



Indagare[®]

The next generation of travel wisdom[®]

Yearbook/Dreambook

awards

Indagare Adored: 2015 Additions

Fifteen special hotels and resorts around the world join the prestigious Indagare Adored list of our travel community's most beloved properties.

Five years ago, we began compiling a master list of Indagare Adored properties—hotels and resorts treasured by our staff and members alike for consistently making guests' stays truly spectacular, whether in the South African bush or Paris's eighth arrondissement. The list, now comprising 79 names, is constantly being updated based on staff and member visits and feedback. This year we are thrilled to add 15 properties located around the world. The entire list can be found online at indagare.com.



A sunset picnic at Morocco's Dar Ahlam

Amalfi Coast: **Monastero Santa Rosa**



Adored For: the jaw-dropping views of the Amalfi Coast from every room

The vibe at the Monastero Santa Rosa is so overwhelmingly peaceful that you feel as if you have traveled back to the 17th century, when this special property used to be a convent. The original architect certainly had good taste in terms of location: The 20-room hotel is perched on the hillside just above Amalfi town, and the views of the coastline below are breathtaking. *Read Indagare's review.*

Bangkok: **The Siam**



Adored For: offering a charming and intimate design haven on the outskirts of Thailand's bustling capital

What began as a family's vision has evolved under the direction of famed designer Bill Bensley into a showcase for an eclectic mix of Art Deco and Thai Colonial style, with Chinese antiques adding intrigue and interest. The 39-room, atrium-style hotel is meant to be discovered slowly. Guests meander from the library to the billiards room to the reflect-

ing lotus pond, exploring the collections of art, antiques and curios. *Read Indagare's review.*

Botswana: **Abu Camp**

Adored For: allowing guests to get up close and personal with the resident elephants

Abu is among Africa's most renowned safari camps, offering special encounters with elephants as well as some of the most luxurious accommodations in the Okavango Delta. It was founded in 1994 by Randall Moore, an elephant trainer who started the camp as a haven for elephants he had rescued from America; one of these was Abu, who starred in several feature films and inspired the camp's name. The property was bought in 2009 by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, who was smitten with it during a visit. *Read our review.*

Travel Experts' Top Discoveries 2015



Blair West

When you're visiting **Florence**, don't miss climbing to the top of the Boboli Gardens, right behind the Pitti Palace, and taking in the beautiful scenery and sculptures. It feels like a place that's frozen in time.

Botswana: **Zarafa**

Adored For: making guests feel at home in the remote Selinda Reserve bush

With just four tents, Zarafa is among the most exclusive camps in Botswana. The extraordinary attention paid to every detail is evident in



Indagare Travel Experts *Indagare's specialists spent more than 1,000 days on the road this year. Throughout the issue, we feature some of their favorite discoveries.*



Indagare Plus Members *who book through Indagare receive preferential rates and/or special amenities at the properties with the Indagare Plus symbol.*

indagare adored

the 1,000-square-foot tents, each of which has a private plunge pool and leather-bound minibar, as well as recycled hardwood chests and copper gas fireplaces. The décor, food and service by the warm staff are all of the highest order. Part of the Great Plains Conservation project run by *National Geographic* photographers Derek and Beverly Joubert, Zarafa is located in the 320,000-acre Selinda Reserve and offers incredible vistas of the Zibadianja Lagoon. *Read Indagare's review.*

Dolomites: **Rosa Alpina**

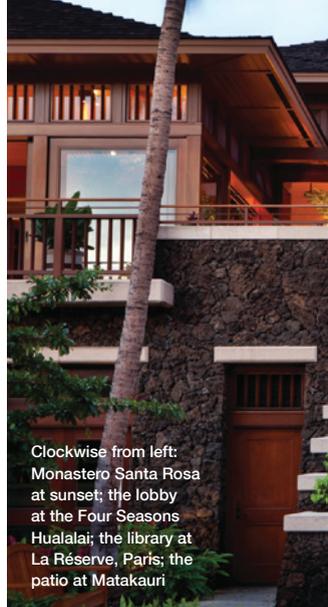
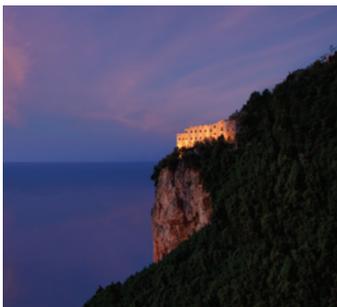
Adored For: its unique and welcoming Alpine cozy meets Italian chic style

Some hotels are defined by their location, while for other others, it's the opposite: They define the destination where they reside. The Rosa Alpina, in San Cassiano, is one of the finest examples of the latter. The Pizzinini family, longtime residents of the region, purchased the hotel in 1940, and today it displays the marks of their ingenuity and love. Wood-paneled spaces exude comfortable charm, with lots of fireplaces, overstuffed sofas and nooks for reading. No two of the property's 52 rooms are alike, but all have mountain views. *Read our review.*

Hawaii: **Four Seasons Hualalai**

+ *Adored For: being a stand-out Hawaii resort*

The ultimate luxury resort on the Big Island, the swanky Four Seasons



Clockwise from left: Monastero Santa Rosa at sunset; the lobby at the Four Seasons Hualalai; the library at La Réserve, Paris; the patio at Matakauri



complex is a destination in itself. Every one of the Four Seasons's 243 rooms and suites are whimsically decorated with beautiful textiles that reflect the colors of the sea and make the spaces feel vibrant. Bathrooms are equipped with deep plunging tubs, and the newest suites have spa-like steam showers. All accommodations also have roomy outdoor spaces, whether it's a patio, a terrace or an outdoor shower hugged in lava rock. The resort's restaurants offer some of the best food on the Big Island. *Read Indagare's review.*



Ireland: **Ballyfin**

+ *Adored For: being Ireland's most exquisite country house hotel*

Sitting on 610 lush acres about 90 minutes by car from Dublin, Ballyfin has a decidedly Irish air and all the trappings you expect in a neoclassical country house: gilded ceilings, imperial columns, domed skylights, large staircases, silk-covered walls and dramatic artworks. Despite its grandeur, however, Ballyfin, with a mere 15 guest rooms, is incredibly intimate. *Read Indagare's review.*



Rose Allen

I would recommend adding some time at Lake Titicaca when you're traveling to Peru. I visited the Uros floating islands while there, and the local people welcomed me into their huts, which are hand-woven out of reeds. I learned about their history, way of life and traditions.

Japan: **Aman Tokyo**

+ *Adored For: being a Zen-like retreat high above a bustling city*

Aman Tokyo, which opened in 2014, was the brand's first urban hotel and is already positioning itself at the top of the class. It exudes a light Zen quality that evokes both Aman and Japan. Occupying the top six floors—33 to 38—of the Otemachi Tower, the Aman floats above the noise and crowds of the densely populated metropolis. With glass windows at every turn, the hotel capitalizes on its unobstructed views. The gorgeous pool lounge, where the stone walls soar 30 feet high and wraparound windows let in abundant light, is a particular highlight of the property. The hotel merges the urban view with intimate, ryokan-inspired guest room interiors. *Read Indagare's review.*

Japan: **Ritz-Carlton Kyoto**

+ *Adored For: its distinctly Japanese balance of calm and liveliness*

The Ritz-Carlton, located on the banks of the Kamogawa River in central Kyoto, in the shadow of the Higashiyama Mountains, is the hotel this city has long deserved. Designed to evoke a Japanese ryokan, but with modern accoutrements, the property contains 134 guest rooms that feel like spacious cocoons, with light wood and natural elements and views of the river, the mountains or old clapboard row homes. They provide perfect vantage points from which to watch the



Clockwise from left: the overwater spa at Cheval Blanc Randheli; a bush dinner at Zarafa; Rosa Alpina tucked in the Dolomites



passing through, including schoolchildren skipping along the Kamogawa's banks and cyclists crossing a bridge. *Read Indagare's review.*

Maldives: Cheval Blanc Randheli

+ *Adored For: bringing LVMH style and glamour to the Maldives*

The fashion powerhouse LVMH acquired an island in the Noonu Atoll and brought its creative genius to bear on the 45 deluxe “maisons,” which were designed to feel like lofts on the beach. The result: a showstopper of a resort that has redefined the indulgent beach vacation. In addition to private picnics and water pursuits like diving, snorkeling, dolphin cruises and yacht trips, the resort offers

pampering treatments at its Guerlain spa, like the Randheli Sun Ritual. *Read Indagare's review.*

Morocco: Dar Ahlam

Adored For: offering guests an ideal immersion in Moroccan culture

Dar Ahlam (“House of Dreams” in Arabic) is an exquisite hideaway. The superstylish, 14-room, restored Kasbah sits in the remote desert oasis of Skoura, a five-hour drive from Marrakech. Highlights of a stay range from visiting with Berber and Bedouin communities to dining on some of the best food in Morocco. There is a main salon, pool area and hammam for spa treatments, but there is no lobby nor dining room. Rather, every meal is

served in a new setting: a table on the lawn, a picnic in the garden, terrace on the ramparts or a candle-lit tent. *Read Indagare's review.*

New Zealand: **Matakauri**

+ *Adored For: striking a balance between offering serious comfort as well as access to over-the-top adventure*

Queenstown's most renowned property, Matakauri is a lodge through and through—with comfortable, communal sitting areas, lots of fireplaces and a staff happy to organize a host of outdoor activities. The tiny hotel has just 16 rooms and suites, some of which are located in the main building, where breakfast and dinner are served. The sumptuous Deluxe Suites are housed in free-standing houses spread across the beautifully planted nine-acre lakefront property; there's also a four-bedroom Owner's Cottage. *Read Indagare's review.*

Paris: **La Réserve, Paris**

+ *Adored For: its Parisian elegance and chic, contemporary accents*

Located in the eighth arrondissement, the Jacques Garcia–designed La Réserve was an instant success when it opened early last year. Housed in a Haussmannian mansion, the newcomer exudes understated Belle Époque elegance. Each of the rooms and suites have a different layout but all are outfitted with silk-paneled walls, antique furniture and contemporary accents. *Read Indagare's review.*



Annabelle Cauffman Soudavar

My favorite lunch of the year was this summer in **Italy** at La Conca del Sogno. Only reachable by boat, the charming restaurant is located between Capri and Positano in the small fishing village of Nerano and serves the best salt-baked sea bass I have ever tasted.

Peru: **Belmond Palacio Nazarenas**

+ *Adored For: being Cuzco's most up-to-date luxury hotel*

The sister of Cuzco's Hotel Monasterio is a great boutique option for families who appreciate a fabulous historical setting but also want a swimming pool and a slightly less formal atmosphere. The former palace and convent has undergone a long and meticulous renovation, including to its venerable façade, terraces and cloisters. Today, Palacio Nazarenas has 55 guest rooms with décor that incorporates such Peruvian touches as arched stone doorways, local textiles, wrought-iron chandeliers and carved wooden doors. Guests can request to have extra oxygen pumped into their suites to help them acclimate to the altitude. *Read Indagare's review.*

Vermont: **Twin Farms**

+ *Adored For: offering a seriously comfortable New England escape*

With its vaulted, beamed ceilings, walls of well-thumbed books, fascinating artwork and hand-picked antiques, Twin Farms was clearly once a beloved private home. Today, the 18th-century main house, where guests take their cocktails and meals, is still the heart of the 300-acre property, but the accommodations have expanded to encompass four rooms, six suites and 10 cottages. *Read Indagare's review.*

For assistance booking a stay, contact our bookings team at 212-988-2611.

bucket list

Coastal British Columbia

Few places are equally perfect for a romantic honeymoon as a multi-generation family trip, but Vancouver Island's Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge fits the bill finds Indagare's **Eliza Harris**.



Clayoquot's Cloud Camp, where guests can opt to spend the night

As far-flung as an island in Fiji, a safari camp on a private concession in Botswana or a lodge in the Norwegian fjords, Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge ⁺ offers a rare luxury: the combination of extreme seclusion and incredible pampering. The riverside lodge, which is surrounded by 1.5 million acres of protected wilderness, provides the perfect antidote to the pressures of the modern-day world by ensuring guests unplug (WiFi is iffy, cell service nonexistent) in the comfort of a five-star hideaway.

Built in 1998 by Richard Genovese and his partners John and Adele Caton, who still run the place, it was a pioneer in the “glamping” movement and is still one of its best practitioners. The property’s 24 luxurious canvas tents are kitted out to the nines with hardwood floors, thermostat-controlled wood stoves, down pillows, duvets and rustic furniture. It’s very civilized (leather sofa, faux fur throw, Native American rugs) but still retains the charms of camping, down to nightly campfires and s’mores. There’s no TV or phone; you wake to the sound of birdcalls and the wind in the trees.

