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LETTER FROM THE *EDITOR IN CHIEF*

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Image Cover Credit:

The Eastbury Hotel, Sherborne, England



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Spring is in the air and we are ready to roll!

I hope you guys have been doing well and can see the light at the end of the tunnel, when it comes to getting back to traveling and exploring. That last trip around the sun was very different for those of us who like to enjoy the 365 rotations from various destinations. We are getting back our footing and I feel strongly that traveling will be back with a spring in its step, even if it looks more like summer or fall...you know what I mean.

Flip the page and start making plans. We stopped in Charleston and indulged in Belmont Charleston Place and now we are spoiled for choice with all of their other hotels, trains, boats, restaurants, and safaris. We also cover one of our favorite new travel trends. You're going to have to check the piece out to see what I am talking about. No spoiler alerts here. Then you'll get to check out a bit of my adopted hometown, Ft. Lauderdale. A staycation had to be taken, in my book. For some reason, we feel like traveling within our own community (I am fully vaccinated) is less risky than traveling out of town. There is no science backing that sentiment, just a feeling. We will entice you to get out and about though. Check out our Adrenaline Rush to see what I mean.

Meet me back here in the summer and we will exchange notes on where we have been. Are you following us on social media? We are active on all platforms **@SwankyRetreats**.

See you in the summer....

Peta

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THE SWANK TEAM



ALEXANDRA MAE
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

When you look up "wanderlust" in the dictionary odds are that a picture of me is in the definition.



AMY SEDEÑO
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

As a self-proclaimed @hotelista I do quite a bit of traveling, and from holding a tarantula in an ancient site in Guatemala to drinking high tea in Dubai, and petting grey whales in Baja, you bet I've got stories to tell.



ANDREW INNERARITY
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

I prefer to let the images do the talking.



ANN MARIE SCHEIDLER
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

"Thailand was the trip of a lifetime for this Chicago girl...a sensory overload in the best of ways. The people, the food, the landscape: all unforgettable."



AVA ROSALES
FEATURES EDITOR

Wherever the destination may be, it's the villa life for me.



BRIANA LOZANO
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

My favorite place to travel to is one I have never been to before! New cities, new sights, new food, new music, new people, new memories, new ways of life. The only way to truly know, is to see it for yourself. I am forever wanderlust. Thank you, Briana



DYLAN BENOIT
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

I'm a chef with Champagne taste and a beer budget, but always seem to find myself surrounded by the most amazing people in the most amazing places. From eating termites in the Honduran jungle to learning how to make dim sum in Hong Kong, for me treasure is in the story.



JEFFREY SOBEL
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

All I need is a book, a bourbon and a boat to a new destination - I'll be just fine.



SERGIO OLIVARES
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

When I am not at a music concert, you might catch me hunting down new and exciting roads to drive on the weekends. "I live my life a quarter mile at a time." - Dom Toretto.



SOPHIE IBBOTSON
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

I'm an entrepreneur, writer, and lover of wild places. I like nothing more than exploring new destinations with extraordinary landscapes, rich cultures, and preferably a sprinkling of remarkable wildlife, too. A jaw droppingly beautiful place to stay is the icing on the cake.



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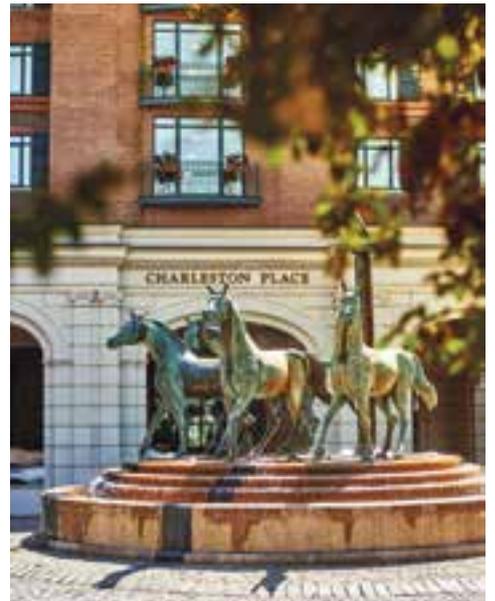


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SWELLEGANT STAYS

*The indefinable sense of style that makes us swoon:
swanky, swell & elegant.*



Belmond Charleston Place
Charleston, South Carolina

Belmond prides itself on gifting its guests with an intense sense of place while being a secluded sanctuary, at each of their exclusive destination hotels and experiences. They can only be summed up as such because the brand is synonymous with luxury yet not the expected definition of the word. Their portfolio is brimming with hotels, trains, boats, safaris, and restaurants; all with a singular feel of total immersion into opulence and local hospitality at the highest level. A prime example in North America is the Belmond Charleston Place. Visiting South Carolina there are a number of accommodation options where one can lay their head, but choosing Charleston Place shows that you know exactly what you are looking for in the destination. True Southern hospitality and all of its charm are found within the walls of this gorgeous hotel. If the dual staircase and lavish chandelier are meant to set the tone upon arrival, then, mission accomplished. Regardless of your persuasion, on any front, you will swoon over the attention to detail and nods to history within these walls that create a warm and welcoming environment. In this iconic urban sanctuary, pick the right room and floor and see the remnants of history beneath your balcony. The city may have its own tales to tell but the memories made at Charleston Place will be uniquely yours.





