SPRING ACCESSORIES: Vacation must-haves, from statement sandals to beach-ready tote bags

IBIZA
Slowing things down on Spain’s party island

KYOTO
A creative itinerary through Japan’s cultural capital

QUEBEC
Forest bathing in Tremblant’s designer cabins

A YEAR OF TRAVEL

On the road, again
Make the dramatic drive up California’s Central Coast
It’s time to put an end to “revenge travel” and plan more thoughtful getaways.

BY HEATHER GREENWOOD DAVIS

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY HEATHER GREENWOOD DAVIS
Editor’s Letter

Long way round

ales of the extended journeys magazine teams used to make to photograph endless fashion editorials in the 1950s and ’60s are legendary in the industry. At a time when the rise of jet travel instantly made shooting all over the world impossible to resist, crews would spend weeks exploring Japan or India or Turkey to anchor their storytelling – and the season’s new collections – in inspiring landscapes.

The Style Advisor team got a taste of that experience capturing this issue’s cover and fashion feature (“Along for the ride,” PAGE 26) on the California coast in late January. A pair of Jeeps stuffed to their headliners with boxes of preppy and surf-inspired attire spent five days making the drive from Big Sur to San Francisco as we captured as many roadside stops with jaw-dropping views as we could. All fashion editor fantasies aside, the trip was a lesson in how immersing yourself in a location (or two) lets you soak up its energy and end your getaway feeling like you have a deeper understanding of where you’ve been.

That way of thinking informs all our annual travel edition’s features, from Odessa Paloma Parker discovering how to slow down on a Mediterranean party island (“The other side of Ibiza,” PAGE 38) to Nadia Pizzimenti’s creatively immersive visit to Japan’s cultural capital (“Eye on Kyoto,” PAGE 42). Experiences like these require a big investment of time, but their value is immeasurable.

Andrew Sardone
Editorial Director

Contributors

The faces behind this issue share where they’re headed in 2024

For this edition, Toronto-based travel writer and television personality HEATHER GREENWOOD DAVIS wrote “Best intentions” (PAGE 46), where she makes the case for ditching revenge travel in favour of a more transformational approach to exploration. When it comes to planning her 2024 jaunts, she says she’ll be taking her own advice and letting intentionality guide the itinerary. “Trips to Antarctica and Portugal are on tap, as well as some down time in the Montana woods,” she says.

Photographer LUANA FAILLA turned her lens on Spain’s notorious party island, where she lives, for “The other side of Ibiza” (PAGE 38), a look at how the hotspot is now being embraced as a wellness destination. “It is always fun shooting people in Ibiza as they are quite eclectic and individual but they all have two things in common: friendliness and hospitality,” she says.

With a new book titled Jefas, which documents some of Spain’s top female chefs, and a specialty in food photography, it’s no wonder Failla’s dream travel destination for 2024 is Japan, a country she believes has one of the most exciting gastronomic cultures in the world.

Over the past decade, contributing beauty editor CAITLIN AGNEW has travelled around the world for The Globe. This year, she’s already hiked Mexico City off her travel bucket list and says that she’s hoping to make an overdue trip to Berlin, where she lived for several months on a high school exchange. “Going from living on the outskirts of Sudbury to the German capital was a transformative experience,” she says. “Time there always brings me back to that adolescent energy.” For this issue, she highlights the season’s beauty news for Beauty Essentials (PAGE 19) and spotlights new launches from skincare brand Tatcha in Omnibus (starting on PAGE 10).
Faubourg calling
Across disciplines

The stops on this season’s creative grand tour distill how fashion, design, visual art and travel often converge. Immerse yourself in British style at one of England’s grandest country piles; buy a souvenir of Loewe’s spring collaboration with sculptor Lynda Benglis; and tour London through the lens of craft

To Do List

**MARCH**

1. For its 24th edition, the BIENNALE OF SYDNEY (biennaleofsydney.art) is set to showcase an array of local and international creatives including Diane Burns, Pacific Sisters and Darrell Sibosado. Sibosado, a Bard man from Western Australia, navigates the narrative-laden geometry of riji (pearl shell) designs through his visual vocabulary (pictured).

2. Blenheim Palace (blenheimpalace.com) in Oxfordshire, U.K., becomes England’s fashion capital (temporarily, at least) with the opening of the show ICONS OF BRITISH FASHION. Noted for being the site’s largest exhibition to date, it transforms its many splendorous rooms to pay homage to famed names and brands from Zandra Rhodes, Stella McCartney & Asser and Barbour.

3. A new Monacelli title (phaidon.com), CONTEMPORARY ART UNDERGROUND: MTA ARTS & DESIGN NEW YORK, hits the shelves. Expect to find an eclectic and electrifying array of artists – from Nick Cave and Alex Katz to Kiki Smith and Sarah Sze – represented in the book, which celebrates a decade of projects at subway and rail stations for “New York’s Underground Art Museum.”

4. The inaugural CANADIAN ART BUSAN (artbusan.com), launched by the Art Dealers Association of Canada, is on until April 28, boasting a range of openings and programming across the country.

5. The narrative-laden geometry of riji (pearl shell) designs through a new exhibition, ICONEA OF SYDNEY (biennaleofsydney.art) will be showcased in Sydney. The exhibition features the work of many international artists, including Yayoi Kusama and David Hockney.

6. Influential American artist Lynda Benglis crafted six undulating bronze sculptures for the LOEWE (loewe.com) Spring 2024 runway show in Paris. Now, an emotive jewellery offering made by the Spanish brand and sculptor are available to turn wardrobes into works of art.

7. Opening at the Ronnen Glass Box Theater in the Jeffrey E. Gundlach Building at the Buffalo AKG Art Museum (buffaloakg.org) is Turner Prize-nominated interdisciplinary artist Sin Wai Kin’s exhibition IT’S ALWAYS YOU. The Toronto-born, London-based artist comments on the commodification of identity through video and photographic works, which have an added element of ingenuity thanks to phenomenal hair and makeup effects.

8. The inaugural LONDON CRAFT WEEK (londoncraftweek.com) runs until May 29. Exhibitions, open houses, workshops and more will crop up throughout the sprawling city’s diverse boroughs.

9. As part of the programming for his conceptually-ambitious exhibition, NIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF LOVE, at the Aga Khan Museum (agakhanmuseum.org), British artist Shezad Dawood will speak at the Museum’s Nanji Family Foundation Auditorium about his practice and collaborative processes.

10. A new Monacelli title (phaidon.com), CONTEMPORARY ART UNDERGROUND: MTA ARTS & DESIGN NEW YORK, hits the shelves. Expect to find an eclectic and electrifying array of artists – from Nick Cave and Alex Katz to Kiki Smith and Sarah Sze – represented in the book, which celebrates a decade of projects at subway and rail stations for “New York’s Underground Art Museum.”

**APRIL**

1. Baby Gallery for a show called Icons of British Fashion. The stops on this season’s creative grand tour distill how fashion, design, visual art and travel often converge. Immerse yourself in British style at one of England’s grandest country piles; buy a souvenir of Loewe’s spring collaboration with sculptor Lynda Benglis; and tour London through the lens of craft.
Hidden in the forest of Quebec’s Tremblant region is a collection of holiday cabins created by Montreal-based Hinter. Inspired by Norwegian and Japanese design, the minimalist structures of wood, stone and glass immerse visitors in the nature around them, and the simplicity of their design encourages guests to slow down. “At the base of Hinter is how to mix architecture and nature to make you feel better, and how you can create spaces that can create space in your mind,” says Mauricio Padilla, the company’s founder.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12
For a limited time only, experience Oceania Cruises’ small ship luxury for less with incredible savings of up to 40% off on select 2024 sailings plus the generous amenities of simply MORE.

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**Omnibus**

Padillo and Emily Padan, Hinter’s co-owner and experience designer, worked with Montreal-based firm MRDK and architect Nicolas Chaudier to create four cabins: Hinterhouse, Hintercabin x, Hinterhideout x and Hintershelter. They range in size – two or three bedrooms in 970 to 1,500 square feet – and are equipped with full kitchens, fireplaces and heated floors. Most have an outdoor hot tub or sauna – Hinterhideout x has both.

