

NATHAN LANE • WHERE TO TRAVEL IN 2023

Hemispheres

JANUARY 2023



THIS MAGAZINE
HAS BEEN
TREATED WITH AN
ANTIMICROBIAL
PROCESS

Where you
can get lost in
the fantastical
world of
Meow Wolf's
*Convergence
Station*

Three
Perfect
Days

Denver

AWAY

This Month's Trending Hotels, Restaurants, and Destinations



VIRGINIA STATE PARKS

Consistently rated the best in America, Virginia's 41 state parks have been the scenic backdrop for perfect holidays for more than 85 years. Offering experiences as diverse as the state's landscape itself, parks can be found along the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay, on historic sites, in the Blue Ridge

Mountains, and just outside of major cities. The parks have thousands of campsites, hundreds of cabins, more than 500 miles of trails, and convenient access to Virginia's major waterways.

[VIRGINIA.ORG/THINGS-TO-DO/OUTDOORS/STATE-PARKS/](https://www.virginia.org/things-to-do/outdoors/state-parks/)

VIRGINIA
IS FOR
LOVERS

UNITED 



CHINCOTEAGUE ISLAND

A tiny fishing town off Virginia's Eastern Shore, Chincoteague Island is steps away from the Atlantic Ocean and famous for the Chincoteague ponies that live in the 37-mile-long Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge on nearby Assateague Island. Each July the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company's Pony Swim and Auction brings scores of spectators to the island town as the saltwater cowboys round up ponies and swim them across the channel.

CHINCOTEAGUE.COM



GOLF COURSES GALORE

Fore! Get ready for some of the country's best classic course designs and modern layouts. Virginia offers some of the world's top-ranked golf, with courses spanning from the mountain tops to the coastal shores. Adding the wonderful year-round weather to the legendary scenic landscape creates a golf destination that is as alluring and accessible as anywhere in eastern North America, with 220 public courses to choose from.

VIRGINIA.ORG/THINGS-TO-DO/SPORTS-AND-RECREATION/GOLF



KAYAK WITH DOLPHINS

Enjoy the thrill of a close encounter with Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphins in the Chesapeake Bay. Ideal water temperatures make Virginia Beach a year-round playground for these curious mammals, guaranteeing you a stand-out adventure. While easily spotted even from shore, one of the best ways to see them is on the water from a kayak, with tour company Chesapean Outdoors.

CHESAPEAN.COM



SKYLINE DRIVE

Skyline Drive is Shenandoah National Park's linear conduit, 105 miles long with 75 overlooks connecting travelers to all the major visitor centers, campgrounds, lodges, picnic areas and most trailheads. Concrete posts numbered every mile keep you apprised of your whereabouts. Fall is the most popular time to travel the Drive, with its colorful foliage from late September to mid-November. Spring offers colorful wildflowers as well as blooming azaleas and mountain laurel.

VISITSKYLINE DRIVE.ORG



LURAY CAVERNS

Eastern America's largest caverns are a U.S. Natural Landmark noted for their profuse variety of formations and unsurpassed natural colors. From well-lighted, paved walkways explore cathedral-sized rooms with ceilings 10 stories high, filled with towering stone columns and crystal-clear pools. Also hear the sounds of the world's only Stalacpipe Organ, played from a regular-size organ but with

organ pipes that are stalactites themselves, spreading over three underground acres and wired with little rubber mallets. Below-ground temperatures hover around 54 degrees, so the caverns are a great place to escape summer's heat and perhaps even warm up on a chilly winter day.

LURAYCAVERNS.COM

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GREAT FALLS PARK

The whitewater wonder is a natural highlight of Virginia where the historic Potomac River crashes over ragged rock at this 800-acre park. George Washington himself commissioned a system of canals and locks to allow barge traffic to navigate around this extensive whitewater froth working its way through Mather Gorge. After visiting the remarkable falls, enjoy 15 miles of hiking trails and five miles of horseback riding and biking trails, perfect for an exciting day trip.

