



MONOCLE

Advertorial Presentation

— Travel, Tourism & Hospitality



ANA × MONOCLE

Inspiration of Japan:
haute cuisine
at 30,000ft

*Inspiring discoveries and fresh
experiences on every flight*

With dishes from leading chefs Yuji Wakiya and
Masayasu Yonemura, ANA's new business class
menu embodies the Japanese traditions of innova-
tion and hospitality – part of ANA's commitment to
delivering the best of Japan on every flight.



inspiration of Japan

ANA × MONOCLE

Be inspired with ANA: fresh new menus from Japan's leading airline

Innovative menus with original dishes that showcase the best of modern Japan

Japan is renowned for its unique cuisine and ANA has combined the best of the country's savoir-faire with diverse international influences to create a menu that is at once familiar and innovative. From the selection of seasonal amuse-bouches to frozen parfait desserts, fresh Japanese fish dishes to Nouvelle Chinoise cuisine, ANA offers a fresh approach to onboard catering.



ROUTE MAP: CONNECTING EUROPE, ASIA AND NORTH AMERICA WITH JAPAN



INNOVATIONS

ANA is the first airline in the world to purchase Boeing's 787-Dreamliner, with an order of 55 of the new aircraft. The first is due to be delivered this summer.

Recently added routes from Haneda include direct flights to Los Angeles, Honolulu, Singapore, Bangkok and Taipei.

ANA's hub at Haneda International Airport has a state-of-the-art terminal that opened in 2010.

ANA has opened a series of new lounges at Haneda's International Terminal, including the ANA Suite, ANA Lounge, and the Arrival Lounge.

ANA flies to 76 domestic and international cities with a fleet of 210 aircraft serving a network of 164 routes.



ANA × MONOCLE

01|08

The service

Putting the passenger first

With ANA, comfort and service are as important as getting customers to their destinations safely and on time. It's the details that matter and it's clear that ANA has thought that little bit harder about them than your ordinary airline. ANA also knows that customers care about the environment and is adding a new generation of quieter, eco-friendly aircraft to its fleet.

The lounge

Where it all starts

First impressions count for a lot in our books and the ANA Lounge at Narita International Airport makes sure everything starts smoothly. This means comfy armchairs, a well-stocked bar and a buffet of Japanese and western cuisine – from soba to sandwiches – prepared from the freshest ingredients. To perfect that last-minute presentation, the business centre hums with printers and computers, and to ensure that you take off feeling fresh, fragrant and nice to sit next to, there are showers and a complimentary toothbrush and slippers.



www.ana.co.jp

ANA × MONOCLE

02|08

The crew

Experts in hospitality

ANA has refined the art of Japanese hospitality. The crew have an uncanny sense of how to be helpful without being intrusive and seem to know what you need before you even ask. Service on every flight is world-class, attentive, personal and respectful. It's only natural: ANA's mission is to offer the best service by ensuring that every customer is well looked-after.



www.ana.co.jp



ANA × MONOCLE

03|08

The menu

What you want, when you want it

It's strange how some airlines seem to think that the moment you board a plane, you lose the ability to choose your own meals. Instead of having a plastic tray of something unidentifiable slapped in front of you, in ANA's Business Class, it's the passengers, not the flight crew, who decide what and when to eat. The first meal service comes from a Japanese and western menu while for the second service, passengers can choose from a la carte. And to celebrate the introduction of the Boeing 787 for international routes, ANA will serve Rosé Champagne to Business Class customers aboard the new aircraft from 21 January to the end of February.

ANA
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

The in-flight menus shown here are subject to availability and can change according to the menu cycle

inspiration of Japan

www.ana.co.jp



ANA × MONOCLE

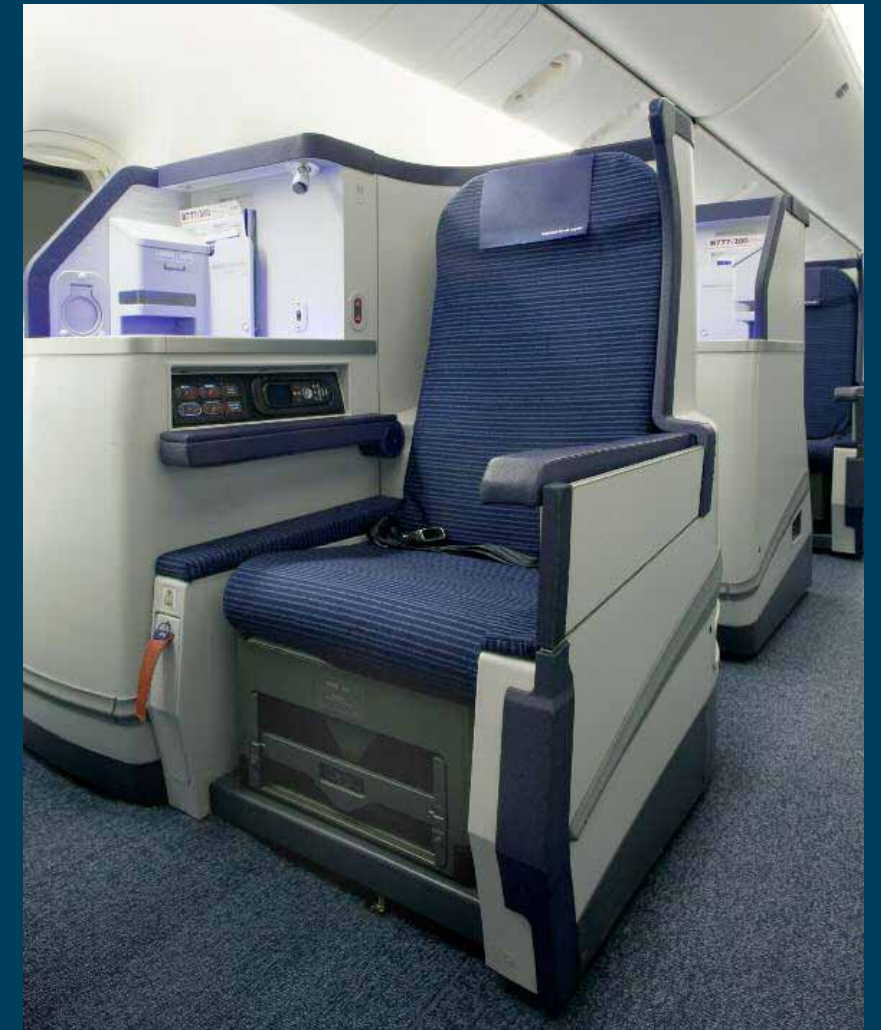
04|08

The space

Perfect privacy

Privacy. It's a precious thing, and ANA's Business Class passengers have plenty of it thanks to a redesigned cabin for long-distance international flights. The difference can be seen in the new, staggered seating formation. Now every Business Class seat has direct access to an aisle so there's no being woken up by your neighbour's foot accidentally landing in your lap as they try to climb over you on their way to the toilet. There's more space, too – 50 per cent more for Business Class seats, which now lie completely flat, like a bed. To make the extra space count, ANA added a table and an adjustable lamp so it's easier for passengers who want to work to keep their paperwork organised.

ANA
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER



Products featured are available on long-haul Business Class on Boeing 787-8 and the newly fitted Boeing 777-300ER

www.ana.co.jp

inspiration of Japan

ANA
×
MONOCLE

Flying to new heights

Putting passengers first, All Nippon Airways prides itself on every aspect of its service. Attentive crew with a tireless commitment to the Japanese art of hospitality, contemporary designs in the cabins and wide, comfortable seats are all there to assure a pleasant, fuss-free flight. Meanwhile, the ever-expanding list of destinations servicing over 320 routes in Europe alone and new trans-Pacific flights guarantee you easy connectivity to virtually everywhere in the world.

PIERRE HERMÉ
PARIS

ANA

www.anaskyweb.com
www.pierreherme.com

ANA × MONOCLE

Enjoy every perfect detail

Experts in hospitality, at ANA customer service is as vital as getting travellers home safely and on time to their destinations. With unmatched attention to detail from modern comfy seats to freshly prepared meals, the airline's Business Class guarantees you the perfect ANA experience.



Flying further

Never one to rest on their laurels, ANA has just introduced new North American destinations. From Seattle to San José, the ever-growing list of trans-Pacific routes means convenience for all customers. Also, strengthening its foothold and services in the European market, the sky is the limit for ANA with new bilateral agreements with German carrier Lufthansa, Swiss International Air Lines and Austrian Airlines intended to service a total of 128 destinations over 320 routes throughout Europe.



01 OUTSTANDING SERVICE

ANA is not your usual airline when it comes to service – a helpful yet unintrusive crew who seem to know what you want before you ask will assure you're well looked-after.



02 COMFORTABLE SEATS AND CABIN

With extra leg room and wide seats in natural fabric and subdued colours, ANA's Business Class cabin promises a relaxed trip whatever the destination.



03 GOURMET DESSERT

Award-winning pâtissier Pierre Hermé applied his passion for Haute Pâtisserie to create exclusive recipes for ANA's Business Class desserts.

PIERRE HERMÉ
PARIS

www.pierreherme.com



ANA
www.anaskyweb.com



TAM x MONOCLE

Little things that make a world of difference

Big success starts small, that's why for business class passengers, TAM Airlines remembers it's the details that make travel such a pleasure. Excellent service and impeccable taste has made TAM South America's most popular carrier, so let's take a closer look.



– 01 –
Before departure

Any journey should begin and end in comfort. At TAM we provide access to a VIP lounge experience including buffet and bar, TV room and free wi-fi for your business needs. Families are also well taken care of and TAM's designated children's areas ensure the support for clear-thinking and peace of mind.



– 02 –
Onboard

Each seat for TAM's business class fliers provides ample space to recline as if kicking back in the comfort of home. Need more leg room? Adjust the chair's switches to indulge in more length and width. The seat's onboard telephone with extra ports for a mobile and laptop provide that treasured sense of personal space.

– 03 –
Inflight attendance

Passengers have the option to pick a flight attendant on their journey fluent in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese or German.*



– 04 –
Music

You can't pigeon-hole someone's musical preference. In recognition of this, TAM offers 11 musical channels to cater to every taste from rock to classical – each packed with new releases and classics.



– 05 –
Film

Putting a cinematic universe at your finger tips, over 70 major blockbusters and art house classics are available on TAM flights, making your journey the ultimate escape.



– 06 –
Food and drink

TAM's wine list has been recognised by the Cellars In The Sky awards for its first class red Clos Canon 2008 Bordeaux and also awarded for the Airline With The Most Improved First Class Cellar. Vibrant cuisine is inspired by top Brazilian chef Bel Coelho, whose inflight creations are designed to lift your mood.



– 07 –
Upon arrival

TAM knows that your journey doesn't finish the moment you step off the plane and the airline offers a complimentary transfer service to your door from a luxury valet service. This extended hospitality ensures that you have as smooth a landing as your flight, meaning you can hit the ground running.**



tam.com.br

*Subject to availability
**Terms and conditions apply



Discover a new class in voyaging as a THAI traveller

Thailand is a diverse country that spans ceaseless energetic urban hubs, unspoilt stretches of coastal calm and miles of mountainous landscape that's waiting to be discovered by you – a new class of voyager – the THAI traveller.

Bangkok
Located in the crook of the Gulf of Thailand at the very heart of the country, Bangkok is the nation's political, financial and cultural engine and serves as the international gateway to the Thai hinterland. This capital's exciting and frenetic pace gives the city its own unique character bursting with imaginative cuisine, colourful residents and unending surprises.

Chiang Mai
Five hundred kilometres to the north of Bangkok and situated on the picturesque Ping River lies a very different city. In recent years Chiang Mai has become an urban enclave for many Thais and tourists searching for a more creative and modern outlook. Ancient religious monuments sit contentedly alongside attractive contemporary buildings and there is a wonderful mix of rural and metropolitan in all walks of life.

Ubon Ratchathani
Bolted to Laos in the east, Ubon, as it's simply known locally, is a pastoral place where local crafts and rural pursuits dominate the culture. No-one should leave without a cushion cover woven from khit, the local cloth whose manufacture has been kept alive by Queen Sirikit the

second queen regent of Thailand, or without sampling a dish of Khem Mak Nat – black-eared catfish served with pineapple.

Krabi
Travel to the other end of the country, down to the very south-west tip, and you will discover Krabi, a town celebrated for its pure caster white beaches and access to over 80 small islands within a short sailing distance from the port. Daily flights from Bangkok bring visitors to the area for the watersports, but a simple day lying on the beach is for many the only way to enjoy Krabi. Avoid the masses by chartering a yacht and see the coast at your own pace.

Phuket
Phuket, the country's largest island, offers endless opportunities and diversions both along the coast and in the interior. Known as Asia's Riviera, sip cocktails on the White Box's roof terrace, snorkel in the shallows of the Andaman Sea or pack a picnic and head for lunch on the island of Koh Maphrao. And if you would rather eschew the thrill of the island's ambience in favour of something a little more relaxing then there is always the Banyan Tree Spa, consistently voted the best

FLIGHT OPERATED BY

———— THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL

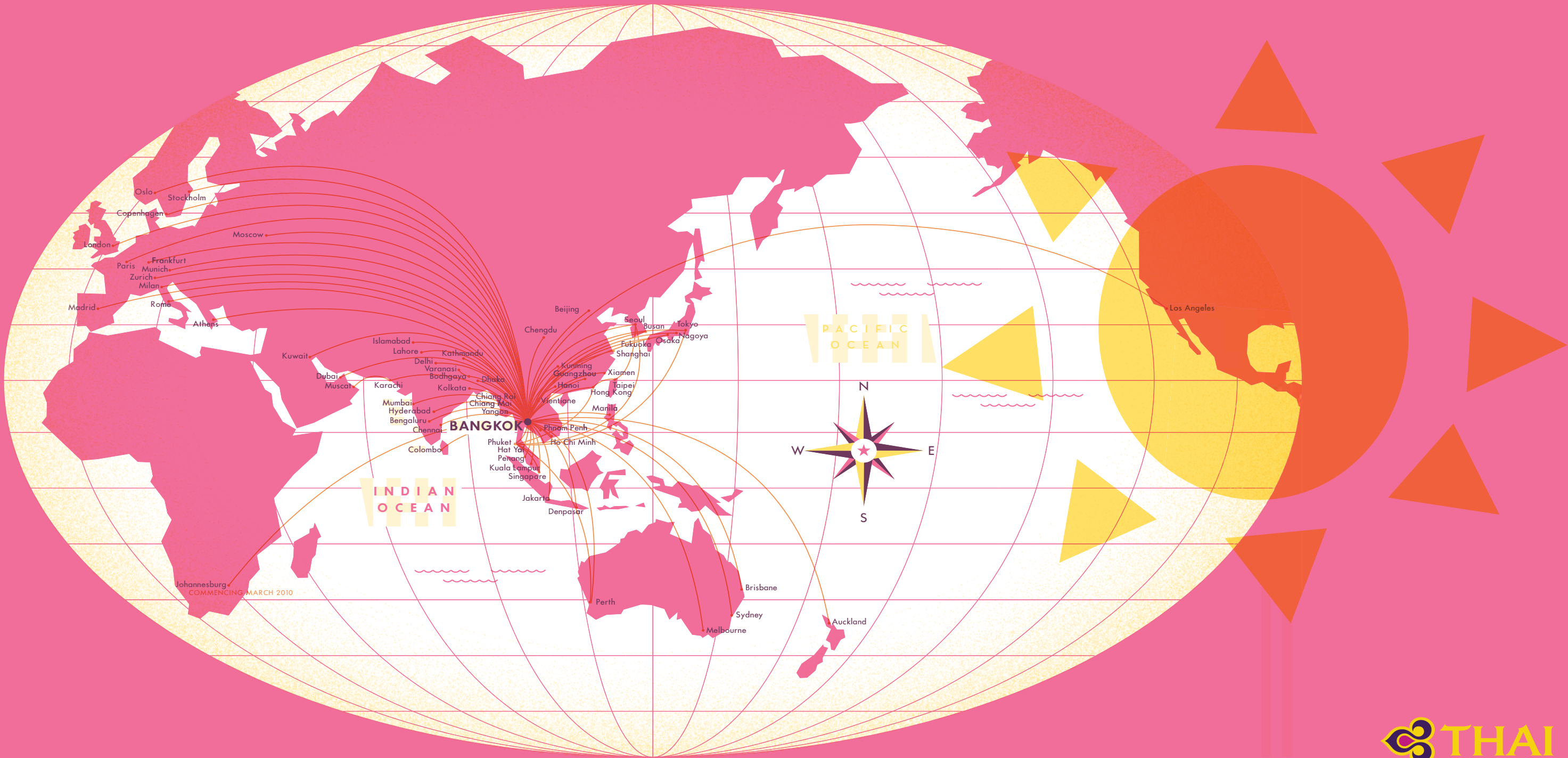
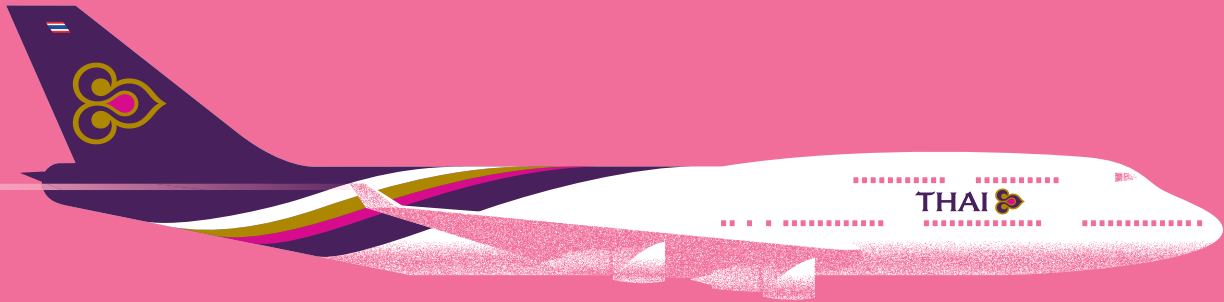
..... CODE-SHARE AIRLINES



THAI AIRWAYS × MONOCLE

It's a pleasure to serve you and your city

Thai Airways: Over 70 destinations around the world.





NAVIGATE
THE GLOBE
YOUR WAY

Fly Finnair via
Helsinki

Despite being one of the world's oldest continually operating airlines, Finnair's fleet is one of Europe's youngest thanks to its commitment to meet the needs of the modern globetrotter. From its base in Helsinki Airport, Finnair offers a hassle-free flying experience to over 80 domestic and international destinations – and the short northern route between Europe and Asia.

helsinkiairport.fi; finnair.com



FINNAIR × HELSINKI AIRPORT × MONOCLE



FINNAIR



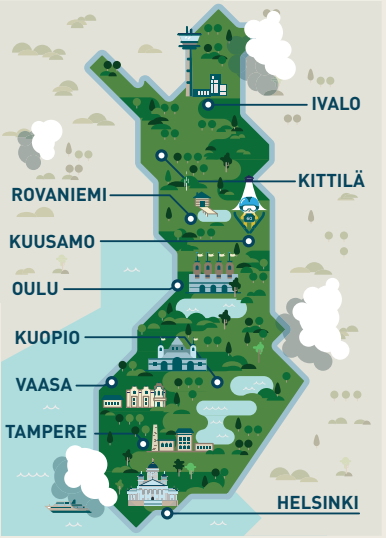
THE JOURNEY
HAS JUST BEGUN
Helsinki Airport

Ranked as one of northern Europe's best airports by Skytrax, Helsinki serves 130 global destinations and facilitates 350 daily departures. Customers are also promised the smoothest of travelling experiences, not least through the use of free, unlimited wi-fi.

But the airport is not resting on its laurels: it has been undergoing a major sprucing up since 2009 in anticipation of the 20 million passengers expected to pass through annually by 2020. Over the next six years more than €900m is being invested to increase transit travel capacity and improve traffic infrastructure. The initial stages of this facelift will result in a boost for the airport's security-check capacity and the automation of check-in and baggage drops. Five thousand permanent jobs will be generated and the airport's owner, Finavia, is also revamping its shopping and restaurant services, offering the best Finnish and international brands to meet the needs of the modern globetrotter.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Finland is known as the land of a thousand lakes so don't miss the breathtaking views as your plane descends. Finnair, together with FlyBe Nordic, serves 18 domestic cities; here are our recommendations for unique adventures.



CITIES

OULU

Take a stroll on the Rotuaari pedestrian boulevard and wander the lush green parks. You can also go white-water rafting in Koitelinkoski.

KUOPIO

The gem of Savonia province, Kuopio's lake Kallavesi draws thousands to behold its magnificence. The old town square is ideal for sampling delectable local treats, too.

VAASA

This is where you'll find the beach lovers. Vaasa's seven beaches are dotted with cosy bistros and luxury spas.

IVALO

Set in northern Lapland, Ivalo is also home to Saariselkä,

one of the country's best ski resorts. Those wanting some culture should head to Siida, the national Finnish Sami museum.

KITILÄ

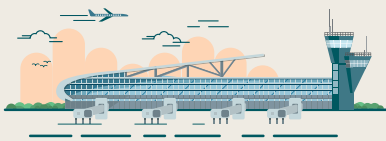
Skiing, snowmobiling, dogsledding and ice-climbing are just some of the activities on offer here in ski resorts including Levi and Ylläs. Trout fishing is a favourite summer past-time.