Whether your accommodations are on the Club Level or any other, know that Belmond takes every moment of your stay into thorough consideration. As they say, “Sleep is an indulgent affair.” So, as you drift off from your day’s adventures, you’ll still feel surrounded by lavish amenities as the supple nature of their bed and bedding envelope you for a sound night’s sleep. Experience Charleston from this privileged place and you’ll never look at history the same way again. The Charleston Grille, Palmetto Cafe, Thoroughbred Club, Clocktower Terrace, or Market are all enough to keep you satiated and stop you from heading out on the town for cocktails or meals, but what lays beyond the classic brick walls of this hotel is what may have enticed you to the city; what will keep you coming back is Belmond Charleston Place.

www.belmond.com

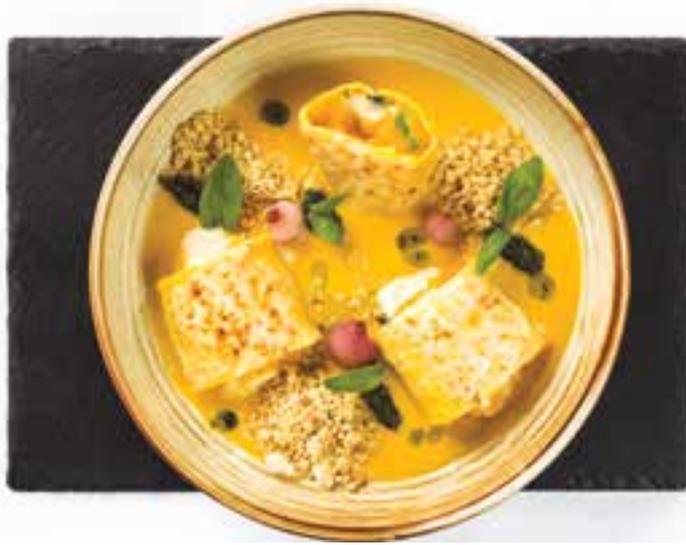


The Eastbury Hotel Sherborne, England

Built as a gentleman's residence in 1741, The Eastbury Hotel is in the lively historic town of Sherborne in Dorset, England. Luxurious and elegant, and retaining its splendid Georgian features, it is set within lovely walled gardens.

First opened as a hotel in the 1930s, The Eastbury was acquired by Lana de Savary in 2018. It has been totally refurbished as a 5-star luxury boutique hotel, with individually chosen furnishings and artworks. Choose from rooms in the house, in the garden suite with its four poster bed and whirlpool bath, or in one of the delightful eco-friendly stand-alone Victorian Potting Shed suites, which offer privacy and seclusion in their own gardens. The latest addition to the property is a self-catering cottage for six, adjacent to the hotel, with beamed ceilings and inglenook fireplaces in the living rooms, three luxurious bed and bathroom suites, and its own delightful garden with hot tub.

The hotel boasts the multi-award winning Seasons Restaurant for fine dining, including an innovative tasting menu with paired wine flights and locally sourced foods. In good weather, al fresco dining on the sunny terrace is a delight, and for the Christmas holidays you can book a decadent seven-course feast.





Within the hotel grounds is hidden the spa with its hydrotherapy pool, sauna, steam room, mini gym, and an outdoor hot tub. The grass-covered building is eco friendly, and in appearance it is reminiscent of a hobbit house in The Shire! More active guests at the hotel can play a traditional game of croquet on the lawn, and keep the family entertained with badminton, table tennis, and giant chess.

Within a short walk of The Eastbury Hotel and open to the public, is the Old Castle, a picturesque ruin once lived in by Sir Walter Raleigh. Sherborne Castle is nearby, too: it is a 16th century Tudor mansion set within a 1,200 acre park overlooking and its own lake.

www.theeastburyhotel.co.uk

Le Chalet by Amirsoy Chimgan, Uzbekistan

Imagine it is 2030. The world's best ski resort is in the Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan. Far fetched? Actually, no. Amirsoy Mountain Resort opened its doors to the public last December, and by the time it is complete and the neighbouring ski zones have been developed, it'll be a \$1 billion winter sports playground.

Right now, the most exclusive place to stay in the resort (which is less than two hours' drive from Uzbekistan's capital, Tashkent) is Le Chalet by Amirsoy. This village of 40 stylish wooden houses has a strong Alpine feel, and it comes into view in its own valley once you round the bend. When the snow is deep on the road, smart suited drivers with a small fleet of immaculate Lada Nivas - the iconic 4x4 of the former Soviet Union - will ferry you and your baggage from the main lodge down to your own chalet.