Similar design principles apply to all the cabins: clean lines, landscape-inspired colour palettes and open-concept layouts that allow easy movement and ample viewpoints to the trees, rivers and mountains surrounding them. Some also incorporate features that allow guests to play with the configuration of the buildings. For example, Hinterhouse features cedar shutters on a sliding track. “They mimic the look of the exterior of the house. You can move them to play with covering and uncovering windows and play with light. You’re also playing with privacy,” Padan says. “It becomes not just four walls and windows, but a little bit of a playground.”

Sixty per cent of Hinterhouse is glass, and the entire dwelling can be covered with the shutters. “It becomes like a lantern at night when you close the shutters and turn on the lights inside,” Padillo says. “You can transform the house as much as you want.”

Photography by David Dworkind, Katrina Ramsvik (HINTER), John Athimaritis (RAFFLES LONDON).

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**HOTELS**

**Historic centre**

London’s revamped Old War Office houses the first Raffles in England

The Old War Office is known for many things, among them, being Winston Churchill’s station while he was Secretary of War and, later, where decisions were made for D-Day. It was where MI5 and MI6 were conceived and was a frequent hideaway for James Bond author Ian Fleming, who would make use of the libraries. Today, the OWO (pronounced “oh-whoa”) is the site of Raffles first hotel in the U.K., a stunning property in London’s Whitehall district with 10 Downing Street and Scotland Yard as neighbours.

You’ll find everything you’d expect from a Raffles here: impeccable service, beautiful rooms with lush duvets and an impressive cocktail list featuring British ingredients in the Guards Bar and Lounge, the cozy cocktail bar on street level. But the work the company did to innovate in the space while preserving history is where the hotel really shines.

The grand staircase (pictured below), which has guest reception tucked behind it, was the epicentre of daily meetings Churchill would hold during the Second World War. Five heritage suites are repurposed former offices used by the likes of War Secretary Lord Haldane. Original wood paneling, marble, fireplaces and other historic details have been preserved in the suites, which can be reserved for events or overnight stays. Guests can book a tour of the hotel’s historical public spaces during their stay.

There’s as much going on below ground as there is above. The subterranean Spy Bar is for hotel guests only and features one of James Bond’s Aston Martins floating above the bar. The spacious, four-floor, 27,000-square-foot Guerlain spa offers guests and day visitors an underground sanctuary. Amenities include a 20-metre swimming pool, sauna and steam room. Argentine chef Mauro Colagreco leads three of the hotel’s eight restaurants, including a chef’s table experience and Saison, his more relaxed Mediterranean-focused restaurant housed in a former library. – M.S.

Stays from £390/night through thewowo.london.

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**BEAUTY**

**Matcha point**

Tatcha’s Japanese-inspired skincare helps care for oily complexions

**TRAVEL TO JAPAN** has inspired countless Western creative types and entrepreneurs, from architect Frank Lloyd Wright to filmmaker Sofia Coppola. For Vicky Tsai, a trip to Kyoto in 2009 led her to launch her Tatcha line of skincare. Suffering from burnout after working on Wall Street for a decade, the visit moved her to create a collection informed by Japanese beauty traditions.

Today, Tatcha is a top seller at Sephora. This season, the brand is expanding its reach with the launch of the Matcha Cleanse, a facial cleanser designed to care for the unique needs of oily complexions. Although it’s tempting to wash oily skin with a harsh formula that leaves behind a squeaky-clean surface, strong cleansers can disrupt the skin’s natural balance, resulting in the production of more oil that leaves a greasy surface. The Matcha Cleanse is a fragrance- and soap-free gel that decongests pores without irritating skin, controlling oil for improved makeup wear throughout the day. Its star ingredient is Japanese Kyo-Matcha – a.k.a. “the princess of green tea” – sourced from Uji, Japan, where it’s grown under a parasol for a few weeks before harvest, a practice that increases the tea’s amount of the amino-acid theanine.

“When I visited Japan last year, I was so impressed by how meticulously they cleansed and cared for their skin, and how simple and intentional each step of their rituals was,” says Daniel Martin, Tatcha’s director of artistry. “For me, a lot of that comes down to luxurious product textures and wanting to put it on the skin.” – CAITLIN AGNEW

**Stays from $230/night through hinter.com.**
Portuguese visual artist Joana Vasconcelos designed the Bombom collection for Roche Bobois. It comprises a range of seats and decorative accessories with bold, delectable shapes suited for both indoor and outdoor use.

Bombom Collection, designed by Joana Vasconcelos.
Omnibus

PHOTOS BY MATHIEU BONNIN (CHANEL).

Case study

VANCOUVER LUGGAGE COMPANY Monos is on a roll, one that by all appearances is as smooth as the 360-degree spinner wheels on its suitcases. The brand not only weathered the pandemic’s travel restrictions but, in the past two years, has been in rapid expansion mode, one that is informed by the Japanese concept from which its name originated. “Mono no aware” is the “profound appreciation of fleeting moments,” says Kathleen Westerhout, senior director of product at the company, “and we really take that into consideration for how we build the brand.”

Spring 2022 saw the launch of a clothing line, a capsule of T-shirts and long-sleeve tops, shorts and pants made in Vancouver of cotton with a bit of stretch that offers the kind of comfort and ease that’s perfect for air travel. Last year, the company added a small collection of linen pieces meant to be worn in the heat. “They’re great styles to travel with to warm places or to just lounge in the warmer weather here,” Westerhout says. Monos also established a brick-and-mortar presence in Vancouver, a spacious shop with grand arches that evoke the feeling of emerging from a jetway into the airport at a new destination. It’s what Amanda Calouro, senior director of retail expansion, calls “a little bit of escapism within the city.”

This year, Toronto will get its own shop, on Ossington Avenue. “We’ve really leaned into the localization of Ossington’s Portuguese heritage, so there will be a bit of a unique flair to the design palette,” Calouro says. Suitcases, packing accessories and clothing will be available as well as a new monogram lettering service that will invite shoppers to personalize a luggage tag. – M.S.

Toronto’s Monos store is scheduled to open in the summer of 2024. For more information, visit monos.com.

Location, location

One of the world’s first concept stores prepares for its next evolution

IT’S UNCLEAR WHETHER Carla Sozzani, the Italian multi-hyphenate who launched the fabled concept store 10 Corso Como in 1991, knew what an enduring impact its premise would have – or, what changes it would undergo throughout its still-unfolding history.

Reputed to be a first-of-its-kind idea that came to unify artistic programming along with retail and hospitality components under one chic roof, the Milan address and its brand was acquired by entrepreneur Tiziana Fausti in 2020. This past fall, its new owners announced that a massive project to re-envision, redesign and renovate the iconic space was underway.

Interdisciplinary agency 2050+, founded by Ippolito Pestellini Laparelli (formerly a partner at OMA), was tasked with evolving 10 Corso Como’s lauded reputation as a cultural hub. New “environments” in the building will be unveiled in different stages beginning this spring. Along with exclusive product launches – past 10 Corso Como collaborators include Giorgio Armani, Kvadrat, Raf Simons, MM6 Maison Margiela and K-Way – shoppers will see a schedule of public exhibitions and events roll out.

Within 10 Corso Como’s updated walls, expect to see a string of shows activated by art critic and curator Alessandro Rabotti, as well as fashion-focused exhibitions curated by Alessio de’Navasques, a lecturer at Sapienza University in Rome. A selection of rare books, global magazine titles, design and tech-centric pieces will be part of its product lineup. Given its firm place atop the annals of design-minded spaces, it will all be worth the wait. – ODESSA PALOMA PARKER

For more information, visit 10corsocomo.com.

Fashion

Med moment

The villa Noailles in the South of France grounds Chanel’s spring collection

RAIN POUNDED THE COBBLESTONE streets of Paris’ left bank on the morning of Chanel’s Spring-Summer 2024 ready-to-wear show in October. But inside the Grand Palais Éphémère, a temporary exhibition space set up in the Champ-de-Mars while the Grand Palais proper is revamped for this summer’s Olympic Games, projected collages of oversized florals and images of the south of France filled the walls. Along with a runway cast wearing beachy stripes, multicoloured tweeds and bold hues, it was an uplifting statement of the vibrant season to come.