ROVANIEMI

The Santa Claus village is here, just inside the Arctic Circle. Nature lovers will be enthralled by spectacular hikes through the forests.

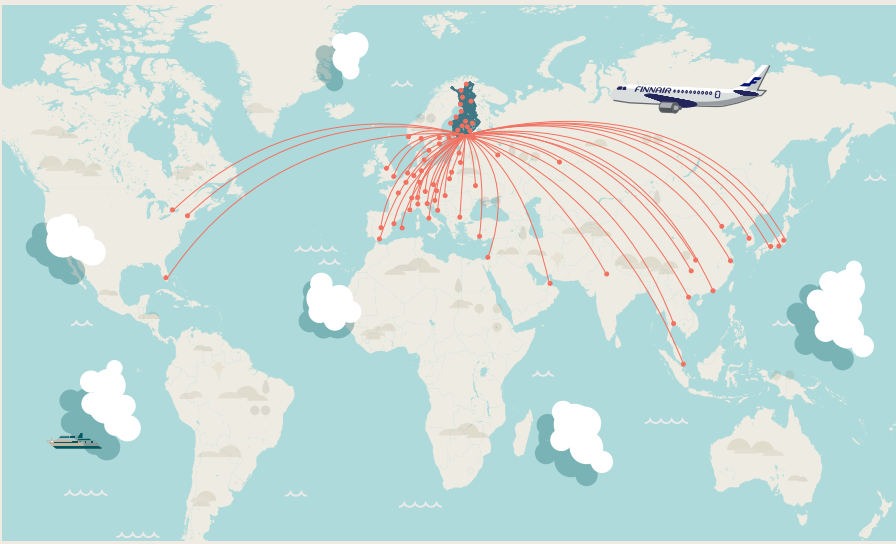
KUUSAMO

Nestled in the moors of Finnish Lapland where there's plenty of snow even at the beginning of spring. Check out the Ruka ski resort.



AIRPORT AMENITIES

There are more than 100 retail, restaurant and service venues at Helsinki Airport. Travellers can sip coffee and enjoy the vista at the new viewing terrace; those looking for a bite to eat will appreciate Café Alvar A, which features leading names in Finnish designs such as Iittala. Avid readers can head to the 24-hour book-swap station to exchange their old books for fresh reads before the next leg of their journey. Meanwhile, shoppers can stock up on travel essentials at the shops conveniently located throughout the airport. Those just looking to recover from their flight will appreciate resting in the Finnair lounge.



WHERE TO FLY

Finnair's network connects East and West via the short northern route between Asia and Europe. From Helsinki Airport, Finnair flies to 15 major cities in Asia and 70 destinations covering Europe and North America. Plus, all Finnair flights operate from the same terminal, ensuring simple and swift transfers.

Finnair's fleet of Airbus and Embraer aircraft is among Europe's youngest. After enjoying a three-course menu by top Finnish chefs in business class or a tasty meal in economy class, all served on the airline's famous Marimekko for Finnair tableware, you can enjoy the latest films and other entertainment on your personal screen.

Now, where should you fly?

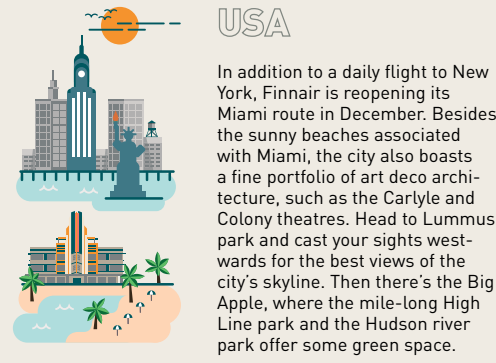
GERMANY

The cities of Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg and Munich enjoy multiple daily services to and from Helsinki Airport. Hamburg's Schanzenviertel and Karolinenviertel quarters are lined with delightful boutiques, as is Berlin's Mitte district and Königsallee in Düsseldorf. Frankfurt, home to the European Central Bank, also has the Palmengarten botanic gardens and Stadtwald forest in the city centre to provide some peace and quiet.



SINGAPORE

There's always a new development underway somewhere in Singapore. The iconic Marina Bay Sands and nearby Gardens by the Bay astound tourists and architects alike, while Dempsey Hill's cluster of bistros and independent shops retain a colonial ambience. When leaving the country, Finnair's premium check-in lounge at the airport provides business class, Finnair Plus Platinum, Gold and Silver members with a private entrance and passport control.



JAPAN

Finnair serves three Japanese cities from Helsinki: Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya. Tokyo's Shibuya district is undergoing a massive redevelopment that promises to revitalise the waterfront. Fly to Nagoya to visit the Japanese Alps or experience the sandy beaches of the Pacific ocean. In Osaka, the 16th-century Osaka castle with its traditional pagoda silhouette stands proudly over the city, which also houses the futuristic Umeda Sky building.



UK

With up to seven daily flights throughout the year to London and Manchester, Finnair makes any UK-bound trip convenient and fuss free, whether you are a frequent business traveller or an occasional tourist.



CHINA

Finnair flies to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong daily. Three to four times a week it also flies to Chongqing – home of the Sichuan hot pot dish – and Xi'an, where you can stand to attention with the terracotta army.



THAILAND

Bangkok, home to new high-end shopping complexes and tranquil temples, will also have new scheduled flights to Krabi and Phuket from the next winter season. Finnair flies to the capital daily – and up to three times a day during winter.





HISTORIC CITY, NEW DIRECTION Helsinki

Regularly topping the rankings of the best cities in the world to call home, the Finnish capital stands out for its courage to rethink its urban ambition – and possessing the talent, ideas and guts to pull it off. In recent years gastronomy, street life and urban planning have transformed the city.

Today the city attracts visitors with its design offering: there are over 100 museums and art galleries to choose from. There are also about 1,200 food spots to visit, where you will find everything from gourmet delights to bistro treats. Plus, the ease of moving around by foot or tram makes finding your way across Helsinki nice and easy. Add to this the closeness of nature and you've got one very fine city indeed.



EAT & DRINK

SEA HORSE

Founded in 1934, this is the spot for traditional Finnish cuisine; opt for fried herrings, cabbage rolls or *pyttipannu*. The in-house star dish is the onion steak – a menu staple for over 40 years. seahorse.fi

CAFE REGATTA

This small hut-like café at the seaside with just a smattering of tables is the destination for a city sunset. eat.fi/en/helsinki/cafe-regatta

ATELJEE BAR

Set on the top floor of Hotel Torni – officially the highest building in central Helsinki – this place offers mind-blowing views of the city's impressive skyline. ravintolatorni.fi/en

TEURASTAMO

This redbrick building first opened in 1933, when it housed the city's abattoir. It reopened in 2012 as a home to restaurants Kellohalli and B-Smokery, Teurastamon Portti butchery, Chinese restaurant Ho's Food, a cooking school and event venue Flavour Studio. teurastamo.com/en



STAY

HOTEL KÄMP

Luxury and timeless elegance make Kämp perfect for business travellers and casual visitors. Restaurant Yume is a highlight. hotelkamp.com

KLAUS K

Helsinki's first design hotel: Finnish designers Riiko Sakkinen, Katja Tukiainen, Harri Koskinen and Jani Leinonen have created unique art rooms. klauskhotel.com/en

HOTEL HAVEN

A small luxury hotel in Helsinki market square Kauppatori. hotelhaven.fi/en

SCANDIC PAASI

One of Scandic's 160 hotels in northern Europe; this one is ideal for a modern, fuss-free stay. scandichotels.com

GLO HOTEL KLUUVI

Set in the commercial centre of Helsinki, Glo opened in 2007; an extension with 70 new rooms followed in 2013. glohotels.fi/en

HOTEL FABIAN

This 58-room boutique hotel is the place for an extended stay, offering nine luxury rooms equipped with a kitchenette for self-catering guests. hotelfabian.fi/en



GETTING AROUND

Helsinki Airport is just 19km from the city centre, making it reachable by Finnair City Bus or the Helsinki Region Transport bus, number 615.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

At €2.50 for a single ticket you can hop aboard trams, buses, the metro and even the ferry to Suomenlinna. At €61 for three days, the Helsinki Card gives you free rides on public transport and entry to museums.

RENT A BIKE FROM GREENBIKE
greenbike.fi

SHOP

STOCKMANN

For Helsinkians, Stockmann is more than a department store: it's a concept, a meeting place and a trusted neighbour. Stockmann has seven department stores across Finland but the crown jewel is the flagship in central Helsinki, housed in a handsome 1930s brown-brick building. stockmann.fi

MARIMEKKO

Headquartered in Helsinki, Marimekko has been renowned for its bold prints and designs since 1951. Today there are 160 outlets in the country with 15 in the capital. marimekko.com

ARTEK

Founded in 1935, Artek remains among the best furniture makers in Scandi-

navia. The shops in Finland sell objects by Finnish designers such as Juha Leiviskä and Eero Aarnio, as well as Vitra and Knoll furniture. artek.fi

IITTALA

What started as a glass factory in the southern village of Iittala in 1881 is today Finland's most cherished brand for Scandinavian tableware, kitchenware and home furnishings. iittala.com

DESIGN DISTRICT

With nearly 200 speciality stores, the Design District is a cluster of creative businesses where you can find everything from jewellery to furniture. It is also home to the Museum of Finnish Architecture, the Design Museum and Design Forum Finland. designdistrict.fi



TWO-HOUR TOUR

Home to over 80 museums, Helsinki has plenty to offer to art aficionados. Among the must-sees are the capital's pride and glory: the Museum of Finnish Architecture and the Design Museum. The Helsinki Card (€39 per adult) will give you free access to most of them. Here are some of our favourites, as well as some other enticing attractions.

KULTTUURISAUNA

Designed by Tuomas Toivonen and Nene Tsuboi, Helsinki's new Culture Sauna in the Hakaniemi district allows visitors to have the full Finnish sauna experience. kulttuurisauna.fi

LONNA ISLAND

This recreational island features a new café, restaurant and children's playground and provides picnic baskets, making it the perfect family escape from the city. lonna.fi

KIASMA

Kiasma displays contemporary art from the 1960s onwards and is

part of the Finnish National Gallery. kiasma.fi/kiasma_en

THE DIDRICHSEN ART MUSEUM

An art museum and private home on Kuusisaari island, the Didrichsen has ancient Chinese and pre-Columbian artefacts and a sculpture park. Renovations mean it will reopen in June. didrichsenmuseum.fi/en

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FINLAND

Track down Finnish history from the Stone Age to the present day through interactive exhibitions. nba.fi/en/nationalmuseum

EVENTS CALENDAR

12 – 15 June
A TASTE OF HELSINKI, FOOD FESTIVAL
tasteofhelsinki.fi/en

17 August
RESTAURANT DAY
restaurantday.org/en

8 – 10 August
FLOW FESTIVAL, URBAN MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL
flowfestival.com/en

29 August – 1 September
HELSENKI FASHION WEEKEND
fashionweekend.fi

4 – 14 September
HELSENKI DESIGN WEEK
helsinkidesignweek.com

18 – 28 September
HELSENKI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
hiff.fi/en/

11 – 16 November
HELSENKI SHORT FILM FESTIVAL
hlef.fi/helsinki-short-film-festival

4 – 8 January 2015
LUX HELSENKI
luxhelsinki.fi/en

IMAGES: VISIT HELSINKI, LAURI ROTKO, EWAN BELL, JUHO KUVA, RAMI HANAFI



TURKISH AIRLINES × MONOCLE

Turkish Airlines flies to more countries than any other airline. Unfurl this world map and take your pick from **over 250 destinations** – or, if the choice is too overwhelming, turn over your poster to read 35 reviews of our **favourite cities** across the globe, designed to whet your appetite and inspire some **wanderlust**. Pack your bags and grab your passport – the world is at your feet.

1 AIRLINE
250+ DESTINATIONS

WIDEN YOUR
W O R L D | TURKISH
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ADVERTORIAL PRESENTATION



PARK HYATT
×
MONOCLE

Masters of FOOD and WINE

Park Hyatt Masters of Food & Wine is a series of sophisticated culinary and beverage experiences hosted at all Park Hyatt locations. Through engaging and interactive events, area residents and visiting gourmets can engage with our award-winning chefs, sommeliers, and specialists.



PARK HYATT JEDDAH
MARINA, CLUB AND SPA
18 January

Uncover tradition and culture while exploring Jeddah's historic Bayt Nassif (Nassif House), an opulent ancient mansion that is now a cultural centre and museum. Afterwards return to the hotel and enjoy a traditional Hejazi evening with food from an authentic uzi grill.



PARK HYATT TOKYO
18 January

Stroll through the aisles of Tokyo's Tsukiji market on an exclusive tour with our executive sous chef while learning how to select produce. Return to the hotel for a hands-on cooking class preparing lunch and sipping Japanese white wines that complement the selected produce.



ARARAT PARK
HYATT MOSCOW
18–20 January

Visit one of Moscow's leading bakeries and discover traditional techniques while learning how to make bread in an authentic wood fired oven. Taste the freshly baked bread accompanied by various snacks and wine.



MUSHROOM RAGOUT
by chef Sebastien Archambault

Ingredients

- 1lb shiitake mushrooms
- 1lb oyster mushrooms
- ¼lb thyme
- 5 cloves garlic
- 1 cup blended oil
- 1 cup manufactured cream

Method

Wash the mushrooms, then dice.
Mix with oil, garlic, thyme.
Cook in the oven on a baking sheet an for 10 minutes at 350°F.
Let the mushrooms cool.
Chop the mushrooms.
Add the cream and cook for 10 minutes.
Cool and store in refrigerator.



PARK HYATT
WASHINGTON
21 September

Go behind the scenes and learn the craft of winemaking on an exclusive tour of Boxwood Winery with a viticulturist. Sample the vineyards red wines as chefs Sebastien Archambault and John Melfi prepare a backyard gourmet barbecue with meats from eco-friendly farms.



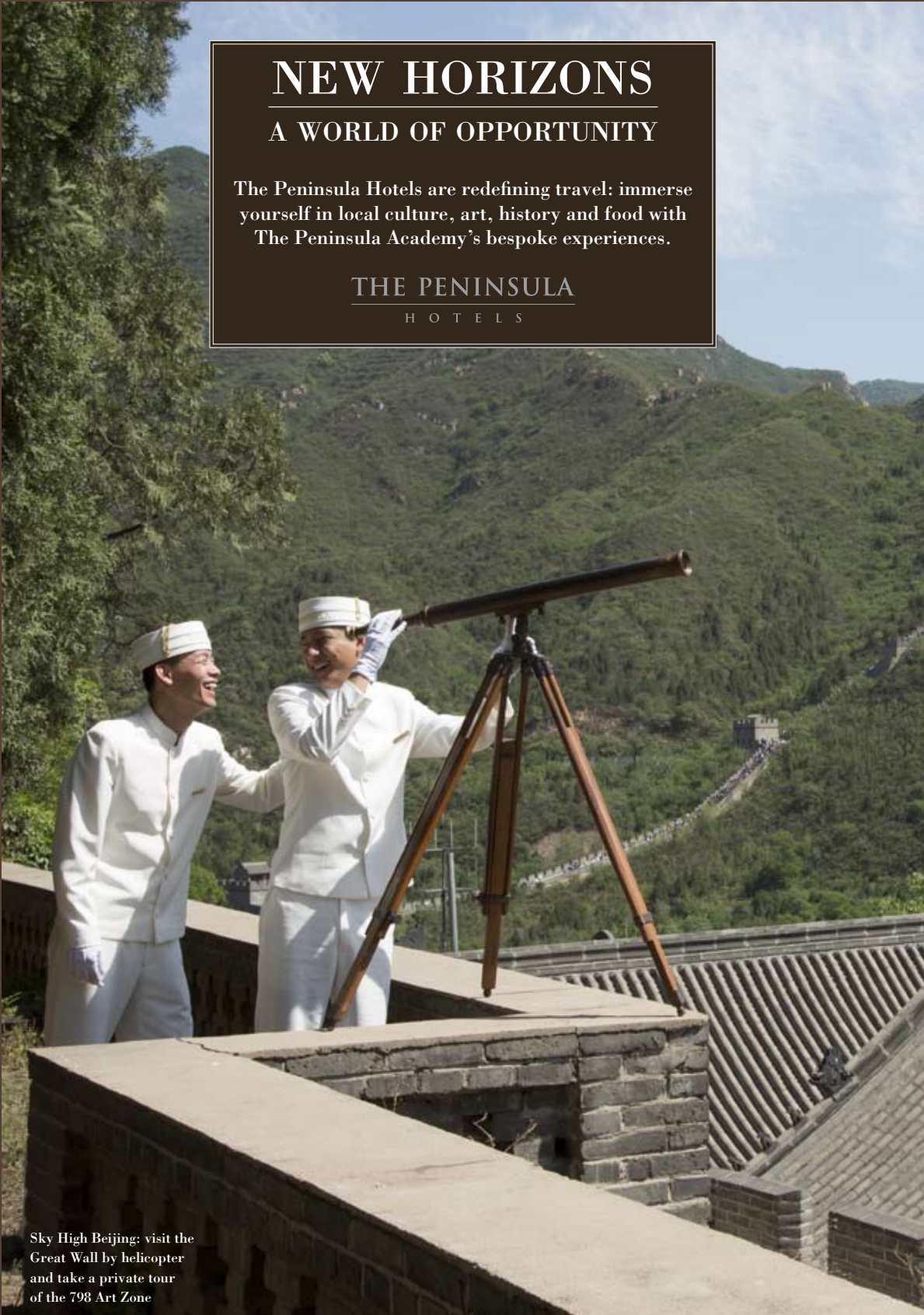
PARK HYATT MENDOZA,
HOTEL CASINO AND SPA
21 June

Art paired perfectly with wine. Discover the artist within by learning the art of winemaking alongside our award-winning sommeliers while designing wine labels for different varietals. The winning wine label design will be displayed in the hotel's lobby.

Discover all upcoming Masters of Food & Wine events hosted at Park Hyatt hotels worldwide by visiting mastersfoodandwine.com

PARK HYATT®

- ABU DHABI • BAKU • BEAVER CREEK • BEIJING • BUENOS AIRES • CANBERRA • CARLSBAD • CHENNAI • CHICAGO
- DUBAI • GOA • HAMBURG • HYDERABAD • ISTANBUL • JEDDAH • MALDIVES • MELBOURNE • MENDOZA • MILAN • MOSCOW
- NINGBO • PARIS • SAIGON • SEOUL • SHANGHAI • SYDNEY • TOKYO • TORONTO • WASHINGTON DC • ZÜRICH



NEW HORIZONS
A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

The Peninsula Hotels are redefining travel: immerse yourself in local culture, art, history and food with The Peninsula Academy's bespoke experiences.

THE PENINSULA
HOTELS

Sky High Beijing: visit the Great Wall by helicopter and take a private tour of the 798 Art Zone

PENINSULA × MONOCLE



TAKE YOUR PICK

FRESH PERSPECTIVES

The Peninsula Academy’s programmes are available at every one of The Peninsula Hotels’ venues, spanning nine hotels across Asia and the US. The breadth of activities on offer is breathtaking, with each hotel having picked the best tour guides and local partners to guarantee experiences that are memorable for all the right reasons.

In Hong Kong, guests can take a private helicopter ride to see the beautiful beaches of Sai Kung, with a trip on a luxury yacht and an exquisite dinner included. A Rolls-Royce Phantom limousine will transport Peninsula guests around Shanghai for a tour of the city’s historic buildings.

The Peninsula Tokyo provides the opportunity to learn a local craft first hand: how to make *washi* paper artwork. It’s an artistic theme that is continued in Beijing – where guests can learn how to write using Chinese calligraphy – and at The Peninsula Manila, with its programmes covering a guide to bespoke jewellery and a chance to take part in traditional souvenir decoration.

In New York and Chicago you can while the night away in the city’s respective theatre districts, getting up close to the culture of Broadway. Or hop from the stage to the silver screen in Beverly Hills, where guests can dine with a Hollywood piano legend or experience red-carpet glamour.

Finally, The Peninsula Bangkok offers the chance to indulge in some authentic Thai cooking: discover the unique delights of local herbs and get privileged access to the culinary secrets of top chefs.

All of this is just a sample of what The Peninsula Academy has to offer; a full rundown of each hotel’s extensive programmes can be found at peninsula.com/academy. Culture, cuisine, arts, history and lifestyle: it’s all at your fingertips with The Peninsula Hotels.

Thai Herbal Discovery
in Bangkok





THE RITZ-CARLTON × MONOCLE

CRAFT WORK

THE RITZ-CARLTON HAS
ELEVATED SERVICE TO AN ART FORM



The Ritz-Carlton has perfected the art of combining exceptional service with cutting-edge design

The Ritz-Carlton has grown from one hotel in Boston that changed the face of hospitality to 76 properties worldwide in 25 countries. Each hotel boasts first-class design with unique features and an exceptional sense of place. The Ritz-Carlton has a loyal clientele that checks in for an unmatched commitment to service. For food lovers, the group's restaurants are destinations in themselves. Despite few hotel restaurants achieving top culinary accolades, The Ritz-Carlton, Wolfsburg's Aqua restaurant, overseen by chef Sven Elverfeld, has won an impressive three Michelin stars – an honour Michelin only bestows on a handful of establishments around the world it considers worth a special journey.

www.ritzcarlton.com

Hotel experience: A stay at The Ritz-Carlton is so memorable that guests often recall how the stories and experiences from their time at the hotel remain with them long after they've checked out.



