



Into the Great Wide Open

FIFTEEN COUNTRIES.
SIXTEEN STATES.
THIRTY-THREE
ADVENTURES. YOUR
TRAVEL BUCKET LIST
JUST GOT A WHOLE
LOT LONGER.

MILFORD SOUND LODGE

Milford
Sound
Lodge, New
Zealand

2019
BEST TRIPS

1

Colombia

Getting to Los Llanos Orientales, a patchwork of forest, grassy savanna, and wetlands in eastern Colombia, takes effort. From Bogotá, it's a one-hour flight east to the regional capital of Yopal, followed by a 2.5-hour drive into the bush. But when you arrive, you'll be rewarded with a stay at Corocora Camp, a new four-tent safari lodge in the heart of a private 22,000-plus-acre nature reserve that's reminiscent of Botswana's Okavango Delta. Keep an eye out for giant anteaters, pumas, chubby capybaras, and over 200 species of birds as you enjoy aged Colombian rums on your tent's private terrace. Or search for wildlife on foot, by 4x4, or on horseback with your own private guide. Guests can also partake in the camp's conservation efforts by setting up camera traps to track jaguars, or visit a nearby ranch to observe how the local *llaneros* (cowboys) use chants to herd cattle. From \$490 —JEN MURPHY

2

New Mexico

Taos Ski Valley has seen a renaissance since it was bought by philanthropist Louis Bacon in 2013. In addition to becoming the first B Corp-certified ski resort—it meets the nonprofit's high standards for environmental and social responsibility—the mountain has seen massive improvements including a new high-speed quad chair and the LEED-certified, 80-room Blake Hotel (from \$259). It's beefing up its summer offerings as well, particularly lift-accessed mountain biking. Two flow trails with 6.5 miles of berms, rollers, and bridges will open this summer, with plans for a total of 15 miles in the future. Off the slope, hit Black Rock Hot Springs, summit 13,161-foot Wheeler Peak, or fish for native cutthroat trout. Big groups: snag room 433 at the Blake, a two-bedroom suite overlooking the base village. —NICHOLAS HUNT

3

Dominica

The 115-mile Waitukubuli National Trail on mountainous Dominica is the Caribbean's only through-hike. Spanning from the village of Scott's Head in the south to Cabrits National Park up north, the trail opened in 2013 but was devastated by Hurricane Maria in 2017. Today all but three of the route's 14 sections have been entirely rehabbed and are open to the public. Along the way, you'll pass an 18th-century French settlement, view dormant volcanic peaks, and swim in Emerald Pool beneath a cascading waterfall in 17,000-acre Morne Trois Pitons National Park. Stay at campsites or inns just off the route, or set up base camp at Secret Bay Resort's brand-new Ti-Fey Villa, a luxurious two-story structure with a kitchen, wraparound deck, and plunge pool (from \$705). Day passes \$12, 15-day passes \$40 —STEPHANIE PEARSON



a-b. Corocora Camp
c, f. Taos Ski Valley
d-e. Secret Bay Resort



UPGRADE BAGGAGE

Patagonia 60L Black Hole duffel bag \$129
Everyone should own this indestructible, water-resistant gear hauler, and the 60-liter size is perfect for just about any trip.

Eagle Creek Tarmac carry-on \$299
This roller has burly oversize wheels and integrated straps for attaching extra bags and outerwear, which makes navigating crowded airports a breeze.

Gregory Border 25 day pack \$120
Access to this pack is easy, thanks to a clamshell opening, designated laptop and tablet sleeves, a hidden security pocket, and an internal mesh divider.

Fjällräven Pocket cross-body bag \$40
The Pocket is large enough for essentials like your phone, wallet, and passport but slim enough to be worn out of sight under your jacket. —BRYAN ROGALA

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COROCORA CAMP (2); THE BLAKE AT TAOS SKI VALLEY; SECRET BAY (2); JIMMY CHIN