Meals are taken in the main lodge and the food is spectacular: the farm-to-table menu changes daily, taking advantage of the freshest catch and vegetables grown on-island. Everything is prepared in an open kitchen, so it’s fun to sit at the counter, watch the action and chat with the congenial chef. Breakfast specials often include a local twist on Eggs Benedict;

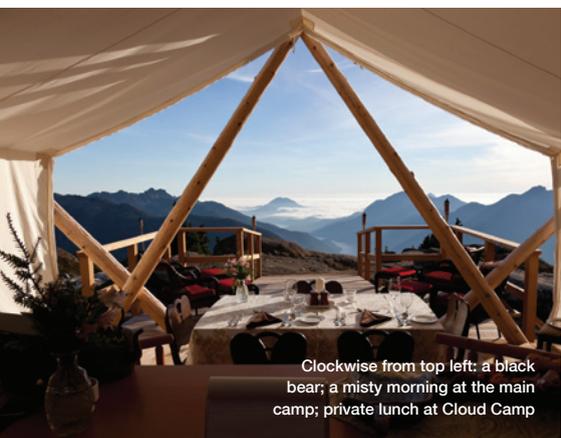
lunch might be seafood tacos with fresh prawns, scallops, halibut, salmon and avocado with a light aioli; and dinner starts with a soup (perhaps roasted tomato and eggplant with mini grilled cheeses for dipping) and an elegant salad, followed by a choice of mains, such as bacon-wrapped venison, Dungeness crab, or seared tuna with a wasabi-sesame seed crust, and a special dessert. The sommelier does a wonderful job pairing wines, many of them local.

Where Clayoquot really shines is in its excursions, which are all led by the fun, young staff guides; nothing is outsourced. You meet with John each evening to plan your activities for the following day. You might go kayaking on the sound or paddle-boarding along the estuary. A boat trip for wildlife viewing is a must to see black bears, bald eagles, sea lions and whales. The fishing is excellent (and they will package up your bounty to be enjoyed once you return home). There are some lovely hikes, including Flores Island, which has vast, deserted beaches, and Penny Falls. Or, if you’re feeling more adventurous, you could have a helicopter drop you at a mountain summit with a chef and guide. The lodge keeps 20 horses in a stable down the road and has multiple trails, some through the rainforest, others along the riverbanks. There’s also shooting, archery, a zip line and a climbing wall. Afterwards, you can unwind in the spa’s sauna or hot tub or with a massage.

Clayoquot is a place where every-



Caroline Hansen
Korcula Island in Croatia was just featured as one of the *New York Times*’ 52 places to visit in 2016, but I still think that sailing along the coastline in this part of the world is the best way to see it. You can discover islands that feel completely untouched.



Clockwise from top left: a black bear; a misty morning at the main camp; private lunch at Cloud Camp

thing somehow hits just the right note, perhaps because they have been doing it for so long. You feel cared for. There's always a fire blazing in the main lodge, with cozy chairs for reading a book or having a glass of wine. There's always some delicious treat waiting, whether it's fresh oysters and delicate canapés at cocktail hour or the homemade cookies in jars at the end of the bar. The bed linens are incredibly soft, the heated bathroom floor a marvelous surprise. You come back from dinner to find someone has lit candles in your room. These personal touches make leaving bittersweet, but as you fly back to

Vancouver, with memories of roaring sea lions and delicious picnic lunches, it is with the knowledge or hope that some day you will return to this small slice of paradise.

Getting There: Travel logistics to anywhere in British Columbia are somewhat complex. Clayoquot has set guest arrival dates of Thursdays and Sundays and schedules an afternoon seaplane to collect incoming guests from Vancouver Airport. The flight is about an hour and is a gorgeous aerial introduction to the region. The resort is not accessible by road; however, it is possible to drive to Tofino on Vancouver Island and take a boat from there.



Who Should Stay: Outdoorsy people who love adventure will be in heaven. Foodies will find the meals outstanding. Multi-generational families will have plenty of activities to keep everyone entertained.

Rooms To Book: It's worth splurging for the Luxury Ensuite Tents, which are perched along the riverbanks and have spacious interiors and en suite bathrooms with heated floors, double sinks and outdoor showers. The Deluxe Outpost Tents are set back from the river in the trees and have nice shower facilities down the boardwalk.

Contact Indagare to book: 212-988-2611.



Beyond: Nimmo Bay

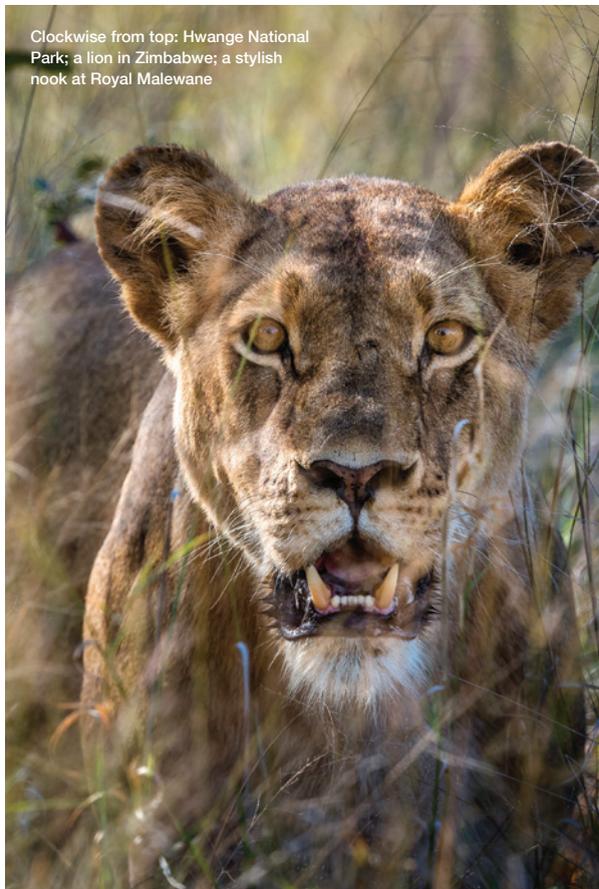
Located northeast of Vancouver Island, Nimmo Bay is even more secluded than Clayoquot; it's a two-hour boat ride from the nearest town. The lodge and its nine elegantly appointed cabins are built on great floating red cedar logs and connected by wooden docks. The intimate wilderness lodge has been family-run for more than three decades, and while some guests come for such outdoor adventures as hiking in the Great Bear Rainforest, kayaking through the Broughton archipelago, or cruising around in a boat to observe the abundant wildlife, the lodge's real specialty is its highly regarded heli-fishing program. Traveling by chopper enables guests to cover much more ground and enjoy a variety of angling experiences. A morning at a remote, salmon-filled glacial river might culminate with lunch atop a 10,000-year-old glacier. Every detail of a stay here reflects the passion of its owners, who have devoted three decades to building it bit by bit from a humble cabin to a five-star lodge. *Read Indagare's review.*

African Safaris

For many, an African safari is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Here is a guide on how to choose among six top destinations for an adventure that exceeds your expectations.



Clockwise from top: Hwange National Park; a lion in Zimbabwe; a stylish nook at Royal Malewane



With wildly diverse climates, ecosystems and wildlife, from the moon-like landscape of Namibia to the lush jungles in Rwanda, African safaris can take many shapes and forms. Here, we break down the key differences between our top six destinations.

The Cushy Classic:

South Africa

Located at its nether tip, South Africa is the continent's metaphorical catchall, comprising myriad cultures, climates and an astonishing quantity and variety of wildlife—seeing a lot of animals is all but guaranteed here. Home to one of the most successful safari trades on the continent, South Africa boasts lodges so luxurious that they seem more like resorts than camps. Several private game reserves showcase preserving the environment and maintaining biodiversity.

What Makes It Unique: Proximity of the game reserves to Cape Town and the South African Winelands

Top Activities: Game drives, visits to conservation centers

Who Should Go: Travelers looking for an easy introduction to the bush or a multifaceted vacation, with time in Cape Town and the Winelands as well as a few nights on safari.

Add-Ons: Winelands, Mozambique, Botswana, Victoria Falls

The High-Style Sophisticate:

Botswana

So beautiful it seems like a dream, teeming with wildlife and sensational

camp, Botswana is one of Africa's biggest success stories. Since it became a safari destination in the 1960s, the country has emphasized a low-impact, high-yield wildlife experience emphasizing exclusivity, conservation and sustainability. Accommodations are simple but luxurious, and most camps allow no more than three vehicles per outing, so the experiences feel authentic, conservation-minded and very private.

What Makes It Unique: Highly diverse eco-systems: desert, delta, plains

Top Activities: Water safaris, remote game drives, canoeing, visiting with the aboriginal people

Who Should Go: Experienced travelers who have already gone on safari in South Africa or Tanzania

Add-Ons: Cape Town, Mozambique, Victoria Falls, Namibia

The Majestic Stunner:

Tanzania

Tanzania attracts veteran wilderness explorers with such legendary sights as Mount Kilimanjaro, the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater. The country has developed its tourism industry slowly and carefully, turning close to 25 percent of the land over to national parks and private reserves. As a result, visitors can still feel alone in a sea of animals. And although the Big Five are the big draw, Tanzania's wide-open plains, where thousands of animals can be observed at once, make it one of the most mystical destinations in Africa. Visits should ideally be planned to coincide with the Great



Jessie Trizano

For active travelers, the climb up Mount Kilimanjaro, in Tanzania, is truly a one-in-a-lifetime achievement. When I reached the summit, I spent 20 minutes above the clouds — it was a spectacular moment.

Migration, an annual parade of close to 1.5 million wildebeest, 200,000 zebra and 500,000 Thomson gazelle marching hundreds of miles.

What Makes It Unique: The Serengeti, the Great Migration and the Maasai

Top Activities: Game drives, hot-air ballooning, visiting local villages, viewing the Great Migration

Who Should Go: Safari newbies, who will be stunned by both the landscape and the abundant game

Add-Ons: Zanzibar, Mozambique, Seychelles

The Up-and-Comer:

Zimbabwe

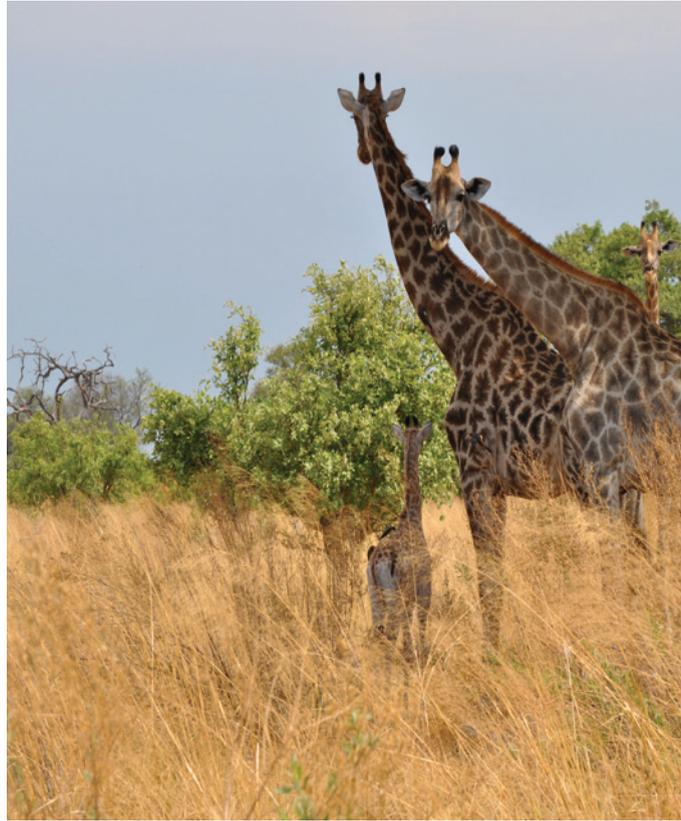
After years of political turmoil, Zimbabwe is back on the international travel circuit and poised to become a real player in the luxury safari industry. Despite an economy and an employment rate that have been on the rise since 2009, visitors should be prepared to see more widespread poverty than in other popular safari countries. But Zimbabwe offers plenty of sights and experiences to make a visit life-changing—including the entire Big Five and Victoria Falls, which is nearly twice as high as Niagara—at a fraction of what one pays in South Africa or Botswana.

What Makes It Unique: Victoria Falls

Top Activities: Elephant-back safaris, game drives, white-water rafting

Who Should Go: Travelers who have already been to the more famous safari destinations or those looking for a budget-friendly one

Add-Ons: Cape Town, Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia



The Dreamer's Paradise:

Namibia

Often described as southern Africa's final frontier, Namibia is mostly desert, complete with sand dunes, huge open spaces and great swaths of silence. Twice the size of California, the country has a population of only 2.2 million, about half that of Los Angeles. With rainfall scarce, plants get their water from fog, and most take decades to grow. As a safari destination, Namibia is famed for its intimate lodges sited in remote, starkly beautiful places filled with fascinating, desert-adapted wildlife.

What Makes It Unique: The Skeleton Coast, otherworldly landscapes and animals that have evolved to survive



Emma Pierce
I'll never forget lounging poolside at **Royal Malewane** in South Africa. Seeking respite from the midday heat, a trio of elephants lumbered up to our villa's plunge pool, where they alternated between taking long gulps of water and stretching their trunks towards us to catch our scents.



A tower of giraffes in Botswana;
hiking a dune in the Namib Desert

in extremely arid conditions

Top Activities: Sand-dune surfing, stargazing, visiting the Himba, exploring shipwrecks along the Skeleton Coast, game drives

Who Should Go: Nature enthusiasts and those looking for spectacular scenery rather than a safari filled with animal encounters

Add-Ons: Cape Town, Botswana

The Adventurer's Eden: Rwanda

Mountain gorillas have been conservation icons since the 1988 film *Gorillas in the Mist*. Today Rwanda is one of only two countries (in addition to Uganda) in which visitors can safely view them. Commonly known as the

“land of 1,000 hills,” it is divided into a western region dominated by mountains and an eastern section of savanna and swamps. Volcanoes National Park is home to several human-habituated gorilla groups for trekkers to visit, as well as golden monkeys, spotted hyenas, buffalo and black-fronted duiker.