Care and comfort: The Ladies and Gentlemen behind The Ritz-Carlton don't just see service as an obligation. For them it's a craft motivated by a genuine conviction to make guests' stay as comfortable as possible.



Q+A

SVEN ELVERFELD

Head chef, Aqua restaurant,
The Ritz-Carlton, Wolfsburg

Sven Elverfeld started his career as a confectioner who spent time in Crete and Japan before joining The Ritz-Carlton, Dubai in 1998. Having put that restaurant on the culinary map, he moved back to Germany and opened Aqua at The Ritz-Carlton, Wolfsburg, which now has three Michelin stars and is number 25 in San Pellegrino's World's 50 Best Restaurants.

What sets your restaurant apart and puts it on the global food map?
I believe the brilliant surroundings in Wolfsburg help a lot. You have the old chimneys [of the Volkswagen factory] and on the other hand you have the modern building of the hotel that gives a unique platform. Most guests in my restaurant are from overseas, including Asia, the US, Spain and Nordic countries.

How would you describe your cooking?
Originally I cooked classic French and German food with creamy sauces and stocks. We opened in November 2001 and after we got our first Michelin star I became more confident. In 2005 when I got my second Michelin star I started to experiment more with deconstructing classical dishes.

Your style has been described as an inventive take on German national cuisine, could you explain?
I have reinterpreted classic dishes and deconstructed them. An exam-



ple is boiled fillet of Müritz lamb with Frankfurt green sauce – a summer dish. I reinterpreted it as an architectural dish with layers of ingredients. There are two menus in the restaurant that change depending on the season: a four to six course menu called Vision, that has new ideas and an Impressions menu, with nine courses.

What emphasis is put on local ingredients and suppliers?
Most suppliers come from the surrounding three to five kilometres. I use a local farmer and a hunter – also a butcher – I've called twice a week for the last 11 years. I have at least 50 local suppliers.

How has your work been influenced by The Ritz-Carlton environment and how have you influenced them?
It's a very important part because just as the hotel creates a unique experience for guests, I create an enduring memory for diners. The management is very supportive and visionary, letting us have new ideas. This is so important to move forward. What we have built here in the past 10 years is special.



Extras: Having problems with your computer? Call a "technology butler" to your room. Want to run a bath? A "bath butler" is also available who will not only run it but add flourishes such as music and even champagne.

Wine Lounge: The three Michelin star Aqua restaurant has a climatic wine chamber called the Wine Lounge. Enjoy a variety of rare and fine global wines.





SWISS DELUXE HOTELS
X
MONOCLE

The Perfect Hosts

Forged in the belle époque of grand European tours and refined social mores, Swiss hospitality is rightly seen as the best in the world. Swiss Deluxe Hotels was founded to maintain a premium service, and has enjoyed 75 years of uncompromising quality. With 39 hotels in 23 locations, membership is based on 850 strict criteria, so that guests can be sure all their needs and desires will be met. Each hotel stands as a beacon of excellence amid the mountains, meadows and cities of Switzerland.



Beau-Rivage

Geneva

Geneva's combination of Alpine air, financial nous, and diplomatic ways have made it an urban and urbane emblem of Brand Switzerland across the globe. The lakeside Beau-Rivage is a short stroll from the shopping and business districts and has provided a pit stop for the internationally influential since the mid 19th century. As the first and only Four

Seasons in Switzerland, the neo-classical Hotel des Bergues prides itself on a personal and warm service, while the Mandarin Oriental Geneva provides spacious rooms decorated with Art Deco accents and state-of-the-art technology. Le Richemond, part of the prestigious Rocco Forte Collection, ties the lakeside landscape of Brunswick Gardens with the glitter and promise of the more commercial quarters.



Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues

Insider tips:
Mina Bayet, chief concierge, Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues

- 1 For the last word in beautiful Swiss precision engineering, admire the timepieces at the Patek Philippe Museum.
- 2 L'Auberge d'Hermance serves gastronomy with Alpine charm.
- 3 Try Les Amures for the definitive Swiss cuisine. People come from miles around just for the fondue.
- 4 The Place du Molard is the place to sample Geneva's street culture.
- 5 Take a stroll along the Marché de Rive on a Saturday morning and pick up some carefully crafted products from traditional craftsmen.



Le Richemond



Mandarin Oriental, Geneva

Lucerne

Sitting in the heart of Switzerland, the medieval squares and frescoed guildhalls of Lucerne are a picture of Alpine chocolate-box charm. The Palace Luzern is a regal landmark, known for its culinary excellence and old-world opulence.

Insider tips:
Georg Käsler, chief concierge, Palace Luzern

- 1 Admire seminal works from the likes of Paul Klee and Pablo Picasso at the Rosengart Collection.
- 2 Visit the Picasso Museum – the current retrospective of David Douglas Duncan is a must-see.
- 3 Take in the Glacier Garden and the Lion Monument for an insight into Switzerland's history
- 4 Hop on the historic lake steamer and the world's steepest cogwheel railway to Mount Pilatus.
- 5 Experience the views from the revolving restaurant on Mount Stanserhorn.



Palace Luzern



Bellevue Palace

Bern

Standing proud on Kochergasse and rubbing shoulders with the Swiss Federal Parliament, the Bellevue Palace cuts a commanding figure. With panoramic views of the Bernese Alps and the River Aare, the Bellevue Palace has a distinguished, yet discreet, air.

Insider tips:
Kurt Kneubühler, concierge, Bellevue Palace

- 1 The Renzo Piano designed Paul Klee Centre houses the world's largest collection from the renowned artist
- 2 For the best viewpoint of the historic town, try the Bern Rose Garden.
- 3 Hike along the River Aare to the Tierpark Dählhölzli and the ferry at Muri.
- 4 Go antique-shopping under the arcades in the old town
- 5 The short trip to Emmental is worth the effort for the famous decorated farm houses, rich fondue and delicious cheese.

Lausanne

In many ways the city that sums up the supremacy of Swiss service, Lausanne is home to the world's premier école hôtelière. Benefiting from this local talent are the Lausanne Palace & Spa and the Beau-Rivage Palace, two hotels that combine Alpine and lakeside views with the best spas, interior design and landscaped grounds around.

Insider tips:
Sylvie Gonin, chief concierge, Beau-Rivage Palace

- 1 Don't miss Lausanne Cathedral's medieval tradition of "le guet", a very vocal night watchman.
- 2 A boat trip on Lake Geneva is the best way to take in the superb Alpine views.
- 3 For a true vintage experience, try the Lavaux Vineyards, built by 11th-century viticultural monks, and a UNESCO world heritage site.
- 4 Visit Gruyère, renowned for its nutty, hard cow's cheese and just a hop away.
- 5 The Hermitage Foundation is one of Switzerland's most prestigious art galleries.



Beau-Rivage Palace



Lausanne Palace & Spa

Zürich

Zürich is a global city on a manageable scale –nestling on the lake, surrounded by wooded Alpine foothills, and yet standing at the cutting edge of European culture. Epitomising this dual spirit of solid tradition and ambition for the future, The Dolder Grand recently reopened with a modern extension, seamlessly linking the original 19th-century "Curhaus" spa buildings with a sleek new Norman Foster design. For those seeking a more central stopover, the Savoy Baur en Ville is a stalwart of Swiss service, and the Widder Hotel combines cutting-edge interiors with period townhouse architecture. Lake Zürich provides the setting for two other striking properties, the Baur au Lac and Eden au Lac, both of which weave restrained elegance together with the cosmopolitan air of a Swiss Riviera.

Insider tips:
Hans-Ueli Schwarz, concierge, Widder Hotel

- 1 Join the creative elite at the renowned Kronenhalle restaurant and be impressed by its art collection.
- 2 Be amazed by the Marc Chagall stained glass at the 9th-century Fraumünster abbey.
- 3 Leave all other senses behind at the world's first dark restaurant, Restaurant Blinde Kuh, where taste rules.
- 4 Üetliberg is the place for a panoramic view of Zürich. A hike to Felsenegg will be well rewarded.
- 5 A boat trip to the Rhine Falls is the perfect daytrip, with breathtaking scenery.



Widder Hotel



Swiss Deluxe Hotels

www.swissdeluxe-hotels.com



Baur au Lac



The Dolder Grand



Eden au Lac



Savoy Baur en Ville

— 01 of 05 —

NATURAL TAIWAN

Taiwan crowded? Absolutely. With gorges, valleys, mountain peaks, lakes, beaches, hot springs and forests. Scratch beneath the fast-paced urban surface and you'll find a subtropical island waiting to be explored.

To watch the first episode of our *Touring Taiwan* film, visit www.monocle.com

BIRD WATCHING

A pair of binoculars may not be the obvious accessory when heading to Taiwan. But with 500 bird species among its mountains, plains and forests, they will come in handy. Sit back and observe black-faced spoonbills and Kentish plovers among the lush wetlands and salt pans of the Sih Cao eco-reserve on the southwest coast.



YANGMINGSHAN NATIONAL PARK

Need a break from the 24-hour techno bustle of Taipei? Take a short drive north of the capital to Yangmingshan National Park. Peppered with bamboo forests, neatly crisscrossing footpaths and scarlet dragon Taoist temples, the rolling hills are perfect for hiking, cycling, hot spring soaking and flower gazing.

DAPENG BAY NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

With its vast skies, still lagoon, and expanse of sea, as well as activities including boating, oyster farm visits and cycling, Dapeng Bay National Scenic Area has much to offer visitors. Recover with lunch in the sleek eco-confines of the floating Pen Bay Ocean Café. A new hotel and golf course are also in the pipeline.



LITTLE LIUQIU ISLAND

Little Liuqiu, which is 5km long, is reached by boat from the mainland. Follow decked walkways among bamboo forests and coral rocks. Homestay Lobster Hole offers a peek into island family life while cliff-top cabins at Samaji resort are an exercise in eco-architecture.

BULAU BULAU

Perched on a mountaintop in Yilan County, Bulau Bulau aboriginal village is the creation of a landscape designer from Taipei and his aboriginal wife. The highlight for visitors is the organic feast washed down with millet wine.



TAROKO GORGE

Taroko Gorge in northeastern Hualien County is home to marble canyons towering 3,700m high. Rainforests, remote temples, hot springs and the rushing Liwu River can be accessed using modern walkways, hiking trails and bike paths.

SUN MOON LAKE

Sun Moon Lake is a haven for nature-lovers. There are decked walkways, cycling paths and nearly 400 boats. Design is also on the agenda: sleek hotels The Lalu and Fleur De Chine line its shores while a new hotel will soon open in the former retreat of Taiwan's late leader Chiang Kai-Shek.



JIAOXI HOT SPRINGS

Jiaoxi hot springs in Yilan County are a hotbed for thermal activities. For the ultimate hot spring experience head to The zen Hotel Royal Chiao Hsi, created by Japanese design house Kume Sekkei.



交通部觀光局
Taiwan Tourism Bureau
<http://taiwan.net.tw>



BAA × MONOCLE



(01)

A GUIDE TO THE NEW

Heathrow *Terminal 5*

The debut of Heathrow's new Terminal 5 is more than just an expansion of Europe's busiest hub. It marks the start of a new future for the BAA portfolio

The first thing you'll notice is the sense of space. The statistics behind Heathrow's Terminal 5 are dizzying enough – 19 years in the making at a cost of €5.7bn, employing 20,000 building workers – but what makes this one of the most breathtaking man-made structures in modern Britain, and raises the bar for airports worldwide, is its lightness of touch.

Passengers entering the Richard Rogers Partnership's glass-clad, light-filled, five-storey building will not only have a clutter-free view of its awesome dimensions – 40m high, 176m wide and 396m long, but

should also progress seamlessly from check-in to departures in an optimum time of 10 minutes (a chief Terminal 5 credo is that the processes and the retail should be on your way, not in your way).

The innovative-not-intrusive shops and restaurants and the expansive vistas on all four sides of the building may even encourage passengers to arrive at the airport early. It's been a long time since British airports were associated with excitement and invention, but Terminal 5 marks the start of the total transformation of Heathrow.

BAA × MONOCLE

Heathrow Terminal 5

*The start of the journey:
kerbside to check-in*

Whether you are arriving at Terminal 5 by bus, tube, train, or one of the four-seat monorail-style pod shuttles from Terminal 5's business car park (planned for 2009), it is immediately apparent that this is going to be no ordinary journey.

The below-ground platforms of the Piccadilly Line and Heathrow Express are lit via an ETFE roof – the same translucent material used on the domes in Cornwall's Eden Project – and passengers will ascend in a glass-roofed rail-box, crossing into the top-floor departures concourse via a series of colour-coded bridges rising above ground-level squares of plane trees and fountains, and site-specific artworks by Langlands & Bell.

They'll be greeted by a parade of 22 huge white steel trees, supporting the massive roof trusses and soaring above the terminal's marble floors,

plus a number of exhibition spaces featuring rotating displays in partnership with cultural or educational institutions (the first of these is dedicated to the Victoria & Albert Museum's concurrent China Design Now exhibition).

There are no dedicated business class check-in desks (first-class passengers have a separate service area at the terminal's south end), but the 96 self-service check-in kiosks (along with the same number of fast-bag drops) will expedite the terminal's simple philosophy of passengers always moving forward. Checked baggage, for example, will be transported downwards from the fast-bag-drop desks rather than horizontally on conveyor belts, so that passengers will be able to proceed, unimpeded, towards security.

TRAVEL CULTURE

To underline Terminal 5's position as both a new gateway for the UK and also a structure that offers a new travel experience, BAA has launched the EXPO concept in the departures hall. Developed to be a platform for everything from emerging design talent to a venue for national art institutions, EXPO also plays a role in leaving residents and visitors with positive, lasting impressions of the UK. "We have created EXPO to add extra interest to the passengers' journey and to celebrate the best of British culture, creativity and commerce," explains Charles Byrne, BAA's Head of Sponsorship and Experience. "By offering a great experience for the traveller and building on the fantastic design and superb retail opportunities at the terminal, EXPO is an essential part of our proposition at Terminal 5 and beyond."

PREVIOUS SPREAD 01

View of the Richard Rogers Partnership-designed main Terminal 5 building

THIS SPREAD 01

The Departures lounge features wooden flooring by Norwegian company Boen

02

Escalator in the new Terminal 5B satellite will help passengers proceed seamlessly through the building

03

Clear signage, natural light and marble floors in the new terminal



(01)



(02)



(03)

FINAVIA × MONOCLE

A GATEWAY TO THE DESIGN CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

To be World Design Capital, a city really has to earn it. From the moment you land in Helsinki, you can see why it was awarded the accolade for 2012. Helsinki Airport is a stylish first impression of a country whose design is world-renowned. The gateway to the city is one of 25 airports operated by Finavia, who believe beauty and function go together. That's why Finavia's Helsinki Airport is co-operating with WDC on a number of innovative projects.

helsinkiairport.fi

01

HELSINKI AIRPORT DESIGN TAKES FLIGHT *The space to be inspired*

Helsinki Airport is an example of how service and design can work together to improve the traveller's experience. Offering the quickest direct route from Europe to Asia, 15 million passengers enjoyed this fresh approach last year. The building has been created with a sense of freedom in mind. With an incredibly efficient 35 minute flight connection time guaranteed, the airport's clean lines, open spaces and compact size maintain a human feel throughout. Adding to this an infrastructure that works, intelligent processes and flawless service, Helsinki Airport becomes a destination to remember.

02

ART FOR THE AIRPORT A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY *Design to stimulate the senses*

While it's refreshing to breeze through Helsinki Airport, you might want to linger – and not just for the great shops. As a partner to World Design Capital Helsinki, the airport is becoming the world's first to turn its space into a dedicated art environment. Among the airport's open spaces and stylish, cosy lounges are photography, fashion and modern art displays integrated into the airport's design as part of the Art Port Gallery project. Each evolve to suit curators' changing needs, with concepts such as *Sit Down And Seize The Moment* inviting travellers to relax in 15 chairs by Finnish designers, while works such as Finnish artist Tiina Veräjänkorva's "Finnflakes" bring hanging porcelain sculptures to the long-haul flights area. With pop-up shops from exciting young Finnish designers adding to the existing high quality shopping outlets, there's never been an easier way to enjoy and take home a beautiful piece of Finnish design.



03

FINAVIA & WDC HELSINKI A CREATIVE PARTNERSHIP *Intelligent design and business*

The inspiring spaces at Helsinki Airport are down to the unique relationship between Finavia, WDC Helsinki and the airport. Finavia is Finland's leading aviation corporation, employing over 2,500 people, and is dedicated to spreading Finnish culture to the world. Its natural relationship with the Finnish design philosophy is felt instantly as you arrive in the airport. Intelligent features such as providing queue times at security control for departing passengers, airport guidance in several Asian languages for those connecting to and from the east and a dedication to usability means visitors to Helsinki immediately feel at home. Beyond the airport lie architectural classics such as Alvar Aalto's modernist masterpiece Finlandia Hall and the art nouveau Rautatieasema railway station. Thanks to Finavia, the design journey starts even before you've left security control.





DEFINED BY DIGNITY, REFINEMENT AND HONOUR

Both on the ground and in the air, Japan's national carrier JAL is committed to strengthening not only its inflight offering, but also developing its ideology by maintaining heritage, service and design at its core.

It should come as no surprise that a company with Japan written at the head of its name is compelled, or moreover required, to hold heritage, quality of service, craft and design as the defining tenets in its corporate canon. As national flag carrier since 1951, the largest airline in Asia and a member of oneworld, Japan Airlines has upheld a nation's commitment to providing its citizens and visitors with the ultimate flying experience. Any airline's opening act begins on the ground and not in the sky. JAL has always been at the forefront of providing its customers with the best possible experience from the initial effortless act of buying

a ticket, skipping up to check-in, breezing into the lounge, sweeping into one's seat and eventually disembarking with the decorum worthy of a contemporary business traveller. JAL can only achieve this commendable level of experience by drawing on its native provenance. Every last detail is accounted for – design, hospitality, punctuality, customer care and formality. On the ground valued passengers in First and Executive Classes are invited to enjoy the relaxing atmosphere and personalised services in lounges at airports worldwide and in particular at the

Sakura flagship lounge at Narita, where warm timber and other soothing design elements such as glass, stone and flattering lighting prepare travellers for their onward flight. On board, both classes enjoy a unique level of attention to detail, including ergonomically designed seats, soft furnishings, earthenware, and even award-winning chopsticks. Every feature, from the caring attitude of the ground and flight personnel to the grand design scheme employed across the whole brand, is characterised by JAL's Japanese heritage, provenance and distinctive style.



- 01. Warm welcome**
The new JAL Sakura First Class lounge at Narita Airport is furnished with warm materials to promote wellbeing and comfort.
- 02. Personal space**
Within the new First Class lounge passengers are offered a sleek space to catch up on work before they board their flight.
- 03. New aesthetic**
Innovative architecture and interior design is a feature of the new First Class lounge.
- 04. Me time**
Relax in the ergonomic seats and comfortable interiors of the Executive Class.
- 05. Distinctive design**
Every First and Executive Class passenger will use beautifully hand-crafted china and tableware.



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www.jal.com

JAL JAPAN AIRLINES

8pp fold out insert – front cover, outside double-page spread (when gatefold closed), outside back cover





THE MARUNOUCHI DISTRICT IS NOT SIMPLY A THRIVING BUSINESS CENTRE BUT ALSO AN AREA OF COMPELLING DIVERSITY. STREET GALLERIES, TEA SHOPS, CONCERTS, RESTAURANTS: THERE'S A NEW EXPERIENCE TO BE FOUND AROUND EVERY CORNER.

01
NAKA-DORI AVENUE
If you're looking for the heart of the Marunouchi district you need look no further than Naka-dori Avenue. Bearing comparison with New York's Madison Avenue and London's Bond Street for food-lovers and fashionistas, it is jam-packed with revered global fashion labels, local boutique shops, open-air cafés, street galleries and bustling restaurants. Even if you were somehow able to bypass these temptations you can still enjoy a rewarding stroll; Naka-dori, which is closed to traffic during lunchtime, is a 1.2km-long street lined with elm trees, hanging flowers and benches. In summer you can enjoy outdoor events including a gardening show; in winter, beautiful lights decorate the trees in the evening.