Though the chalets have Alpine exteriors, the interior design is more Scandinavian. The open plan kitchen, diner, and sitting room has an impressively sized open fire place and a stack of logs to burn on a cold winter's evening. Vintage ski photos in black and white decorate the walls, a potentially stark contrast with one's own performance on the slopes. Behind are a pair of bedrooms, both beautifully decorated and equipped.

Le Chalet by Amirsoy is a ski in, ski out property, and although only a small number of slopes and lifts were open this first season, it's a taste of what's to come. The powder is already gaining a reputation as the best in the world, the scenery is magnificent, there are uncountable routes for free riding, and if you fancy heli skiing, it costs a fraction of what you'd pay in Europe or the US.

If you don't have a penchant for cooking in your chalet, two restaurants - La Brasa and The Olive Garden - serve up delicious Uzbek and Mediterranean food. Each restaurant is within its own pop up igloo, and as one side of the dome is transparent, sunlight streams in throughout the day. The bars are well stocked and the cocktails are a well earned treat at the end of a day on skis.

www.amirsoy.com

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Bonjour mes amis,

In Europe, ski season is in full flow. I've come to Courchevel in the French Alps to breathe in the fresh mountain air, feast my eyes on the snow covered landscapes, and to explore Les Trois Vallées (the Three Valleys) the largest linked ski area in the world.

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meticulously. The colour
mountains themselves), a
lines between the lodge and

towards
and the pool
dipped my toes in
what a treat it'd be to come

There's no chance to swim in the gardens.
Hotel Mansour Eddahbi Marrakech. The spa area
and the outdoor swimming pool is a turquoise jewel. I can
at any great speed, for a few dozen lengths, then lounge
gently warm afternoon sun. A few guests were stretching
and I was tempted to enter the hammam, but in the end
glass of tea.

in set faster than I had expected, and at night
in the air. Couples cooed up to
Mansour Bar & Lounge, then
and grant diners a little
and occasional giggles.

LETTERS FROM...

By The Swank Team

crossing
the colour

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A LETTER FROM *Asia:* Borneo

By Sophie Ibbotson

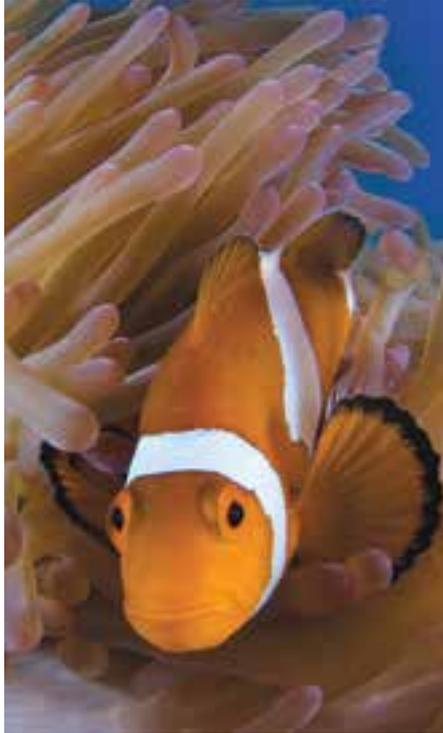


Greetings from Malaysia,

There's a new man in my life! I just had to write and tell you about him. He's irresistibly cute and agile, with a shock of auburn hair, and such a cheeky smile. His name is Archie. And we share so much in common: 97% of our DNA, in fact!

Before I lead you on too far, you should know that Archie is not my latest squeeze, but an orangutan. I have adopted him from the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre in Borneo. His mother was unable to care for him, so he had to be hand-reared, but now he is making good progress and learning essential orangutan skills so that one day he might survive in the wild. Coming to Malaysia, I wanted to learn about the rainforest, the creatures which live here, and the conservation challenges they face. It has been an eye opening experience.

Borneo is the largest island in Asia, and it supports one of the oldest rainforests in the world. Thousands of species of animals and plants are endemic. The orangutan is the most iconic, of course, but there are native elephants, rhinos, and cloud leopards, too. Deforestation for palm oil plantations, and other forms of human encroachment, threaten their habitats and call into question whether or not they can survive for another generation. Around the coast, proboscis monkeys with their oversized noses move through the upper reaches of the trees, there are sea turtles on the beaches, and below the waves the marine creatures are just as diverse as on land. In fact, it is estimated that 75% of all known ocean species can be found in what's known as The Coral Triangle. NGO Reef Check Malaysia is preserving this precious resource and helping damaged areas regrow.