“This Spring-Summer 2024 Ready-to-Wear collection is an ode to liberty and to movement and tells a story that has its origins in the gardens of the villa Noailles,” noted creative director Virginie Viard in the presentation’s show notes. The International Style home, constructed in 1923 on the Mediterranean in Hyères by architect Robert Mallet-Stevens, is often the backdrop for Chanel’s culture-focused moments, including its sponsorship of Hyères’ annual International Festival of Fashion, Photography and Fashion Accessories. For Viard, however, her main focus was the property’s landscape including a geometric grid of beds that are studded by garden aficionados for how they soften modernism’s stark angles.

“Simplicity and informality, the tweed throughout the collection, sports-wear and lace: I tried to bring one thing and its opposite together in the coolest way possible,” noted Viard. “And the gardens and swimming pool of the villa Noailles, that exceptional setting, lend themselves to that rather well.” The elements that anchored the collection’s wanderlust included jackets in striped terrycloth, colourful Bermuda shorts and camera-shaped bags in the house’s signature quilted leather.

– ANDREW SARDONE

For more information, visit chanel.com.
Essentials
INSIGHT & ACQUISITIONS

JUST BEACHY
Spring’s bold accessories take you from street to sand

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SATY+PRATHA

FEET FIRST
In terry cloth, suede or richly hued leather, these slides easily transition from deck to dinner. Maryam Nassir Zadeh blue suede sandals, $540, Jil Sander red leather sandals, $880 at Ssense (ssense.com). Missoni sandals, $530 at Holt Renfrew (holtrenfrew.com).
IN THE BAG
A more structured tote allows you to pack all your pool essentials and does double duty as an everyday carryall.
Marni teal tote, grey tote, price on request through marni.com.
Isabel Marant tote, $310 through isabelmarant.com.

LENS FLAIR
For eyewear, set your sights on a novel combo of colourful acetate, retro shapes and translucent lenses.
COS x Linda Farrow tan sunglasses, $910 at COS (cos.com). Nanushka coral sunglasses, $385 through nanushka.com.

PATTERN PLAY
Towel prints take inspiration from fashion fabrics including checks, pin stripes and op-arty geometric motifs.

IN THE SWIM

You never know when an opportunity to go for a dip might appear, so it's best to dress in a swim-ready ensemble at all times. Miu Miu's hot take on this spring trend focuses on neoprene swim trunks and briefs, smartly styled with collegiate blazers, polos and button-up shirts. Choosing swimwear that exhibits more fashion than function, such as Isa Boulder's braided boudoir-esque bikini, will add a warm weather glow to any layer that slips on top of it (especially a muted Saks Potts leather skirt suit). With its towel-like texture, OAS's one-shoulder suit brings the spirit of the pool wherever you go and is a bold base layer under Elcie's crisp cotton Oxford. For a more subtle look, Eres' ribbed swimsuit easily passes for a sleeveless T-shirt when it's worn with Tove's loose linen trousers. – NADIA PIZZIMENTI

BIJOUX BTS

The L’École School of Jewelry Arts was founded over a decade ago with the support of Van Cleef & Arpels. Now, its Paris location has a new address in an 18th-century mansion, the Hotel de Mercy-Argenteau. Anyone can sign up for its program of courses, conferences and exhibitions, which are geared toward beginners, collectors and those with a love of the shinier things in life. Classes cover the history of jewellery, the world of gemstones and the savoir-faire of jewellery-making techniques. It’s one of five École schools around the globe, including outposts in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Dubai. If you’d rather look than create, the space also hosts temporary exhibitions such as Stage Jewels of the Comédie-Française, which traces the history of jewellery in collaboration with the French theatrical institution. – N.P.

L’École School of Jewelry Arts classes range from €0 to €60 through lecolevancleefarpels.com.

PACKING LIST

WANZE SONG

This Canadian designer is on the fast track to becoming a household name in fashion. Her label, Wanze, started in 2020 with the Dumpling Bag and has since blossomed into a full men’s and women’s clothing line of crisp shirts, draped jersey and hip-slung bottoms. Song often travels to New York and Paris, gathering inspiration at galleries, museums and from people she passes in the street. Her travel must-haves are equally eclectic

IN STEP

“One of my favourite shoes for travelling. It’s comfortable for walking long hours and good for the airplane ride. It’s also easy to style.” Birkenstock Tokio Super Grip clogs, $210 at Lost and Found (shoplostfound.com).

COLOUR THEORY

“I love all Officine Universelle Buly products, ranging from lip balm to perfume and oils. I’ve always used a comb to brush my hair.” – N.P. Officine Universelle Buly 1803 comb, €37.50 through buly1803.com
The tail end of 2022 saw our mania for bows reach an all-time high, with dainty ribbons tied to everything from wine bottles to tapered candles. These delightful gestures are part of a broader “coquette” trend, a pretty-in-pink TikTok aesthetic centred on hyper-feminine playfulness and best exemplified by the fashion creations of designers Sandy Liang and Simone Rocha.

When it comes to participating in the movement through cosmetics, no coquette look is complete without a bold flush, a classic look that made its way to the spring runways. At Chanel and Coperni, fresh faces were given a light dusting of pink along the cheeks. To keep your glow looking natural this season, French beauty company Guerlain recently added six shades of blush to its Riviera-ready Terracotta collection. According to Violette Serrat, creative director of Guerlain Makeup, this new addition is meant to complement its sun-kissed bronzer in imparting a healthy, glowing complexion. “The bronzing powder warms up the complexion,” she says. “Adding blush on top brings freshness and radiance.” – CAITLIN AGNEW

MEN UP
The Belmont Clinic shakes up wellness with its list of male-focused services

Until recently, most health and wellness clinics kept their focus on female aesthetics. But in Toronto, that landscape is evolving with the opening of the Belmont Clinic, a space dedicated to the needs of men. Founded by urologist Dr. Shawn Soon, the practice offers aesthetic treatments including Botox, microneedling and hyaluronic acid fillers, which improve skin quality and appearance, and non-surgical hair restoration. Also on the menu are new treatments for medical and aesthetic concerns below the belt. To help put patients at ease, the Belmont has a decidedly residential feel, one that’s befitting of its location in a Victorian home. It was designed by Toronto interior design studio ACDO, whose co-founders, Abe Chan and Sam Khousvansavan, cut their teeth at Yabu Pushelberg. “I wanted to create a clinic that actually felt like a home so that patients would come here and feel comfortable discussing whatever was bothering them,” Soon says.

The Belmont eschews the typical clinical atmosphere, instead featuring warm finishes, a neutral colour palette and homely spaces. Decorated more like a stylish friend’s apartment than a doctor’s waiting room, the reception area is furnished with a cream bouclé sofa, Sonos speakers and a round coffee table free of any dog-eared stacks of magazines. Pop up a quick flight of stairs beneath a skylight and there are two treatment rooms, each decorated with artwork befitting a trendy boutique hotel. – C.A.

For more information, visit belmontclinic.ca.

PACKING LIST
LISA MATTAM

When she founded Sahajan in 2015, Lisa Mattam was one of the first to bring Ayurveda to mainstream beauty, incorporating the 5,000-year-old science into her plant-based skincare and haircare. Frequent flyers will recognize Sahajan from the in-room amenities offered at Ritz-Carlton and W Hotels around the globe. On the go across North America or visiting family in India, Mattam always makes sure she has her favourite clean beauty go-tos close at hand

CLEAN SLATE
“The Essential Cleansing Oil [in this kit] is a necessity on vacation. It melts makeup and SPF away but leaves my skin hydrated and glowing.”
Sahajan The Discovery Kit, $75 through sahajan.com.

CARRY-ON APPROVED
“Everist does a waterless body wash that comes in a little tin. Then you just add water to it. The smell is divine and they are clean formulations which aren’t often found in hotels.”
Everist The Body Wash Concentrate Travel Mini, $12 through helloeverist.com.

PERFECT VISION
“It’s pretty lightweight and definitely opens up your eyes but just gives you a very natural look.” – C.A.
Tok Beauty Eyes That Tok Lash Enhancing Mascara, $32 through tokbeauty.ca
GENEVA TIME

One of the industry’s big watch fairs invites the world to Switzerland this spring

For most of its centuries-long history, luxury watchmaking has been a business conducted behind closed doors, from the secretive ateliers where watches are made to the annual trade shows where industry insiders gather to marvel at the latest creations. For three days this April, however, the world’s top watch brands will open their doors to the public at Watches and Wonders Geneva, the biggest industry trade show of the year. Along with Time to Watches, another show focused on smaller brands that takes place the same week, Watches and Wonders Geneva turns the city into a destination for the timepiece obsessed.