02
RETAIL
There's a vibrant retail scene in Marunouchi complemented by cafés and restaurants that are perfect for a lunchtime pit stop between shops. When it comes to said shops, the good news is that the range of stores and boutiques across the district is impressive, to say the least. For example, Tomorrowland Marunouchi has been a staple of the area's fashion scene since 2000. The brand made its name in Japan, where it has been established for the past 35 years, by adapting European styles to the shapes and tastes of locals, surviving some turbulent times on the Japanese retail scene by understanding what its customers wanted – and getting it right every time. Then there's Bianchi Marunouchi. One of the world's leading cycling brands, it exemplifies the tradition of Italian design with a focus on innovation and a passion for quality. The Marunouchi shop deals in road bikes, mountain bikes and everything in between, allowing customers to take a test ride before committing to a purchase. Members can also make use of an on-site workshop for essential maintenance. When shoppers need a break, CAFE GARB Marunouchi is more than happy to oblige. Inside visitors find a modern setting for a menu where the focus is on French food, incorporating elements of Spanish and Italian cuisine. As well as taking advantage of a plethora of lunch and dinner options, patrons can choose to pop in for coffee and a delicious cake. Another venue for refreshment is Ippodo Tea with its Tokyo Marunouchi Store, where all manner of green tea is available. Customers head into the Kaboku Tearoom, where they prepare their own drinks with staff nearby to offer advice. A takeaway brew is another option, as is buying the tools and tea from the on-site shop to make your own at home. Ippodo Tea manager Yuki Kitajima loves the area: "Although it is an office district, I like that you can feel the change of seasons through the surrounding nature," she says. "The greatest advantage of setting up shop in Marunouchi has to be the fact that we are able to meet with customers that we wouldn't have met otherwise and develop a relationship with them." tomorrowland.co.jp; bianchi.com; garb.jp; ippodo-tea.co.jp

03
INNOVATION
True to Mitsubishi Estate's commitment to progress, the Shin-Marunouchi Building (Entrepreneur Group for Growing Japan), which supports the development of foreign companies through business advisors and forums. Pankaj Garg, the CEO of Innovation Thru Energy, a firm based in the building, says, "EGG is the best place for foreigners new to Japan who would like to start a business here." Kengo Horiuchi is a director of service at IT company Treasure Data and has worked in the area for 10 years. He says: "Marunouchi is well connected and the base for Japan's top firms. It is a great location because you can efficiently develop enterprise-style businesses." egg-japan.com/en

SPANISH TOURIST OFFICE × PARADORES × MONOCLE

Northern soul

Spain's verdant north is a fresh alternative to the beautiful south

Spain's northern coast is often overlooked by travellers in favour of the south's alluring promise of higher temperatures and deeper tans. However, the northern regions of Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria and the Basque Country have a blooming rural charm all their own. Visitors in the know stay in Paradores – historic, luxury hotels – to make the most of the region's natural heritage and wealth of outdoor pursuits.

Parador retreats

01 Set in a dramatic 10th century castle, Hondarribia Parador is ideally situated for the Atlantic beaches. The fishing village has been declared a historical site of artistic importance, and has stunning views of the French coast winding away to the north. The town is also perfect to use as a base to explore, with coastal walks between neighbouring villages.

02 A tour of Cantabria and its green routes will unearth one of the region's illustrious industries – dairy farming. Lush green pastures are home to cows and goats raised to produce their rich cheeses, including Picón Bejés-Tresviso, Quesucos de Liébana and creamy Cantabrian cheese.

03 Santillana and Santillana Gil Blas are two Paradores, the latter a 17th-century estate, sitting in the vibrant town of Santillana del Mar, declared a National Monument for its long cultural history. Both offer a perfect rural setting within reach of the city.

04 As far back as 18,000 years ago people inhabited the northern regions of Spain and evidence of this can be found in the caves of Altamira. Iconic cave paintings of rural scenes inspired great Spanish artists, including Picasso, who famously said, "After Altamira, all is decadence."

05 Spending the night in the Picos de Europa National Park is a breathtaking

experience. This mountain range stretches across Asturias, Cantabria and León and is virtually untouched. A walk in the green foothills or a climb to the peaks is a must.

06 Recoup from a day in the hills at the Cangas de Onís Parador. Originally a 12th-century monastery, it was designated a National Monument in 1907 – two rooms have archaeological remains on display. Nearby Covadonga is home to pristine glacial lakes.

07 Spain's entire northern coast is ideal for sailing. Atlantic winds offer a hearty challenge to yachtsmen and women, who enjoy long days on the surf and long nights on land savouring the hospitality of the locals.

08 In the west of Asturias, seafood is the order of the day in the beautiful fishing village of Luarca. There is even a 13-metre squid on display in the local museum.

09 Located on the banks of Ribadeo, the traditional country house Parador of the same name perfectly combines the culture of both Asturias and Galicia to the west. Pack a picnic and set off for a day or two along the coast.

10 To complete the tour of northern Spain, the sandy coves of Rías Altas are an ideal setting for picnics and watersports. Sunbathe on the golden shores or hit the breakers before opening a bottle of Rías Baixas white and toasting northern Spain and its naturally stunning regions.



Need to know

Sunshine: 1,700 hours a year on average.

Temperatures: Average low, January, 9C; Average high, July, 19C.

International airports: Bilbao; Santander; A Coruña; Oviedo; Santiago de Compostela.

Ferries: International ferry ports at Bilbao and Santander.

Trains: The high-speed AVE will open up routes to Bilbao and San Sebastián in the future.

Access to nature: This region is referred to as 'Green Spain'. There is no shortage of nature reserves, sandy beaches, snowy mountains and stunning, wild coastlines.

Architecture: A mix of quaint coastal villages nestled along the coast, medieval castles and, of course, the modern example of the Guggenheim Museum. Northern Spain has a remarkable mix of it all.



PARADORES



www.parador.es
www.spain.info

“I land” paradise

CULTURAL FEAST

It's no coincidence that Taiwan is the birthplace of award-winning filmmaker Ang Lee and renowned dancer Fang-Yi Sheu. The island's rich artistic heritage includes intricate paper sculpture, the detailed artistry of a centuries-old puppet theatre culture and one of the world's top museums.

TAIPEIEYE

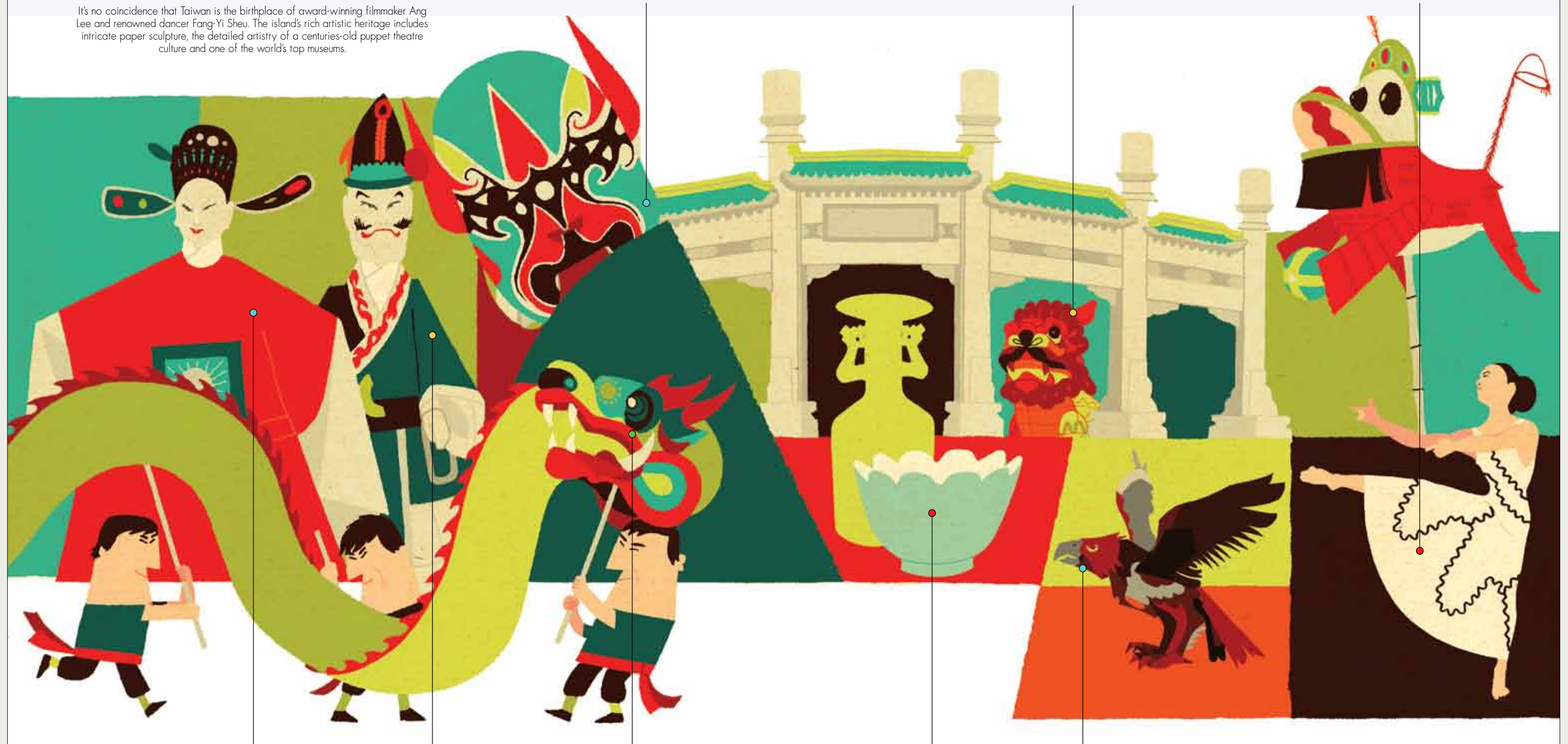
Traditional Chinese opera, tribal dance and acrobatics are on display every weekend at TaipeiEYE, the island's only private performance hall.

WANNIAN FESTIVAL

Southern Taiwan's answer to the decadence of Mardi Gras is the Wannian Festival, which culminates with the burning of the paper-and-bamboo constructed “Fire Lion”.

FANG-YI SHEU

Before making the jump to New York, former Martha Graham Company principal Fang-Yi Sheu raised eyebrows as a star student at the Taipei National University of the Arts.



PUPPETRY

Puppetry is a serious business in Taiwan, which has been carefully preserving its glove-puppet theatre culture — an offshoot of the centuries-old Chinese puppet culture — for more than 400 years.

LIN LIU-HSIN PUPPET THEATRE MUSEUM

Visitors to the Lin Liu-Hsin Puppet Theatre Museum in Taipei can tour not only exhibit space, but also workshops where the delicate details of puppet making are revealed.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRADITIONAL ARTS

Walk along re-created old streets and peruse traditional handicrafts, such as Taiwanese knotting, at the National Centre for Traditional Arts in Luodong Township Yilan County.

NATIONAL PALACE MUSEUM

The painting, calligraphy and artifacts at the newly renovated National Palace Museum span 5,000 years, making it one of the world's most important troves of Asian art.

PAPER SCULPTURE

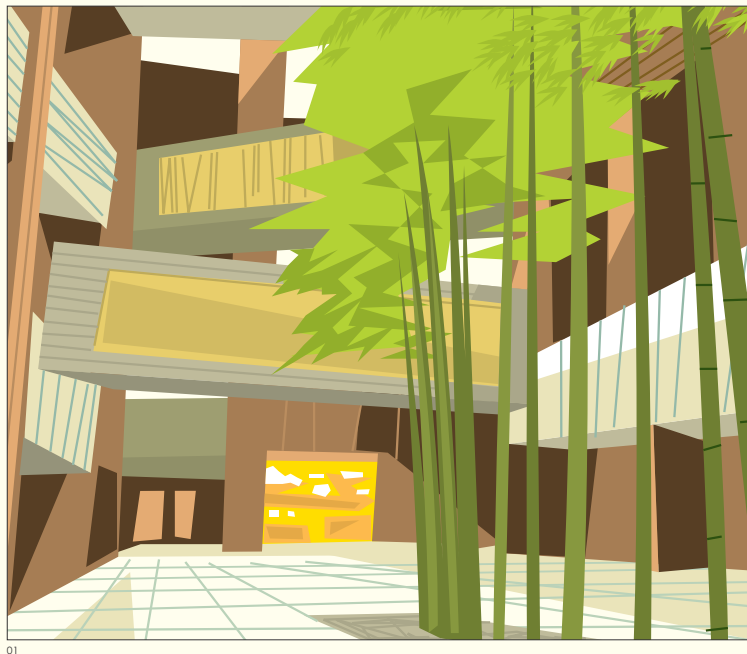
If origami is the past, “paper sculpture” — its more elaborate, textured version — is the art form's present and future. Taiwan is home to some of the craft's masters.



交通部觀光局
Taiwan Tourism Bureau
<http://taiwan.net.tw>



TOKYO MIDTOWN × MONOCLE

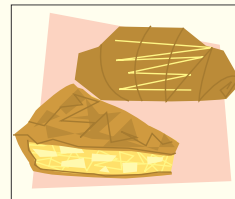


THE TOKYO MIDTOWN 25

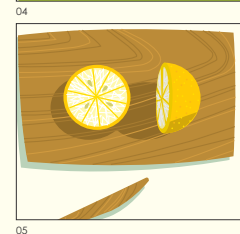
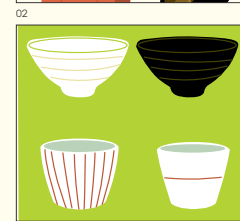
SET IN THE HEART OF ROPPONGI, TOKYO MIDTOWN HAS POSITIONED ITSELF AS ONE OF THE MOST AMBITIOUS AND ADMIRABLE MIXED-USE PROJECTS IN JAPAN, AND SET A NEW GLOBAL BENCHMARK FOR URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

Whether you're up for expanding your collection of Gifu ceramics, an afternoon viewing the works at the Suntory Museum of Art, selecting some new tracks from emerging Kyoto hip-hop acts or simply sitting in the garden contemplating where to dine, Tokyo Midtown has become Asia's most dynamic hub for shopping, art, architecture, dining and living. What follows are our top 25 picks for a perfect day out.

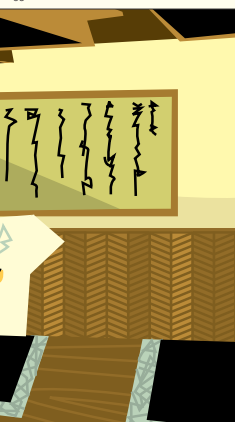
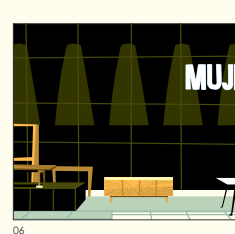
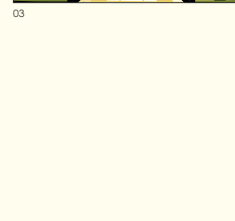
- < 01 > **Bamboo**
No harsh lights and ugly materials – instead, bamboo floors, Japanese washi paper hangings, and leafy bamboo indoors.
- < 02 > **ABC Cooking Studio**
Bread and cake classes or – for the more ambitious – lessons in how to make full-on Japanese meals at Tokyo's liveliest cooking school.
- < 03 > **Dressterior**
A snapshot of smart Tokyo style – exquisite presentation, attentive service and a capsule collection of men's and women's clothing.
- < 04 > **Time & Style**
We'd happily fill our kitchen with roughly glazed Japanese ceramics from interiors store Time & Style.
- < 05 > **Sfera**
Kyoto store Sfera showcases the best in contemporary crafts. The wooden butter knives and chopping boards make good gifts.



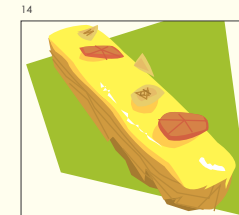
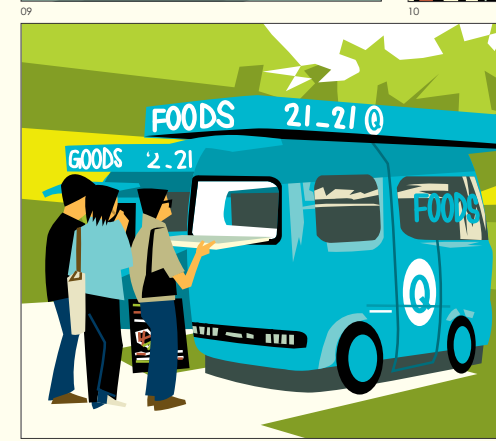
- < 06 > **Muji**
Muji, but not as we know it. A great interior and the Real Furniture range – top-quality wooden tables, chairs and benches that are only available at Midtown.
- < 07 > **Boulangerie Asanoya**
Perfect for an early morning breakfast – we like the croissant, juice and coffee set from 07.30, with waiter service.
- < 08 > **Kisentei**
Teppanyaki with a view. Queues form at weekends for deftly cooked, succulent meat from famous suppliers Imahan.
- < 09 > **Agtronatura**
Now appearing in all the best bathrooms in Japan, Agtronatura combines fragrant, biodynamically



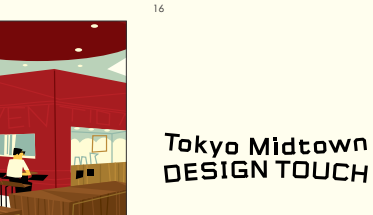
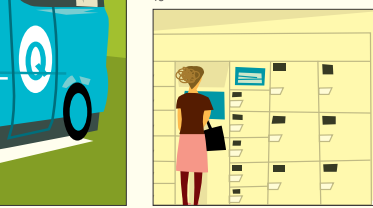
- grown Italian herbs with Japanese presentation.
- < 10 > **Tsutaya Book Store**
Pick up the latest copies of *Casa Brutus*, *Pen* and all your favourite Japanese magazines in this compact book store.
- < 11 > **Restir**
Shop like a rock star at Restir. High-end fashion and a dramatic interior.
- < 12 > **Seats**
Beautifully designed wooded seats dotted around Midtown provide a resting place for foot-weary shoppers.
- < 13 > **Tsutaya Music Store**
For the latest Tokyo jazz/lounge/bossa or hip-hop compilations it's hard to do better than the well-curated selection at Tsutaya.



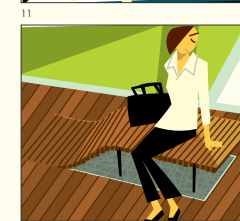
- < 14 > **21_21 Q**
Make the most of the autumn sunshine with an alfresco coffee from the Foods and Goods vans created by Nissan as outdoor shops for Tadao Ando's 21_21 Design Sight.
- < 15 > **Excel**
Not only one of the best pedicures in Tokyo, but also the most scenic. Sit back and look out on the greenery below.
- < 16 > **Lockers**
No need to carry heavy shopping with you. Deposit it in one of the banks of lockers.
- < 17 > **Sadaharu Aoki**
Parisian-quality patisserie with a Japanese twist. Our favourite? Yuzu éclairs. Eat in with a pot of apple tea.



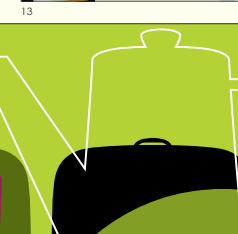
- < 18 > **Starbucks Coffee Tokyo Midtown Complex Studio**
The best-looking Starbucks in Japan. Complete with new CDs for customers to listen to, and a Tokyo FM studio.
- < 19 > **Saya**
Shop devoted to household products designed by nonagenarian Sori Yanagi, one of the world's best product designers.
- < 20 > **Precce Premium**
Convenient 24-hour supermarket selling quality fresh food and wine, including our favourite Japanese whites.
- < 21 > **Seven-Eleven**
Instead of the usual green and red formula, this conbini has a stylish wooden louvered front, but still has all



- the goods that you'd expect inside.
- < 22 > **Food shopping**
Proper food shops with restaurants attached – look out for queues of discerning food shoppers at Hirata Bokujo for first-rate Yamagata tonkatsu, and Suzunami for top-quality fish.
- < 23 > **Tradition**
Shops like traditional confectioner Toraya and green tea café Kyohayashiya – which has been in Kyoto since 1753 – have been given a strong modern identity without compromising their heritage.
- < 24 > **Bicycle parking**
It's easy to bring your bike into the heart of Midtown with convenient bicycle parking.



- < 25 > **Tokyo Midtown Design Touch**
Midtown will be showing its commitment to good design with this five-day event. With an exhibition of international design from France to Finland, and a whole section dedicated to Japan, there will also be a design workshop led by graphic designer Issay Kitagawa, and a conference organised by the British Embassy with guest speaker Ross Lovegrove. Midtown's interiors stores will be exhibiting new products, and even bars and restaurants will be getting involved with special design items. Celebrated designers will be creating installations for the Midtown Garden. 31 October – 4 November



- ABOUT TOKYO MIDTOWN**
Launched in March 2007, Tokyo Midtown is a new concept in urban development. Combining office, retail, residential, education and cultural components, it is developer Mitsui Fudosan's flagship project. Merging the best talents in architecture and landscaping, Tokyo Midtown has emerged as one of the city's most dynamic, best-planned districts.
- ABOUT MITSUI FUDOSAN**
Mitsui Fudosan is one of Japan's leading real estate companies and is committed to redeveloping urban areas by creating attractive buildings and spaces and pairing them with the best tenants and services. Founded in 1941, the company is headquartered in Tokyo and trades under the ticker 8801.

www.tokyo-midtown.com/en/
www.mitsui-fudosan.co.jp/english/

Tokyo Midtown



JR EAST × MONOCLE

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

A new concept in retail has arrived at rail stations in Japan. The rail group JR East has introduced Nomono, a store set up to connect urban dwellers with their neighbours in the regions.

With the first branch in Ueno station in Tokyo, Nomono provides a place for local producers to sell their wares directly to customers passing through the station. There will also be art exhibitions and special events to promote the area as a tourist destination.

It gives city folk the chance to find out about areas they might never have known about and regional communities the chance boost their economy.

Ultimately, it aims to improve quality of life for everyone and helps breathe new life into the communities outside the big cities.



Q&A

Yumiko Kamada, general manager of the Regional Revitalization Division, East Japan Railway Company

How will JR East help revitalize regions?
Our Rediscover the Region project aims to promote sustainability and creativity in partnership with the regions.