I spent the first part of my trip in the rainforest of the Danum Valley Conservation Area, but now I am just off the northern tip of the Borneo in the Tunku Abdul Marine Park, looking out across the South China Sea. I am staying at Gaya Island Resort, where a small village of exquisitely designed villas cascades down to the water, the forest cloaked mountains – including Mount Kinabalu – dotted along the horizon. The only way to get here is by speed boat from Jesselton Point, and we raced across the water at quite a lick!

As the marine park is a protected area, sustainability and conservation are top priorities. I'm a guest in this spectacular, pristine natural environment, and it is my duty to tread lightly.

Gaya Island has its own marine centre which rescues, rehabilitates, and releases turtles. I saw a green sea turtle when I was snorkeling, and one of the highlights of my stay so far has been going down onto the beach at night to watch the turtle hatchlings scabbling their way down to the water's edge. Green sea turtles are endangered, and the hawksbill turtles are critically endangered, so it is a real privilege to be able to get close to them, and to meet the marine biologists who are responsible for protecting them.



I love being so close to the water. From the moment I first wake up, I can hear the splashing of the waves. Each morning I sit out on the veranda drinking my coffee and inhaling the sea breeze before wandering over for breakfast. I find this place incredibly peaceful. Part of it is the setting, yes, but there's a zen feeling to the design, too, and the staff who work here make everything seem effortless. It is their mission to rebalance body and soul, and already I feel all my cares and stresses drifting away.

If I ever go missing, look for me on Gaya Island.

With love,

Sophie

www.bit.ly/JSBorneo

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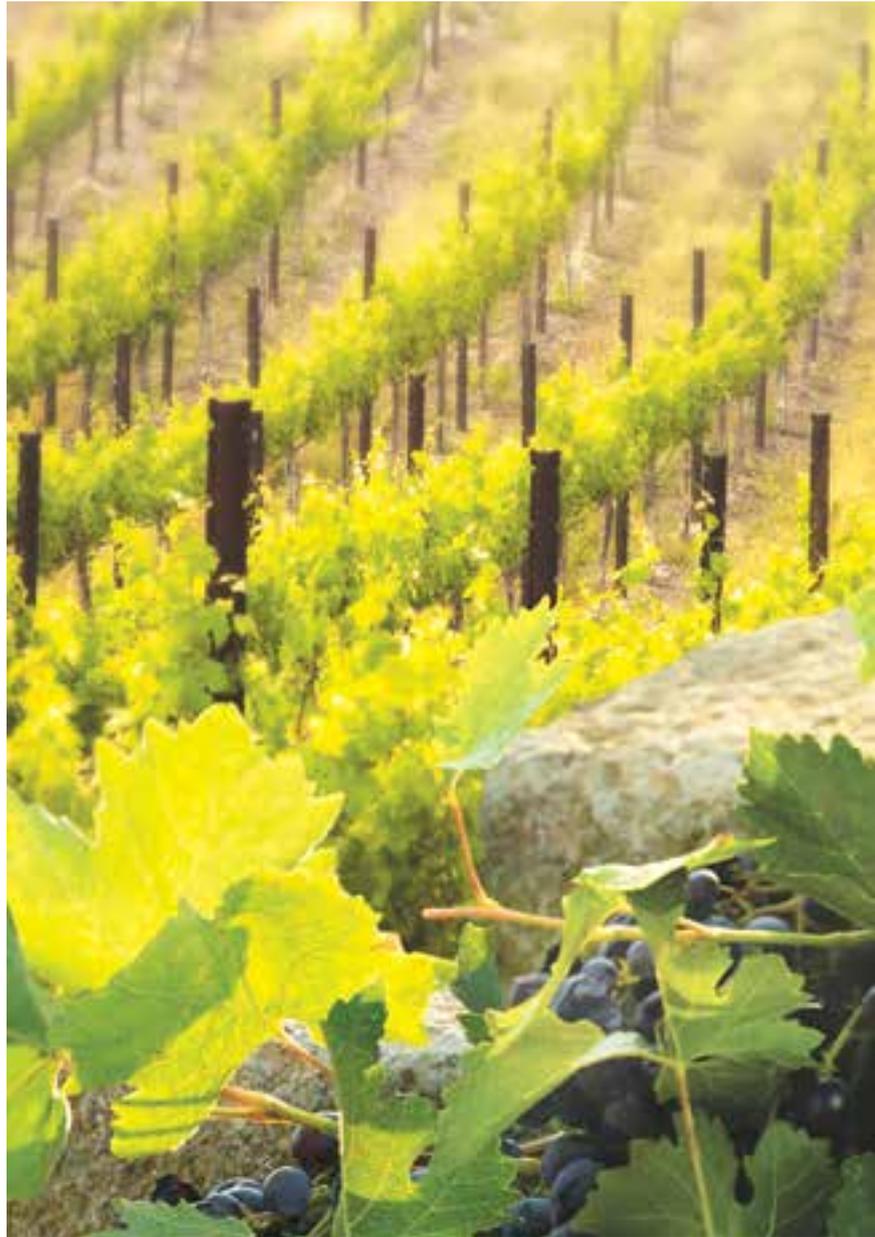




SWANKY SIPS: NORTH MACEDONIA

Story By Sophie Ibbotson

If you were an Ancient Roman or an Ancient Greek, what would you have drunk? New World wines were centuries away from their first vintages, and even the French wine industry was relatively new. If you had wanted something special to impress your guests, there is a good chance you would have looked to the Balkans and, in particular, to what is today North Macedonia. The wine makers here have 4,000 years of experience in viticulture. They supplied grapes to Alexander the Great and his soldiers, and traded large quantities of fine wines with the Romans.