In addition to street performers, food trucks and an outdoor dance party that enliven Geneva’s historic centre, the fairs themselves offer unique opportunities for fans of luxury watches (a cohort that has boomed in recent years) to attend panels, try on new pieces and rub elbows with the industry’s most influential people.

“[If you do a trade show today, you have to be more interactive],” says Ben Küffer, the CEO and co-founder of Norqain, a brand specializing in modern sports watches. “We see it as a huge opportunity to interact with customers and collectors.” Norqain’s booth will be outfitted like an alpine chalet, with a large bar, a station for visitors to design their own timepieces and product specialists eager to walk visitors through the newest releases.

“It’s unprecedented,” says V1 Geronimo, CEO for the Americas of Swiss watchmaker Oris, describing the atmosphere of Watches and Wonders Geneva, which he says is part of a wider generational shift in the watch industry toward inclusivity and accessibility. “It gives people the opportunity to experience something they’ve never been able to see before.” Whether that’s enjoying a cocktail while admiring a newly released watch from a stalwart Swiss house or dancing to a DJ set overlooking Lake Geneva, it’s an experience that can now be added to every watch enthusiast’s bucket list. – JEREMY FREED

Watches and Wonders is open to the public from April 13 to 15. For more information, visit watchesandwonders.com.

IN THE ZONE

Citizen’s latest GMT handsomely tracks time around the world

Whether you’re riding a foreign metro or a bullet train, every traveller needs a reliable way to keep track of time on the rails, and you may not always have a free hand to dig into your pocket for a phone. With two time zones visible at a glance and a textured dial inspired by the Tokyo skyline, the new Citizen Series8 GMT is an ideal vacation companion. It builds on a legacy going back to the 1950s, when GMT watches were introduced to help pilots keep track of multiple time zones in the air. Like most of its predecessors, the Series8 GMT features a bicolour bezel (which differentiates AM from PM) and a colourful GMT hand that points to home time on a 24-hour bezel. – J.F.

Citizen Series8 GMT, $2,295 through citizenwatch.com.

PACKING LIST

BAHZAD TRINOS

Born in Mississauga, Ont., and now based in Tokyo, apparel designer Bahzad Trinos’s love of Japanese textiles is matched only by his passion for vintage video games and digital watches. A seasoned world-traveller, Trinos spends more than 100 days on the road each year promoting Wonder Looper, his line of Japanese-made T-shirts and sweats.

“Hotels and airport lounges have been a big part of my life for a long time,” he says before naming off his frequent flier essentials

“[T]he weight of the fabric gives
a tailored look.”

Wonder Looper Double Heavyweight T-Shirt, $52 through wonderlooper.com.

“I grew up playing a lot of video
games, but now that I’m older
I don’t have the time to learn the
new ones. I use this pocket-sized
multi video-game system
to play all my old games.”

Analogue Pocket, US$220 through analogue.co.
LIFE IN COLOUR
A shoe boutique in Toronto shines a spotlight on the bold palette of Quebec artist Jeraume.

In the Toronto flagship of Montreal footwear brand Maguire, you’ll find a set of commissioned works by Jeraume, the mononymous artist based in the Quebec City region who’s known for his deft work with coloured pencils. The pair of cheery images, done in his signature saturated strokes with carefree momentum, capture not only a pair of boots from Maguire’s collection but also charming chairs and a lamp. “My art always has a connection, whether direct or indirect, to spatial design, architecture, furniture design or object design,” Jeraume says. “These are passions that I enjoy incorporating into my drawings.”

A self-confessed collaboration lover who counts his local cadre of creative friends (as well as multidisciplinary artist Hester Oerlemans and graphic designer Day Stay Hay) as daily inspirations, Jeraume has created a custom illustration for the specialty coffee company Café Pista and produced original drawings for lighting brand Luminaire Authentik. Another recent project with the publishing house Papercote features a range of postcards and posters flaunting iconic architectural locations in Montreal, including Habitat 67 and the city’s casino.

This year, Jeraume will mount a summer exhibition in Montreal featuring large-format artworks and debut a collaboration with Pinzle, an illustrator agency in Seoul. He also wants to design a book. “Not a novel,” he says, “but a substantial, weighty book showcasing all my creations from the past years. I have a lot of archives, and I think the pieces could become a beautiful object to casually leave on the living room table.” – ODESSA PALOMA PARKER

For more information, visit jeraume.com.

PACKING LIST
DANIEL FARIA

The founder of the eponymous Toronto art gallery represents notable names including Douglas Coupland and goes to Portugal at least once a year toting his travel must-haves. He and his partner, Rui Amaral, are both Portuguese and grew up visiting the Azores with family. Lisbon, however, is a location the pair discovered together. Faria says their trips include popping into independent galleries such as Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art. “She’s the doyenne of the Lisbon gallery scene,” Faria notes. “It’s a must visit because she’s such a character.”

MAP QUEST
“I ordered it because it highlights notable architecture in the city including institutions like the Gulbenkian Foundation.”
Modern Lisbon map, $17 through bluecrowmedia.com.

FRAGRANT FIND
“I love coming back to where we’re staying and relaxing with this candle, which I pick up in Toronto at the salon Medulla & Co. The scent is grounding.”
Light - Palo Santo beeswax candle, $58 through tuliz.com.

SKIN REFRESH
“Nothing’s better after an overnight flight than applying this serum. It’s firming, rich and soothing, and boosts radiance.” – O.P.P.
Powerful Strength Line-Reducing Concentrate with Vitamin C, $98 at Kiehl’s (kiehls.ca).

ISLAND HOPPING
In the Caribbean, one sun destination shines a light on its local creative scene.

Since it was founded in 2021 by Natalie Urquhart, director and chief curator of the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands, Cayman Art Week has focused on promoting local talent and the gallery scene to an international audience. The fourth edition this spring will run programming across each of the three Cayman Islands at 30-plus venues, with its schedule highlighting studio visits, bus tours, pop-ups and panel discussions. Cayman-based Canadian artists confirmed to participate include landscape painter Joanne Sibley, interdisciplinary creative Kaitlyn Elphinstone (who works in digital media, assemblage and with found objects) and Jason Kennedy, whose energy-infused canvases (pictured) depict the vibrant daily lives of residents. – O.P.P.

Cayman Art Week runs from May 22 to 26. For more information, visit caymanartweek.com.
COMING SOON TO RABAT

Four Seasons’ spring debut will be a sprawling hotel in the Moroccan capital

This spring will see the opening of Four Seasons newest hotel in Morocco, the Four Seasons Rabat at Kasr Al Bahr. Set on 12 expansive acres along the coastline of Morocco’s capital city, the 200-room hotel spans six heritage buildings, dating as far back as the 18th century, with five new buildings, too – a nod to the city’s UNESCO designation as a shared heritage site, where Arab-Muslim roots and European influence co-exist.

Kasr Al Bahr means “palace by the sea,” a fitting reference given the property was once a summer residence for a sultan. A unique stay can be had at the Sultan’s Riad, a private residence that is now a five-bedroom house. Spanning six heritage buildings, dating as far back as the 18th century, with five new buildings, too – a nod to the city’s UNESCO designation as a shared heritage site, where Arab-Muslim roots and European influence co-exist.

At the resort-style property, guests can take advantage of the 10-treatment room spa, which features a Moroccan hammam as well as an indoor saltwater pool. There are also two outdoor pools for relaxing, set on the grounds among the hotel’s olive and citrus groves. The dining options will include Brasserie Marie, a nod to the French influence on Moroccan cuisine. Verdello will focus its menu on Mediterranean ingredients and regional dishes. There is also a bakery, cocktail bar and cigar lounge, as well as the Noora Lobby Lounge, where the indulgence is an elaborate afternoon tea service, which will include the flare and flourish of a traditional Moroccan mint tea presentation.

Stays from $640/night through fourseasons.com.