What is the concept behind Nomono?
Nomono is not just a shop. Nomono is a shared space where the regions and big cities are linked together. Nomono is a place where we can discover fascinating local products and where customers can meet the producers.

How will it work?
There will be a rotating product line-up – for example, products from Aomori first followed by those from Ibaraki. The producers themselves and also people from local government and banks will act as sales staff. JR East supplies the venue. This is our unification scheme.



www.jreast.co.jp/e/saihakken/index.html





SPAIN 100

A LISTING OF UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

After spending a year scouring Spain from above, below and within, Monocle would like to share the journey with you. Let us take you to fantastic destinations, book a table at exclusive restaurants and introduce you to the people shaping the country's future.

SPANISH TOURIST OFFICE × MONOCLE

Food & drink

A culinary tour taking in local specialities, top restaurants and regional produce



41/100 Mercado de San Miguel Madrid

A Madrid landmark just off Plaza Mayor, Mercado de San Miguel is one of the oldest covered markets in Spain. Originally built in 1916, the historic mercado re-opened in 2009 after years of restoration and is now home to over 30 vendors offering cheese, fish and pastries, plus tableware and cookbooks by day, vino and tapas by night. Pay a visit to soak up the atmosphere and chat with the stall holders. mercadosanmiguel.es



42/100 Papabubble Barcelona

Papabubble was born in 2004 out of Australians Tommy Tang and Christopher King's passion for candies. Available today in Tokyo, NYC, Seoul, Taipei, Lisbon, Amsterdam, São Paulo, Hong Kong and Brussels, Papabubble's hand-made sweets are a delicious rainbow mix of caramel, sugar and chocolate. Plus, you can watch the makers creating their inventions, experimenting with tastes and colour. A unique experience. papabubble.com



43/100 The elBulli Foundation Roses, Catalonia

The "father of molecular gastronomy" Ferran Adrià shocked the culinary world with the closing of his elBulli restaurant in Catalonia, but now he's planning to transform the space into a new elBulli Foundation. Designed by Enric Ruiz-Geli, the hi-tech "ideas centre" is set to open in 2014 to provide a think-thank for cuisine and gastronomy, and house an archive of elBulli's recipes. bullifoundation.org



44/100 Grupo Tragaluz Barcelona

Grupo Tragaluz was started by mother and son Rosa Maria Esteva and Tomás Tarruella. Their first restaurant, El Mordisco, opened in 1987 and over time the business grew into one of the most celebrated names on Spain's food scene, with over 10 restaurants and bars offering cuisine ranging from Mediterranean food to dim sum. In 2003, the group opened hotel OMM in Barcelona – a boutique hotel with a culinary slant. grupotragaluz.com

45/100 Jamón de Teruel Teruel

Jamón is probably the most renowned Spanish food export. The remote rural province of Teruel in the Aragón region is home to jamón de Teruel – the jamón serrano with the oldest Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) granted by the EU. Cured for at least 14 months, the jamón is a winner of numerous food fair awards. Enjoyed on its own or in tapas, jamón de Teruel is a must-try Spanish delicacy. jamondeteruel.com



46/100 Calçotada Valls

If Catalonia has a food to be proud of it's the calçots, a type of scallion endemic to the region. Reminiscent of a spring onion (but with a sweeter taste), the calçots are so much a part of the territory's identity that they have been protected with a PDO by the European Union. Every year in mid-spring, hungry Catalans get their grills going and start devouring barbecued calçots with romesco sauce to celebrate the end of winter. foodsfromspain.com



47/100 Pintxos San Sebastián

Choosing where to eat when touring a city that has arguably the highest concentration of Michelin-starred restaurants per sq m is no easy feat. But who wants to trap themselves in a restaurant when you can go on a pintxos-eating spree around San Sebastián's cobbled streets? Opt for "millenium eggs" at Zeruko (*top left*), Basque delicacies at Gambara (*far right*) and finish it all off with cheese-cake at La Viña (*right*). todopintxos.com



48/100 Harina bakery Madrid

There aren't too many bakeries around the world that have a good view but Harina is one of them. Located near the imposing Puerta de Alcalá monument in Madrid's Plaza de la Independencia, the bakery gives off a whiff of melting butter and rising rye and sourdough bread. It draws in late-night party-goers and early-birds passing by who wait eagerly for the day's first batch, which they enjoy in picturesque surroundings. harinamadrid.com



49/100 El Diablo restaurant Lanzarote

People go to the Timanfaya National Park in Lanzarote to see the 25 volcanoes that spring up around its 51 sq km, but another main attraction is El Diablo. The aptly named "devil" restaurant blends with the arid horizon and serves traditional dishes cooked outside on a grill placed over a hole in the ground from where hot vapours emanate, giving food a mineral, smoky taste. turismolanzarote.com

50/100 La Guita Sanlúcar de Barrameda

The town of Sanlúcar de Barrameda in the Marco de Jerez triangle – the area producing some of Spain's boldest wines – is home to the Hijos de Rainera Pérez Marín estate. Since 1852, this winery has been making the La Guita manzanilla, a sweet, dry sherry popular in Andalusian celebrations. Usually enjoyed as a dessert wine, today La Guita is used in the Rebutito cocktail, made of manzanilla and gaseosa. laguita.com

Coastal attractions

Surfing, beachfront hotels, unspoilt landscape and wildlife watching await



61/100 Cudillero Asturias

If you prefer a relaxed beach holiday or would rather have a weekend camping, Cudillero offers a great opportunity for a sun-soaked get-away. Situated in the Asturias, in northern Spain, the picturesque fishing village charms with its brightly coloured cliff-top houses and restaurants serving traditional Asturian seafood from the Cantabrian Sea. There are also guided tours and you can even book a horse riding afternoon.

cadillero.org

62/100 Travel tip Tarifa

One of Spain's less celebrated beach towns is the multicultural Tarifa just 14km from the Moroccan coast. As well as a playground for wind and kite-surfers, trekkers can also enjoy the scenic walkabouts through the Alcornocales and Estrecho natural parks, a favourite of ornithologists. To replenish from the outdoor activities, eat at the restaurants lining the Paseo de la Alameda.

cadizturismo.com



63/100 Abama Golf & Spa Resort Tenerife

Tenerife is the most populous of the seven Canary Islands, so finding an escape from the crowds is key when visiting. The Abama Resort is a 160-hectare private estate in the serene Guía de Isora town, surrounded by over 300 varieties of plants. In case you've had too much of the sand and ocean, arrange a round of golf or a relaxing treatment at the hotel's first-class spa.

abamahotelresort.com



64/100 Cabo de Gata-Níjar reserve Andalucía

Spread over 460 sq km, Andalucía's Cabo de Gata-Níjar park is the largest natural reserve in the European Western Mediterranean Sea. Designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance, with over 1,000 plants recorded and 1,100 animal species, this wild strip of coastline is a true celebration of nature's beauty and ecological wealth.

andalucia.org



65/100 Mundaka Pais Vasco

Endless white sandy beaches, green hills and rocky cliffs – Mundaka is a little piece of heaven about 30 minutes drive away from Bilbao. Ranked among the main attractions in the Basque Country, it is the place to be if you are an avid surfer – the perfect proof that Spain has a wild side. Or if you are a relaxed holidaymaker, enjoy a tranquil vacation sipping local txakoli wine and trying the best seafood delicacies the fishing town can offer.

tourism.euskadi.net/en



66/100 Can Verdera hotel Mallorca

Boutique hotel Can Verdera offers an exclusive escape in sunny and green Mallorca. Nestled in the quaint village of Fornalutx, the 150-year-old building's rooms and suites are individually decorated to ensure an unforgettable stay. And, in case you're aiming high, you can also rent the entire hotel for a big family reunion or a larger party with your friends and relax together in the well-kept gardens.

canverdera.com

67/100 Calima restaurant Marbella

Equipped with two Michelin stars, Calima restaurant in Andalucía offers a provocative, creative twist on traditional Spanish food. Whether you opt for chef Dani Garcia's cold soups and Iberian pork or go for the Andalusian *mariscos* (seafood), make sure you get a table at the beachfront terrace offering a breathtaking view of the Mediterranean. If you're sitting inside, watch the chefs at work behind the glass wall.

restaurantecalima.es



68/100 Levante National Park Balears

Located in the municipality of Arta, north-east of Mallorca, this natural reservoir has got some of the highest peaks in the region and is famous for its endemic pyrophytic plants (fire-resistant vegetation). But if you're less of a botanist and more of a biologist, head to the beach and see the hawks and eagles gliding, while the Mediterranean turtles soak up some sun on the coastline.

illesbalears.es



69/100 La Malcontenta hotel Costa Brava

Taking its name from a mystical woman who never found anything to be sufficiently perfect, La Malcontenta hotel is set in a masia (a Catalan country house) in the Castell-Palamós region, walking distance from the Costa Brava beach. Refurbished in 2005, the 14-room inn is 40km from Girona and offers traditional food from the Empordà region, such as the cod confit with artichokes and pea cream.

lamalcontentahotel.com



70/100 El Grifo Lanzarote

Family-run since 1775, El Grifo winery is the oldest wine producer in Lanzarote and one of the 10 oldest in Spain. Since the 18th century the workers have been handpicking the grapes in an estate that stretches over 60 hectares of volcanic soil that gives the wines a mineral taste. Visit the wine museum (built on top of dried lava) and update your oenological knowledge or just go straight to the bar for a glass of Malvasia.

elgrifo.com

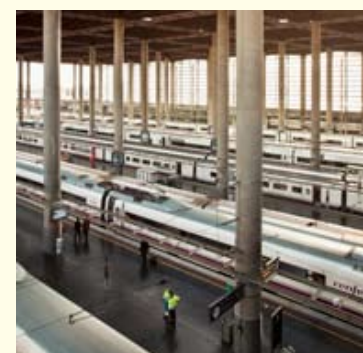


SPANISH TOURIST OFFICE
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SPAIN BY TRAIN

Spain's train network is one of the biggest and most modern in Europe – and it's constantly expanding. Its high-speed service, the AVE, connects all the country's main cities with Madrid in under three hours, making it easy to go to Seville for lunch or a meeting in Barcelona and be back in the capital

to catch an evening concert. Avid travellers might want to buy the Renfe Spain Pass, a card that allows non-residents to travel throughout the country up to 12 times within one month of the first trip and is valid for both long and mid-distance itineraries. We recommend taking a good book on board – and a camera with a high-speed shutter to capture the beautiful passing landscape, of course.



BEST TRAIN

Transcantábrico Gran Lujo
Running at full-speed for over 20 years, the Transcantábrico is Spain's premium ride for those wanting to explore the country's northern region, from Santiago de Compostela to San Sebastián. The 900km journey can be enjoyed in either a Junior or Deluxe suite, complete with private bathrooms and in-room amenities. Alternatively you can hire the whole train and invite up to 28 of your friends onboard. eltrancantabricogranlujo.com/en

BEST STATION

Estación de Tren de Toledo
Inaugurated in 1919, there is no doubt that this is Spain's most

beautiful train station, thanks to architect Narciso Clavería. His neo-mudéjar style can be seen across the building's intricate façade (with details by ceramist Ángel Pedraza and embellishments courtesy of metalsmith Julio Pascual), an ode to the days when Arabs roamed Spanish lands.

BEST SCENIC ROUTES

AVE trains can take you hopping around Spain's main cities in under an hour but you can choose to take the slowest route and stop along the way. Here are three places that are perfect for whiling away the hours.

Zaragoza

The city's religious heritage can be seen in the many cathedrals and churches that populate its

districts, such as the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pilar – it's also said that the bell tower of Santa Maria Magdalena's church is the most beautiful in Spain. The Luis Buñuel Metropolitan Water Park – named after the surrealist artist – is also worth a visit. zaragoza.es/turismo

Huesca

One of the smallest capitals in Spain with just over 50,000 inhabitants, Huesca is notable for its annual international film festival.

huesca-filmfestival.com

Lleida

A must-see is the cultural centre here: the Llotja, perched on the banks of the Segre river, was designed by Dutch architectural firm Mecanoo and inaugurated in 2010. lallotjadelleida.cat/en

01. FOR CULTURE AFICIONADOS • MADRID • BARCELONA

There's no luggage size limit so feel free to purchase a sculpture or painting and bring it on board. Here's where to buy art on the way from Madrid to Barcelona.



01



02



03



04



05



06

01 La Casa Encendida (01, 02, 03)

Madrid
This renowned cultural centre promotes arts through an array of events and exhibitions across different platforms. It also hosts a residence programme for artists, who can use photographic, radio and multimedia labs. lacasaencendida.es

02 La Fábrica Madrid

A destination for the savvy and cultured. It's also enjoyed by food lovers: its café has become a popular after-work destination to grab an aperitivo surrounded by beautiful artworks. lafabrica.com/en/galeria

03 Centre de Cultura Contemporània (05)

Barcelona
From film screenings and festivals to live concerts and art debates – and, seemingly, everything in between – this public consortium really does have something for everyone. cccb.org/en

04 Mayoral Galeria d'Art (04, 06)

Barcelona
Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, Salvador Dalí: just a few of the names on Mayoral's top-notch roster. A great place to see the masters far from the usual museum crowds, with the opportunity to check out some modern art as well. galeriamayoral.com

03. FOR DESIGN DEVOTEES • MADRID • VALENCIA

There are some stunning landmarks and unmissable shops en route from the Spanish capital to Valencia on the east coast.



01



02

01 LA Studio

Madrid
Vintage furniture and decoration abound throughout this space, not far from the famous El Rastro flea market where the owners scour the stalls for new pieces every week. Their retro lighting collection is unique. lastudio.es/en

02 Edificio Metrópolis (03)

Madrid
This iconic building in the Gran Vía was built between 1907 and 1911 but still looks as good as new. Most impressive is its towering dome: it is covered by more than 30,000 24-carat gold plates. esmadrid.com

03 Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias (01, 02)

Valencia
An ode to his hometown, Santiago Calatrava's architectural microcosm houses a planetarium and an open-air oceanographic park. cac.es

02. FOR FOOD LOVERS • MADRID • SEVILLE • MÁLAGA

There is food available on board most AVE trains in their well-stocked buffet cars but you might want to head into town on the route from Madrid to Málaga. All three cities have an abundance of restaurants and cafés to choose from; here is a selection to tickle your tastebuds.

01 Casa Labra (05, 07)

Madrid
Going strong since 1860, this tavern in Tetuán is a few blocks away from the Sol metro station and is well known for its *jamón* and cod croquettes stuffed with potato and cheese. casalabra.es

02 Modesto (02, 03, 04, 06)

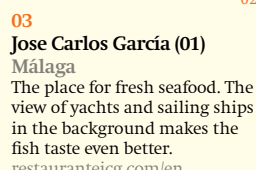
Seville
Despite what its name might suggest, this restaurant is happy to boast top quality food and service. Modesto has a wide range of wines from across Spain, including ports that can be enjoyed with a *puro* (a Cuban or Dominican cigar). grupomodesto.com/modesto.php



01



02



03



04



05



06



07



08



09





SPANISH TOURIST OFFICE
× MONOCLE | PART 5 of 8

SPAIN BY BOAT



The time has come to raise the sails and embark on a trip through Spain's warm waters. Depending on your preference, pack your walking boots and a guidebook or a bathing suit and towel; as well as sunshine, the country's summers offer a wealth of cultural sights and sandy spots.



01. BALEARIC ISLANDS ISLAND HOPPING

Mallorca
First stop: Mallorca and the stunning mountain towns of Deia and Soller. If you rather you can drop anchor at Cabrera, a small protected island only accessible by boat, where you can visit natural caves and historic French fortresses. On the way back moor at Port Adriano, a new development with 13 restaurants to choose from.

Menorca
If you're looking for a more relaxed atmosphere then head to Menorca – Mallorca's little sister. Here you'll find Es Grau and Illa D'en Colom, an underwater reservoir perfect for snorkelling and scubadiving haunts. Work on your tan at the locals' favourite beaches: Cala Coves and Cala Pregonda.

Formentera
If it's time for some action then sail to Formentera, just a short trip from Ibiza. Once you reach port, rent a motorbike and make your way along the 19km road that crosses the island. When you hit the north you might want to make pit stops at Es Caló and Migjorn, where you can spend some time enjoying white sand and crystal-clear waters.



02. ANDALUCÍA COAST OF LIGHT

Huelva
Over 2,500 years ago, Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans and Arabs lived here – and we don't understand why they left. Fortunately for those who stayed, the millenary constructions and temples also remain, filling the city with history ripe for exploration. Modern times have seen Huelva host events such as the Ibero-American film festival.

Cádiz
The oldest city in western Europe, Cádiz is best known for the many towns that gives it its character – including Sanlúcar de Barrameda, famous for its manzanilla wines. It's also where the Doñana natural park lies, a good place to get in touch with nature. The cooler cats will want to try Tarifa and walk its old town, dotted with restaurants and bars where windsurfers hang out after sunset.

03. CANARY ISLANDS VOLCANIC VIEWS

Lanzarote
The lunar landscape and black-sand beaches may seem like part of a film set but they are actually the result of the volcanic soil's highly mineral composition. For breathtaking views visit contemporary-art museum MIAC, housed in the old military fortress of San José castle.

Tenerife
Tenerife is well known for its stunning beaches but also the Mount Teide National Park, a reserve that has the highest mountain in Spain at 3,718 metres above sea level. This is a popular destination for trekkers but if you'd rather mobilise on wheels, Tenerife has a great network of *guaguas* (buses) that will take you around the city centre.

Fuerteventura
The destination for beach fans and young athletes, Fuerteventura is popular among surfers and windsurfers thanks to its steady wind and powerful waves. Most of them hang around the Costa Calma, the hippest part of town. The whole island has been declared a Unesco biosphere reserve.



BEST BARS AND BEACH CLUBS

Purobeach
Mallorca
This club is renowned for its tasty mojitos and delicious open-air massages by the pool. At night it turns into a full-on nightclub that hosts the best DJs in Spain.
purobeach.com

Blue Bar
Formentera
Picking up on the island of Formentera's relaxed vibe, Blue Bar is one of those places where you can go for what's intended as a quick lunch and end up staying until the sun rises. The fresh fish reels in the guests – and the house cocktails keep them on site into the small hours.
bluebarformentera.com

Cova d'en Xoroi
Menorca
A must-visit bar built on a cliff where the party lasts well into the night. Also hosts concerts and exhibitions.
covadenxoroi.com

BEST BOAT RENTAL

ABoatTime
Sail away
ABoatTime has more than 1,000 models to choose from, including sailing boats, catamarans, motorboats and gulets, for which you can organise rental online.
aboattime.com

TOP BEACHES

Macarella y Macarelleta
Menorca
Virgin beaches and varying shades of turquoise water.

Es Caló
Formentera
Savour the smell of fresh fish being grilled by the coastline.

Famara
Lanzarote
This beach in the natural park of Chinijo archipelago has great surf all year round.

Costa Calma
Fuerteventura
A tranquil, relaxing spot that's not on most tourists' radars.

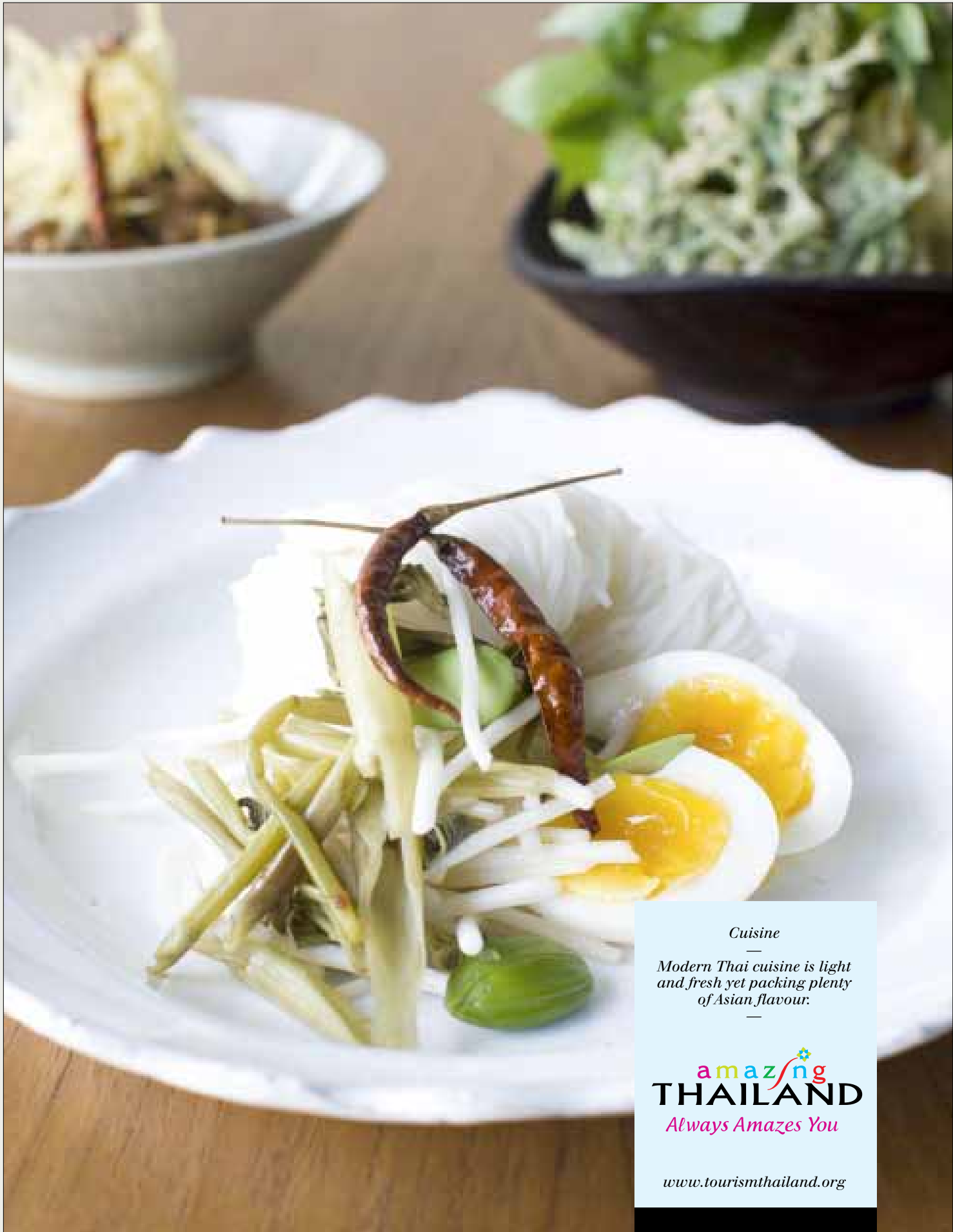




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Cuisine

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Nature

From the beaches to the mountains, natural beauty is Thailand's most unforgettable asset.