What Makes It Unique: Gorillas

Top Activities: Tracking the endangered golden monkey, gorilla trekking, local school and orphanage visits

Who Should Go: Outdoor enthusiasts who want to see gorillas in their natural habitat

Add-Ons: Tanzania, Uganda

Read in-depth destination reports for these six countries on indagare.com.

View:
KW Institute for Contemporary Art



Soho House Berlin



Caffinate: The Barn



View:
Eigen + Art



Lunch:
Mädchenitaliener



Breakfast:
Zeit für Brot



Shop:
Hackescher Hof



Visit:
Museum Island



upon arrival

Berlin's Soho House

You've just landed and checked in—now what? Indagare recommends ways to spend a relaxed first day in Mitte, the neighborhood surrounding Berlin's uber-cool Soho House. Visit indagare.com to read “upon arrival” tips for how to spend your first day in other international cities, like Paris, Vienna and Rome.



Breakfast... at the chic **Zeit für Brot** bakery and coffee shop, which makes delicious breakfast pastries. *Alte Schönhauser Strasse 4; 49 (0)30-2804-6780*

Restore... at the **Cowshed Spa** in the cellar of the Soho House. It is the best place in the neighborhood for a pampering treatment. *Torstrasse 1; 49 (0)30-4050-440*

Lunch... at **Mädchenitaliener** with a bowl of pasta and some wine. In nice weather, diners sit at the communal beer-garden-like tables outside and the vibe is gregarious and fun. *Alte Schönhauserstrasse; 49 (0) 30-4004-1787*

Shop... around the interconnected **Hackesche Höfe** courtyards, home to a great collection of local boutiques. *Rosenthaler Strasse 40/41 & Sophienstrasse 6*

View... cutting-edge works at the galleries along Auguststrasse, including **Eigen + Art** and the **KW Institute of Contemporary Art**. *Auguststrasse 26; 49 (0)30 280-6605*

Visit... sprawling **Museum Island**, home to some of Berlin's most famous art troves. *Museumsinsel*

Caffeinate... at the **Barn** café, where they serve organic, healthy snacks and dishes. *Auguststrasse 58; 49 (0)151-2410-5136*

On the Radar...2016

From a ground-breaking eco resort in Sri Lanka to a long-awaited reopening in Paris, the new year abounds with exciting debuts. Book your stays through Indagare to receive special amenities and VIP treatment.



Japan: Amanemu *Minimalist chic*

Aman's latest luxury property in Japan is located on a dramatic coastline in Ise Shima National Park. The property has 28 guest rooms, each with its own *onsen* (mineral hot spring) and decorated in traditional *ryokan* style.

Paris: Ritz *A classic returns*

The grand doors at 15 place Vendôme will reopen in March after three years of renovations and nearly 120 years after it first opened, in 1898. Glitz and grandeur will still define the iconic property, which will have 71 rooms and 71 suites, a Chanel spa and the École Ritz Escoffier cooking school.



Lake Como: Sereno *France meets Italy*

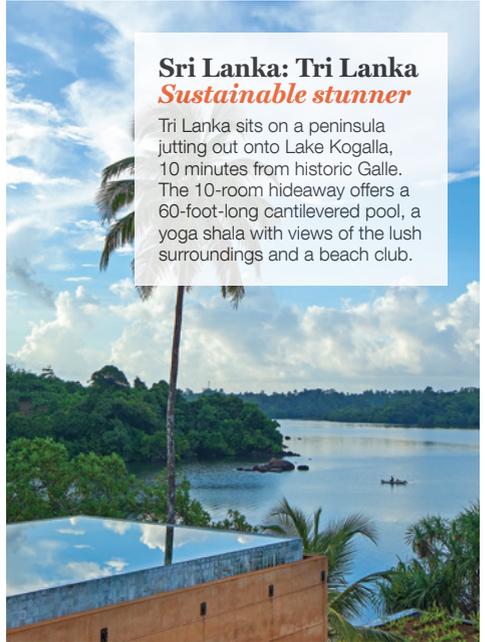
When the St. Barth's luxury brand opens its second property on Lake Como in June, the area's gilded grand palace hotels will have a sexy new competitor. Located a five-minute drive from Como town, the cutting-edge newcomer will offer 34 suites and an infinity pool with dramatic views.





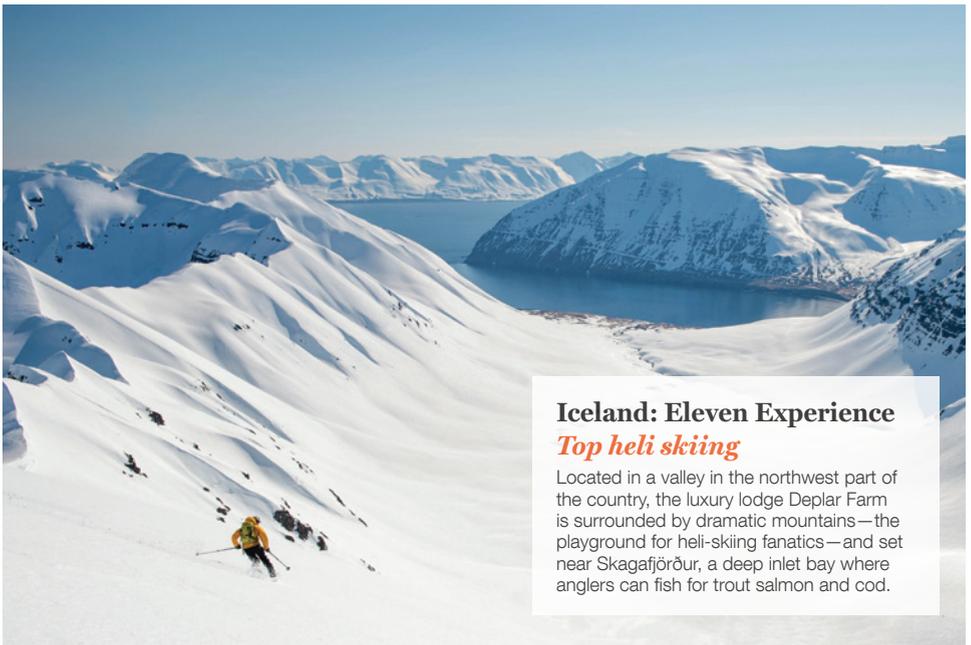
**Ireland: Belmond
Grand Hibernian**
Stylish train travel

Belmond's newest sleeper train, which begins operating in August, will run through the countryside, along coastlines and into major cities. The 40 cabins are furnished in keeping with classic Georgian architecture of Dublin.



Sri Lanka: Tri Lanka
Sustainable stunner

Tri Lanka sits on a peninsula jutting out onto Lake Kogalla, 10 minutes from historic Galle. The 10-room hideaway offers a 60-foot-long cantilevered pool, a yoga shala with views of the lush surroundings and a beach club.



Iceland: Eleven Experience
Top heli skiing

Located in a valley in the northwest part of the country, the luxury lodge Deplar Farm is surrounded by dramatic mountains—the playground for heli-skiing fanatics—and set near Skagafjörður, a deep inlet bay where anglers can fish for trout salmon and cod.

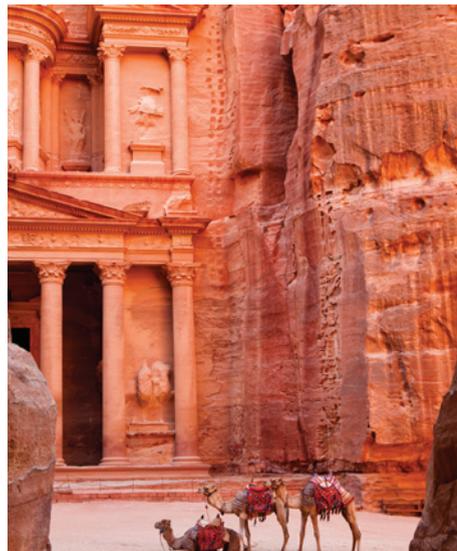


Insider Trips 2016

With a line-up of destinations ranging from Patagonia to Iran, Indagare's 2016 Insider Trip schedule is packed full of extraordinary excursions.



Clockwise from top left: a monk in Myanmar;
a bazaar in Tehran; an overwater villa in
Panama; camels at Petra; a Madrid cityscape



Like many of Indagare's most exciting offerings, Insider Trips grew out of an inspired exchange between our founder and members, who wanted to travel on carefully scouted journeys that include insider access and exciting immersion in far-flung destinations.

For the past five years, we have offered our members places on these rich and rewarding trips that allow them to explore the world with like-minded travelers in a small, carefully selected group.

Though there are many destinations we return to year after year (such as Cuba and Myanmar) we consistently add new spots to our line-up, motivated by members' interests and requests (for instance, Grenada and Iran). Throughout each Insider Trip, we arrange for behind-the-scenes experiences, time with local influencers and rare special events.

What is an Insider Trip?

An Indagare Insider Trip is a well-mapped-out journey that has been scouted, vetted and planned by an Indagare editor, most often by founder Melissa Biggs Bradley. A small number of members can sign up to go on these tours, or put together their own group. The trips include a blend of the best of a destination with behind-the-scenes access and introductions to locals.

This year, we are thrilled to offer an ambitious line-up including favorites like Arizona's transformative Mii amo spa and a revamped version of our classic Cuba itinerary alongside



Janine Yu

The best experiences I had this year included exploring Naoshima Island, especially the art sites in a traditional village; horseback riding up to 10,000 feet at Condor Gorge in Mendoza, Argentina; and seeing wildlife on safari in Sabi Sands in South Africa.

our voluntourism trips to Grenada and Jordan and a few quick jaunts to Europe. In November, Melissa leads Indagare's first foray to Iran on a journey that is sure to be intellectually challenging, stimulating and rewarding.

Why join an Insider Trip?

Every itinerary includes special additions such as private trunk shows, chef's table dining, curator-led tours and other unique experiences not available to the regular traveler. Thanks to the intimate size of the groups and to Indagare's connections, these trips entail much more than just sightseeing; each day is designed to offer maximum immersion in the destination's culture. During the course of the trips, members will experience the destination in the company of expert guides and plugged-in residents.

Who gets invited?

Invitations are extended first to alumni of past Insider Trips, then to Connoisseur members. If spots remain, they are offered to the Elite and Basic members of our community. To join an Insider Trip, you must be an Indagare member.

How to Join a Trip

Read on for more information about Indagare Insider Trips and the scheduled 2016 voyages. Contact us with any questions or to reserve space: insidertrips@indagare.com.





From top: An Insider Trip group in Uruguay; hiking in the Dolomites



Who hosts these trips?

The debut Insider Trip to a given destination is hosted by Indagare founder Melissa Biggs Bradley, who often scouts the trips herself before bringing a group. Subsequent trips may be hosted by Indagare travel specialists or local ambassadors.

Can I recreate an Insider Trip?

Absolutely. Most Insider Trips can be customized for a large family and/or a group of friends, though some of the itinerary inclusions may vary depend-

ing on the availability of our specialists and local sources. Our award-winning bookings team can arrange visits to destinations ranging from Berlin to Bhutan with itineraries focused around art (in Los Angeles or Florence); active pursuits (in the Dolomites or Peru) and lots of insider access (in Napa, Charleston or Japan).

You select your group of travelers, and we will tailor the trip to your interests. With insider access and with well-mapped-out itineraries, these trips can be arranged for small groups or families. Contact our Insider Trips team to get started.

What Insider Trips are scheduled for 2016?

This year's line-up includes favorites like Havana and a family surf trip to Mexico's Punta Mita. But we also travel to such emerging destinations as Panama, to a fantastic resort acclaimed for wellness and pampering, and in the fall, our first foray to Iran will include time spent in the capital city of Tehran, a visit to Isfahan, home to Imam Square, and a trip to Shiraz, which boasts world-class archaeological relics from the Persian Empire.

"Traveling with friends old and new to unique places has been the most wonderful way to make memories. I have decided that learning first hand about these amazing places, people, history is a sure way to exercise my brain in the best possible way."

-Indagare Member



Sunset at U Bein bridge in Myanmar

Insider Trips 2016: Calendar

February: Panama

At the center of our five-day wellness retreat is Sweet Bocas, the exclusive villa perched over the Caribbean in the Bocas del Toro nature reserve.

Dates: February 21 – 26

March: Grenada

In partnership with reachwithin, an organization that works with vulnerable children in Grenada, this itinerary combines giving back with fun local excursions.

Dates: March 13 – 17

March: Punta Mita

This family-gearred surfing trip offers the flexibility to create your own adventure at the Four Seasons Punta Mita, regardless of age or ability.

Dates: March 19 – 26

April: Madrid

Experience Madrid's dynamic culture with insider access to private clubs, palaces and the U.S. Ambassador's residence on our second Indagare Insider Trip to the city.

Dates: April 3 – 6

May: Russia

Our weeklong trip combines time in Moscow as well as in St. Petersburg to explore the country's historic treasures.

Dates: May 6 – 13

May: Cuba

Explore Havana with incredible access to artists' studios, Hemingway's house and dinners with locals. Indagare's signature Cuba Insider Trips have been in operation for the past six years.

Dates: May 19 – 23 and Nov. 17 – 21

June: Jordan

We will visit Jordan to learn about the impact that micro-finance has on the lives of women, while exploring some of the world's most extraordinary historical sites, including Petra and Wadi Rum.

Dates: June 11 – 18

June: Normandy

Designed as an addition to a Paris trip, this weekend with a sought-after expert guide includes visits to historically significant WWII sites.