The reason you are unlikely to have heard of – let alone tasted – Macedonian wines is that during the 20th century almost all the production was consumed within Yugoslavia. Few bottles made it further afield, and certainly not to the West. Fortunately for wine lovers, however, there has been a resurgence in wine making and, in particular, the production of high quality wines using traditional grape varieties, since the country became independent in 1991. The Vardar River Valley divides North Macedonia in two, and is now home to more than 21,000 hectares of vines and wine routes which will enable you to explore Macedonia's long winemaking heritage.







Skopje, North Macedonia's vibrant capital, sits on the upper part of the river. Inhabited since neolithic times, the city grew rich and influential as it was situated on a major trading route to Athens. Skopje's Byzantine aqueduct, the medieval Skopje Fortress, and the exquisite structures of the Church of Saint Panteleimon and Aladza Mosque, not to mention the quirky Brutalist architecture of the Telecommunication Centre and the Church of Saint Clement of Ohrid, reveal the multi-layered cultural complexity of the city and its people.

As a wine enthusiast, Skopje is likely to be your first port of call in North Macedonia. Flights land at Skopje International Airport, from where it is just a 20-minute drive to Chateau Kamnik, one of North Macedonia's newest but most exciting wineries.



Chateau Kamnik was founded in 2004, and within five years of planting its first vines, the winery was already winning international awards, taking the Trophée de Excellence at Les Citadelles du Vin in France in 2009. The accolades have continued stacking up, including a Gold Medal and the prestigious Regional Trophy for Central and Eastern Europe for Chateau Kamnik's Terroir Vranec 2011 Grand Reserva at the Decanter World Wine Awards in 2013. More recently, the winery won a medal at Syrah du Monde 2020, where it was ranked second on the list of Top Ten World Syrahs.



Currently, Chateau Kamnik has 17 hectares of vines, planted with 5,500 vines per hectare. The vineyards are on the southern slopes of the hills to the east of Skopje, at an altitude of 300m above sea level. The local microclimate keeps the soils warm in winter, whilst the light mountain breeze prevents temperatures rising too high in summer. This is important when daytime temperatures can easily reach 104 degrees Fahrenheit. The vines are immaculately kept and clearly flourishing, which makes for a magnificent view from the modern chateau housing the winery.

V

ranec is an indigenous grape in the Balkans, and 90% of all the Vranec vines in the world are growing in North Macedonia. The grape has a dark red colour and grows well in the region's humid climate and fertile soils. As

a wine, Vranec matures to a rich purple-red, with a strong body and wild berry aroma. Many sommeliers note overtones of chocolate, and some even suggest it can taste of coffee or liquorice, though in my mind it is the fruitiness of plums and pomegranates which dominates Vranec's flavour profile. World Vranec Day is celebrated on 5th October with a wine festival and tastings in Skopje. If you are keen to taste the full variety of Vranec wines, from as many as possible of North Macedonia's wine makers, this is the event to attend. It is conveniently at the end of the grape harvest in the later summer and fall, which adds to the festive atmosphere.