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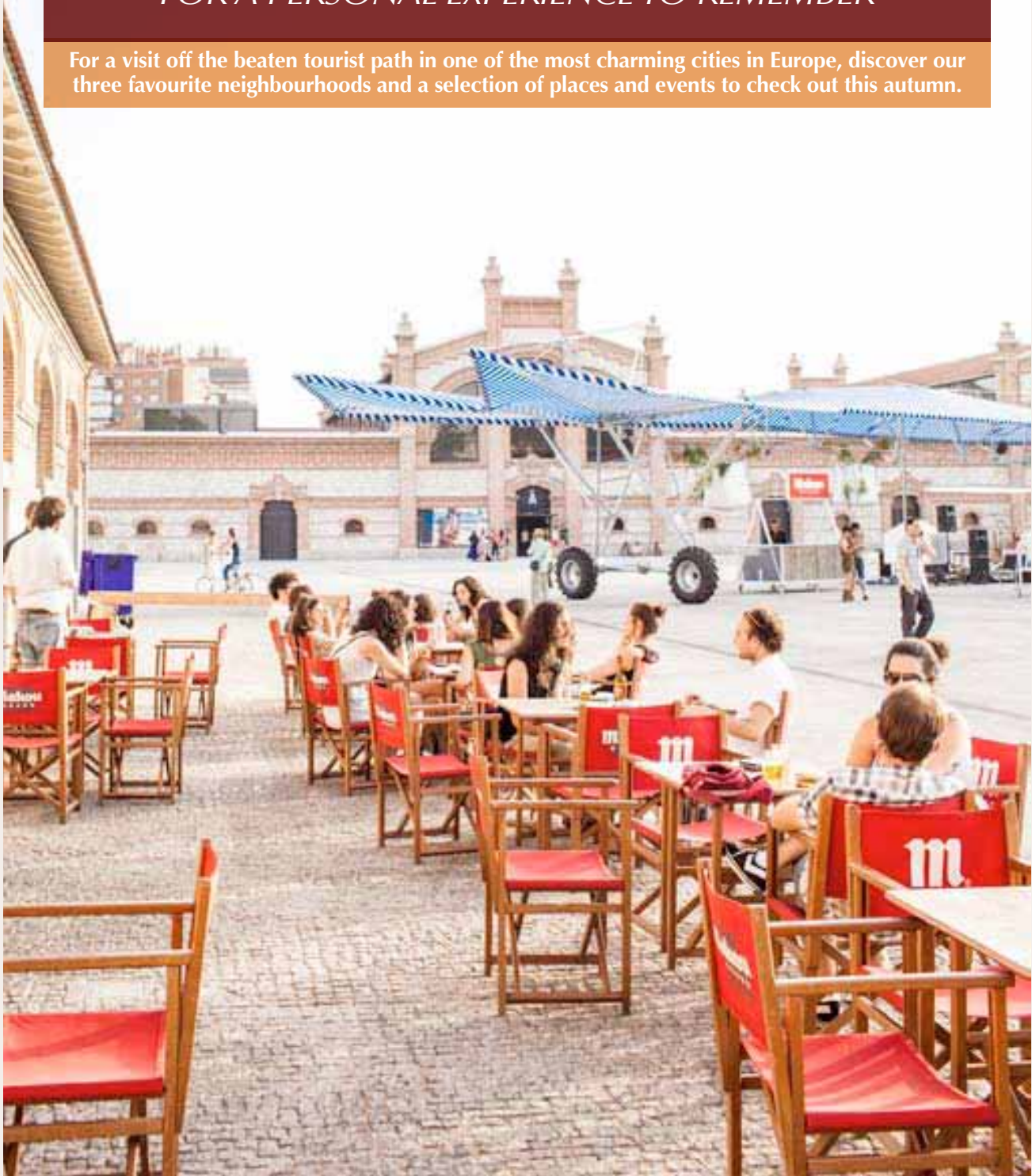


— MADRID × MONOCLE —

MADRID AT ITS BEST

*THINGS TO MAKE AND DO IN THE SPANISH CAPITAL
FOR A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER*

For a visit off the beaten tourist path in one of the most charming cities in Europe, discover our three favourite neighbourhoods and a selection of places and events to check out this autumn.





01

— MADRID × MONOCLE —
MALASAÑA, TRIBALL & CONDE DUQUE
PARTY ALL NIGHT (AND DAY)

Centred around Plaza del Dos de Mayo, Malasaña has always been renowned for its creative, forward-thinking residents and the well-known artists that call it home. Even better, the neighbourhood is awash with lively bars, clubs and shops, where you can experience Madrid's budding indie culture.



02



03



04



05



06

Shop for your home
Kikekeller (picture 01, 02)
This secret enclave is a concept furniture store-cum-bar that successfully combines the vintage with the industrial, with the owner's past as a movie prop-man immediately apparent. Subtle, calming indie-pop is piped into the space as you sip on a well-made caipirinha and peruse the beautifully crafted one-off pieces and collaborations.
kikekeller.com

Fix a flat tyre (or buy a bike)
Ciclos Noviciado (picture 03)
Building custom city bikes specifically designed to the client's tastes and specifications, Ciclos Noviciado will happily and professionally cater to all your cycling needs. From their workshop in Conde Duque, they will

restore old bicycles, design bespoke parts or help you create your new ride from scratch. Ciclos Noviciado is determinedly converting Madrid to two wheels – and we have every confidence in their success.
ciclosnoviciado.com

Go record hunting
Radio City Discos (picture 04)
Wherever you are in the world, it is always refreshing to find small, independent record stores that are still going strong. With a well-chosen selection of CDs and vinyl spanning funk, rock, blues and tropicália (if you haven't tuned in to the latter, do), Radio City is true to Conde Duque's roots and provides a cool, relaxed atmosphere in which to browse those rare and hard-to-find releases.
radiocitydiscos.com

Have a drink
Martínez Bar (picture 05)
A place where you can enjoy one of the best gin and tonics in town while surrounded by the lovingly reclaimed contents of a former smoker's mansion. Old shop drawers, having previously housed cigars, now hold botanicals used in the creation of experimental libations; a selection of Iberian hams, cheeses and homemade cakes provide accompaniment. With an eclectic crowd and old-school atmosphere, slip onto a stool and enjoy one of the lemongrass-infused gin cocktails.
+34910802683

Breakfast or brunch
Café Comercial (picture 06)
Opened in 1887, this grand café is one of the city's oldest. Originally

a meeting place for literary tertulias after the civil war, this is still as great a place for people-watching as it is for breakfast. Once you glide through the revolving doors you'll find burgundy leather seats, marble tables and uniformed waiters serving coffee, pastries and sweet *picatostes*.
+34915215655

Dance till dawn
Club Nasti
"¡Madrid nunca duerme!" In no other place is the sleep-resistant war cry of the city heard louder than at Club Nasti. It's a place with attitude where you can party to synth pop, electroclash and New York disco-punk. The good news is that it's open into the early hours, so you can drink and dance until the sun rises.
nasti.es



— MADRID × MONOCLE —

MUST-SEE EVENTS AND PLACES

WHERE TO BE AND WHAT TO CHECK
OUT IN MADRID THIS AUTUMN

The cultural life in Spain's capital is as diverse as ever. Here is a selection of this autumn's best events, and a list of some of our favourite places.

EVENTS

Madrid Fashion Week

Ifema
30 August–4 September

Spain's thrilling fashion scene comes together with a presentation of the latest creations by the country's established talent, as well as an impressive array of up-and-comers. Watch as the country's most celebrated designers cast their vision for spring/summer 2013, and get inspired by the emerging trends at the innovative EGO presentations. mercedesbenzfashionweekmadrid.com/eng

Moses und Aron

Teatro Real
7–9 September

Austrian composer Arnold Schönberg's only opera is probably the ultimate piece to mark the 15th anniversary of the reopening of Madrid's Opera House. Presented for the first time at the Teatro Real, this revolutionary composition is a modernist tale of Jewish faith bringing a unique musical experience to the stage. teatro-real.com

DecorAcción

Barrio de las Letras
29 September–1 October

Renowned interior designers take over the neighbourhood streets, shops, hotels, restaurants and art galleries to display their work. decoraccion.nuevo-estilo.es

Jean Paul Gaultier retrospective

Fundación Mapfre
6 October–6 January

Known as fashion's enfant terrible, Jean Paul Gaultier has enthused audiences with his bold designs and controversial inspiration. This retrospective features couture gowns plus photographs, videos and sketches covering four decades of his career. mapfre.com/fundacion/es/exposiciones/cultura/Exposiciones_Actuales.shtml

Gauguin and the Voyage to the Exotic

Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza
9 October–13 January

Gauguin's trip to Polynesia is the spin-off for this examination into the artistic mind. Through late 19th and early 20th-century artworks, the show reveals how inspiring encounters with the alleged exotic render impressive creative transformations. museothyssen.org/en/thyssen/exposiciones_proximas/89

Biocultura trade fair

Ifema
8–11 November

Biocultura specialises in biological foods and this is a unique event for professionals to meet and consumers to get a fresh taste of an organic future. biocultura.org

Estampa trade fair

Ifema
8–11 November

Estampa celebrates its 20th anniversary as the leading purveyor of multiform artwork trade. estampa.org

The Young Van Dyck

Museo Nacional del Prado
20 November–3 March

Madrid's most renowned museum looks at the early work of Flemish painter Anthony Van Dyck, focusing on the period when the artist worked for Peter Paul Rubens. museodelprado.es/en/exhibitions/exhibitions/at-the-museum/el-joven-van-dyck

PLACES

The Teleférico cable car

Paseo Pintor Rosales

Experience Madrid from above. The capital's iconic mode of transport is practical, fun and eco-friendly. It certainly beats getting a taxi. telefonico.com/en/prices

Mercado de San Miguel

Plaza de San Miguel

Fresh produce, delicious tapas and authentic culture meet just outside the walls of Plaza Mayor. This monument to Spanish gastronomic pride welcomes everyone from busy market regulars to hungry tourists. If a daily visit sounds like an affront to your waistline, come for a cooling beer in the evening. Instead. mercadosanmiguel.es

Real Jardín Botánico

Plaza de Murillo, 2

A sanctuary of greenery, the Royal Botanical Garden is a getaway from city life. Whether you're in need of relaxation or diversion, get lost in this amazing array of wild beauty. rjb.csic.es

CentroCentro

Plaza de Cibeles, 1

The CentroCentro exhibition space is a fantastic example of how a contemporary installation can be integrated into a historic arena. Housed in the Palacio de Cibeles, the platform is an open venue for debate and reflection, drawing together artists, experts and visitors. centrocentro.org

CaixaForum Madrid

Paseo del Prado, 36

This impressive landmark doubles as a socio-cultural centre for emerging art and contemporary ideas. Conveniently situated within walking distance to various museums, it emerges as an encouragement to the capital's already vibrant cultural activities. obrasocial.lacaixa.es/nuestroscen-tros/caixaforummadrid/caixaforum-madrid_es.html

Mercado de San Antón

Calle de Augusto Figueroa, 24

Spain's bustling food markets are central to its native traditional daily life. You too can discover how grocery shopping becomes a pleasure

at this deliciously authentic site. You will find endless gourmet delights, from organic staples to exotic spices; now all you have to do is go home and whip up some tapas... mercadosananton.com

San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts

Calle Alcalá, 13

Having had Goya as one of its illustrious pupils, this noted art institution is home to a vast collection of Spanish and European masterpieces. The 20th-century galleries are also worth a visit for a range of national contemporary talent. rabasf.insde.es

Museo Cerralbo

Ventura Rodríguez, 17

The former home of the 17th Marquis of Cerralbo, this 19th-century palace now houses a fabulous collection of weapons and paintings. museocerralbo.mcu.es

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

Calle de Santa Isabel, 52

Spain's celebrated representative of contemporary art provides a comprehensive journey into the 20th-century creative landscape. Admire the triumphs of Picasso or even just marvel at the glass circulation towers designed by British architect Ian Ritchie. museoreinasofia.es/index_en.html

Café Central

Plaza del Ángel, 10

For 30 years, Madrid's vivid jazz scene has been defined, inspired and transformed by this place. Don't be fooled into thinking the tasty tapas will be the highlight of your visit, because you are about to enjoy the best jazz in town. cafecentralmadrid.com

Information about Madrid and its culture and leisure agenda can be found at esmadrid.com/en

TASTE OF MADRID

Madrid's gastronomic diversity is a product of its rich cultural heritage. Generations of migrants have created a colourful melting pot, which has added progressive flavour to the local cuisine. Whether you're taking in the smells of its vibrant food markets or tasting the tapas in one of its many food districts, the Spanish capital is a feast for the senses.



MADRID × MONOCLE



San Miguel market (01, 02)

Madrid has worked hard to rejuvenate its local markets and the ornate cast-iron structure of the San Miguel market is a mecca for food lovers. Sample your way through the colours of fresh produce and rich aromas of miniature morsels – all prepared with an equal level of spectacle by ever-lively stallholders. For an even more authentic neighbourhood market experience, try the Mercado de La Paz in Barrio Salamanca.



Wine-themed tour in the Thyssen-Bornemisza (03)

The Thyssen-Bornemisza offers a selection of themed routes, including one that explores the history of wine and art. After sauntering through the museum's halls, enjoy a glass of local wine on the recently refurbished terrace restaurant. Then take a stroll through the surrounding Las Letras district – once home to Spain's literary greats – for another afternoon glass at one of the many iconic taverns.



La Latina tapas bars (04, 05, 06, 07, 08)

La Latina is popular for people-watching but a huge selection of tapas bars makes food the real attraction. The historic streets are lined with countless *tabernas* and the bustling Cava Baja strip will leave you spoilt for choice. Wander further afield to try the golden tortilla at Juana La Loca, the pintxos at Txirimiri or the multicultural cuisine at Delic in the picturesque Plaza de la Paja (pictured, opposite).



Jardín del Convento (09, 10)

For those looking to satisfy a sweet tooth, this small shop selling traditional cakes and confectionery is a unique find: the neatly packaged biscuits and sweets have been carefully made by nuns from around Spain. Isabel Ottino opened the shop in the Austrias district aiming to share another side of Spanish gastronomy. Her efforts have brought centuries of baking traditions out of the convents and into the mouths of happy customers.



Kabuki Wellington (11, 12)

After a long day exploring the city, pay a visit to the Kabuki Wellington. The restaurant has a Michelin star and is helmed by acclaimed chef Ricardo Sanz. Kabuki cuisine is a unique fusion of Japanese and Mediterranean food; the Sashimi de Toro perfectly captures the local dedication to fusion gastronomy. Don't forget to save room for the mouth-watering dessert menu, with dishes from renowned pastry chef Oriol Balaguer.



esmadrid.com

ART IN MADRID

The Reina Sofia, Prado and Thyssen museums draw millions of visitors but there is much more to Madrid's cultural fabric. There are modern galleries dedicated to illustration and photography, behind-the-scenes tours at renowned opera house Teatro Real and spine-tingling performances at the legendary Tablaos de Flamenco; Madrid puts you in the box seat.



MADRID × MONOCLE



Museo ABC (01)

Inside a converted inner-city brewery in the Conde Duque district, the ABC Museum houses one of the world's most extensive collections of illustrations. A vast archive of about 200,000 drawings from the *ABC* newspaper and *Blanco y Negro* magazine date all the way back to 1891, providing a comprehensive look at key moments such as the birth of the Spanish infographic. There is also a packed programme of contemporary exhibitions.



Guided tour of the Teatro Real (02)

Once the centre of Madrid's aristocratic nightlife, opera house Teatro Real opened anew in 1997 and has cemented its reputation as one of the world's best theatres. The programme is a mixture of classic opera and modern productions by directors such as Michael Haneke and Woody Allen. Daily tours shine a spotlight on the inner workings of the theatre's technical and creative wizardry.



Doctor Fourquet Street and Reina Sofia restaurant (04)

Doctor Fourquet Street is the centre for a new generation of artists. Gallerist Helga de Alvear opened on the strip in the 1990s but it wasn't until 2012, when new players such as García Galería—owned by Joaquín García (picture 03)—set up shop that things gathered pace. From there, take a stroll to the Reina Sofia museum's restaurant for some colourful cuisine in the new Jean Nouvel extension.



Paseo del Arte, Caixa Forum and CentroCentro (05)

Madrid's Paseo del Arte (pictures 05, 07 and 08) houses the Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen museums in easy walking distance of each other. Then there's the Caixa Forum, which exhibits world-class photography and was built by Herzog & de Meuron in an old electrical station. Up the boulevard, the Palacio de Cibeles is home to CentroCentro (pictured opposite), a sprawling civic and cultural centre.



Flamenco at the Corral de la Morería (06)

Known as the cathedral of flamenco art, the Corral de la Morería first opened its doors in 1956 thanks to Manuel and Blanca del Rey. Today their sons are at the helm and have been working tirelessly to ensure that the cuisine impresses just as much as the spectacle. Treat yourself to a five-course degustation dinner from chef José Luis Estevan as you marvel at the fancy footwork of the dancers.



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esmadrid.com



Sydney Islands Melbourne
Outback Nature People
Australia Guide

A guide to the places, hotels, restaurants and experiences that shouldn't be missed, taking in city and country, beaches and wilderness.

