles of navigable waterways, "Arizona's Playground" is great for water sports like kayaking and wakeboarding. The locale is also home to the "real" London Bridge, which was transported here from the English capital in 1968.

Columbia Falls, Montana

Just minutes from the picturesque Glacier National Park, Columbia Falls is a family-friendly destination for all things outdoors. Practice your swing at one of several splendid golf courses in the area, fish and kayak on Flathead Lake or embark on an off-road adventure in an all-terrain vehicle. You can also step foot onto a historic battlefield and visit nearby state parks to learn about the stories that have shaped this thriving town.

Gatlinburg, Tennessee

In the self-proclaimed "Best Mountain Town in the South," you'll find miles of hiking trails that weave around the Great Smoky Mountains, as well as a plethora of enticing restaurants, boutiques and attractions. Enjoy outdoor activities, such as biking and bird-watching, in between visits to local amusement parks and golf courses. If you're brave enough, you can take a walk across the Gatlinburg SkyBridge — the longest pedestrian suspension bridge in North America — for truly unforgettable views.

Hot Springs, Arkansas

As its name suggests, this city is famous for its natural hot springs, as well as Bathhouse Row — a collection of stately 19th- and 20th-century bathhouses. Once you've soaked in the sights, head to Magic Springs water park for a splashing good time, or get back to nature at Garvan Woodland Gardens, a lush and sprawling 210-acre botanical paradise.

Weston, Florida

Nestled between the Everglades, Miami and Fort Lauderdale lies an under-the-radar city that's just waiting to be discovered. Weston offers plenty of parks, biking trails and water activities — made all the more enjoyable thanks to its year-round sunshine. It also plays host to buzzing events and festivals like the Weston World Fest, which celebrates international culture, entertainment and cuisine.

Login to [RCI.com/myHGV](https://www.rci.com/myHGV) or call [800-932-4482](tel:800-932-4482) to speak with an RCI Travel Guide.



Discover more incredible stories with *Club Traveler*