Dates: June 16 – 18

Sept.: Iceland

Iceland is a bucket-list destination for the intrepid traveler. Indagare's quick five-day trip is packed with active adventure and incredible vistas.

Dates: September 10 – 14

Oct.: Myanmar

Discover the cultural riches of this alluring destination, from the temple-strewn fields of Bagan to the on-the-water gardens of Inle Lake. As tourism continues to grow in this once forbidden country, the time to go is now.

Dates: October 27 – November 5

Nov.: Iran

Indagare's inaugural Insider Trip through this complex and beautiful nation will be led by Melissa Biggs Bradley.

Dates: November 4 – 11

Nov.: Chilean Patagonia

Patagonia tops the list for most outdoor enthusiasts and can be enjoyed by adventurous travelers of all ages. This itinerary includes a week of hiking and active adventures.

Dates: November 5 – 14

Questions? Contact our team for help: 212-988-2611 or email insidertrips@indagare.com.



Unexpected Duos

Combining two complementary destinations in one vacation can make each come alive in a way it wouldn't have if visited alone.

In our years of travel planning, the Indagare team has discovered a number of off-the-beaten path destinations that mesh nicely with very different, more traditional ones. Here are some of our favorite combos.

Honeymooners and Families: India and the Maldives

Opposites in nearly all aspects—India is known for culture and crowds, the Maldives for complete isolation—this pairing is ideal for honeymooners and others who want an intellectually stimulating vacation that incorporates downtime. A tropical paradise that is 99 percent sea and one percent land, with beaches and marine-life-filled waters certain to satisfy surfers, scuba divers and sunbathers, the Maldives



Simone Girner

A great first trek when you arrive in New Zealand's Queenstown is the Ben Lomand trail. It's challenging but at the very top, there's the most beautiful spot for a picnic. The views are extraordinary and capture everything that makes this country such an incredible destination for outdoor enthusiasts.

lies a few hundred miles south of the tip of India. Combine these far-flung destinations in a culture-packed trip that culminates in a few days of rest and relaxation by the water or one that begins on the beach, letting you ease into the time change before plunging into adventures.

Culture Hounds: Berlin and Istanbul

Berlin is one of Europe's most exciting and vibrant cities, with thriving art and fashion scenes characterized by experimentation and risk taking, as well as a complex history and a current urgency to prove itself as a capital of contemporaneity. Istanbul has an even longer and more complex history, as the capital of the eastern Roman,



From left: an atoll in the Maldives;
Qutb Minar in Delhi



Clockwise from left: the Hagia Sophia; gallery hopping in Berlin; New Zealand's rugged South Island; an aerial shot of Fiji's Laucala; mussels in Barcelona; lavish tilework in Marrakech.



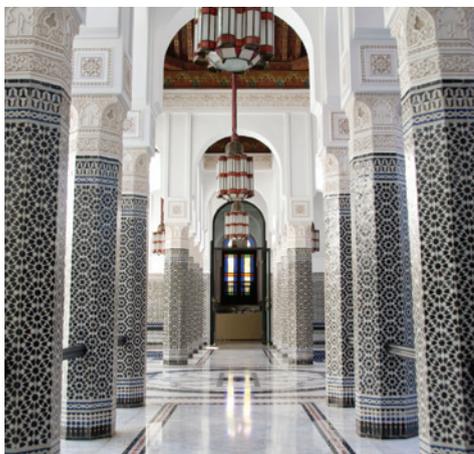
Byzantine and Ottoman empires. Today it is the economic center and most populous city of the modern state of Turkey, considered a bridge between Europe and Asia by virtue of its situation straddling the Bosphorus Strait. Both cities are vibrant cultural hubs where east meets west in meaningful ways, and whose cultures and history represent themselves in intriguing contrast.

Adventure Lovers:

New Zealand and Fiji

A 14-hour flight from California, New

Zealand is one of the hardest-to-reach countries in the world, a bucket-list destination that most travelers visit once, if they're lucky. The lengthy journey, though more than compensated for by the astounding landscapes and superluxurious lodges, means that few travelers will be able to combine the island nation with another destination. Especially active families and couples, or those with an extra week, however, may want to extend their trip with a stay in Fiji. There's no better place to rest one's aching muscles after days of bungee



jumping, hiking, fly-fishing, surfing and touring New Zealand's skies via helicopter than on the South Pacific's finest island paradise.

Foodies and Fashionistas: Marrakech and Barcelona

Just two hours apart by plane, Marrakech and Barcelona have wildly different cultures. Both, however, share a reputation for flavorful local cuisine, a creative art scene, sophisticated fashion and luxurious hotels. For those passionate about food and culture, the two cities make a magical



Tara Tunney

Even longtime classics have the ability to surprise you — for example, during a quick return visit to **Barbados**, we stopped for burgers at St. Lawrence gap. The line was long and it took 20 minutes to get to the front of it, but I can honestly say that it was the best burger I've ever had.

combination. Days in both destinations can be filled with cooking classes, food and architecture tours, excellent shopping and stylish evenings out on the town. Families who want a vacation that mixes indulgent down time with a fast-paced city experience, as well as couples or groups of friends looking to celebrate an occasion in style, will find a Marrakech-Barcelona trip the perfect fit.

Read full destination reports on indagare.com. For help planning a spectacular multi-stop journey, contact us: 212-988-2611.



Why We Must Continue to Travel

Indagare founder, **Melissa Biggs Bradley**, reflects on the importance of travel in uncertain times.

I flew to France two weeks after the tragic terrorist attack on November 13. That trip has shaped my perspective on traveling in what David Brooks has dubbed the “age of small terror,” noting that when “we all live at risk of random terror, whether we are in Paris, San Bernardino or Boston ... it’s partly randomness that determines whether you happen to be in the wrong spot at the wrong time.”

France immediately felt different to me. The French were remarkably united in their refusal to be scared. Often the country is divided between Parisians and the rest of the populace. In the aftermath of November 13, all regions were speaking with one voice. “France is the country of human rights, and Paris is synonymous with fashion, talent and culture,” declared designer Ines de la Fressange. “After our mourning, we must continue to live with joy and freedom. It is a way to fight against those cowards with no doctrine but stupidity. In my opinion, one will want more frivolity, creativity and extravagance—all those things that repudiate totalitarians.”

I saw signs hanging from buildings announcing, “No hatred. No fear. No violence.” Shop windows displayed

the Eiffel Tower peace symbol. Demonstrating their resolve, people filled the cafés and streamed into parks, exactly as Antoine Leiris prescribed in the now famous Facebook post he wrote after his wife, the mother of his 17-month-old child, was killed in the Bataclan massacre, “[My son] is going to eat his snack just like every other day, then we are going to play like every other day, and all his life, this little boy will be happy and free. Because you will never have his hatred either.”

The French have taken a stand. They have drawn a line in the sand and declared that the best way to defeat the terrorists and foil their plans for an Islamic state in which women are veiled, art and music outlawed, monuments blown up and fundamentalism imposed is to embrace joy and *liberté, égalité, fraternité*.

Humans, naturally, have a herd mentality. We all run for cover, or collectively recognizing what flight implies, we all get on with our lives. We comfort ourselves with the fact that when our time is up, it is up. Death may come through a freak accident or via a lurking ailment. In the meantime, seize the day. Go to the



Melissa Biggs Bradley

Three particular travel experiences from last year stand out: I had been intrigued by **Japan** before going but returned utterly enamored. Sharing **India**, with all of its beauty, mysticism but also ugly truths, with my family was one of my most rewarding trips. Sailing in the lagoon that surrounds **Venice** on a flat bottomed boat at sunset was unforgettable.



game. Enjoy your friends. Get on the plane. Linger longer at the café, as the French are doing, but now with a sense of purpose and pride.

In *Madame Figaro*, American novelist Russell Banks is quoted as telling his grandson that the ISIS terrorists “live in an imaginary world as if life were nothing but a giant, criminal video game. For them, there is no other world. To stop them, we cannot do what they want us to do. We need to show them that there exists another world, so they can see that there is not only their sinister nightmare.” Yes, we must all find courage, keep calm and keep creating,



Marley Lynch
During a fast-paced scouting trip to the **Amalfi Coast**, I was able to savor a few hours lounging by the Monastero Santa Rosa’s infinity pool. Suspended between sky and sea, it hangs on a cliff over the coastline and feels at once dramatic and yet utterly zen.

loving and enjoying. But we must also continue to be open to the diversity of the world’s cultures, to learn from each other and to find commonality. As one of my team, Amelia Osborne, wrote upon returning from Namibia, “We cannot let fear lock up our passports. It is times like these when exploring the globe is most important, in fact crucial, to remind ourselves and teach our children about the world. We must be visitors and viewers and be quiet and listen. Through listening, we can replace horror stories broadcast on the news of a world in danger with our own real, live experiences of a planet of magic.”

417,000

... average page views per month on Indagare.com

6

... continents on which Indagare members live

1,331

... days Indagare travel specialists spent on the road scouting new destinations and revisiting favorite spots around the globe

20

MOST-BOOKED HOTELS 2015

Laucala
Fiji

Cap Juluca
Anguilla

Viceroy
Anguilla

Parrot Cay
Turks & Caicos

Jumby Bay
Antigua

Hotel Le Bristol
Paris

Hotel Cipriani
Venice

Amanyara
Turks & Caicos

**Ritz-Carlton
Dorado**
Puerto Rico

Four Seasons
Nevis

**Four Seasons
Resort Hualalai**
Hawaii

Eden Rock
St. Barth's

Sandy Lane
Barbados

Four Seasons
Costa Rica

Hotel Byblos
St.-Tropez

Hotel de Russie
Rome

Cuiximala
Mexico

Isle de France
St. Barth's

The Breakers
Palm Beach

Four Seasons
Jackson Hole

78

... Indagare members who took part in Indagare Insider Trips to such destinations as Cuba, the Dolomites, Japan, Madrid and Bhutan..

62

... countries visited by Indagare staffers in 2015. Among the most remote? Namibia, Mongolia, Mozambique and Qatar.

31

... number of countries Indagare members hail from

47

... Paris hotels personally vetted by Indagare travel specialists last year

6

... days it took an Indagare specialist to climb Mount Kilimanjaro

3,949

... restaurant reviews on the Indagare site

178

... international visits the Indagare team took in 2015 (including 19 trips to Italy)

5,000

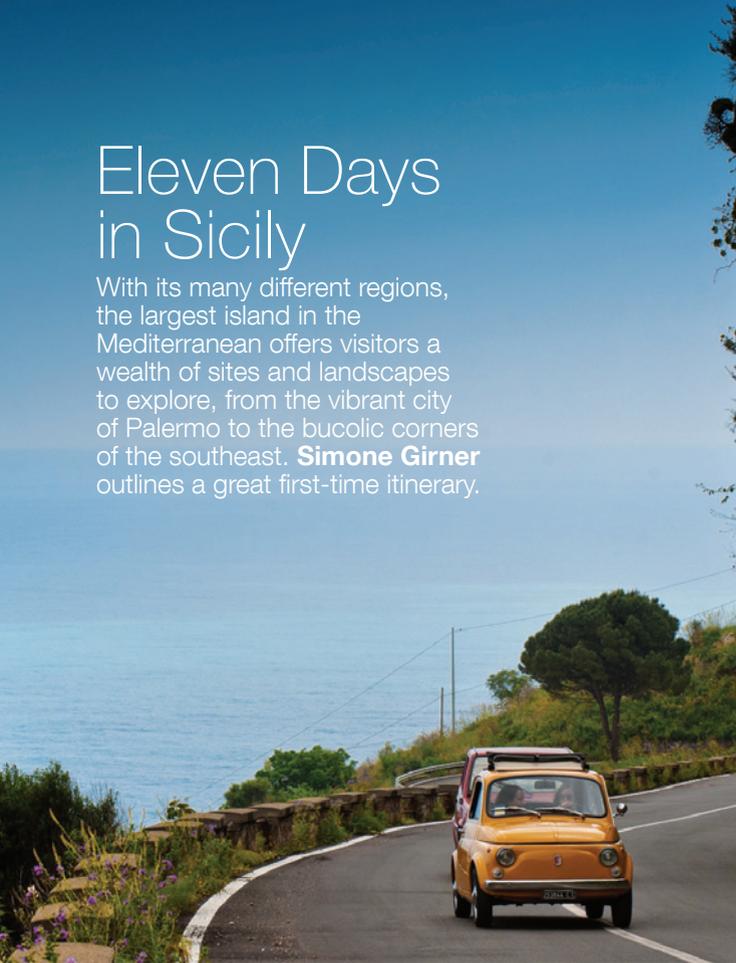
... approximate member trips booked in 2015

1,111

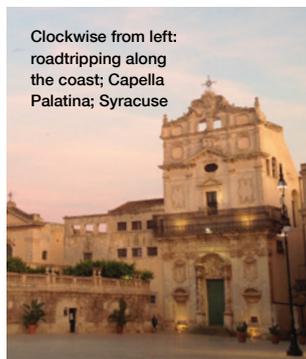
... hotels bookable through Indagare's online bookings engine, including 644 that offer special amenities to Indagare members.

Eleven Days in Sicily

With its many different regions, the largest island in the Mediterranean offers visitors a wealth of sites and landscapes to explore, from the vibrant city of Palermo to the bucolic corners of the southeast. **Simone Girner** outlines a great first-time itinerary.



Clockwise from left: roadtripping along the coast; Capella Palatina; Syracuse



There are several ways of tackling Sicily, depending on whether you want to explore its culture, cuisine, landscapes, seaside, history or cities. This Best of Sicily itinerary is a good option for a first-time visitor. Other journeys and adventures can be customized to members' interests. Contact our Bookings Team for help planning a trip.