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www.australia.com



Festivals: Sydney Festival in January sees theatre, dance and music staged across town. In May/June the Vivid Sydney festival of light, music and ideas is centred around the harbour. sydneyfestival.org.au; vividssydney.com

The Cookery Book, Northbridge: This shop on Sydney's lower north shore is dedicated to food and cookbooks, including more than 300 titles by Australian chefs. 44 Sailors Bay Road, Northbridge, +61 (0)2 9967 8211

01 Sydney



Four Seasons *Hotel***
Classic stay
Overlooking Sydney Harbour and surrounded by restaurants and boutiques, the Four Seasons is perfectly placed in the heart of The Rocks district. The revamped Executive Club on the 32nd floor has an omelette chef during breakfast and a wide range of Australian wines, including Barossa and Hunter Valley varieties. The bartenders at the new Grain bar also do a great job of mixing a sloe gin fizz. This is the place to stay if you want to wake up with a view of Jørn Utzon's Sydney Opera House. fourseasons.com/sydney

Park Hyatt *Hotel***
Revamped hotel
Built 21 years ago, the Park Hyatt underwent a refurbishment earlier this year that included a whole new floor housing three luxury suites with private balconies and a view to the harbour. The five-star property's two restaurants (The Dining Room and The Living Room) serve local specialities designed by chef Andrew McKee, such as Wagyu beef sourced from fifth-generation farmer David Blackmore. If you're at a loose end you could do worse than explore the hotel's corridors: original artwork and photography decorate the walls. sydney.park.hyatt.com



Koskela *Shop***
Retail
Housed in a Rosebery warehouse and accessed through a little red door in an industrial compound, Koskela is full of handmade treasures, toiletries and furniture designed by shop owners Russel Koskela and Sasha Titchkosky. They share the space with the Kitchen by Mike restaurant. "It's a perfect match between locally grown food and Australian-made products," says Titchkosky. koskela.com.au



Rockpool Bar & Grill *Drink***
Cool in the city
Run by celebrity chef Neil Perry, this is the CBD's most dependable restaurant. It may also be one of the most charming, housed in a 1936 skyscraper designed by Sydneysider architect Emil Sodersteen. Make the most of your visit by checking out the wine menu: more than 3,500 bottles are stacked in the cellar. rockpool.com



4Fourteen *Food***
Food to share
A fresh addition to Surry Hills offering assorted small plates to share, 4Fourteen is the concept of chefs Colin Fassnidge and Carla Jones, who want to make restaurant dining a friendly experience. To start, crab meat is a must; try ox tongue for your main and if you're really hungry take on the "larger dishes", such as the excellent grilled bavette. 4fourteen.com.au



The Bridge Room *Food***
Modern restaurant
This 60-seat restaurant's slick interiors are graced by modern and unfussy furniture. The food maintains the same standards, simply cooked and colourfully presented. The menu (created by Ross Lusted, formerly in charge of Amanresorts' food and drink) is heavy on seafood, cooked over a charcoal grill and served in small portions decorated with wild greens and edible flowers. thebridgeroom.com.au



The Grounds of Alexandria *Coffee shop***
Coffee and cake
The chickens running around their pens and the organic garden make it hard to believe that this is still in the inner-city suburb of Alexandria. Ramzey Choker, his sister Caroline and Jack Hanna are behind the blossoming of this 1900s pie factory. There's a monthly farmers' market too, where you can buy flowers, vegetables, cured meats and cheeses. groundsroasters.com



Bells at Killcare *Day trip***
Secluded peninsula
A 1.5-hour drive from Sydney (or a 20-minute ferry from Palm Beach) is the town of Killcare on the Bouddi Peninsula. There's plenty of surf and humpback whales but the highlight is the Bells at Killcare boutique hotel and its restaurant, Manfredi. "We like to give visitors a taste of Australian hospitality," says director Brian Barry. "Out here we've got a very positive energy and a sense of fun." bellsatkillcare.com.au



Balmoral *Travel***
Hidden beach
Although the Mosman locals have kept this beach to themselves for years, this part of town has to be shared with a wider audience. It's a 15-minute drive from the city and is also the location of the Bathers' Pavilion restaurant, which complements the views with an excellent line in modern Australian cuisine. Alternatively, order a coffee at nearby Awaba Café. batherspavilion.com.au



Little penguins: A 90-minute drive from Melbourne, Phillip Island is home to one of the country's largest populations of little penguins. At sunset visitors gather to watch thousands emerge from the sea after a day's fishing. penguins.org.au

Melbourne Food & Wine Festival: Each March the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival sees local and international chefs descend on the city for a two-week series of masterclasses, dinners and events. melbournefoodandwine.com.au

05 Melbourne



The Lyall *Hotel***
Five-star stay
The understated elegance of The Lyall can be seen in the mini art galleries on each floor, in the lounge with an open fireplace and on the terrace of their restaurant, Bistro Lyall. The South Yarra venue also houses the Champagne Bar, which is just as impressive as the private balconies and under-floor heating. The Lyall's own tour guide is on hand to provide an insider view of Melbourne. thelyall.com



The Everleigh *Bar***
Top points for atmosphere
It's the perfectly executed prohibition-era cocktails, great tunes and friendly staff at The Everleigh that won it recognition from tippie-lovers. The bartenders take their jobs very seriously – they even hand-cut the ice. "We want to revive lost cocktails from the 1920s and 1930s," says owner Michael Madrusan. Ask to browse his vintage cocktail books on display in the bar's glass cabinet. theeverleigh.com

The Prince *Hotel***
Beach accommodation
The Prince is in St Kilda, an effortlessly cool suburb that is just 10 minutes from the city centre and perched on the beach. The hotel's 40 rooms are decorated with marble, wood and crisp linen, and each one is a unique design. Visit the Aurora Spa on the third floor, which offers a private steam room and massages with natural oils. At in-house restaurant Circa, head chef Jake Nicolson serves indigenous food grown in Australia's outback; sommelier Matt Brooke will help pick out a local wine. theprince.com.au



Bar Americano *Food & drink***
The place to be
Dapper bar staff wearing shirts and ties dance behind the counter in between serving espressos, Italian-inspired aperitivos and Campari cocktails – a way of life for head bartender Jakob Etzold. Bar Americano may look and feel like a Roman watering hole but it's all happening here in downtown Melbourne. The space is small but it's well worth waiting to get a turn at the bar. baramericano.com



Mama Baba *Food & drink***
Mediterranean cooking
Growing up with a Greek Cypriot mother and a half-Italian father, chef George Calombaris was heavily influenced by cooking and good food. His epicurean heritage can be seen in his Mediterranean flavours and the effort and detail that is put into the freshly made pasta. The Aperol spritz is the perfect pairing for a polenta-chip starter. mamababa.com.au

Two Birds One Stone *Coffee***
Café culture
This is not a bar for those who take coffee lightly: customers are asked if they want their brew to be aeropressed, siphoned or extracted through the cold-drip method. Sounds complicated but the team at TBOS is happy to talk through the options. There's also an extensive lunch menu and the bar is decorated with locally designed lamps and Scandinavian furniture. twobirdsonestonecafe.com.au



Great Ocean Road *Trip out***
Travel
The best way to experience Victoria's landscape is via the Great Ocean Road, a two-hour drive from Melbourne that will take you around the Bellarine Peninsula or the Surf Coast Highway. There are more than 240km of winding roads taking in coastal scenery (such as the 12 Apostles rock formations of the Port Campbell National Park) and breathtaking views. It also leads to the Great Otway National Park, where you can climb 25m above the ground and stroll more than 600m of treetop canopy walkways – the longest and tallest of their kind in the world. visitvictoria.com





Expert tips: From sampling the food and drink to spotting wildlife, Monocle hears personal recommendations from those who know and love Australia.

06
People



Michael Hill Smith
Master of wine and wine producer

Australia's wine-producing regions have some of the most beautiful vineyards in the world that make some of the finest wines. Michael Hill Smith of Shaw + Smith is a wine producer in the Adelaide Hills but acknowledges the impressive landscape of another well-known wine region: "Margaret River is truly magical, it's one of Australia's best premier wine regions in the most extraordinary location. You can enjoy a surf, world-class wines and forests all in one day."



Terri Irwin
Wildlife expert

The widow of Steve Irwin, American-born Terri is one of Australia's best naturalists. "My favourite capital city to holiday in Australia would have to be Hobart. I love the views of the harbour, the museum, restaurants and shops." She also runs the Australia Zoo at Beerwah, Queensland, here she works to protect the country's native species. "If you like reptiles then outback Queensland is for you. Winton is a wonderful place to start."



Bruce Hopkins
Lifeguard

Choosing from Australia's pristine beaches can be tortuous. Thankfully Bondi beach lifeguard Bruce Hopkins saves you this agony by suggesting his favourites. In the West, Ningaloo Reef is a tantalising prospect. "It's one of the rare places on Earth where you are able to walk from the beach straight onto a coral reef," he says. Then there's Hopkins' stomping ground at Bondi. "At many times throughout the year we see whales and dolphins jumping right out of the water at these East Coast beaches. We always finish up with a beer at the Opera Bar to watch the sunset or head back down to Bondi for a nice dinner by the beach."



Dick Smith
Entrepreneur

To truly experience Australia you have to embrace its sense of adventure says Dick Smith. "Hire a Land Rover and climb over big red sand dunes in the Simpson Desert. You can travel around Australia for days through the desert and not see anyone at all." He also recommends "camping beside the Currareva waterhole, just beside where Cooper Creek runs from Queensland into South Australia. From the sky it looks like a desert but down on the waterhole it's a magnificent place for swimming and there are bright corella birds in the trees - it's one of the best places in Australia."



Luke Mangan
Restaurateur

Food with a view: nothing could be more important for celebrity chef and restaurateur Luke Mangan. Located against spectacular vistas, Australia's finest restaurants provide arenas for the senses. Take Quay in Sydney. "The awe-inspiring view of Sydney Harbour: nothing beats it," says Mangan. Sitting at Quay you have spectacular views sweeping from the bridge to the Opera House. If you can tear yourself away you're welcome to visit Mangan's own restaurant in Queensland. "Come say hello at Salt Grill. Fresh seafood on the grill, caviar, oysters or tapas-style share plates," he says.



David Whitehill
TV presenter and wildlife expert

For David Whitehill, Australia's natural landscape is its greatest asset. In the forests of Tasmania "you will see stars and constellations like never before and wake up to the sounds of birds and wildlife," he says. Even the furthestmost point of Wilson Island in Queensland teems with wildlife: "There is a different natural event every month on this island - from the turtle-hatching in January and February to the humpback whale migration in June." At Lady Elliot Island the natural world is often close enough to touch. "You can step right off the beach and snorkel, swim or dive into an underwater world of marine life."



ONTARIO CANADA × MONOCLE

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TORONTO

SAVOUR THE FOOD, MARVEL AT THE MUSEUMS AND GRAB A CHEEKY COCKTAIL

LUXURY HOTELS

Four Seasons

fourseasons.com/toronto

Shangri-La

shangri-la.com/toronto

Ritz-Carlton

ritzcarlton.com/toronto

Trump International Hotel & Tower Toronto

trumptorontohotel.com

THE IVY AT VERITY HOTEL

The Verity is a restored 1850s chocolate factory in downtown Toronto and a private women's club – but you don't have to be a member (or female) to book. Each room has a balcony and a bed from Swedish firm Hästens. theivyatverity.ca



THE DRAKE HOTEL

Imbued with the culture of its Queen Street West surrounds, the Drake lays on exhibitions and gigs and is in the perfect spot to explore the city's edgier side. Rooms range from Crash Pads to the Suite, designed to host a party. Dining spaces are just as varied: the Café does a great breakfast; the Lounge caters for oyster shucking; and the Dining Room changes its menu and décor with each season. thedrakehotel.ca



TEMPLAR HOTEL

The work of local designer Del Terronge, Templar is streamlined and modern. Furniture is courtesy of Italian maker Poliform, toiletries are from the likes of New York's Malin+Goetz and all artwork in the building is unique – and for sale. designhotels.com/templar



GLOBAL CUISINE

Toronto is home to over 200 ethnicities and, as such, a fantastic variety of food. Whether it's authentic *izakaya* at Guu on Bloor, momos at the Little Tibet restaurant in Parkdale or another mouthwatering option, each neighbourhood has a distinct culinary signature. seelontonore.com/cuisine

Q&A

JEFF CLAUDIO

CO-CHEF AT YOURS TRULY



An insight into
Toronto's busy
food scene

Jeff Claudio has worked in the kitchens of New York's Per Se and Copenhagen's Noma. Now, along with co-chef John Vetter, he runs the menu at Yours Truly.

Monocle: What are the trends in dining in Toronto?

Jeff Claudio: There's a move to smaller spaces, more personal food – a few years back it was about mega restaurants.

M: What influences the food at Yours Truly?

JC: Neighbourhoods: using bits from all of Toronto's communities to build a menu. Indian, Chinese, Italian... we have people in our kitchen from all over the world. It's a collaborative process.

M: What do people expect from restaurants in the city?

JC: They want good food and surprises. It's a lot more casual these days – restaurants aren't temples.

yours-truly.ca



CHERRY BOMB FOOD

Owners John Ruttan and Sarah Ostwald's compact café in the eclectic neighbourhood of Roncesvalles is resolutely devoid of wi-fi and consists of two communal bars to foster small talk. Since last year the café has been roasting its own beans and the menu varies with the season to ensure only the freshest coffee reaches patrons. It's an approach that has attracted loyal customers, who are also drawn to Cherry Bomb's superb selection of pastries and cakes. A cup of the smooth and caramely house blend in tandem with a delicious pecan-date scone adds up to a perfect fuss-free breakfast. cherrybombcoffee.ca



COCKTAIL BAR DRINK

The latest addition to the wildly successful Black Hoof family, the Cocktail Bar was set up so patrons of the charcuterie could have a cocktail across the street while waiting for their table. Try the Tailor of Panama. theblackhoof.com



AGO, RIC AND MOCCA GALLERIES

In the centre of town, the Art Gallery of Ontario has added a new Frank Gehry-designed wing (*right*) that shouldn't be missed. Be sure to step off the beaten path for the Ryerson Image Centre (*far right*): an on-campus gallery that punches above its weight. Also stop in at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, which is on Queen West at the heart of a number of smaller galleries worth a visit. ago.net; ryerson.ca/ric; mocca.ca



DUNDAS WEST & OSSINGTON RETAIL

Home to some of the city's most exciting new restaurants and bars, Dundas Street West and Ossington Avenue also make up Toronto's new retail front. Borne of a set of longstanding vintage shops, the strip is coming of age. Check out Woodland for an array of menswear from around the world. There's also Dalston Grey (*pictured*), straddling vintage and exclusive new labels. woodlawnshop.com; dalstongrey.blogspot.com





PEOPLE & CULTURE

ONTARIO'S NATURAL BEAUTY IS FAR FROM THE ONLY REASON TO PAY A VISIT

CULTURE MAKERS

The success of any city or region depends not only on a collective desire for betterment but also the talent and vision of individuals to provide focus and drive progress. Here are three such Ontarians.



EMMA QUIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
ONTARIO CRAFT COUNCIL

Quin has been with the Ontario Craft Council for 20 years and has been its executive director for the past six. She has set her sights on building markets for Ontario's artists and this has meant pushing the organisation beyond the province's borders. Innovative collaborations and a booming retail branch promise to be just the start of Quin's work to bring a new trajectory to the council.



MARC MAYER
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL
GALLERY OF CANADA

Mayer is a native of Sudbury, Ontario; during a stay with relatives in Ottawa as a child, the gallery of which he is now director was the first he ever visited. After positions in Paris, Buffalo, New York, Toronto and Montréal, Mayer came here in 2008. Since then he has carried out a sculpture initiative, strengthened partnerships with galleries across the country and built on the gallery's contemporary collection.



DAVID MIRVISH
FOUNDER, MIRVISH
PRODUCTIONS

David's father, "Honest Ed" Mirvish, bought Toronto's Royal Alexandra theatre in 1963. David took over in 1987 and launched Mirvish Productions; it's no coincidence that Toronto is now the third hub of English-language theatre after London and New York. Project collaborations with Andrew Lloyd Webber, Cameron Mackintosh and Judy Craymer have secured the city its world-class billing.

Q&A

ROBERT DELUCE
CEO, PORTER AIRLINES



Indispensable service after just seven years

Porter Airlines began service in 2006 and now serves 19 destinations – seven in Ontario – from its base at Toronto's downtown Billy Bishop airport. It's built a market for itself through friendly, personal service and by connecting a region through affordable and frequent flights with a fleet of 26 Bombardier Q400 aircraft.

Monocle: Who flies Porter?

Robert Deluce: It was designed for the time-sensitive business traveller but there's a growing leisure component. Just before Christmas last year we launched Porter Escapes package vacations, focusing on cities, skiing and golf.

M: What influence has the airline had since 2006?

RD: We've created an affordable hub for travel to and within Ontario. People are travelling into the province more than they would have – we provide good access to northern Ontario. We've also provided better connections to places such as Sault Sainte Marie, for skiing. On top of that, Porter is an ambassador for Toronto when we take on new destinations – and there's no better view of downtown than flying into Billy Bishop airport, night or day.

M: What next for Porter in 2013?

RD: More destinations in Ontario and Atlantic Canada, and the US: Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit and others.

flyporter.com

IMAGE: EVAN PENNY, 'JIM REVISITED', 2011, NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA, OTTAWA

LIVING HISTORY DAYS OUT

Fort William Historical Park in Thunder Bay is a replica of the 19th-century fur-trade post that was once the biggest in North America and now hosts activities such as blacksmithing demonstrations and food tasting. You can also visit a **Hudson's Bay Company** outlet: the firm started in 1670 in north Ontario, made its name in the fur trade and now has 600 stores selling, among other things, its iconic point blankets. **Sainte-Marie among the Hurons** (*above*) is a reconstruction of the camp set up by the French Jesuit Mission in the mid 17th century. **Fort Henry** (*right*) was built during the War of 1812 against the US, when Ontario was a British colony; the restored site will be celebrating the bicentennial of the conflict until 2014.

fwhp.ca; hbc.com;
saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca;
forthenry.com



MUSEUMS

The Gardiner Museum

A hugely impressive collection of ceramics (*below*). Admire the expanding permanent collection as well a busy schedule of temporary exhibitions.

gardinermuseum.on.ca



Royal Ontario Museum

Amazing space housing world culture and natural history.

rom.on.ca

Uncle Tom's Cabin

Commemorates Reverend Josiah Henson and his role in smuggling slaves out of the US.

heritagetrust.on.ca

PERFORMING ARTS

Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts (Toronto)

coc.ca

National Arts Centre (Ottawa, pictured below)

nac-cna.ca

Stratford Shakespeare Festival (Stratford)

stratfordfestival.ca

Shaw Festival (Niagara-on-the-Lake)

shawfest.com



CALENDAR

April – October

Doors Open Ontario

Fascinating heritage sites across the province invite the public in for free.

doorsopenontario.on.ca

4-14 July

RBC Royal Bank Ottawa Bluesfest

An annual event (*below*) at which last year's acts included the likes of City and Colour, Norah Jones and the Dirty Projectors.

ottawabluesfest.ca



5-15 September

Toronto International Film Festival

This annual event (*below*) screens more than 300 films.

tiff.net



20-29 September

Niagara Wine Festival

Hosted in Montebello Park in downtown St Catharines as well as via a Discovery Pass to take in Niagara's wine region.

niagarawinefestival.com

5 October

Scotiabank Nuit Blanche

Toronto is taken over by contemporary art in this dusk-till-dawn event. We strongly recommend a preemptive nap.

scotiabanknuitblanche.ca



MADE IN

A SELECTION OF PERFECTLY FORMED PRODUCTS CRAFTED IN ONTARIO

**HANDIWORK FROM
BURLINGTON TO
WINCHESTER**

- 01 Hand-loomed mohair blanket** by Wild Haliburton Elephant Weavers
- 02 Felt throw pillow** by Bev Hisey
- 03 Hand-blown drinking glasses** by Gregor Herman
- 04 Hand-finished spectacles** by Rapp Optical
- 05 Wooden bookends** by bookhou
- 06 Aged cheddar cheeses** by Balderson
- 07 Elixir Collection hot chocolate mixes** by Soma
- 08 Leather-and-cotton belts** by Philip Sparks
- 09 Blue sapphire briolette bracelet** by John de Jong Jewellery
- 10 Peach and cherry jams** by Greaves

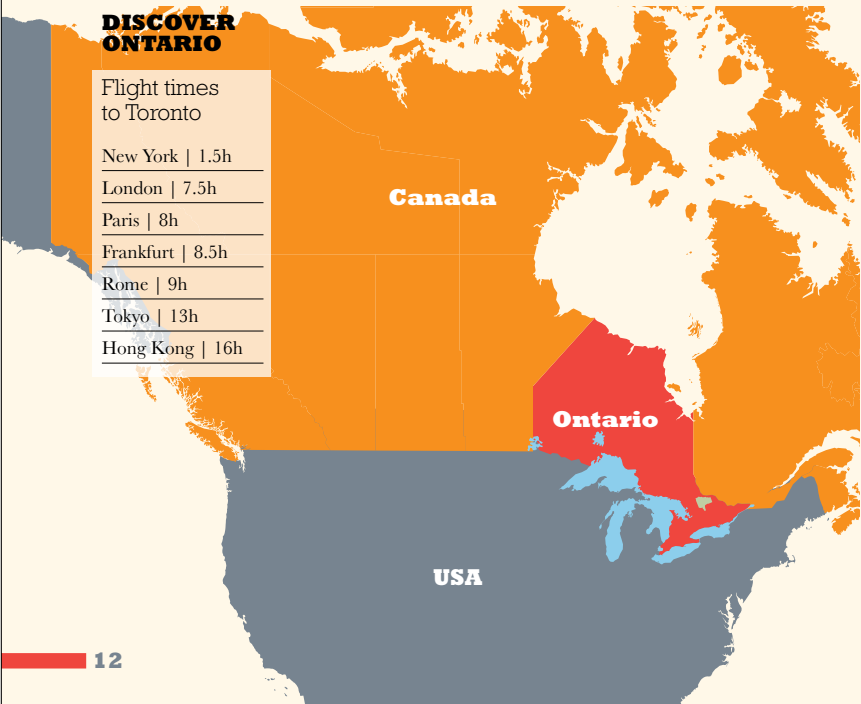


SPECIAL THANKS TO MADE DESIGN, MADEDESIGN.CA; ONTARIO CRAFT COUNCIL, CRAFT.ON.CA; JASON LI, STEPHAN TELKA, TONY ASPLER, TONYASPLER.COM; PHOTOGRAPHERS: LORNE BRIDGMAN, ALEXI HOBBS, STEVEN ELPHICK

**DISCOVER
ONTARIO**

Flight times
to Toronto

New York	1.5h
London	7.5h
Paris	8h
Frankfurt	8.5h
Rome	9h
Tokyo	13h
Hong Kong	16h



Driving times around Ontario

Toronto to Niagara Falls	130km 1.5h
Toronto to Huntsville (Muskoka)	215km 3h
Toronto to Ottawa	450km 4.5h
Ottawa to Huntsville (Muskoka)	340 km 4.5h



ontariotravel.net



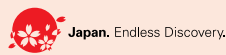
JAPAN TOURISM AGENCY × MONOCLE



EXPLORE JAPAN

The most ordinary citizens are a country's greatest asset. If that's true, Japan must rank as one of the most prosperous. Prosperity by this definition isn't about economical or industrial might – it's about the random acts of kindness that make an ordinary moment extraordinary. It's about people taking pride in what they do, refining their skills and offering hospitality and services that go beyond mere friendliness. Of course, you'll also eat well and travel comfortably – and come away with a new appreciation for Japan.

visitjapan.jp; jnto.go.jp





MAP

SO MUCH TO SEE

From the dairy farms and forested wilds of Hokkaido to the tropical white-sand beaches of Okinawa – and all of the tiny towns and big cities in between – Japan’s range of regional dialects, microclimates and culinary customs reveals a huge amount about the diversity of this fascinating and beautiful country.