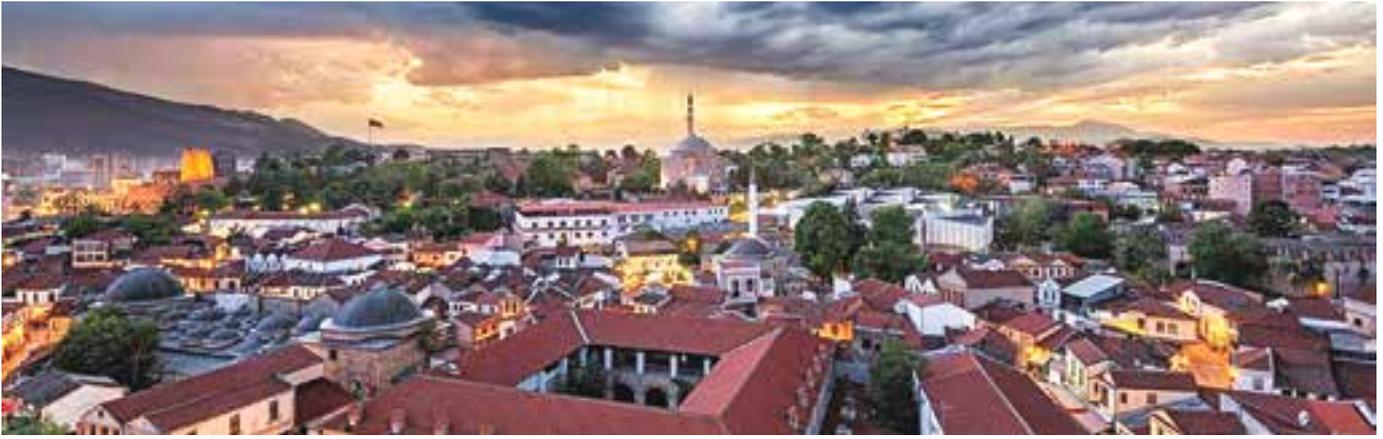
Although Vranec is culturally important in the Macedonian wine industry, Chateau Kamnik is able to grow and experiment with nearly 20 different grape varieties. Some, like Cabernet Sauvignon and Pino Grigio, will be very familiar; the likes of Greco di Tufo and Temjanika are a little more unusual. The same is true of the wines, which are made here in modern tanks, and then, in the case of the red wines, aged in French and American oak barrels for up to 32 months. The sparkling brut made with 100% Chardonnay, and the excellent Pinot Noir 2017 are a fine introduction to Chateau Kamnik, but it is then well worth being a little more adventurous and tasting something like The Orange, a powerful wine with a hint of honey, which gets its distinctive colour and flavour from six months of skin maceration, followed by several months of ageing in oak barrels.

Within the grounds of Chateau Kamnik, you will find The Hunter's Lodge, a meeting place for the Knights of the European Order of Wine Knights in North Macedonia. The order exists to nurture and preserve the diversity of European wine culture. Wine lovers are treated to a wine list of over 150 wines, including the very best Macedonian wines. These wines can be enjoyed in an extensive vertical or horizontal tasting, or paired with some superb homemade cuisine. The cold meats, selection of cheeses and salads will stimulate your palate and build up an appetite for specialties such as Chef's Game or Kamnik Beef Steak.









There is simple accommodation at The Hunter's Lodge should you wish to spend the night on site, but the best option is to stay nearby at Hotel Arka, a 5* property situated alongside Skopje's Old Bazaar. The commercial centre of the city since at least the 12th century, the Old Bazaar is one of the oldest and largest marketplaces in the Balkans. The hotel's views across the churches, mosques, tombs, and clock tower of this historic and undeniably photogenic part of the city are superb.

Hotel Arka's rooftop bar is the place to be as the sun sets over Skopje, though the seventh floor Panoramic Bar is a close contender. Minarets and domes are silhouetted against the roaring, fiery sky, and then the twinkling lights of the city turn on. On a warm summer's evening, with just the hint of a breeze, I can think of nothing I would rather drink than a glass of Chateau Kamnik's orange wine, and nowhere that I would rather be.

www.chateaukamnik.com
www.hotelarka.com



NEW TRAVEL TRENDS

Retreat to a Teton Tiny House: With sustainably built, LEED-certified “tiny house” cabins, Fireside Resort is Jackson Hole, Wyoming’s most innovative take on resort town lodging. The resort embraces modern, yet rustic design and presents a fresh approach to luxury lodging. Nestled in a wooded setting at the foot of the Teton Range, the cabins allow guests to get back to nature while enjoying the intimacy of a boutique hotel and the ambiance of their own cozy residence.