PACKING LIST

PAOLO FERRARI

Business travel and personal holidays tend to overlap for Paolo Ferrari, principal at Toronto-based design firm Studio Paolo Ferrari. This year, his office is working on hotel projects in Greece, Puerto Rico, Seoul and Saudi Arabia. His travel plans can change in a flash. “It’s not uncommon for us to receive an overseas travel request with less than a week’s notice,” he says. Ferrari is an organized and “easy-going, roll-with-it type of traveller,” thanks in part to these must-haves.

CARRY ALL

“This has changed the way I pack. It is a very simple garment bag, but it has a pocket for my passport holder, and two compartments for items that require easy access through security or on a flight.”

Trifold garment bag, $800 at Rimowa (rimowa.ca).

PRESS ON

“I generally don’t trust irons or on a flight.”

Conair Pro garment steamer, $55.44 through amazon.ca.

DRAWING ATTENTION

“Nothing better than a long-haul flight to work through ideas. This sketchbook in particular is my go-to. It’s sturdy, with thick sketch paper.”

Moleskine Art Collection sketchbook, $35 at Indigo (indigo.ca).

NOBU NEARS COMPLETION

With only 36 suites, the Toronto hotel will be a small part of a sprawling hospitality destination.

Almost seven years after it was announced, the much-anticipated Nobu Hotel in Toronto is set to open this year. Located on Mercer Street in the city’s Entertainment District, the hotel is just one element of the brand’s first integrated property. Spread across two 45-storey towers will be Canada’s first Nobu restaurant, 660 residential units and a boutique hotel. Along with 36 suites, the hotel will include a private lounge and wellness facility for guests. The restaurant, at 15,000 square feet across two levels, will include a bar, lounge, outdoor terrace and private dining rooms. The Toronto hotel is part of the brand’s aggressive expansion. Over the next three years, Nobu Hotels are planned for 16 other cities around the world, from San Sebastián to Sao Paolo, Orlando to Madrid.

For more information, visit nobuhotels.com.
BOUNDARY BREAKING

Penfolds expands its focus beyond Australia to the U.S., France and China

While its legacy is producing some of the world’s best wines in its native Australia, Penfolds’ distinctive red logo has started turning up on bottles from other parts of the world. The Penfolds team is working in Champagne, Bordeaux, China and California, and has its eye on other regions.

The brand, which celebrates its 180th anniversary this year, started when Dr. Christopher and Mary Penfold established a wine company at Magill Estate in 1844. The thriving business expanded production from Adelaide to the Barossa and then the Hunter Valley before a net was cast across Australia to gather quality grapes. “We have always been entrepreneurial in that sense. There has always been a mindset of going to where the grapes are,” says Penfolds chief winemaker Peter Gago. “Now with technology and modern-day transport, we could get the grapes back into the winery, rather than the winery going to the grapes. We’re not just travelling to the Hunter Valley, we’re not just travelling to Tasmania, we have jumped the ocean.”

Penfolds made its first investment in California in 1997 with the purchase of the Creston 600 Ranch in Paso Robles, which was planted with vines from Australia. Wine production, however, didn’t start until 2017. The California portfolio includes a cabernet and shiraz blend called Bin 600, a Napa cabernet labelled Bin 704 and Quantum, which is called a Wine of the World because it is a mix of the best Napa cabernet with a small percentage of top quality South Australian shiraz. Available in many parts of Canada, Quantum and Bin 704 are part of an LCBO Vintages Penfolds release on March 23, featured alongside classic Penfolds releases including the 2019 vintage of Grange.

– CHRISTOPHER WATERS

For more information, visit penfolds.com.

MERLOT MAGIC

Niagara’s workhorse grape shines at a boutique winery

When Scott and Maria Kirby started searching for a home in Niagara, their intent wasn’t to make wine. “We were just looking for a beautiful place,” Scott says. It just so happened their ideal property came with grape vines. The 10-acre Niagara Lakeshore vineyard is planted with gamay, pinot blanc and chardonnay. Curiously, it’s the property’s merlot that is thrilling critics and sommeliers and raising the profile of the often-overlooked variety. Merlot is one of the most widely planted varieties in Niagara, but those grapes are often used in red blends. Unlike chardonnay, pinot noir or cabernet franc, merlot is rarely counted as the region’s best grape; but Kirby Estate’s distinctive small lot Signature Merlot and Reserve Merlot from 2020 is creating buzz for its potential. – C.W.

Kirby Estate Reserve merlot, $80 through kirbyestate.com.

PACKING LIST

KAITLYN STEWART

In 2017, Canada’s first World Class Global Bartending Champion triumphed in Mexico City over competitors from 57 countries. The Vancouver-based bartender and content creator (440,000 followers on TikTok, some 270k on Instagram) frequently travels as a consultant and judge. “I often am doing some sort of guest shift, working behind a bar with a local team,” she says. “It’s amazing because I like to work and, especially, like to connect with locals as much as possible and see what that country is all about.”

PACKING ROLL

“I’m a creature of habit. I like to be prepared. I like to travel with my own bar equipment and bar tools. That sense of familiarity is always nice.”

Carhartt water and stain resistant utility roll, $24.99 at the Home Depot (homedepot.ca).

NO MIXED METALS

“My travel kit is usually all one design. My jigger, spoon, strainers, shaker tins and ice tongs all match. It’s aesthetically pleasing to me and helps me quickly gather up all my supplies.”

The Cocktail Aficionado Set in gunmetal, $205 at Cocktail Emporium (cocktailemporium.com).

COVER STORY

“I get all my bar aprons made by Search & Rescue Denim Co. in Vancouver. You can customize an apron, including pocket placements, colour of stitching, straps... everything.” – C.W.

Search & Rescue Denim Co. apron, $165 through searchandrescuedenim.com.
Van Cleef & Arpels
Haute Joaillerie, place Vendôme since 1906
Frivole collection
Ring 8 flowers,
rose and white gold, diamonds.
Along for the ride

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GARRETT NACCARATO
STYLING BY NADIA PIZZIMENTI

Through ancient redwoods, a surfer’s paradise, quaint harbours and endless ocean lookouts, cruising up California’s Highway 1 captures the magic of seeing the world from the road.
In Big Sur, the narrow pavement cuts through lush forests lined with roadside lodges before snaking along the edge of cliffs that tumble deep into the rocky sea. Heading north, it passes in front of windblown meadows, Carmel’s clifftop estates, miles of undulating dunes and the Santa Cruz wharf, stretching out into the dramatic surf. An hour away in Half Moon Bay, it turns off toward Pillar Point Harbor, packed with fishing boats overflowing with the morning’s catch, before the road climbs again, passing through Montara Mountain and hanging right toward the hills of Pacifica and San Francisco.

Since the Pacific Coast Highway was completed in 1937, the drive along the California coast has been considered one of the world’s great road trips, rivaling the hairpin turns of Italy’s Amalfi Coast and the highland vistas of northern Scotland. It stands out for how quickly the landscape – and the weather – can change around every bend, highlighting the diversity of the state’s climate and natural beauty. While researching the three-hour route between Big Sur and San Francisco, it can be tempting to plan a quick driving getaway along the Pacific. But you quickly learn that the relatively short journey can easily be stretched out to a week or two as you settle into the relaxed energy of each stop along the way.

Waking up in Big Sur at the Ventana resort, before the morning light hits the ocean and the towering trees that surround you, it’s the sweet scent of the forest that puts you immediately at ease. The campus of contemporary wood-clad buildings houses 54 guest rooms and suites with balconies where you can spend the day sprawled out on your hammock. The 160-acre property also includes Japanese-style hot baths, hiking paths through the redwoods and a daily calendar of classes and workshops – Floating Meditation or Intuitive Fermentation? – that pay homage to the area’s history as a spiritual and wellness destination.

Below the hotel, taking Highway 1 south drops you at Nepenthe, a longstanding pit stop that includes an eclectic boutique, café and restaurant in a rustic treehouse with a sprawling outdoor patio. Turning north and crossing over the landmark Bixby Bridge will steer you toward Monterey, passing the Carmel Valley and its detour-worthy tasting rooms. To get close to the vines without going too far off course, Folktale is a winery that grows grapes on its picturesque property for juicy bottles labelled Carbonic Sangiovese.