DAY 1: Syracuse

Fly into Catania International Airport, then drive to Syracuse, about one hour to the south. Check in to your hotel in Ortygia, at the eastern end of the city. Meet one of Indagare's preferred guides and tour the Greek Theater of Syracuse. Take a pre- or post-dinner



Elise Bronzo

An underrated destination in my opinion is **Zurich**, in large part thanks to an extraordinary hotel: the Dolder Grand. The terrace of my room overlooked the lake, and the first sips of morning air in the Swiss Alps was even better than the world's best double espresso that I was enjoying alongside this panorama.

passeggiatta in the beautiful old town of Ortygia, ending up at the stunning Piazza del Duomo. Have an aperitivo at one of the bars surrounding it or head to **Tinkite** or **Clandestino**, which are favored by locals.

DAYS 2-4: Baroque Towns & Southeastern Seaside

Drive from Syracuse to the late Baroque town of Noto, 40 minutes to the south. Check in to one of Indagare's preferred hotels, then walk to **Crocifisso da Baglieri** or **Dammuso** for lunch. Spend the afternoon exploring this charming town, including its stunning Baroque cathedral. The next day, drive east to the coast, and visit the Vendicari Nature Reserve.

Bring a towel, sunscreen and plenty of water, and settle in for a beach day. For lunch, make a reservation at **Il Baglietto**, just outside the Vendicari entrance. In the late afternoon, pack up and drive to the charming seaside town of Marzamemi for an aperitivo. On your last day in this region, you should either explore the other late Baroque towns of Modica and Ragusa (a short drive away) or make the longer trip to the Villa Romana del Casale, home to some of the world's most stunning mosaics.

DAY 5: Agrigento

Get up early to make the three-hour drive from Noto along the southern coast to Agrigento. Check in to Villa Athena and have lunch on the terrace, with dead-center views of the Valley of Temples. In the afternoon, take an in-depth guided tour of this archaeological park, whose highlight is the Temple of Concordia, which has been standing in this spot since 430 B.C. Afterward, relax by the pool at Villa Athena.

DAYS 6-8: Palermo

Drive due north from Agrigento to Palermo. Check in to your hotel, and meet one of Indagare's preferred guides for a walking tour of the historic center, including the Capo and Vucceria districts. Have an aperitivo at one of the Vucceria's many casual bars, or head to **Kursaal Kahesa** for a glass of Etna wine. If there is a performance that night, get tickets to see an opera at the splendid Teatro Massimo. Get an early start the next day to visit



INSIDE SCOOP

Ideal Length of Stay:
7-10 days

Customizable for:

Couples, families, art lovers, history buffs, foodies and oenophiles

Itinerary

Highlights: Palermo, Baroque towns of the southeast, Greek history at Syracuse, wine tours around Mount Etna, luxury resorts in Taormina, mosaics at Villa Romana del Casale

Possible Add-Ons:

Aeolian Islands, Puglia, Rome, Tuscany

the Cappella Palatina, in the Norman Palazzo. Explore Palermo's vivid street scene and markets, as well as some of the city's incredible Baroque churches. For lunch, head to the seaside resort of Mondello, a favorite destination for Palermo's residents during the warmer months.

DAYS 9-11: Taormina

Drive three hours to Taormina, and check in to the Villa Sant'Andrea, one of the town's two Belmond properties, which sits in a lovely cove and overlooks a pebble beach. Have lunch on the terrace and take in the beautiful views. In the late afternoon, take the funicular behind the hotel up to Taormina's historic center. Get a gelato and stroll along Corso Umberto and the smaller streets that lead off it, all lined with shops and restaurants. Spend the next day relaxing at the Sant'Andrea beach club, or book a spa treatment. Walk to **Da Giovanni** for lunch with a beautiful view of Isola Bella. The next day, transfer to the Grand Hotel Timeo, the other Belmond property, for your last night in Sicily. Tour Taormina's Greek theater or just lounge by the Timeo's pool, which has sweeping views of the sea and Mount Etna. Have a glorious meal at the Timeo's fine-dining restaurant, then take a late-night walk along Corso Umberto and enjoy a final gelato while watching Etna's peak glow red in the distance.

Read our full Sicily destination report for full contact details on indagare.com.

I CAME HERE BECAUSE I WAS TOLD TO COME BY A FRIEND I TRUSTED. HE SAID ANTONIO MAKES A FABULOUS MARTINI. AND HE WAS RIGHT. HE INSISTED THAT AT DINNER I PUT MYSELF IN CORRADO'S HANDS AND TRUST HIS EVERY RECOMMENDATION. AND HE WAS RIGHT. HE TOLD ME TO SIT ON THE TERRACE EVERY MORNING WITH MY ESPRESSO AND MY NEWSPAPERS AND DREAM ABOUT THE DAY AHEAD. AND HE WAS RIGHT. BUT HE FORGOT TO TELL ME THE VIEW OF THE HARBOUR IS UTTERLY HYPNOTIC, AND THAT WHEN IN PORTOFINO I MUST DO MORE THAN DREAM.



BELMOND

HOTELS | TRAINS | RIVER CRUISES | JOURNEYS

TO START YOUR BELMOND EXPERIENCE CONTACT OUR INDAGARE TRAVEL ADVISOR

Next Stop: American South

Teva Kukan investigates three Southern cities that should be on your radar.



Clockwise from top left: sunset in Asheville; Memphis's Beale Street and Sun Studios; Biltmore Estate; a dish and table at Curate in Asheville; the Kentucky Derby; Chimney Rock State Park



The opportunity to give free rein to your curiosity and sense of adventure is one of the most exciting parts of travel. In our third installation of the new Next Stop column, we recommend some less-visited cities of the American South.

Asheville

Just back from: Miami

Next stop: Asheville, NC

Destination requirements: breathtaking natural vistas, stunning architecture

Filled with wonders both natural and manmade, Asheville is an ideal weekend destination for those who enjoy hiking, biking, stargazing and picnicking with a side of city strolling and a splash of frontier history. From its beginnings as a primitive outpost—when frontiersmen like Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett came to town—through its 1920s reign as a playground for international celebrities seeking mountain air, to its current status as a cultural and countercultural center, Asheville has appealed to those who love both the outdoors and exploring old architecture.

In addition to being located on the Blue Ridge Parkway, which runs along the highest ridges of the Appalachian Mountains and has majestic views, Asheville offers local craft breweries and wineries and more Art Deco architecture than any other city outside of Miami. The city's downtown is a veritable encyclopedia of U.S. architecture, including Neoclassical, Romanesque Revival, Beaux

Arts and Gothic buildings that now house restaurants, museums, shops and art galleries. Two miles outside of town is Biltmore, the former country estate of George W. Vanderbilt. The country's largest private home recalls the grand castles and palaces of France and England and sits on 125,000 acres of forestland, much of it designed by Frederick Law Olmsted (the man behind New York City's Central Park).

Indagare tip: There are two hotels on the Biltmore estate, the new Village Hotel and the more traditional Inn. *Contact Indagare to book.*

Visit

Chimney Rock State Park: Among the plethora of outdoor activities on offer in and around Asheville, exploring Chimney Rock State Park is a must-do. Film buffs will recognize the 315-foot-high granite monolith that gives the park its name from the final scenes of *Last of the Mohicans*.

Eat

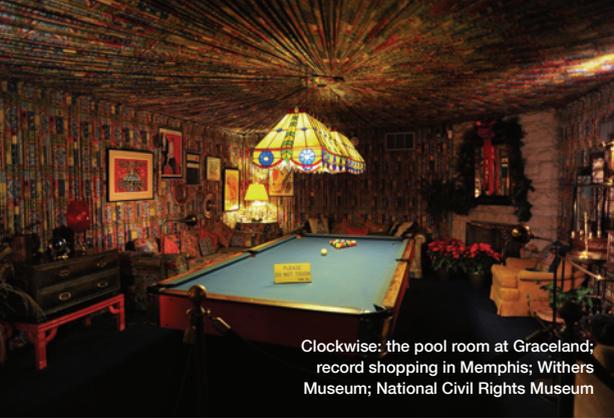
Rhubarb: Run by John Flee, formerly of Blackberry Farm in Tennessee, the restaurant specializes in bold flavors with a Southern accent. *rhubarbasheville.com*

Cúrate: Whether snapped up as a quick bite or savored in a longer seating, the authentically prepared tapas at Cúrate (pronounced COO-rah-tay and signifying “cure yourself” in Spanish) will solve what ails you. *curatetapasbar.com*



Sarah Hardin-White

My favorite travel moment was road tripping through West Texas, and especially visiting the McDonald Observatory, which is one of the best places for viewing stars. They host star parties on weeknights, when visitors gather to take in the night sky.



Clockwise: the pool room at Graceland; record shopping in Memphis; Withers Museum; National Civil Rights Museum



Drink

Oenophiles can sample wines at one of the 13 wineries near Asheville, including the one on the Biltmore estate and Addison Farms Vineyard (addison-farms.net), in Leicester. With 15 breweries in the downtown area alone, beer aficionados will easily find a local ale they enjoy. Favorite makers include Highland Brewing Company (highlandbrewing.com) and Burial Beer Co. (burialbeer.com).

Memphis

Just back from: *Austin*

Next stop: *Memphis, TN*

Destination requirements: *blues, soul and rock 'n' roll music; American Civil Rights history; slow-cooked barbecue*

Located on a bluff along the Mississippi River in southwest Tennessee,

quirky, historic Memphis is known for its music, food and important role in the U.S. Civil Rights movement.

Memphis's streets are indissolubly linked to its rich musical past and present: Beale Street, still lined by blues, jazz and rock clubs, is where W.C. Handy ran a music business that published the first commercially successful blues song, Handy's "Memphis Blues." Union Avenue is home to the legendary Sun Studios, where Johnny Cash, B. B. King, Jerry Lee Lewis and other music greats recorded. McLemore Avenue was the address of Stax Records, a major player in the development of the Southern and Memphis soul styles on whose site now stands the Stax Museum of American Soul. Elvis Presley Boulevard is where tourists flock to visit the King's famous mansion, Graceland.

As important as music to Memphis's heritage is the Civil Rights movement. The city was the site of the 1968 sanitation strike that buried it under 10,000 tons of trash and brought Martin Luther King Jr. down to support the strikers. He was assassinated at Memphis's Lorraine Motel (now a museum).

Then there's the mighty Mississippi, which forms Memphis's western border. The second longest U.S. river (after the Missouri) is an attraction in and of itself, offering water activities and riverboat cruises.

Indagare tip: The Peabody Hotel hosts the famous Peabody Ducks, who each day at 11 am make their way down from the roof to the hotel's grand lobby and into its marble fountain. Both guests and nonresidents of the hotel are welcome to witness the mallard parade, which has been a tradition since 1932. peabodymemphis.com

Visit

Graceland: It may be kitschy, but Elvis's wonderfully bizarre home was decorated by the King himself and reflects his famous over-the-top persona and style. graceland.com

National Civil Rights Museum: Visiting the museum, which is located in the former motel where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated and chronicles the history and challenges of Civil Rights in the U.S., is a somber but inspiring experience. civilrightsmuseum.org

The Mississippi by water: Old-fash-

ioned riverboats shuttle visitors up and down the river.

Eat

Restaurant Iris: Located in a converted house near the historic Overton Square, this restaurant specializing in French-Creole cuisine prepared using local seasonal ingredients, has only thirteen tables, so reservations are a must. restaurantiris.com

Andrew Michael Italian Kitchen/Hog & Hominy/ Porcellino's: James Beard Foundation Award nominees Andrew Ticer and Michael Hudmans have partnered on three Memphis eateries (so far). The vibes are different, but the food is uniformly delicious. Andrew Michael Italian Kitchen (andrewmichaelitaliankitchen.com) is an upscale option; Hog & Hominy (hogandhominy.com) is a comfort-food spot; and Porcellino's (porcellinoscraftbutcher.com) is a café/small plate/butcher shop.

Barbecue joints: Among the city's best are Central BBQ (cbqmemphis.com), Charlie Vergo's Rendezvous, known by locals as 'Vous, (hogsfly.com) and the Bar-B-Q Shop (dancingpigs.com).

Read about more recommendations for where to eat and visit in Memphis online at indagare.com.



Nicole Martin
Visiting the Cape Winelands is a must on any **South Africa** itinerary. With charming towns, stunning landscapes and amazing food, it is a hard destination to beat.

Drink

Mollie Fontaine Lounge: This proper lounge housed in a Victorian mansion serves spirits among the spirits—rumors of hauntings and ghosts abound. molliefontainelounge.com

Louisville, KY

Just back from: Savannah

Next stop: Louisville, KY

Destination requirements: genteel history with an emphasis on horses and bourbon

The largest city in Kentucky, Louisville is also one of the oldest west of the Appalachian Mountains, founded in 1778 by George Rogers Clark and named after French King Louis XVI. Located beside the Falls of the Ohio River, the city developed into a commercial and cultural hub because of the need for cargo portage around these rapids, a major obstruction (until the construction of the Louisville and Portland Canal) to river traffic between the upper Ohio and the Gulf of Mexico.

More than 100 parks, several designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, cover more than 13,000 acres and provide a wealth of open space. Louisville also boasts several National Historic Landmarks, including Locust Grove. This 18th-century Georgian mansion, set on a 55-acre farm site, was once the home of Revolutionary War hero George Rogers Clark and serves as a fascinating example of early Kentucky architecture, with one of the world's finest collections of Kentucky furniture.