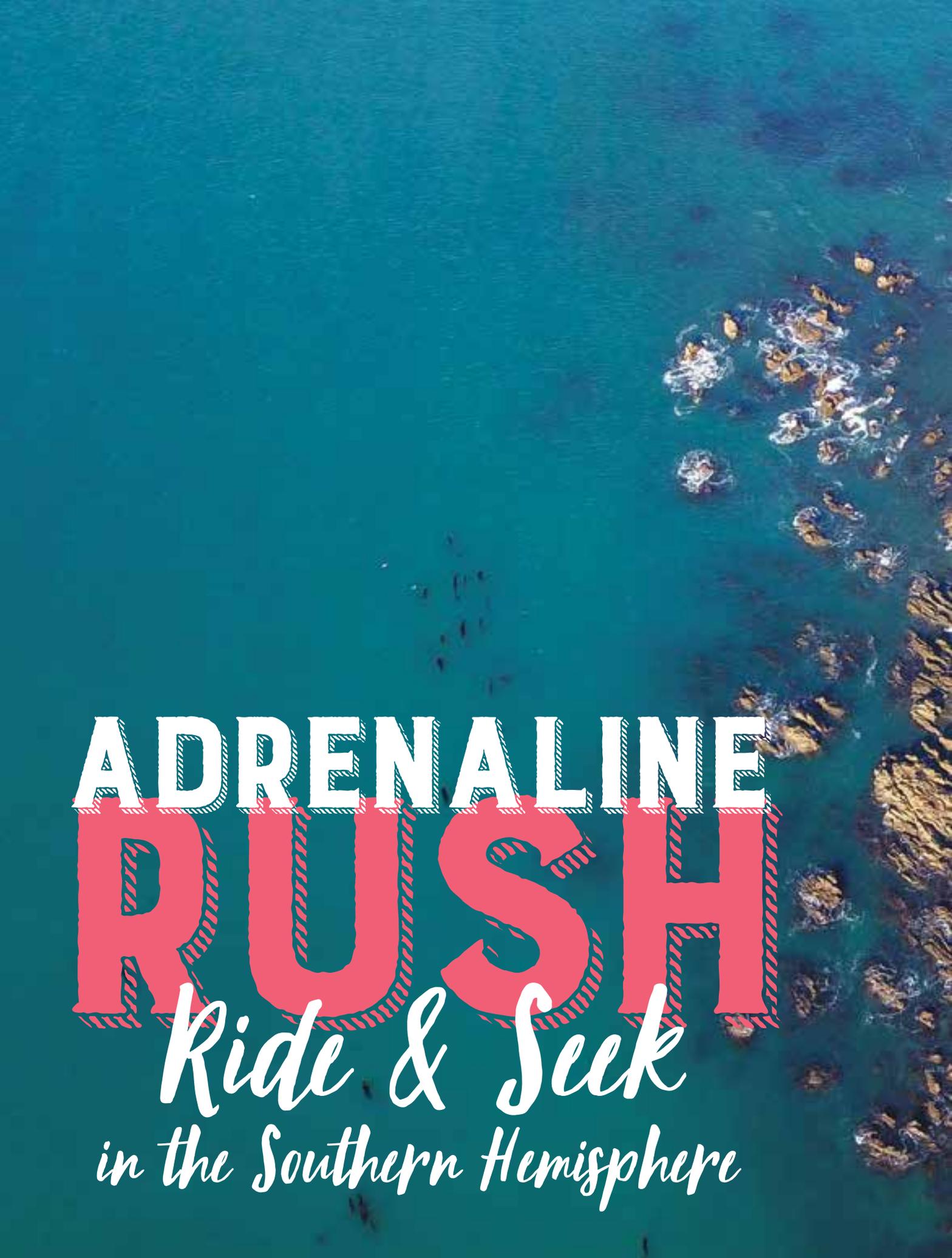
www.firesidejacksonhole.com



Channel Your Inner Cowboy: “Yellowstone,” the wildly popular cable television series starring Kevin Costner, has sparked newfound interest in luxury dude ranch vacations. Red Reflet Ranch, a 28,000-acre guest ranch in Ten Sleep, Wyoming, has experienced a surge of guests booking five-figure vacations because of their love for the series. Guests stay in fully-stocked private cabins and enjoy farm-to-table cuisine while participating in equestrian programs, cattle branding, hiking, mountain biking, ATVing, fly fishing, shooting, family-friendly activities and cooking classes.

www.red-reflet-ranch.net

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Wouldn't you love to finish each day at hand-picked hotels and lodges with ample opportunities to sample New Zealand's world-class wine, fresh seafood, and unique coffee culture. Broken into two stages, Auckland to Wellington and Wellington to Queenstown, the tour is slated for February 6 - March 1, 2021 and starts at €5,265 for one stage. For more information, visit www.rideandseek.com/tour/maori-new-zealand-auckland-to-queenstown

"This unique New Zealand cycling tour follows the journey of a fascinating and inspiring people who traveled across the ocean 700 years ago to arrive on the North Island near the start of our adventure," said Ride & Seek Founder Dylan Reynolds. "As their newly formed settlements grew, the Māori traveled south down through the land of volcanoes, geysers, and geothermal pools, which guests will experience by bicycle on this epic adventure."

New Zealand offers a distinctive bio-diversity comparable to the Galapagos Islands. The uniqueness of the flora and fauna, remarkable landscapes, and rich culture make this new offering an ideal 10th Edition to the Ride & Seek Epic Adventure roster. With a population of only 5 million and a geographic area similar to that of the United Kingdom, this new itinerary truly explores the road less traveled.









Tour highlights include:

- Cycling along the rolling coastline of Queen Charlotte Sound.
- Exploring the geothermal wonderland around Rotorua with its geysers bubbling mud pools.
- Cycling through the land of volcanoes made famous by the Lord of the Rings films.
- Ferrying from the North Island across the Cook Strait to the South Island.
- Experiencing Maori Culture and its fascinating history rich in song and dance.
- Photographing snow-covered peaks, glacier-filled valleys, waterfalls and the rugged coastline.
- Cycling up Mt. Mount Ruapehu, an active volcano.
- Wilderness Lodge Lake Moeraki, a premier nature lodge offering a natural paradise of ancient rainforest, pristine lakes and rugged beaches.
- Sampling New Zealand's phenomenal wines
- Numerous World Heritage National parks