When you pull into Santa Cruz’s Dream Inn, a hastily-planted mid-century modern hotel among the Victorian villas on palm tree-lined West Cliff Drive, it feels like you’ve taken a wrong turn and ended up in Palm Springs. There’s not a desert outside your window, though, but wetsuit-clad locals running for the waves that have long made the city a centre for surf culture. Further up the coast, at Natural Bridges State Beach, the sea is full of bobbing boards until sunset when a rush of surfers catch their final wave back to shore.

At the Oceano Hotel and Spa in Half Moon Bay, your balcony offers a front row seat to the bustling harbour, where you can get out onto the water on a whale-watching cruise or buy a bag full of Dungeness crabs to boil up for dinner directly off a boat. You’re also walking distance to Jettywave Distillery, with its buzzy weekend patio, and Barbara’s Fishtrap, a Half Moon Bay destination for fish and chips. A dinner at the lively Peruvian restaurant La Costanera will likely earn the top spot on your list of the trip’s most memorable meals.

Toward the end of this journey is Devil’s Slide Trail. A decade ago, this two-kilometre stretch of Highway 1 was converted into a pedestrian and cycling path. Walking along the car-free pavement is a treat for the trip’s designated driver, who can finally gaze out at the ocean panorama without worrying about swerving into oncoming traffic. It’s nice to stretch your legs but the driver’s seat is calling. The next pullout is a few kilometres up the highway, waiting to show you another completely novel view of the California coast. – ANDREW SARDONE
FOREVER GREEN
BACK TO NATURE
A travel-ready take on preppy attire mixes vintage and collegiate elements.
SUITED UP
At Nepenthe, a Miu Miu look captures the collection’s après-swim flair.
Miu Miu shirt, $1,590, polo, $1,200, swimsuit bottoms, $1,070 through miumiu.com.
Tekla towel, $105 through teklabrands.com. Socks, price on request at Uniqlo (uniqlo.com).
The Bixby Bridge (pictured above) might be Big Sur’s most photographed landmark but the entire coast is full of eye-catching vistas.

Sweater, top, trousers, all price on request at Bottega Veneta (bottegaveneta.com).
NEW CASUAL
Surf City

As soon as you arrive in Santa Cruz – with its vibrant boardwalk amusement park (top right) and beachfront Dream Inn (top left) – a shift of light and colour amps up the city’s surf culture roots.

(Above) Top, jacket, both price on request at Chanel (chanel.com).
(Right) Dress, price on request at Chanel. Sophie Buhai necklace, $450 through sophiebuhai.com.
CATCHING WAVES

Natural Bridges State Beach is a surf destination with a dramatic, rocky shoreline.

DIVE IN
A gauzy Issey Miyake piece mimics the sleek silhouette of a surfer’s wetsuit.
Issey Miyake dress, $1,395 through isseymiyake.com.
WEST MEETS EAST

Half Moon Bay, home to the Oceano Hotel & Spa (above) and Pillar Point Harbor adds a nautical twist to the final leg of the journey.

(Above) Dress, $24,000, sandals, $1,100 at Hermès (hermes.com).

Vintage patchwork coat, $100 at People’s Champ Vintage (peopleschampvintage.com).

ON LOCATION

BIG SUR AND CARMELO-BY-THE-SEA

ALLA VENTANA

Originally opened as the Ventana Inn in 1975, this mountainside escape became part of Hyatt’s Allia collection of boutique luxury properties in 2017. At the resort, you’ll also find the Sur House, an all-day dining spot with a spectacular terrace overlooking the Pacific. Stays from US$1,500/night through ventanaisbigsur.com.

BIXBY BRIDGE

Parking is very limited at the southern lookout next to this local landmark—made world famous in the opening sequence of the HBO series Big Little Lies—but it’s worth a stop if there’s a safe place to do so. visitcalifornia.com.

FOLKTALE

This Carmel winery is unique for growing grapes on its estate, a Bordeaux-inspired property that also hosts special events and concerts outside of its tasting room. folktalemwine.com.

MONTEREY

TOURING VEHICLES

From the 1964 Corvette Stingray featured in this story to a VW microbus and Porsche Speedsters, this local outfit can set you up with your dream car for a day of touring the coast. Rentals from US$379/four hours through montereyyourings.com.

NEPENTHE

Inside this restaurant, which sits above Café Kevah and the Phoenix Shop, wooden tables and benches upholstered in retro tones of orange, green and blue surround a sculptural circular fireplace, nepenthe.com.

SANTA CRUZ

BARCELONETA

Proper paella is the star of the meal at this spot in Santa Cruz’s pedestrian-friendly downtown. eatlucardena.com.

DREAM INN

Op-art wallpaper and mid-century modern lighting accent the Dream Inn’s rooms, which feel like they hover over the Pacific with views of the city’s boardwalk and colourful amusement park. Stays from US$239/night through dreaminn santacruz.com.

NATURAL BRIDGES

STATE BEACH

Through a grove of eucalyptus trees, this secluded stretch of sand offers views of a naturally occurring arched rock formation, sea life and surfers. parks.ca.gov.

HALF MOON BAY

BARBARA’S FISHTRAP

If the weekend lineup is too long outside of this local institution, get your fish and chips to go to make it at the outdoor tables overlooking Pillar Point Harbor. barbarafishtrap.com.

DEVIL’S SLIDE TRAIL

This section of highway-turned pedestrian walkway is part of the ever-expanding California Coastal Trail, which will stretch from Oregon down to Mexico. smgov.org.

OCEANO HOTEL & SPA

This all-suite hotel is the centrepiece of a waterfront complex that also includes Café Mezza Luna, Hop Dogma Brewing Co. and a covered arcade where you’ll find the hotel spa. Stays from US$309/night through oceanahotelhalfmoonbay.com.

LA COSTANERA

Toast your trip with the spread of ceviches and bocaditos by Michelin-starred chef Carlos Altamirano. lacostanerarestaurant.com.

END OF THE ROAD

Devil’s Slide Trail is a stretch of highway that’s been converted to a walking path (left) with views of an imposing observation tower used during the Second World War (above). (Above) Nanushka shirt, $795 through nanushka.com. Comme Si shorts, $197, socks, $100/set of five through complications.com. Tilley archivral hat (ca.tilley.com). G.H. Bass loafers, US$175 through ghbass.com. (Left) Saks Potts sweater, $515 at Sense (sense.com). Trouser, $395, bags, $265 to $341 at Lacoste (lacoste.com). Keen shoes, $140 through keenfootwear.ca.

For more information on touring the California coast between Big Sur and San Francisco, visit visitcalifornia.com, as well as local tourism boards including seemonterey.com, santacruz.org and thesantaranciscope peninsula.com.

A reputed fun seeker, it came as no surprise to anyone who knew me that travelling to Ibiza was at the top of my bucket list. The louche nightlife and celebrity sightings – Kate Moss is a regular, and Paris Hilton and Idris Elba have DJ’d at various hotspots – draw party-ready visitors from around the world. Imagine my surprise, then, when the sole night out I had at one of its famed super clubs was the most underwhelming aspect of my five-day visit. Expecting a hedonistic extravaganza when I arrived at 2 a.m., I was instead confronted with a room full of revellers whose faces glowed in the cold blue light of their phone screens, as they scrolled instead of danced. Deciding this ultimately wasn’t our scene, my travel companion and I went home long before the sun came up.

Truthfully, our early exit was also because we didn’t want to fritter the next day away with high-octane hangovers. We wanted to see as much of this magnificent island, floating in the middle of the Mediterranean between Valencia and Algiers, as possible. In the days leading up to our clubbing adventure, we’d come to discover a different side of Ibiza, where a slower lifestyle is flourishing and intersecting with dynamic creative and dining scenes. While hippies and hedonists were once attracted to the Spanish island’s seclusion, a new group of expat entrepreneurs are emerging, eager to entice both visitors and locals looking for more than their proverbial kicks.

“People here have a can-do attitude,” says Rachel Weschke, a former Londoner who says she began plotting a move to Ibiza after visiting for only a handful of days a decade ago. “Ibiza is a really small island, but it’s astounding how many levels it has,” she says. “In some ways, it’s very much a bubble. And then in other ways, you feel really connected to the rest of the world in a way that, weirdly, I didn’t feel in London.”
When Weschke relocated from the U.K. in 2015, she spent a few years travelling between her new and old homes. But after spending 20 years in various education roles at the Victoria and Albert Museum, she felt it was time to shift her focus to a more localized art-minded effort. In 2020, she founded Vessel Studio, a life drawing and pottery venture that nurtures the development of creative intuition. In addition to selling ceramic works that she makes and running an artist residency, Weschke says the purpose of the studio is to allow people to tap into their artistic abilities while making something without the notion of it being “good” or “bad.”