[NPS.GOV/GRFA](https://www.nps.gov/grfa)



HIKING THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Virginia is home to 544 miles of the Appalachian Trail, making it easy to sample a section of the world-famous path through America's untamed wilderness. Over 100 miles lie in Shenandoah National Park, after which the trail parallels the famous Blue Ridge Parkway on its way through the state, ending in Damascus, known as Trail Town USA, where it follows the town's main thoroughfare and connects with numerous other legendary American trails.

[VIRGINIA.ORG/THINGS-TO-DO/OUTDOORS/HIKING/APPALACHIAN-TRAIL](https://www.virginia.org/things-to-do/outdoors/hiking/appalachian-trail)



PADDLE TO A WINERY

There's more than one way to visit a winery in Virginia! Join SouthEast Expeditions for their Paddle Your Glass Off Tour on the Eastern Shore for a unique kayak adventure. Discover wildlife and aquaculture along the way to a winery, complete with tour, tasting and cheese tray on arrival and a bottle of wine to enjoy as you relax in the vineyard and rest up for the paddle back.

[SOUTHEASTEXPEDITIONS.COM](https://www.southeastexpeditions.com)



CHEFS TABLE AT PLEASURE HOUSE OYSTERS

Set out on the Lynnhaven River and discover how oysters are harvested. Boat tours provide a behind-the-scenes look through various oyster farms along the river. Don't miss the Chef's Table Tour experience, dining on fresh oysters pulled straight from the water as you stand tableside and knees-deep in the river at the Pleasure House Oyster Farm enjoying their legendary flavors.

[PLEASUREHOUSEOYSTERS.COM/TOURS](https://www.pleasurehouseoysters.com/tours)



TABLE MOUNTAIN AERIAL CABLEWAY

A trip up the world-famous Table Mountain should be on the to-do list for any trip to Cape Town. One of the country's most iconic landmarks, Table Mountain offers one of the most breathtaking vantage points of the Mother City. Since October 1929, the Table Mountain Aerial Cable Way has been providing visitors with a

world-class cableway experience when accessing Table Mountain. The ride is a gentle one, the rotating state-of-the-art cable car taking visitors from the lower station to the top in around five minutes.

TABLEMOUNTAIN.NET



Travel nonstop from Washington-Dulles to Cape Town on United.



AQUILA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE AND SPA

Set in a valley between the Langeberg and the Outeniqua Mountains in the southern Karoo, the Aquila Private Game Reserve & Spa offers an exciting taste of African wildlife just a two hours' drive from Cape Town. Aquila combines 4-star luxury with some of the best game viewing in the Western Cape, and the new spa adds to the luxurious services and facilities on offer. It is a masterpiece in luxury, defined by its serenity and creative use of natural elements.

AQUILASAFARI.COM



GROOT CONSTANTIA

The Groot Constantia wine estate is the oldest wine-producing farm in South Africa. This beautiful, sprawling estate is home to two top restaurants (Jonkershuis and Simon's), two museums, and three wine-tasting spaces where you will discover why they have won over 100 awards in the last decade alone. The estate is a popular destination for tourists and wine lovers alike. Visitors can take an educational tour of the estate to learn about the wine-making process, and sample some of the estate's wines.

GROOTCONSTANTIA.CO.ZA



JEEP TOURS CAPE TOWN

Jeep Tours is a female-owned adventure tourism company based in the beautiful Cape Town region of South Africa. They offer adventure tours in open-top Jeep Wranglers around Cape Town and surrounding areas. Join them on one of their bespoke trips along secluded offroad trails and backroads to amazing lookout spots or to top vineyards around the Cape. From their popular Atlantis Dune adventures, wine tasting in the vineyards, or a scenic Peninsula route, they have the tour for you.