Bourbon has been a major feature of Louisville's economy and culture since it was first marketed there in 1790, and tourists shouldn't miss Bourbons Bistro, a restaurant housed in a building dating back to the 1870s that offers more than 130 varieties of



the American whiskey.

No visit to Louisville would be complete without a trip to Churchill Downs, home to the Kentucky Derby, as deeply ingrained in the city's traditions as bourbon. Those whose trip doesn't coincide with the Run for the Roses can console themselves with a walking tour of the racetrack.

Indagare tip: 21c Museum Hotel, located in the heart of Museum Row in downtown Louisville, is a 90-room property dedicated to luxury, hospitality and contemporary art. 21cmuseumhotels.com

Visit

Conrad-Caldwell House Museum: This masterpiece of local architecture, built for businessmen Theophile Conrad and William Caldwell, is one



Clockwise from left: Proof restaurant at 21c Hotel; bone marrow at Proof Bar; sunset over the Ohio River

of the finest examples of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. conrad-caldwell.org

Eat

610 Magnolia: This intimate spot has among the city's most sought-after tables. The six-course prix fixe menu, which combines Southern cooking with urban sophistication, changes based on the availability of market-fresh ingredients. 610magnolia.com

Jack Fry's: Established in 1933, Jack Fry's serves Southern cuisine with a French twist. Live jazz nearly every night keeps the atmosphere lively. jackfrys.com

Drink

Proof Bar: The bar at the Proof on Main restaurant boasts an impressive selection of more than 75 bourbons, in

addition to a 100-bottle wine list, to sample while people watching or admiring the art that adorns the walls. proofonmain.com

Seelbach Bar: This authentically restored, early 1900s bar is located in the Seelbach Hilton, a piece of Louisville history. During Prohibition, the establishment was a favorite hangout for Al Capone and George Remus, a local gangster known as the King of the Bootleggers who inspired F. Scott Fitzgerald's famous character, Jay Gatsby. seelbachhilton.com/dining

Indagare members can contact the Indagare Bookings Team for assistance planning a trip to the American South. Contact us by email: bookings@indagare.com or phone: 212-988-2611. Visit indagare.com to read destination reports and hotel reviews on staff-scouted properties around the region.

Member Raves

Comments posted on our hotel and restaurant reviews reveal insider tips and share treasured memories, reinforcing the magic of certain destinations. Here we recap some standout member reviews from the past year.



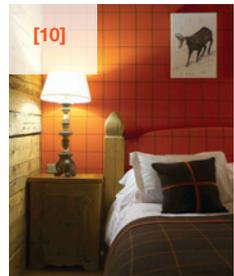
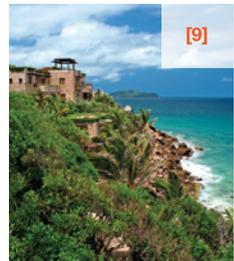
[1] Monastero Santa Rosa, Amalfi Coast, June 23, 2015: "One day the manager came up to us and asked us to follow him. He took us out on the rooftop and explained the history of the area and monastery—just one of many gestures that made us feel special."

[2] Carbone, New York, September 2, 2015: "The food here is a wonderful exercise in excess. For example, beef carpaccio, normally dressed simply with arugula, receives crunch in the form of hazelnuts and toasted breadcrumb crumbs and an intense, savory boost from a truffle emulsion. We left full and very satisfied!"

[3] Royal Malewane, South Africa, July 22, 2015: "A minimum of a week here would have been satisfactory; a month or more is now on our bucket list. Special kudos to our tracker and guide, whose game drives conjured up lions, zebra, elephants up close, as well as wild dogs, nyalas and beautiful birds."

[4] Chitabe Camp, Botswana, September 14, 2015: "I would go back in a heartbeat! Within 30 minutes of landing we had already seen elephants, giraffes, zebras, warthogs, impalas and more."

[5] Il San Pietro, Amalfi Coast, October 13, 2015: "Our bedroom and bathroom floors were completely tiled, and we had gorgeous views from both! We spent many days lounging at the hotel's rocky beach club. Their lunches are delicious and easy."



ZERO GEORGE; LAPA RIOS; LES FERMES DE MARIE, L. DI ORO; T. SHU; DR. CHITABE CAMP; MIKE MYERS; FOUR SEASONS GEORGE V

[6] Zero George, Charleston, September 15, 2015:

"The amenities and little touches are what make the Zero George truly memorable. They serve the most fantastic breakfast spread and the property has the feel and warmth of stepping into one's home. The welcoming staff make the whole experience truly enjoyable."

[7] Lapa Rios, Costa Rica, January 27, 2015:

"I loved waking up to the howling of the monkeys and sitting outside on my patio, watching the birds fly by. I don't like vacationing in the same place twice as I feel the world is a big place with so much to see, but Lapa Rios is the exception. I can't wait to go back!"

[8] Four Seasons George V, Paris, September 25, 2015:

"Our daughters were greeted by the wonderful guest relations manager, who gave them toys and treats. They quickly prepared our rooms, even though we checked in early. Breakfasts at the George V were a highlight."

[9] St. Regis Punta Mita, April 1, 2015:

"I am compelled to write this after the exceptional service my family experienced at the St. Regis. My eldest daughter got sick in the middle of the night, and the hotel staff got us a doctor, personally cared for her and watched over us every step of our brief medical journey. I am not easily impressed, but this wowed me."

[10] Les Fermes de Marie, Megeve, February 6, 2015:

"Christmastime was magical. There were many families in attendance and even a fabulously costumed Father Christmas, who appeared with a basket of gifts (which the parents had given to the hotel earlier in the day) to hand out to the children."



A colorful sunset
in Indonesia's
Raja Ampat
province

Indagare Experiences

From a treasure hunt through Rome to chartering a private yacht in the Komodo Islands, Indagare can tailor experiences to our members' particular interests.

The most memorable part of a trip is often the least expected. Whether it's discovering that the most delectable pastries in Jerusalem are baked in an unmarked storefront in the Arab quarter of the Old City, learning how to wield a samurai sword at a demonstration in Japan or pulling off the perfect proposal at a wine estate in Tuscany (with undercover photographers to capture the joyous event), these bespoke moments become lifelong memories. Indagare's Bookings Team can help arrange unique tours focused on everything

from adventure and romance to fashion and art. Here are just some of the behind-the-scenes experiences we can create for members.

Family Friendly

Indagare has mastered the art of planning family travel, no easy task, given the wide range of ages, interests and energy levels that must often be accommodated. Immersive trips, like a private castle rental in Scotland with a schedule that includes a Murder Mystery dinner and a gala night with traditional dancing, ensure that everyone

is engaged, whether the group consists of multiple generations or just immediate family members. One such itinerary to Peru even prompted a life-changing decision: Their visit to a rural village inspired an Indagare member and her family to launch a charity to aid the schoolchildren they met.

Active/Adventure

Intrepid travelers are always looking for the next adventure. After checking off such bucket-list destinations as the American West, Chilean Patagonia and New Zealand, it takes a bit of expert work to find the next truly exhilarating excursions. Indagare can arrange unique thrilling experiences like scuba diving between tectonic plates, trekking with elephants through Laos and rappelling into a volcano. This year, an Indagare member visiting Beijing expressed an interest in Ping-Pong, so one of our Travel Specialists organized a visit with a tour and private lesson at the nation's top athletic school, where many Olympic gold medalists in the sport have trained, for a tour and a private class.

Style/Fashion

When tickets to Paris Fashion Week aren't enough, Indagare members can go behind the scenes at fashion houses all over the world. A private tour of London's most exclusive estates, a jewelry class at Van Cleef & Arpels and a dress fitting at Jaipur's most lauded silk atelier were just some of the memorable style-centric excursions we arranged for members in 2015.



Meredith Santonelli

For travelers who want to experience a vast destination that still feels largely undiscovered, I recommend **Mongolia**. During my trip there, we climbed the highest sand dune of the Gobi Desert's Khongoryn Els section and the view across the sand dunes stretching to the horizon was completely unforgettable.

Culture

Experiencing an authentic cultural exchange is one of the most important aspects of travel. In addition to pairing our guests with expert guides, who provide a window into how locals live and work, we can arrange a number of customized itineraries for those wishing to truly immerse themselves in a destination's customs and practices. These might include a visit to a sumo match in Japan, a blessing from a monk at a fertility temple in Bhutan or a trip through Italy with an expert who can give special insight into some of the country's most spectacular art.

Romance

A sunset dinner in the Serengeti, a hot-air balloon ride over the temples in Bagan, sailing on a chartered yacht off Capri—Indagare offers a range of romantic options, from honeymoons and anniversaries to kid-free escapes. This year we even helped facilitate multiple wedding proposals complete with hidden photographers. We also assisted a member to arrange gifted guided touring for newlywed friends over the course of their honeymoon.

And More...

Indagare can also arrange a variety of specialty tours focused on art, history, food and wine, sports, wellness and many more interests.

To inquire about planning a bespoke experience or for more details on Indagare membership benefits and perks, contact us by phone: 212-988-2611 or email: membership@indagare.com.

Clockwise from left: The bar at the American Trade Hotel; Panama City's Old Town; the vibrant dining room at Sweet Bocas villa



Know Before You Go: Panama

Until recently bypassed by sophisticated travelers, Panama is now a hotbed of creativity. Indagare contributor **Kimberley Lovato** explains what you need to know before a visit.

Positioned between two continents and two oceans, Panama has been passed through or occupied throughout the ages by migrating tribes, Spanish conquistadors, pirates and, more recently, French companies that tried to construct a canal and Americans who succeeded in doing so, in 1914. Today more than 100 international companies have their Latin American headquarters here, making it a multicultural melt-

ing pot. Boasting a bounty of natural wonders and gorgeous beaches, together with a dash of hipness, Panama punches above its weight when it comes to memorable vacations.

Recalibrate your idea of luxury. Although Panama City's downtown counts a number of high-quality hotels among its gleaming skyscrapers, including the **Bristol Panama** (thebristol.com) and the **Waldorf As-**

toria (waldorfastoria.com/panama), the accommodations in the rest of the city and the country are more laid-back with their service and décor. Panama does, however, excel at warm welcomes and genuine hospitality, a priceless luxury. The **American Trade Hotel** (acehotel.com), the best boutique option in the city, boasts lovely rooms and is the best choice for those looking to stay in the historic quarter.

Island beaches are dreamy...

With hundreds of miles of Caribbean and Pacific coastline, it's no surprise that Panama is blessed with beautiful white-sand beaches sporting coconut palms and crystal-clear water. Hop on a plane or take a ferry from Panama City to the Las Perlas archipelago or the less-touristy San Blas Islands. Bocas del Toro, comprising hundreds of small islands, is a popular surf and soak-up-the sun spot.

...but Panama's jungles are where the real color lies.

Mother Nature did Panama proud, endowing it with jungles and populating them with colorful flora and fauna, including the odd-looking cashew tree, brilliant butterflies and insects, monkeys, deer, sloths and an astounding variety of birds. Visit the Metropolitan Natural Park, encompassing 655 acres of tropical forest and just 10 minutes by car from downtown. Or leave the city behind to experience the country's natural assets through guided kayaking tours, bird walks and jungle treks.

The Canal is worth seeing.

This 50-mile-long marvel connecting the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean figures on most Panama itineraries. But watching a ship pass through the locks is a little like watching paint dry. It's more exciting to actually sail through or take a tour. If you just want a quick glimpse, the Mira Flores lock is a 15-minute cab ride from downtown Panama City and has a historical museum, a theater and a viewing deck. **Tip:** Call ahead for the ship schedules.

It helps to know some Spanish.

Panama is home to hundreds of international companies and dispenses U.S. dollars from its ATMs (it's one of the two official currencies). However, knowing a little Spanish is not only polite but extremely useful, as well, especially if you plan to leave Panama City. **Tip:** Hiring a local English-speaking tour guide for a day will enrich your experience.

Panama City is cosmopolitan.

Driving into the city from the international airport and seeing its gleaming skyscrapers, casinos, hotels and swank apartment buildings on the water, you may wonder if you haven't actually landed in Miami. Panama City has top-tier restaurants, hip tapas bars and mega shopping malls. A bit removed from downtown is the expansive and colorful Frank Gehry-designed **Biomuseo** (*Edificio 136, Calzada de Amador; 507-830-6700*), which celebrates the country's rich ecosystem and history.



INSIDE SCOOP

Ideal Length of Stay:

Five to seven days

Customizable for:

Couples, families, groups

Itinerary Highlights:

Panama City and its Casco Viejo (Old City); Bocas del Toro Nature Reserve; San Blas Islands; Pearl Islands; the coastal town of Carti; the Chiriquí Province

Possible Add-Ons:

Costa Rica; Nicaragua; Bogotá; Cuba; Mexico City; Lima



Clockwise from top: al fresco lounge at Sweet Bocas; the eclectic dining room at Tantaló; tostadas at the American Trade Hotel



Casco Viejo is a must-visit.