The studio is a calm and liberating space. “Vessel is situated on a rooftop with splendid sea views,” Weschke says. She runs workshops throughout the year – everything from ink making to macrame, bookbinding and puppet making – and the schedule of classes is often a collaborative endeavour that includes other local talents such as painter Elizabeth Rose Langford. “During the summer, there are evening classes for those who want a night off from partying,” Weschke says. The appeal of the daytime classes is that attendees can “spend a morning making, have lunch and hit the beach.” Weschke says that Ibiza’s artistic scene has transformed since she transplanted her life south. That’s likely thanks, in part, to people like Jorge Fernandez, who runs the eclectic Galeria Tambien with his wife, multidisciplinary artist Natalie Rich. The duo founded the gallery in 2018 after moving to Ibiza from Paris. It operates as an exhibition space for the work of both local and international artists including emerging names such as Spanish painter Carle Naide. There’s also a showroom for notable design pieces from the Bauhaus era to the 1980s, including Giancarlo Piretti’s shapely Alky chairs and lamps by Georges Pelletier.

Fernandez says the duo was inspired to launch the project, which ships globally through the online platform IstDibs, after visiting the homes of island residents who had beautiful interiors full of objects they had acquired abroad. “We met people with very nice pieces,” he says. “And when we’d ask where they found something, they’d say they’d brought it from London, from Paris, from Geneva, et cetera. It made us think there was an opportunity to offer that kind of artistic product to people living on the island.” Fernandez and Rich chose to operate in Santa Gertrudis de Fruitera, a village in the centre of Ibiza, because its location is “like a connection point,” he says. The vibe at Casa Lhasa similarly distills how much more Ibiza has to offer than its debauched reputation has long suggested. A charming wine bar and restaurant tucked away in the village of San Lorenzo, Casa Lhasa offers small plates and a selection of wines and spirits, some of which are produced in the Balearic Islands region of Spain, where Ibiza is situated.
Canadian sommelier and co-owner, Cassady Sniatowsky, says his family had been coming to Ibiza since the 1970s. Inspired to dive into the burgeoning natural wine industry after becoming disillusioned by a lack of ingredient transparency in the existing wine-making world (but realizing he didn’t want to be a winemaker himself), he launched Supernatural Wines, a distribution company that operates out of the same building as the bar and bottle shop. The project is a collaboration between Sniatowsky and Ben Shpunt, who had been managing the celebrated Bar Brutal in Barcelona.

“We didn’t know if anybody would even come,” Sniatowsky says of opening Casa Lhasa in 2020. “We’re in the countryside, not even in a busy area.” But the combination of an inventive menu initially developed by chef Gareth Story and the promise of bottles both unusual and delectable has brought in locals and tourists in droves. “We started without a strategy,” Shpunt says. “We only knew that we were only going to sell natural wines. And that created a buzz.” Casa Lhasa’s regularly updated food offerings – ranging from modest dishes such as chard fritters to more adventurous options like leeks served with crispy pig ears – are influenced by contributions from local suppliers, an idea that’s becoming more commonplace on the island.

This is perhaps the most exciting shift to Ibiza’s ethos. While the jet-set still congregates, the energy they’re bringing is less supersonic. Those invested in fostering local talent and community can amplify the unique and ineffable qualities that have kept us party animals interested in Ibiza coming back for more. I’m already mapping out what else I’ll do when I return to the White Island. The sentiment of perpetual exploration rings true for residents, too. As Weschke says, “It’s still a voyage of discovery to live here.”

Casa Lhasa is part of a growing local food and wine movement, spotlighting fresh ingredients and idiosyncratic vintages.
ON LOCATION

CAN SASTRE
Offering maximum privacy thanks to its limited accommodations of three casitas and two larger suites, the agritourism-focused Can Sastre also provides activities for guests including yoga sessions. Casita suites from $800/night through cansastre.com.

MAINE
The third location of this restaurant group opened by Canadian Joey Ghazal serves up lobster pasta in a spicy bisque and other seafood dishes alongside Wagyu and Black Angus steaks. maineibiza.com.

MERCADILLO DE SANT JORDI
Every Saturday in the old hippodrome in the south-west region’s Sant Josep de sa Talaia, you’ll find the most popular flea market in Ibiza. mercadillodesantjordi.com.

MUSEO DE ARTE CONTEMPORANEO
In addition to its eclectic exhibition schedule, this circa-sixth-century exhibition space with a modern addition boasts a visible archaeological site. eivissa.es.

NUDO
This buzzy beachside boîte, opened by three ex-Noma chefs, marries a sea view with a tight selection of inventive yet unfussy dishes and natural wines. nudoiibiza.com.

PARRA & ROMERO
A classic white cube gallery space open year-round, Parra & Romero’s Santa Gertrudis location is a petite partner to the gallery’s warehouse location, which is only open from June through September. parra-romero.com.

PETUNIA
A spacious and serene boutique hotel, Petunia overlooks one of Ibiza’s most notable natural attractions, the diminutive island of Es Vedra, said to be where a host of mermaids tried to tempt Ulysses in Homer’s Odyssey. Deluxe rooms from $765/night through petuniaibiza.com.

PIKES
The recently refurbished Pikes is one of the island’s most notorious establishments. Play a round of tennis on its pink court before gathering in the lively restaurant Pamela’s for its renowned take on a Sunday Roast. Junior suites from $913/night through pikesibiza.com.

SOUL GOOD
Known as a favourite among locals, this bar found on Santa Eulària des Riu beach Niu Blau slings vegetarian-friendly fare and cocktails perfect for sipping at sundown.

W HOTEL
Located on the east side of the island, W’s Ibiza outpost is surrounded by boho boutiques and boasts a decidedly laidback swimming pool scene mere steps from the beach. Wonderful rooms from $632/night through marriott.com.
On a quick jaunt in Japan’s cultural capital, the value that local insight adds to your itinerary comes into focus.

BY NADIA PIZZIMENTI • PHOTOGRAPHY BY KINGY HSU
When I started organizing the Kyoto leg of a recent visit to Japan, I found myself going back to one website over and over again. Curated Kyoto is an agency that builds experiences for creatively curious travellers in Japan’s most culturally rich city, and it drew me in with its film-like images and thoughtfully written reviews on Kyoto’s local scene. I sent an email to its founder and creative director, Sara Aiko, and one phone call and several emails later, an itinerary appeared in my inbox. It was a harmonious compilation of art, fashion and food laid out by Aiko over the course of two days.

Since starting Curated Kyoto in 2017, Aiko has put together programs for brands such as Chanel and Estée Lauder, curated travel itineraries for Michelin-starred chefs and created experiences for world-famous artists. Her mission is to show her well-travelled clientele a different side of Kyoto.

“I believe that creatives and artists possess a unique ability to eloquently express social issues and capture the inherent beauty of a city,” Aiko says. “I consider immersing oneself in the creative scene as one of the most effective ways to truly comprehend the culture of a city.”

Arriving at Kyoto Station, I head straight to Gallery Nichinichi and Tearoom Toka. Aiko set up a meeting with gallery owner and creative consultant Okumura Fumie, who guides me through a room full of glassy white, light-as-air porcelain vases, which are a sharp contrast to the century-old home they stand in. That juxtaposition is also on display in the gallery’s modern tearoom. What’s presented isn’t a traditional tea ceremony by any means, but the intense focus with which the tea is poured expresses a reverence for this ritual’s history.

Lunch is at Honke Owariya, a five-year-old soba noodle shop. It is the oldest restaurant in Kyoto with one of the best reputations, so waiting in line is inevitable. But it’s worth it, as is popping into its neighbouring soba confectionary shop.

Shinya Yamada’s family has been making kimonos for generations. Today, he oversees the creative direction of their company, Toyowado, while also working as a painter. In his studio, I’m once again standing in between two worlds. To the left is a concrete room with paint splattered tables and Yamada’s abstract paintings on display. To the right is the Toyowado showroom, a traditional space where two hand-painted silk kimonos hang, their arms stretched out in front of the windows. A warm cup of matcha is offered to us as Yamada describes the techniques he has learned from the family business and integrated into his own painting.