Festive fun

Christmas and New Year

Experience the customs new and old of Japan’s year-end festivities. In mid-December, Tokyo’s 1,300-year-old Senso-ji temple (*below*) hosts *Hagoita-ichi*, a traditional fair with stalls selling decorative paddles used for playing a New Year game called *hanetsuki*. Tsukiji fish and wholesale market is at its liveliest in late December, as shoppers stock up for New Year’s Day meals. On New Year’s Eve, families dine on *soba* (buckwheat

noodles), believing that eating the long noodles brings longevity. Zojo-ji temple is a popular spot to ring in the new year watching Tokyo Tower’s light display. From 1 January, worshippers around the country head to shrines for *hatsumode* festival to make a wish, buy *omamori* charms and read their fortunes on strips of paper called *omikuji* (*bottom*). Early risers catch the first sunrise from Tokyo Skytree while bargain-hunters brave the crowds for *fuku-bukuro* bags containing random discounted items.



PEOPLE DEFINED BY PASSION AND DEDICATION

— — —
In Japan, people sweat over the small things: details matter, quality is a virtue, design serves a function and creativity flourishes. We take a look at the standout artisans, hoteliers and entrepreneurs who represent these ideas and are making a difference, and survey a country that offers a model for the future.

Total relaxation Hospitality

Hospitality at the Japanese *ryokan* (inn) has been honed to a fine art over many centuries. At Arcana Izu, a small 16-room hotel on the Kano river in Izu, the traditional format has been reworked and given a modern spin. The architecture combines crisp concrete with warm wooden interiors by Osaka design firm Graf. Every room has its own open-air bath – with natural hot spring water – and great views.

On-site Franco-Japanese restaurant Lumiere is a delicious meeting of the lightest of French cooking and carefully sourced ingredients, many from local farms. The setting is spectacular: the chefs cook in an open

kitchen in front of a 13-metre-long picture window that frames the forest behind. With a menu of organic spa treatments and an option to experience zen meditation at a nearby Buddhist temple, the sense of wellbeing is complete.

Manager Momoe Nishimura (below, far right), who works with a dedicated team of 35, says the Arcana Izu philosophy is a simple one. "It's important to be professional but also treat guests with the same warmth you'd extend to your family," she says. "We treat our staff the same way, too."

There are many surprising things about Arcana Izu but perhaps the most unexpected is the peace and tranquillity it offers: it is less than two hours by train from Tokyo.

arcanaresorts.com



Q&A Yasunobu Tomita Sake brewer

Tomita (left), 39, is a 15th-generation brewer who heads Tomita Shuzou, a 460-year-old sake brewery in Shiga prefecture, western Japan

Question: Do you prioritise tradition over new ideas?
Yasunobu Tomita: I aim for a balance. It wouldn't be interesting if I only stuck to tradition and didn't pursue my own ideas.

Q: How has French wine-making influenced you?

YT: French wine is about *terroir* – local climate, grapes and people. Once I learned about it, I focused on *ji-zake* (local artisanal sake) brewed only with rice from five local farms. We use several types of rice but one per batch. One sake I launched, Muu, is brewed from organic rice grown by a farmer in Shiga prefecture. In the past our sake would sometimes end up in a wholesaler's warehouse. Now we send every bottle by overnight delivery in refrigerated trucks to preserve quality, to distinguish ourselves from the big brewers.

Q: Any food/sake pairing recommendations?

YT: The best way to enjoy *ji-zake* is to drink it with seasonal food produced or caught locally. We do everything to ensure that our sake lives up to this sort of meal.

7yari.co.jp



Perfect balance Fashion

Takuji Suzuki and Masayo Shimeno (middle right, left and right) are living proof that not everyone wants clothing designed for the masses. The husband-wife duo are the creative minds behind two small, sought-after Japanese fashion labels: *ts(s)* and *Toujours*. From coats and suits to casuals, their collections combine meticulous designs, natural fibres and made-in-Japan labour.

A former stylist, Suzuki launched menswear line *ts* in 1999. Five years later, at Suzuki's urging, Shimeno started womenswear label *Toujours* under the same roof. Suzuki relaunched his brand as *ts(s)* in 2009 and they now share a staff

of three on the ground floor of a building that acts as studio, showroom and shop in Tokyo's Daikanyama district.

Their designs are meant to be enduring. A master at combining materials, Suzuki is constantly exploring: he shows off a corduroy jacket with a brown plaid that was produced on an inkjet printer. Meanwhile, Shimeno often reworks classic designs. In her hands, a wool herringbone suit is made to look like menswear on a hanger but is sized for women, while cashmere gloves are shaped like Japanese gardening gloves. "I think of colour gradations, how items from different seasons can be worn together," Shimeno says.

notsohardwork.com



Top of the cups Tableware

The idea that a wooden cup can be an object of desire might seem odd until you've laid eyes on Hidetoshi Takahashi's *Kami Glass*. Cut from castor aralia trees on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, the handmade cups are only 2mm thick and yet they don't break when dropped. They are part of Takahashi's tableware line-up that mixes old and new: ancient woodworking skills and the elegant designs of Masanori Oji and Rina Ono (top, left and right).

These days Takahashi's company, Takahashi Kougei, can barely keep up with orders – a palpable endorsement of Japanese craftsmanship. The workshop is inherited from his

father, Shoichi, who started the business in 1965. It is one of many in Asahikawa, a city well known for its carpenters.

Takahashi Kougei initially made furniture but when the market soured he switched to tableware. In 2007, Takahashi met Ono and Oji and the trio have since created plates, cups, trays and bowls that are sold around the world. At his workshop, Takahashi spends only a few minutes shaping a spinning block into one of his signature cups, but that's only part of the process. To produce a batch takes weeks, including cutting, drying, shaping and coating. That's not to mention perfecting the designs, which took months of trial and error and discussions between Takahashi, Oji and Ono.

takahashikougei.com



JAPAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES × MONOCLE

For goodness: sake A Japanese institution

Sake, or *nihonshu*, is Japan's national drink and it's a tipple that's as subtle and surprising as a fine wine. With 1,800 breweries around Japan you could spend a lifetime sampling; from fragrant *junmai-shu* to earthy premium *daiginjo* to ordinary table sake. Sake mainly comes from Japan's chilly mountainous regions; the warm southern regions produce the country's other national drink, shochu. Lately the ranks of converts to both are swelling, with enthusiasts hosting sake tastings and bartenders making shochu cocktails.

japansake.or.jp/sake/english

Q&A with Makiko Tejima
Sai-shoku-ken-bi president, sake stylist

Why does sake go so well with food?
The secret is its *umami* (savoury taste). It can enhance richly seasoned food as well as natural flavours. It also has a wide range of aromas, which adds a level of complexity to the taste.

Sake is made from rice. Why does it smell of fruit or nuts?
That's the mystery of sake brewing. The yeast plays a role but every brewery also hosts micro organisms that shape the flavour of a sake.

Why are so many top-notch chefs around the world putting sake on their menus?

Chefs prefer a drink that can complement the food they're creating. Sake does that, which is why it can accompany so many types of food, not just Japanese cuisine.

Is sake a better match than wine for certain types of food?
Bitter and sour flavours – asparagus or artichokes, for instance – can clash with wine. Sake goes well with even these flavours.

Is it best to drink sake immediately after it's brewed?
Traditionally, brewers have recommended drinking sake that's freshly made. But aging sake can bring out unexpected flavours and aromas and make it taste even better.

01 Serving
Most people have tried hot sake (*atsukan*) but that's not the only way to drink it. It can be served chilled, just below room temperature or lukewarm; changing the temperature varies the flavour. Ideal for sharing, try sake served in decanters and flasks known as *tokkuri*, *ochoshi* and *chirori*.

02 Shochu
Distilled and made from sweet potato, barley, rice, brown sugar or buckwheat, shochu can be drunk straight, on the rocks or diluted with water. *Kanehachi* (Oita prefecture) is made from barley, *Yamatozakura* (Kagoshima) from sweet potatoes and

Kuma-no-Izumi (Kumamoto) from rice.

03 Snacks
Boiled soybeans (*edamame*), pickled vegetables (*tsuke-mono*) and cured fish usually accompany sake.

04 Cups
Known as *sakazuki*, *guinomi* or *ochoko*, sake cups come in many shapes and sizes.

05 Bottles
Some breweries have distinctive bottles. Masuichi-Ichimura (Nagano) uses ceramic bottles for its *Square One Junmaishu*, while Banjo Jozo's (Aichi) *Kuheiji Betsuat-surae* comes in a wine bottle. Ohmine Shuzo (Yamaguchi), offers a "one cup" size for its *Ohmine Junmai*.

06 Labels
Daiginjo is a brewery's best, followed by *ginjo* and *honjozo*. Sake classified as *junmai-shu* ("pure rice sake") is made traditionally, with no distilled alcohol added. Tomita Shuzo (*Shiga*) uses organically grown rice for *Shichihonyari Junmai Muu*, while Matsuura Shuzo (Ishikawa) adds distilled alcohol to *Shishinosato Daiginjo*.

07 Pairing with food
"A *daiginjo* complements *jamón ibérico*," says Sai-shoku-ken-bi sake stylist Makiko Tejima. "A *ginjo* sake goes well with the herbs in Provençal dishes. Sake and cheese

are a good match: a low-alcohol *junmai* and a fresh mozzarella, for instance. *Nigori-zake* is great with shortcake and cream."

08 Nigori-zake and nama-zake
Nigori-zake is a cloudy sake containing fermented rice that is usually sweet. Most sake is pasteurised; the unpasteurised type is called *nama-zake*, which tends to be fruity, tangy and spicy. *Tsukino Katsura Nigori-zake* comes from 338-year-old brewery Masuda Tokubee Shoten in Kyoto.

09 Cocktails
Some popular concoctions include *nigori-zake milkshake*, *saketini* and *samurai rock* (see recipe, below).

Recipe:
Samurai rock
45ml sake
15ml lime juice
Pour sake and lime juice into a glass filled with ice. Serve.





Kowloon East CBD



Tourism infrastructure



Creative hubs





BRAND HONG KONG × MONOCLE

New harbourfront



HONG KONG

Investing in an exciting future

Heritage preservation





CHANGE IN THE CITY

Hong Kong map

Over the next five years, Hong Kong will complete several key infrastructure developments designed to improve quality of life and connectivity across the city. From the construction of railway and road links to the development of new urban areas, it's worth keeping an eye on Hong Kong's changing cityscape.



DIGITAL DELIGHT

By ensuring a strong IT infrastructure, Hong Kong is able to maintain its global business connectivity. There are 10,000 free wi-fi hotspots offered across the city and the number is set to double by the end of this year. In fact, Hong Kong has one of the highest concentrations of hotspots in the world.

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL

Heritage building revival projects

Although known for its magnificent skyline of glass-and-steel-clad skyscrapers, Hong Kong is also home to buildings of various styles, including colonial architecture and Chinese tenement buildings. Today, many have been restored and adapted for reuse as cultural and commercial spaces.



A REAL PAGE- TURNER COMIX

Comix Home Base opened last July in the Wan Chai neighbourhood. Converted from a cluster of pre-war tenement buildings collectively known as the Green House, it

offers studio spaces for comic and animation artists. Fans can visit the Comix Salon, a library that archives local comics and magazines, and attend exhibitions and workshops. There's also a small shop selling comic books and other merchandise.

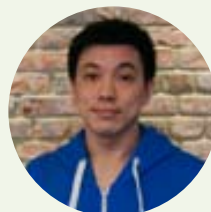


PERFECT MIX PMQ

Located in the heart of Hong Kong's Central district, PMQ is a beacon for the revival of heritage buildings in the city. Having previously been the site of Hong Kong's prestigious Central school before the construction of the Hollywood Road Police Married Quarters in 1951, the leafy hillside block is now home to shops, design studios, cafés and offices, all within the renovated old quarters. International brands such as Herman Miller and Tom Dixon have set up shop alongside young Hong Kong-based designers, architects and creative agencies. A new exhibi-



tion space connects the two former police buildings and features a publicly accessible roof garden, while the covered ground-floor space will host regular markets and events. A great mix of design talent and innovative public space.



Q&A KONG KEE ART DIRECTOR, PENGUIN LAB

Known for his light-hearted take on local culture and issues, Kong Kee is one of the city's best-known comic-book artists. In 2009, he and business partner Lawman founded Penguin Lab, a comic book and design studio located at Comix Home Base.

Why did you make the decision to set up your studio at Comix?

It provides the industry with a gathering point where artists and readers can interact.

How has the comic book industry in Hong Kong changed over the years?

In the 1990s, most comics in Hong Kong were focused on action storylines. Nowadays you can find comics exploring local politics, culture and history.

Are there projects in the works for Penguin Lab?

We're looking to start a magazine in partnership with the Hong Kong Arts Centre. Each issue will be themed and feature contributions by artists and critics from Hong Kong.



Q&A DARYL NG DIRECTOR, HONG KONG HERITAGE CONSERVA- TION FOUN- DATION

Daryl heads the Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation, a non-profit organisation dedicated to revitalising heritage buildings throughout the city.

Why was the Tai O police station cho- sen as the place to turn into a hotel?

Our focus was on giving the heritage site an innovative use. By transforming the police station into a nine-room boutique hotel we can bolster the community's economy.

What are the advantages of being located in a heritage building and a fishing vil- lage like Tai O?

The daily interaction with the friendly Tai O folks has built a bond between the hotel and the community. At the hotel restaurant we use local produce such as shrimp paste and mountain begonia in our dishes. We also hold daily guided tours for the public so that they are able to experience the building firsthand.



SAFE BET TAI O HERITAGE HOTEL

Tucked away in one of the city's last remaining Chinese fishing villages is the Tai O Heritage hotel. Perched on a headland overlooking the bay, it is housed in a police station originally built by the Brits in 1902 to guard the shore against bandits. It was restored by the Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation.



ARRESTING PROJECT CENTRAL POLICE STATION COMPOUND

Dating from the mid-19th century, the Central police station and Victoria prison once served as the British colonial government's police headquarters. But in 2015, the police station compound will reopen as a non-profit centre for arts and leisure. It has been designed by Herzog & De Meuron in partnership with firms Purcell and Rocco Design Architects.



TAKING NOTICE OI!

Housed in the former headquarters of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club in North Point, Oi! is a public art space built with the local community and young artists in mind. Developed by the Art Promotion Office, Oi! works to make art more approachable for the public and grow interest in community-based art. Oi! seeks to provide a platform for emerging artists in Hong Kong; the space also hosts forums and talks.



ARTISTIC LICENCE SCAD

For its Hong Kong campus, the Savannah College of Art and Design (Scad) chose to restore and adapt the former North Kowloon Magistracy in Sham Shui Po. Built in 1960, the building was used as the magistrates' court and offices until 2005. Today, Scad offers a mix of art-and-design degree programmes.



The school has also kept several elements of the building, including prison cells that are now used as offices.





DESIGNS FOR LIFE



Though a small island nation, Taiwan is home to an array of upcoming and longstanding firms bringing innovative design and production to the forefront. Many companies are also working to create sustainable products; the dedication among manufacturers and designers in producing pioneering eco-friendly products has led to a boom in home-grown brands that is attracting global attention. Not only is the country leading the world when it comes to research of green energy but many of Taiwan's entrepreneurs are also making a splash with novel and functional ideas. The creative and dedicated spirit of Taiwan's talent is the reason behind much of today's success.



TAIWAN EXCELLENCE × MONOCLE

IDEAS FOR BETTER LIVING

Taiwan's firms are at the forefront of research and design with a growing emphasis on the need for sustainable solutions. Ricco Engineering, Taiwan Golden Bee, Aeon Motor and Huey Erl Chyang are just a handful of the companies that are bringing innovative product designs and green solutions to homes – and garages – around the world.

MOVEABLE FEAST RICCO ENGINEERING

In 2009, Ricco Engineering created a breakthrough collapsible silicone coffee dripper, with the impressive technology leading to a whole collection of collapsible items developed to the utmost safety standards – not to mention their usability.

Portability and sustainability are two key aspects of founder and inventor Ronald Tuan's design philosophy; his *dr si* silicone cookware products reduce energy consumption during cooking by an average of 30 per cent. "It shouldn't be a hassle to make a difference – we are trying to show environmentally friendly practices through our products," he says.

And silicone? "It's a highly malleable material that I've adapted to make everyday products," says Tuan (pictured), who first encountered it when he worked in

aviation. In a short space of time the product range expanded to include a collapsible water kettle, bowl and cooking pot.

What's next? "I'm developing heat packs and rice cookers, and we're set to launch an electric water kettle too," Tuan says. What might seem like a far-fetched concept has been brought to life by an inventor's belief in silicone solutions.

TOP PRODUCTS

01 Cooking pot: fixed with a metal base, the silicone pot can withstand temperatures up to 250C.

02 Eating bowl: a new member of the range, it's an ideal item to use on the go – and it's microwavable.

03 Kettle: keep an eye out for a new variation: Tuan has created a collapsible electric kettle, handy for camping trips or cramped spaces.

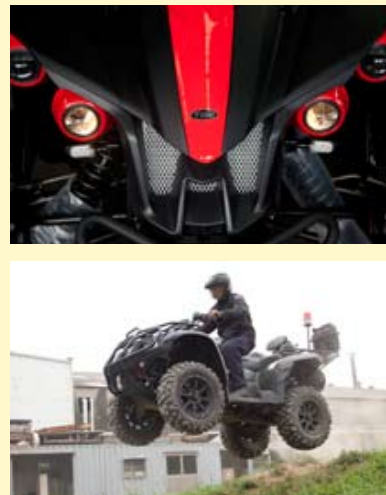


ON YOUR BIKE TAIWAN GOLDEN BEE

Originally a parts manufacturer for Piaggio, the maker of Vespa scooters, Taiwan Golden Bee (TGB) is a global bike producer that also makes transmissions for large brands including Peugeot and Yamaha.

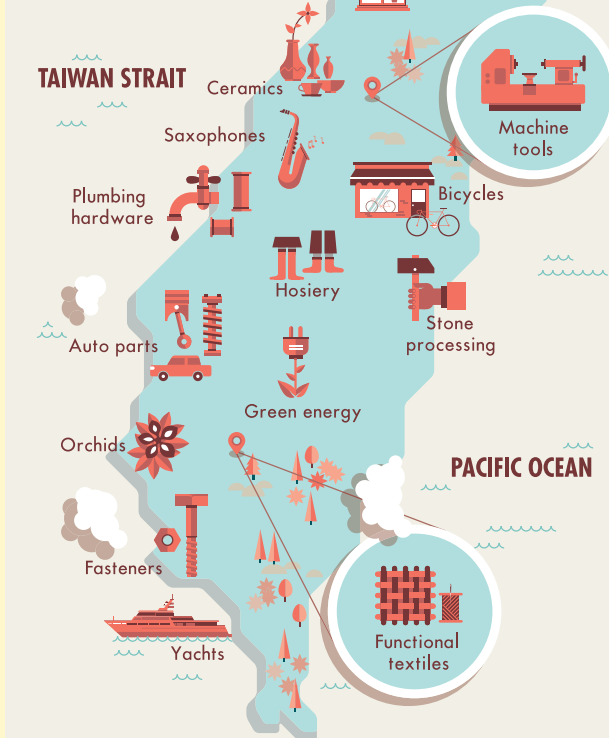
"We chose our company name in a nod to our roots," says president George Lin. "Vespa in Italian means hornet, an insect reminiscent in shape to a bee."

By incorporating three decades of know-how, Lin has created an extensive range of ATVs and scooters, all of which are manufactured at home in Kaohsiung and then exported. In an effort to increase environmental protection, TGB is also working to bring energy-efficient models to the market.



CREATIVE HUB TAIWAN'S INDUSTRIES

The array of manufacturing taking place in Taiwan is a sight to behold. Everything from orchids to saxophones is produced on this East Asian island...



WHEEL DEAL AEON MOTOR

Aeon Motor has always set itself apart from the rest. With the scooter market in Taiwan poised to reach 600,000 in annual sales in 2013, founder Allen Chung (pictured) believes it is important to create products relevant to consumers' tastes. As a result, in a fun collaboration with Japanese clothing brand A Bathing Ape (commonly known as Bape), Aeon released 1,000 125cc scooters in two camouflage colourways (left), and more recently released a series of three-wheeled scooters (above, left).

As a growing player in the domestic market, Chung hopes Aeon Motor can become a household name.



Q&A PARK HONG FOUNDER, HUEY ERL CHYANG

Monocle: When did HEC come into existence in the homeware market?

Park Hong: I started out in 1981 selling bamboo steamers and enamel cookware to foreign distributors. However, as demand for these products fell, I knew I had to adapt. The range you see today, from pitchers to storage units, is the culmination of my work.

M: What sets HEC apart from other companies?

PH: I have always been a homeware manufacturer

and designer. We have clients asking us to make umbrellas or lounge chairs for them but I refuse. I believe in setting ourselves apart from other brands by combining functionality and aesthetics.

M: Is there a product that best illustrates your design ethos?

PH: For our iced fruit-infusion pitchers (right) I took a longstanding concept and introduced a detachable filter to create something new. The end product is a multi-functional pitcher that can be used to make iced teas or fruit-infused water.

M: Over the course of 30 years you've designed



hundreds of household products. Is there one that stands out?

PH: In 1994 we released a spice storage system that can be stacked together or taken apart to become individual containers. The spice tower, as I like to call it, is still selling well two decades on. It's my favourite because it helps save space.