Don't let the condemned buildings and graffiti-splattered walls scare you away. The Casco Viejo was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997, and walking along the brick-paved streets past wrought-iron balconies and Spanish houses and churches, you feel as if you've stepped into the 17th century. Restoration is proceeding at a furious pace, transforming old buildings into trendy boutique hotels like **Las Clementinas** (*Avenida B*; 507-228-7613) and **Tantaló Hotel** (*Calle 8 Este con Avenida B*; 507-262-4030). Come sundown, revelers fill the colonial plazas, wine bars and rooftop hot spots. Check out

Jeronimo, an art gallery by day, speak easy by night (*Avenida B y Calle 10*; 507-211-2758), or the lively bar atop the **Tantaló**, which has killer views. Sample wines and nibbles at **Divino Enoteca** (*Avenida A y Calle 4ta*; 507-202-6867), or chill out to live music at **Danilo's Jazz Bar** in the **American Trade Hotel** (*Plaza Herrera*; 507-211-2000).

Traveling within Panama takes some planning.

If you plan to tour the country, at some point you'll probably have to stitch together multiple forms of transportation. Roads can be narrow and seem to be perpetually under construction.

Hiring a driver frees you from most of the hassle. Copa Airlines and Air Panama are the two main carriers for flights within the country, and hotels and resorts often offer pickups and transfers to and from the airports. Water taxis take travelers to island and coastal destinations like Bocas del Toro and the San Blas. **Tip:** Panama City has two airports; make sure you know which one applies to your trip.

Skip the hat.

Panama hats are actually from Ecuador. For an authentically Panamanian souvenir, look instead for the colorful textiles called *mola*, which are made by the women of the Kuna tribe, the indigenous people of Panama, and sold in shops and markets countrywide. **Papiro y Yo** (*Avenida A; 507-211-3830*), an upscale boutique in the Casco Viejo, employs local women to weave stunning original necklaces, handbags and housewares out of paper, which it sells alongside colorful fair-trade fabrics. Other take-home ideas: Panamanian rum and coffee.

Weather is a factor.

If it's not sunny and humid, it's rain-

ing and humid, although sometimes it's cloudy and humid. Get the idea? Wear loose clothing, sunscreen, insect repellent and a hat, and drink lots of water, especially if you plan to be active. Towns at higher elevations, like Boquete in the Chiriqui province, offer some relief from the sticky weather.

Eating can be a multicultural adventure.

Restaurants in Panama City draw on Afro-Caribbean, Latin American and European influences. Upscale favorites include **Manolo Caracol** (*Casco Antiguo; 507-228-4640*), for small seafood plates and Spanish tapas, and **Azafran** (*San Francisco, AV Los Fundadores entre Calle 75 y 76; 507-399-9186*), for world cuisine worthy of a special occasion. For simpler, less expensive fare, try **Super Gourmet** (*Calle 6a Oeste; 507-212-3487*), which makes sandwiches to order and fresh empanadas, or the ubiquitous food stands (*fondas*). The daily fish market in Panama City is a must-stop for fresh seviche and Balboa beer.

For help booking a trip to Panama, contact Indagare's Bookings Team by phone: 212-988-2611 or email: bookings@indagare.com.

Panama Insider Trip

At the center of our five-day wellness retreat in Panama is Sweet Bocas, the ultraexclusive villa overlooking the Caribbean in the Bocas del Toro nature reserve. Surrounded by lush wilderness without a neighbor in sight, the resort is the perfect place to find peace through days filled with yoga, massages, eco-adventures and excursions on a 30-foot yacht. During down time, guests are welcome to explore the island, play tennis, relax on one of the local beaches, go kayaking or lounge on the deck and read. The villa's private chef works with island-grown vegetables and freshly caught fish.

Dates: February 21-26, 2016 **Pricing:** From \$6,200 per person
Contact insidertrips@indagare.com to learn more or book.



Cotswolds: Look Local

Blend in, and you'll see—and understand—much more of a destination, recommends Anglophile **Amelia Osborne**, reporting from the Cotswolds.



Clockwise from top: open fields; the patio at the Wild Rabbit; fresh strawberries at Daylesford's; the Village Pub



A place of pheasant-filled fields, Champagne picnics and chubby Labradors lazing by fireplaces, the Cotswolds is England at its best. But the most authentic way to experience the region is to live like a local. Here are some tips, gathered over many visits, and one Wellie-booted walk at a time.

1. Understand the differences between sub-regions.

Like any large, spread-out district, the Cotswolds consists of multiple areas, each with a very specific reputation. Northern Cotswolds (where the new Soho Farmhouse is located) is termed “posh” and “trendy” by those living in the southern part of the region (centered on Cirencester), where everything from the restaurants and pubs to the shops and sightseeing feels more rustic. The north-south divide is encapsulated in this contrast, apparent even to first-time visitors: On country roads you’re more likely to pass Range Rovers in the north, tractors in the south.

2. Be picky in your visits.

The Cotswolds region abounds with small cities, towns, hamlets and villages, so it’s important to know which are worth visiting and which can be skipped. Tetbury is a lovely town that is full of beautiful antiques stores and a charming café—and just next door to Prince Charles’s residence Highgrove House. Cirencester, too, has some interesting sights, good shopping and excellent restaurants.



Katie Stewart
Running down the untouched sand dunes in Chile’s Atacama Desert was a highlight of my year. Surrounded by mountains and the expansive landscape, I felt a new form of freedom.

3. For heaven’s sake, get the pronunciation right.

Few things give Brits a bigger chuckle than hearing Americans mispronounce town and city names. The Cotswolds area is home to a few trickily titled villages. Here are some pointers. When in doubt, ask a friendly cab driver or hotel concierge to take pity and clue you in.

Cirencester (“*SYrensesser*”)
Gloucestershire (“*GLOSStasher*”)
Tetbury (“*TETberry*”)
Bibury (“*BYberry*”)
Cheltenham (“*CHELTnum*”)

4. Rent a car.

Bopping along the country lanes on your own is a big part of enjoying the region, so anyone who is comfortable with driving on the left should definitely rent a car. Be sure to specifically reserve an automatic car if you are not accustomed to shifting gears with your left hand. And be sure to get a vehicle with a GPS. Many addresses are convoluted, so find the postcode of your destination, and plug it into the navigation system. British postcodes are far more precise than American zip codes, particularly in the countryside, and are more effective in getting you where you want to go than even an accurate address.

5. Dress down.

No one in the country dresses up, so pack jeans, cozy cashmere sweaters and your wax or quilted Barbour jacket. Shoes should be limited to flats, sneakers and Wellies. To



Clockwise: Sudely Castle; the Wild Rabbit; the cheese shop at Soho Farmhouse



wear heels in the Cotswolds would simply be nonsense.

6. Know your Normans from your Saxons.

History runs deep in the Cotswolds, where most roads (at least, the straight, uncurving ones, suited to marching soldiers) were laid down by ancient Romans. You'll come across churches and chapels built when the world was considered flat and Florence's *Duomo* hadn't yet reached the drawing board. If you bone up on ancient and medieval English history before visiting, you'll better appreciate the age of the villages and the differences in architecture.

7. Be cool.

Chances are you'll come across a royal—or at least a casual mention of the family—while in the Cotswolds. Do not act starstruck. Feign nonchalance about references to and proximity of royalty.



Gina Paoloni

Thanks to a very rigorous tourism policy, the kingdom of **Bhutan** still feels remote and unspoiled. I traveled there on a hiking-heavy *Insider Trip* and am still deeply moved by the beauty of the landscapes, the kindness of the people and the spirituality of this special destination.

8. Know the pub is not just for pints and whiskey...

The Cotswolds is home to some spectacular dining institutions, many of which happen to be pubs. In fact, this is the birthplace of the gastropub, whose fare is a far cry from beef-and-kidney pies. Make it a point to dine out in as many pubs as possible, and order the special. Some favorites are **The Wild Rabbit** (*Kingham; 44 (0)1608-658-389*), **The Wheatsheaf** (*Northleach; 44 (0)1509-890-320*) and **Village Pub** (*Barnsley; 44 (0)1285-740-421*).

9. ... But bring a hollow leg.

There are also excellent microbreweries and a fabulous craft truffle-vodka maker. Afternoon tea is often served with Champagne, arrays of fine whiskey and gin are always available, and restaurants' wine lists are of extremely high caliber.

Read the full Cotswolds destination report online at indagare.com.



Favorite Finds: Venice

Indagare founder **Melissa Biggs Bradley** shares her favorite boutiques that she never fails to visit when in the regal Italian city. "I always come back with a suitcase full of exquisite, handcrafted finds," she says.



Venissa Winery

This winery-cum-bed and breakfast is owned by Gianluca Bisol, an icon in the Prosecco business whose family is known for producing some of the finest bubbly in the world. 3 Fondamenta S. Caterina.



Chiarastella Cattana

Cattana's shop features hand-loomed textiles and delicate sheets. I always scoop up a few of their pillows when in town. 3357 San Marco.



Antonia Miletto

The Venetian designer incorporates exotic woods, gemstones and ebony in her elegant pieces. The wood and gold bangles are favorites. *Calle delle Botteghe, San Marco.*



Gianni Basso

This traditional shop creates bookplates, business cards and stationery printed on antique printing presses. Ask to see the engravings from the first edition of *Pinocchio*. *Calle del Fumo, Cannaregio.*

ViBi Venezia

Designed by sisters who grew up in a palazzo on the Grand Canal, these slippers offer an updated twist on the gondolier style. vibivenezia.it



Global Gratitude: 2015

Last holiday season, Indagare began selecting charities and making donations to them in our members' honor. Here are the organizations we chose to support this year.



Clockwise from top: schoolchildren reading; a monk blessing a water filter; students at Angkor Wat



At Indagare, we know that travel is about more than experiencing new places; it's also about how those experiences shape your world view. Importantly, we also believe that conscientious journeys can bring about real and lasting change in the destinations visited.

This year, the charities that we chose to support inspired us with their commitment to the people and places where they are based. We hope they will inspire our community, too.

Room to Read

Hundreds of millions of children worldwide, two-thirds of them girls,



lack even minimal reading skills. Room to Read, which began as a request for books from a headmaster in rural Nepal, has blossomed into a global organization that partners with local communities and governments to promote gender equality in education. The organization is helping develop the habit of reading in primary-school-aged children in thousands of communities in countries like South Africa, Zambia, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Laos and Vietnam.

Indagare's Meredith Santonelli was inspired to action after she read about Room to Read in 2011 and joined the local chapter in New York City. "I

have attended Room to Read talks, meetings and the annual gala and volunteered with the organization,” Meredith says. “The founder, John Wood, is inspiring in his dedication.” roomtoread.org

The Harpswell Foundation

The Harpswell Foundation is a non-partisan foundation that provides education, housing and leadership training to young women in the developing world. Its particular focus is on Cambodia, whose educated class was largely destroyed by the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s. In that country, male university students may live in the Buddhist temples, but female students cannot, and this prevents many young women from receiving an education. To remedy this, the foundation has built two dormitories for women in the capital, Phnom Penh, that serve 15 universities in the city. In May 2008, the Cambodian government awarded Harpswell the Gold Medal for humanitarian service.

Indagare’s Elise Bronzo, who was a leadership resident at the Harpswell Foundation in 2012 when she was based in Phnom Penh, says of her experience: “I had the pleasure of witnessing brilliant young women transform from being too shy to make eye contact to expressing opinions in a formal debate with peers. The issue is not intelligence; but rather the cultural barriers that impede their confidence. Last year, one of my students earned a Rhodes Scholarship. After her studies she plans to return

the
harpswell
foundation



to Cambodia to work in politics.” harpswellfoundation.org

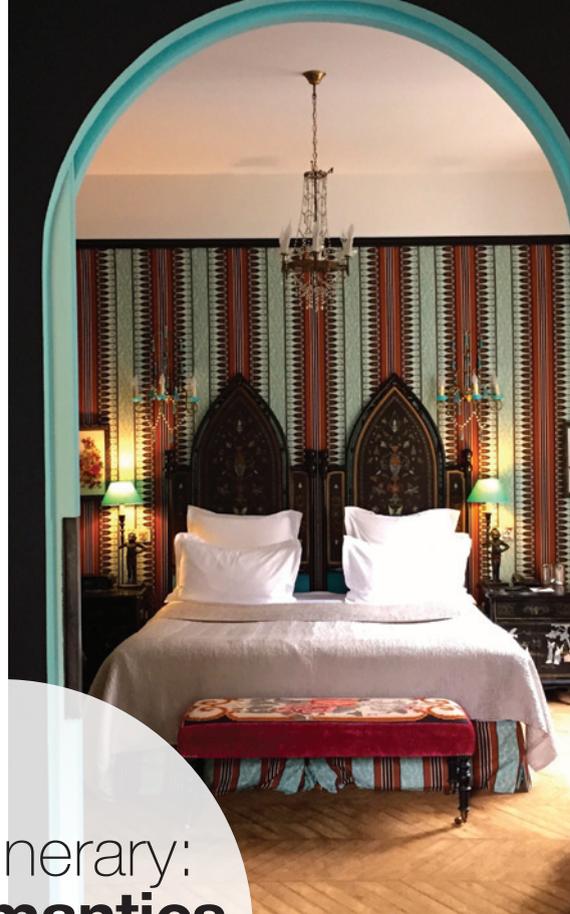
Planet Water

Planet Water is a U.S.-based nonprofit international development organization dedicated to bringing clean water to the world’s most disadvantaged communities. By installing filtration systems in rural communities and instituting education programs on water-health and hygiene in schools, the organization has provided millions of people with access to sanitation facilities and clean drinking water, helping to reduce illness and death from waterborne diseases. The projects also have important ripple effects: Young girls, no longer forced to spend their days collecting water, can get an education. Communities’ productivity increases. Lives are forever changed.