In the west area of Kyoto, near the golden temple, we are greeted by Asano Hiroki at his family’s home and business. Like Yamada, Hiroki has also taken the creative lead of a multigenerational obi and kimono business, Shokuraku Asano. Aiko and I sit down for tea and a treat, as I’m learning is customary, before Hiroki reveals the showroom and the family’s reference library above it. One room is filled with bookcases, each shelf lined with books on art, design, fabrics and fashion. In the workspace are samples of threads in every colour imaginable. Hiroki pulls out two shadow boxes holding a variety of used knife-sharpening stones that his father collected as inspiration for a new obi design many years ago. Hiroki is still driven by advice his father shared when he started designing: “Always have your eyes open when you go out into the world, because you will find inspiration and design everywhere.”
Aiko knows I’m eager to take some treasures home, which is why we pop into Essence Kyoto. It’s a ceramic boutique and gallery that sits among a handful of shops in the Higashiyama District, home to Kyoto’s best museums, popular shrines and picturesque scenery. One-of-a-kind items are sectioned off by artists all hailing from Japan and are mostly minimalist in style. I leave with a new addition to my ceramic collection and a sampling of the shop’s namesake green and black teas.

Our destination before dinner is a bonus, the opening reception of Donkou, a new private library and café on the outskirts of the city. Created by Yoshitaka Haba, who has curated some of Japan’s top library collections, the space is an architectural beauty with no detail overlooked. Three thousand books line a feature wall on the first floor, which has views out to the cypress forest and stream behind the home. I select a book from the design section and sit on the sage green tatami mats in the middle of the room. The café behind me is sunken in, so the barista is at eye level as I sit on the floor.

On the last night, Aiko arranges a dinner with friends at Farmoon, a tea salon by day and a restaurant at night, run by artist and chef Masayo Funakoshi. The only way to dine here is by being introduced to the chef, often by a returning guest such as Aiko. The meal is kaiseki-style, intricately prepared by Funakoshi in the open kitchen. A hay-smoked bonito under fresh greens stands out as one of my favourites. As we end our night seated around the solo wooden table, under a dimly lit chandelier, I feel full in every way possible. Aiko’s deep knowledge of her city, its traditions and the people and connections she holds dear have added a depth to my quick visit that I would have never been able to experience on my own. Following the advice of Hiroki’s father, to always have your eyes open, can be even more inspiring when you get to see a new place from an insider’s perspective.

Shokuraku Asano (top and middle) is known for obi with patterns that are woven directly into the cloth. At Essence (below), the focus is on ceramic pieces that balance delicate design and everyday functionality.
ON LOCATION

CURATED KYOTO
Founder Sara Aiko curates experiences for individuals and groups looking to connect with Kyoto chefs and artisans. Each experience is personalized – and priced – for individual tastes and needs through an initial consultation. This year, Aiko and partner Masaluza Kuroda will debut SMerge, an online publication and creative agency connecting people to Kyoto culture, including producing limited-edition objects that can be used practically and artistically for years to come. curatedkyoto.com.

DONKOU AND KISSA FANG
Donkou is a peaceful retreat filled with thousands of books on the outskirts of town. The private library and adjoining café, Kissa Fang, are operated by Yoshitaka Haba, director of BACH, a company that brings libraries and books to unconventional places. Visits need to be booked online and each guest is allotted 90 minutes to peruse the stacks. donkou.jp.

ESSENCE KYOTO
Japanese artisan pieces and utilitarian homewares are presented gallery style around this serene shop. The store also carries its own brand of organic green and black teas made in Japan. essencekyoto.com.

FARMOON
Set in a charming old machiya, Farmoon was designed and furnished by chef Masayo Funakoshi. The salon serves tea and treats on weekdays, and the restaurant hosts private dinners. Follow Farmoon’s Instagram account (@farmoon_kyoto) for announcements on seasonal events open to the public.

HONKE OWARIYA
A centuries-old soba noodle and confectionery business famous for its buckwheat soba noodles and well-water broth, the newly opened cake shop next to the original restaurant location serves soba rice cakes, soba-boru, and unique to Owariya, Soba-ita, a thin crunchy sweet made from buckwheat. honke-owariya.co.jp.

GALLERY NICHINICHI AND TEAROOM TOKA
This art gallery and artist residence in a 100-year-old home showcases Japanese fine art and ceramics. The building is also home to Tearoom Toka, a six-seat counter style spot serving organic Japanese green teas from various regions. nichinichi.com and tokaseisei.com.

SHOKURAKU ASANO
Each of this brand’s obi – produced through the traditional Nishijin method of weaving dyed yarn to create patterns – is designed with a sense of modernity and minimalism in mind, allowing the wearer’s own beauty and style to shine through. shokuraku.jp.
Personal Style

Best intentions

Revenge has been a big travel motivator lately. This year, HEATHER GREENWOOD DAVIS says it’s time to get our wanderlust back on a more positive track

ILLUSTRATION BY LAUREN TAMAKI

ast fall, I stood on the edge of a cliff, high above a rushing river, pretending I needed to take a picture of the scenery so that I could hide my desperate need to catch my breath. The hike was one of many I’d tackle at the Mountain Trek Health Reset Retreat in Nelson B.C., an elite wellness experience that placed hiking poles in my hand, a sugar-free and fat-limited diet on my plate and hill after bloody hill in front of me. No matter how fast I willed my legs to carry me upward, everything in me demanded that I slow down. The whole experience was entirely foreign to the way I’ve travelled since our collective grounding in zero.

Before the pandemic, my life as a travel journalist meant that I’d been a regular, but fairly blasé traveller. I took for granted that there would always be another trip on my calendar and that the colourful pins in the map in my living room, where my husband dutifully charts our family adventures, would continue to accumulate. But shortly after I returned home from Porto, Portugal, that February, the world came to a horrifying stop.

Within days of cancelling my first flight, I bought sexy, new luggage. It was my personal revolt against what was happening, a promise to myself that, given the chance to travel again, I’d be ready to go. So many of us did something similar and when the skies reopened, airport concourses were clogged with travellers. The idea of “Revenge Travel” was born. We would get back at the pandemic by recouping all the time abroad it stole from us, those celebration trips, bucket list vacations and family gatherings that were lost.

For many of us, the pandemic payback continues. According to Statistics Canada, 2023’s tourism revenue is estimated to come in at $109.5-billion or 104 per cent of 2019 levels. The getaway resurgence has continued despite inflation and higher travel costs. That may shift this year. CNBC reported on a study by Morning Consult that Canadians’ interest in travel has dropped, in part because of a reduction in the anger and urgency we once felt.

Revenge as a reason for travelling simply isn’t sustainable. Travel has never been just about taking the trip. It’s about being present while you’re on it. It’s about pausing and looking at where you are and asking yourself the tough questions about why you’re there. I may have set out on my post-2020 whirlwind of adventures simply because I could, but by the time I paused, I knew there were so many other things that had brought me to that B.C. mountain: health scares, worry about aging parents and the stress that comes from being an empath during a global pandemic.

I’ve always travelled with the intention of finding good in the world. I try to remain open to changing my mind about the things I think I know (What good manners look like. What makes a destination safe) and remembering the important things I sometimes forget (That we are more alike than different. That the world runs on the kindness of strangers). There’s no room for revenge in any of that. It’s time to think harder about the impact to our planet and ourselves if we continue at this pace.

For those struggling with what comes next, I offer this. Let’s lean into taking the kinds of trips that leave us better for having travelled. The trips where we slow down long enough to hear what the places we visit have to teach us. It will take some practice. It will mean abandoning endless bucket list items and extending more empathy and patience on the go. It will absolutely require slowing down. Transformation is incremental rather than immediate. How can you absorb one experience when you’re already preoccupied with planning the next one?

My years of travelling vengefully are over. I’m not sure if there are more challenging mountain hikes in my future, but if there are, I’ll pause on that cliff and not just to catch my breath. I’ll take in the majesty of the view and consider the tiny place I take up in the world. And I’ll lean into the lessons that come from doing hard things – one more considered step at a time. 🌟
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