JEEPTOURS.CAPETOWN



NAC HELICOPTERS

NAC Helicopters has been flying since 1946: always growing; always improving. Based in the iconic V&A Waterfront, NAC Helicopters Cape Town is perfectly located to showcase the Mother City's breathtaking beauty. NAC offers a professional and first-class service, ensuring that every client feels like a VIP. Allow them to make your dreams come true as they fly you in one of their luxury helicopters, following the dramatic coastline of the Cape Peninsula or to your choice of destination.

NACHELICOPTERSCAPETOWN.COM



AMBIENTE

900 W. State Route 89A, Sedona, Arizona

The majestic red rocks of Sedona are on full display at Ambiente, A Landscape Hotel, which opens in February. Here, 40 unique cube-shaped, glass-encased Atriums seemingly float above the rugged terrain. While all Atriums offer the same 576-square foot, king accommodations, the dramatic 360-degree panoramic views vary drastically, as each Atrium has been expertly placed to maximize amazing vistas.

Elevated above the ground by steel piers and constructed using floor-to-ceiling, bronze-tinted glass and matte-charcoal and rusted metal, Ambiente's Atriums blend in with the surrounding geography. Each features a petite kitchen offering complimentary refreshments, restocked daily, and on-demand wine dispensers where guests can self-serve from a selection of Northern Arizona wines. And all Atriums have access to their own private

rooftop decks complete with lounge seating, a firepit, and a daybed, comfortable enough for sleeping alfresco, so you can take in the beaming stars above thanks to the city of Sedona's Dark Sky Association.

At the center of the property is the hotel's full-service signature restaurant, Forty1, led by executive chef Lindsey Dale, which serves a complimentary breakfast along with dinner. Right outside Forty1, guests can enjoy the pond-shaped pool, ideal for soaking up the Sedona sunshine on warm days or slipping into the heated water in the cooler months. Ambiente, which is an adults-only property, also has direct access to more than 300 miles of hiking and biking trails in Sedona, as well as premier rock climbing, outdoor adventure and, recreational activities.

AMBIENTESEDONA.COM



LOPESAN COSTA BÁVARO RESORT, SPA & CASINO

Playas de Bávaro, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

This five-star, luxury all-inclusive resort is set on a stunning beachfront with white sand, turquoise water, and lush greenery. With 1,042 guest rooms and suites, the property offers a unique experience for every type of traveler. Guests can enjoy seven freshwater swimming pools, water sports, a luxurious spa, a resort casino, and seven unique dining options, including two buffets.

LOPESANCOSTABAVARO.COM/EN



THE DESMOND

1047 Fifth Avenue, San Diego

Located on the mezzanine level of the new Kimpton Alma San Diego in the heart of the historic Gaslamp Quarter, The Desmond is the vision of acclaimed Los Angeles-based chef-restaurateur Jason Neroni. Punctuated with deep green-blues, the dining room includes an open “show” kitchen where guests can watch pastas being handmade. The menu also highlights fresh local seafood, grilled fish and meats.

THEDESMONDSANDIEGO.COM



CASA MIA

Trancoso, Brazil

Part of the Casas Latinas hotels and villas collection and designed by Brazilian architect Maristela Gorayeb, Casa Mia is a five-bedroom contemporary hideaway, full of natural light and surrounded by abundant tropical gardens. A spacious living area opens up to a stone terrace with views over the gardens and a contemporary black stone infinity pool. An on-site dedicated team with experienced concierges and a private chef will look after your every need.

CASAS-LATINAS.COM/CASAMIA



SOFIA DESIGN DISTRICT

140 NE 39th St. #133, Miami

This supremely stylish outpost of the Toronto Italian hotspot opened in November in the Design District. Here, pink abounds (pink banquettes, pink leather upholstered walls, pink umbrellas on the courtyard) and portraits of Marilyn Monroe and Sophia Loren mingle with pieces by Marco Grassi and Mr. Brainwash. The food is just as glamorous—try the *bistecca*, served with crispy potato, taleggio fonduta, and black truffle, alongside a tequila-led Verde Speranza cocktail.

SOFIAMIAMIDD.COM