Indagare’s Gina Paoloni has taken part in several Planet Water programs. Last March she participated in Project 24, helping to build 24 water towers in 24 hours in 24 rural communities in Siem Reap, Cambodia. “It was an incredible experience, one that helped improve the lives of those in the communities as well as my own.” Gina says, “I was honored to be able to bring a positive change while helping create greater awareness about the global water crisis.” planet-water.org

Read about Room to Read, The Harpswell Foundation and Planet Water on their respective websites and learn more about planning volunteering-focused trips by contacting our bookings team: 212-988-2611.

itinerary

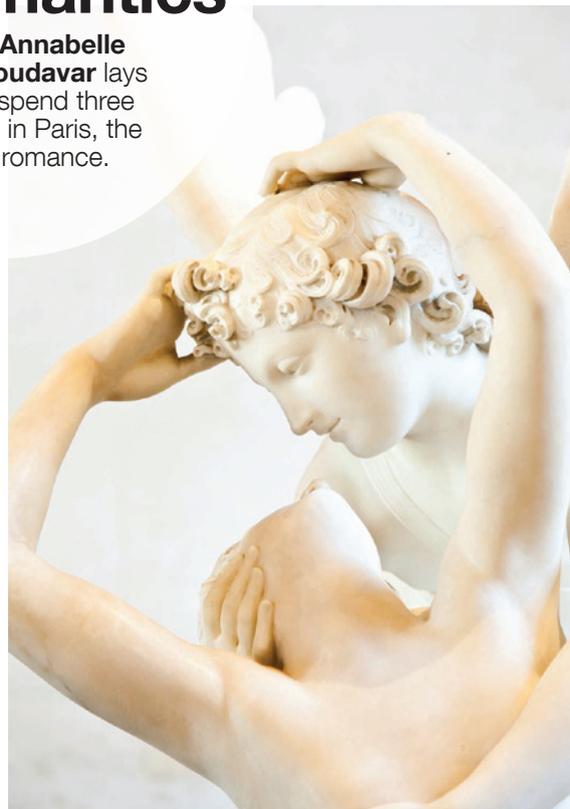


Paris Itinerary: For Romantics

Indagare's **Annabelle
Caufman Soudavar** lays
out how to spend three
perfect days in Paris, the
capital of romance.



Clockwise from top
left: the Eiffel Tower;
the Hotel Saint James;
*Psyche Revived by
Cupid's Kiss* at the
Louvre; dinner for two



Paris seems to radiate love. That is true even—particularly—in times of tragedy, when the French capital needs visitors' support more than ever. Follow Indagare's three-day itinerary for the ultimate romantic getaway in what is arguably the world's most beautiful city.

Day 1

Upon arriving at your hotel, order a light breakfast and treat yourselves to post-flight massages. Once you've freshened up, visit **St-Germain-des-Prés**. Stroll through the impossibly romantic **Jardin du Luxembourg** before making your way to **Rue de Seine**. One of the most charming streets in Paris, it's lined with small galleries and boutiques well worth visiting: **Isabel Marant** for clothing, **Cire Trudon** for candles and **Gérard Mulot** for some of the best *macarons* in town. Turn onto Quai Malaquais and stop at the exquisite **Dries Van Noten** shops, then browse the numerous *bouquinistes* (sellers of used and antiquarian books) along the Seine. For lunch, grab a table for two at the quintessentially Parisian café **La Palette**—a croque monsieur, charcuterie board and salad washed down with a bottle of Brouilly *frais* (chilled, light red wine) will keep you fueled till dinner—or opt for neighborhood classic **Café de Flore**, whose club sandwich is not to be missed. After eating, visit the **Musée Rodin**, an 18th-century villa filled with the artist's stunning sculptures, some of which are also displayed in the manicured rose and

ornamental gardens surrounding the *hôtel*. Impressionism devotees should head to the **Musée d'Orsay**, a former Beaux-Arts railway station that now holds masterpieces by Manet, Monet and Degas, among other artists of the mid-19th to early 20th century. Finally, board a chic Riva boat for a **private sunset cruise** (complete with Champagne) on the Seine. There's no better way to take in the magic of the city on your first day in Paris. For dinner, enjoy a classic French meal at the extremely fashionable, and just as romantic, **Pétrelle**, in a quiet corner of the ninth arrondissement, or sample the modern small plates and local wines offered at tiny **Le 6 Paul Bert**, just a few doors down from the hot bistro that shares the last part of its name.

Day 2

Shed off the jet-lag and ease into the day. Spend the late morning in the **Marais**. Stroll the neighborhood's medieval streets, stopping into its small galleries and boutiques. Relax in the hammam and sauna at **Les Bains du Marais** (open to both men and women on weekends and Wednesday evenings). Then visit the recently reopened **Musée Picasso**. Housed in a 17th-century mansion, it has a vast collection of the artist's work and is a must-stop on any trip to Paris. Wander through the meandering streets of quaint **Île St-Louis**, little sister to Île de la Cité, before lingering over an old-fashioned lunch at **L'Îlot Vache**. Afterward, cross over



PARIS'S MOST ROMANTIC HOTELS

Chic & luxurious:
La Réserve Hotel & Spa

Sexy & Grand:
Hotel Plaza Athénée

Paris Classic:
Hotel Le Bristol

Whimsical Hideaway:
Hotel Le Saint James

Bohemian Charmer:
Pavillon de la Reine



to the right bank and head northeast to the quiet yet hip neighborhood of **Canal St-Martin** to explore its many boutiques and galleries. Stop by **Bob's Juices**, for one of the cold-pressed juices and smoothies that are drawing Parisians in droves, **Ten Belles**, for some of the best coffee in town, or **Le Cantine de Quentin**, for a bottle of wine, before making your way to the neighborhood's eponymous Napoléon-era tree-lined canal, one of the most romantic spots to pass an afternoon. Return to your hotel to rest up before going out again for dinner. Restaurant **Frenchie's Bar**

à Vins is perfect if you're looking for a casual evening of small plates and excellent wines. **Indagare Tip:** Arrive just before opening, at 7 PM, to ensure that you snag seats before it fills up. But if you're up to diving into the city's scene, **Hôtel Costes** is the place for you. It is definitely buzzing, but the dimly lit corners of its jewel-toned dining room provide perfect niches for romantic tête-à-têtes.

Day 3

Have a luxurious breakfast at the **Hôtel Plaza Athénée** or **Le Bristol**; on a beautiful day, nothing is quite as



Clockwise from top left: perfume at Buly 1803; a Paris cityscape; a decadent dessert at La Reserve; lavish interiors at Vaux-le-Vicomte; sunset along the Seine

romantic as their courtyard gardens. Spend the morning perusing the shops on **Avenue Montaigne** (don't miss the home boutique at **Dior**) and studying the trove of Old Master paintings and sculpture and antique objects and furniture at **Musée Jacquemart-André**. Snag a table for two at **Caffè Stern**, a beautiful 16th-century engraving shop transformed by Philippe Starck into an Italian café full of rooms with romantically low illumination. In the afternoon, rent a Vélib's bike and cycle to **Montmartre**. Visit the intimate **Espace Dalí** to view its collection of more than

ROMANTIC DAY TRIPS

Vaux-le-Vicomte
The 17th-century chateau is one of the region's best-kept secrets.

Reims

The quaint Champagne capital is a 45-minute train ride from Paris.

Giverny

Monet's former home and celebrated gardens are open to the public.

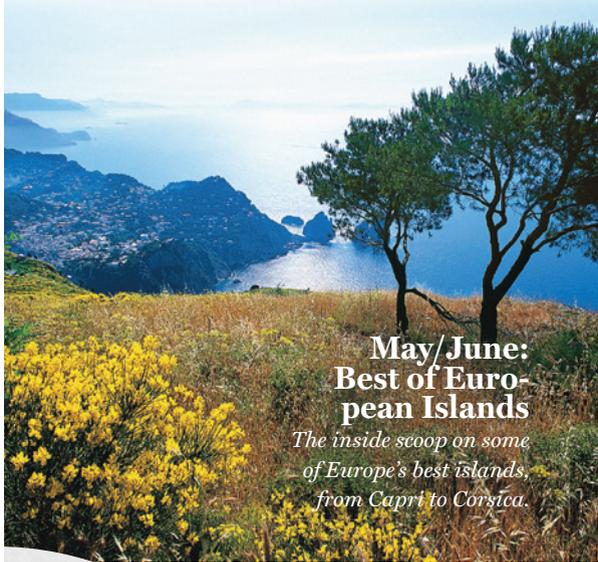
300 of the artist's works. Meander through the historic neighborhood, stopping at one of its little cafés for coffee or a glass of wine. Check out what's playing at the charming **Studio 28** cinema and, after the show, watch the sun set over the city from **Sacré Coeur**. Have a spectacular final meal at **Le Grand Véfour** or alternatively make like a laid-back local, and wait your turn (there are no reservations) at the steak-frites-only **Relais L'Entrecôte**, where the only decision to be made is red or white wine.

For contact details, visit indagare.com.



**March/April:
San Francisco &
Beyond**

*News from the foodie city
and wine country.*



**May/June:
Best of Euro-
pean Islands**

*The inside scoop on some
of Europe's best islands,
from Capri to Corsica.*



**July/August:
Japan**

*Cutting-edge in-
novation meets cen-
turies-old tradition
in this multifaceted
country.*

**Black Book
Magazines
2016**

Last year we celebrated destinations from the Caribbean to Tuscany. Here, Indagare's Editorial Team reveals where the Black Book will visit in 2016.



**September/
October:
Chile**

*From the lunar
landscapes of the
Atacama to the wilds
of Patagonia.*



**November/December:
Morocco**

*Where to shop and dine in styl-
ish Marrakech—and unwind in
luxury in the regions beyond.*



**January/February
2017**

*Indagare's celebration of the
year in travel, looking back
and forward.*

© AN BALOGU; LEADING HOTELS OF THE
WORLD; AWASI PATAGONIA; KASBAH TAMADOT

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF BELMOND

WE INVITE YOU TO DISCOVER OUR COLLECTION OF EXCEPTIONAL
TRAVEL EXPERIENCES IN THE MOST REMARKABLE LOCATIONS.
INDIVIDUAL, INSPIRED AND IMAGINATIVE,
THE WORLD OF BELMOND IS A WORLD LIKE NO OTHER.

NORTH AMERICA

French West Indies, **St Martin, Belmond La Samanna**
Mexico, Riviera Maya, **Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa**
Mexico, San Miguel de Allende, **Belmond Casa de Sierra Nevada**
USA, Charleston, **Belmond Charleston Place**
USA, New York, **'21'**
USA, Santa Barbara, **Belmond El Encanto**
USA, St Michaels, **Inn at Perry Cabin by Belmond**

EUROPE

Europe, **Venice Simplon-Orient-Express** train
France, Burgundy, **Belmond Afloat in France** river cruises
Ireland, Dublin, **Belmond Grand Hibernian** train (2016)
Italy, Amalfi Coast, **Belmond Hotel Caruso**
Italy, Florence, **Belmond Villa San Michele**
Italy, Portofino, **Belmond Hotel Splendido**
Italy, Portofino, **Belmond Splendido Mare**
Italy, Taormina, **Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo**
Italy, Taormina Mare, **Belmond Villa Sant'Andrea**
Italy, Venice, **Belmond Hotel Cipriani**
Portugal, Madeira, **Belmond Reid's Palace**
Russia, St Petersburg, **Belmond Grand Hotel Europe**
Spain, Mallorca, **Belmond La Residencia**
UK departures, **Belmond Northern Belle** train
UK, Edinburgh, **Belmond Royal Scotsman** train
UK, London, **Belmond British Pullman** train
UK, London, **Belmond Cadogan** (2017)
UK, Oxfordshire, **Belmond Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons**

SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil, Iguassu Falls, **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas**
Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, **Belmond Copacabana Palace**
Peru, Cusco, **Belmond Hotel Monasterio**
Peru, Cusco, **Belmond Palacio Nazarenas**
Peru, Lima, **Belmond Miraflores Park**
Peru, Machu Picchu, **Belmond Hiram Bingham** train
Peru, Machu Picchu, **Belmond Sanctuary Lodge**
Peru, Sacred Valley, **Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado**

AFRICA

Botswana, Chobe National Park, **Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge**
Botswana, Moremi Reserve, **Belmond Khwai River Lodge**
Botswana, Okavango Delta, **Belmond Eagle Island Lodge**
South Africa, Cape Town, **Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel**

ASIA

Cambodia, Siem Reap, **Belmond La Résidence d'Angkor**
Indonesia, Bali, **Belmond Jimbaran Puri**
Laos, Luang Prabang, **Belmond La Résidence Phou Vao**
Myanmar, **Belmond Orcaella** river cruises
Myanmar, **Belmond Road to Mandalay** river cruises
Myanmar, Yangon, **Belmond Governor's Residence**
Thailand, Koh Samui, **Belmond Napasai**
Southeast Asia departures, **Eastern & Oriental Express** train



BELMOND

HOTELS | TRAINS | RIVER CRUISES | JOURNEYS | BELMOND.COM

TO START YOUR BELMOND EXPERIENCE CONTACT OUR INDAGARE TRAVEL ADVISOR

“Once you have traveled, the voyage never ends, but is played out over and over again in the quietest chambers. The mind can never break off from the journey.” ~ *Pat Conroy*

To purchase back issues of the Indagare Magazine (\$15 apiece), send an email to info@indagare.com or call 212-988-2611.

Copyright © 2016 Indagare Travel, Inc. All rights reserved. Quotation, reproduction or transmission by any means is strictly prohibited without written permission from the publisher.