About Ride & Seek: We are a worldwide adventure cycling company offering unique historical itineraries with quality lodging, fine gastronomy, and cultural immersion. On our tours, cyclists can not only see and ride some of the greatest roads in Europe but also visit some of the most spectacular sites as well. Providing a cultural insight into the areas we visit both historically and gastronomically is central to what we do. Historical journeys and cultural adventures are our specialties.

www.rideandseek.com

u see me

half page



Take Our Hand

Hometown Staycation
Story By Peta Phipps

A few days in Fort Lauderdale is all it took for a full refresh and a nice reentry into travel. Staying away from the usual suspects and indulging in a boutique hotel that is directly on the sand was my goal. Pelican Grand Beach Resort - one of the only true beachfront, boutique resorts on Fort Lauderdale beach. Being a local, I took an extended staycation right in my own back yard. We know, not everyone is as lucky as to have hometown's like this, but indulge us here while we share a piece of our paradise with you. Hopefully it will inspire you to venture this way when you can.

Here's what we did, so you can get a feel for this resort and a glimpse of the town, through our eyes. This will be the written personification of those famous shots on Instagram of the girl reaching back for the guy's hand and leading him all around the world. Let us put that experience into words by starting out with a stay where we pamper you with a luxurious two-night stay in one of the resort's luxury rooms and tempt your tastebuds with an indulgent "toes-in-the-sand" dining experience at OCEAN2000 - and take in the design details that make this resort shine. Picture a Southern mansion, inclusive of a wraparound veranda, replete with white rocking chairs and the perfect subtropical yellow hue on its exterior walls...all capped off with a hot tin roof. This resort was everything we needed and the perfect home base to enjoy stunning sunrises on our private balcony, indulging in mouth-watering culinary creations and even floating down Fort Lauderdale's only lazy river...as if the beach wasn't entertainment enough. We like having all the options at our disposal.



Wandering Las Olas Boulevard as a guest in our own backyard was different. We took time to see things we had not in years, taken the time to see, and do the things so many flock to this destination to explore. The memories we made during our stay at Pelican Grand Beach Resort will definitely last a lifetime. Here's what we did on and off-property:

We sipped, savored and sighed our way through the stay, starting our first evening out by grabbing pre-dinner drinks at O2K Lounge overlooking the resort's tropical pool and the Atlantic Ocean. We enjoyed a few Summer Harvest cocktails just before dinner. We highly recommend those, any time of the year. It's made with Grey Goose "La Poire" vodka, lemon, raspberries, simple syrup and fresh mint. We are definitely all about the pre-dinner drinks! Dinner on the Verandah gave us the ultimate waterfront dining delight at OCEAN2000. Nights here are not too shabby.

Take our hand and follow us just a bit longer as we head down to the famed Las Olas Blvd., the heartbeat of the city. Brunch at Louie Bossi is something not to be missed. I think nights at Louie Bossi rival the brunch scene, but either way you will be on the right side of fabulous! We can't make a recommendation on any one item food or beverage-wise...it's that amazing. Insider tip: say hello to Mike, the manager and if you're lucky enough to get Mike the server, you've hit the winning streak and I would run out and buy yourself a lottery ticket. These two are the heart and soul of this restaurant, in our humble opinion. The food and cocktails are beyond delectable, the atmosphere is vibrant and intoxicating, but these two make it special. Try to find a more hip, chic, delicious, and entertaining spot on all of Las Olas and let us know when your search ends right back at Louie Bossi.



We are not going to say, “You’re welcome!” Just yet because there’s oh so much to do in this city. Choices, Choices, Choices! There are water sports with options ranging from paddle boarding and kayaking, to para sailing and snorkeling, and kite surfing (for the skilled and the brave). In Fort Lauderdale, there are so many ways to spend a day on the ocean!

After attempting (we won’t say which one of the above) it was time for total relaxation at PURE Spa upstairs at Pelican Grand Beach Resort. This Scandinavian-inspired spa is on the 11th floor of the resort and even before our therapist laid hands on us, we were taken to another level of calm staring out at the ocean views. PURE Spa hit all the right notes from beginning to end and you should book your treatment before you ever arrive. It’s an intimate setting and you will not want to miss out on the experience.



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More choices, choices, choices abound. From shopping on Las Olas Boulevard to stroll down Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale to view the lush tropical waterfront located in the middle of an urban metropolis, there are memories to be made all around you. You may just want to do what we did to wind down our stay by lounging by the zero-entry pool, and floating down Fort Lauderdale's only lazy river then relaxing ocean-side while listening to the crashing waves.

Take our hand, take the trip, make the memories. We hope you enjoy the view of Fort Lauderdale from this resort as much as we did.

www.PelicanBeach.com

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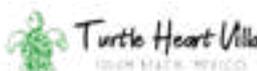
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For reservations, please visit www.Turtleheartvilla.com



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