2019
BEST TRIPS



a

a–b, d, f. The Dolomites
c, e, g. The Lodge at Blue Sky



b



c



e



d



g

4

Utah

The Lodge at Blue Sky, which will have its grand opening in May, offers a fresh take on the ranch escape. Forget rustic cabins—accommodations range from 600-square-foot rooms to two-story, two-bedroom suites, each with panoramic views of the 3,500-acre property. And while there's a 7,400-square-foot spa and classic dude-ranch staples like horseback riding and sport shooting, it's the year-round mountain adventures—including heli-biking, resort and nordic skiing, snowshoeing, and fly-fishing—and the lodge's exclusive ski-in, ski-out lounge in the Park City Mountain Resort village that steal the show. Blue Sky also takes brag-worthy hotel bars to a new level with an on-site distillery from award-winning Utah whiskey maker High West. Before you sip grain-to-glass cocktails, you can learn about the mashing, milling, and aging process. From \$850 —J.M.



f

5

Italy

Whether you prefer haute or hut cuisine, the Dolomites in Italy's South Tyrol have the best of both. The region is a culinary melting pot of Italian and Austrian traditions mixed with rustic influences from the local Ladins culture. On weeklong guided or self-guided gourmet ski safaris with adventure outfitter Dolomite Mountains, you'll earn your turns and meals. Owner Agustina Marmol has spent over a decade finding the area's top restaurants to customize trips for every palate. You'll ski between remote rifugios (back-country huts) that serve hearty dishes like venison polenta and offer lodging, and dine in Michelin-starred restaurants like San Cassiano's St. Hubertus. In the summer, the outfitter offers a food crawl, where you'll hike, bike, and climb to reach picnics and restaurants housed in alpine farmhouses. From \$2,200 for seven days —J.M.

THE LAST, LAST FRONTIER

WHY YOU SHOULD GO NOW TO ALASKA'S ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

In fall 2017, after nearly four decades of protection, Congress opened part of the 19.6-million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge—one of America's largest, wildest, and most remote tracts of public land—to oil exploration, which could devastate its ecosystem. For first-time visitors, it's best to go with a guide. Outfitters like Alaska Alpine Adventures and Wilderness Alaska can build you custom trips, or choose from one of the latter's eight preset itineraries. Here are our favorite expeditions. —NICK DAVIDSON

→ 6. Rafting the Kongakut River

For ten days and 42 miles, you'll float Class II–III rapids from the river's headwaters at Drain Creek through

mountain vales and lupine-studded tundra to Caribou Pass.

→ 7. Camping for Caribou

Work with your guide to set up base camp on the state's North Slope in late June to early July and ogle the migrating, 200,000-strong Porcupine herd at its calving grounds on the coastal plain.

→ 8. Pack Rafting the Continental Divide

The weeklong 60-mile trek and paddle adventure from the Jago River to the Hulahula takes you along trackless tundra and past 8,000-plus-foot peaks. Bring a pack raft for the smaller waters.

→ 9. Photographing Polar Bears

Local Inupiat guides from Kaktovik will ferry you on the Beaufort Sea to Barter Island, where dozens of polar bears gather in autumn to scavenge whale carcasses.

2019
**BEST
TRIPS**



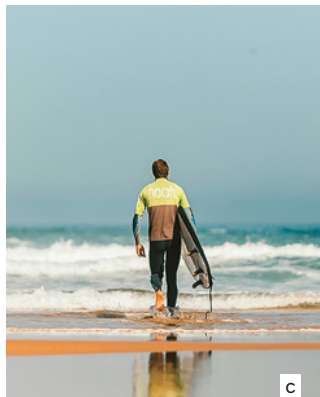
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Portugal

Noah Surf House looks even better in person. Located an hour north of Lisbon in the small village of Santa Cruz, the resort's 13 podlike eco-friendly bungalows and a main lodge are just across the street from one of the best breaks in the region, along with the bunk room's fitness studio, infinity pool, skate park, hot tub, and fire pit. If it isn't going off, the coast has endless other options, which the in-house guides will drive you to. Don't miss Noah's Restaurant and Beach House, just down the hill on the sand of Praia da Fisica, for drippingly fresh seafood and comfy chaises—the perfect place to lounge beachside between surf sessions. Then head up the road to the hotel's higher-end sister property, Areias do Seixo, for a massage. Pro tip: eat as many *pastéis de nata*, small Portuguese custard tarts, as you can get your hands on. Bungalows from \$181, bunks from \$57 —MARY TURNER

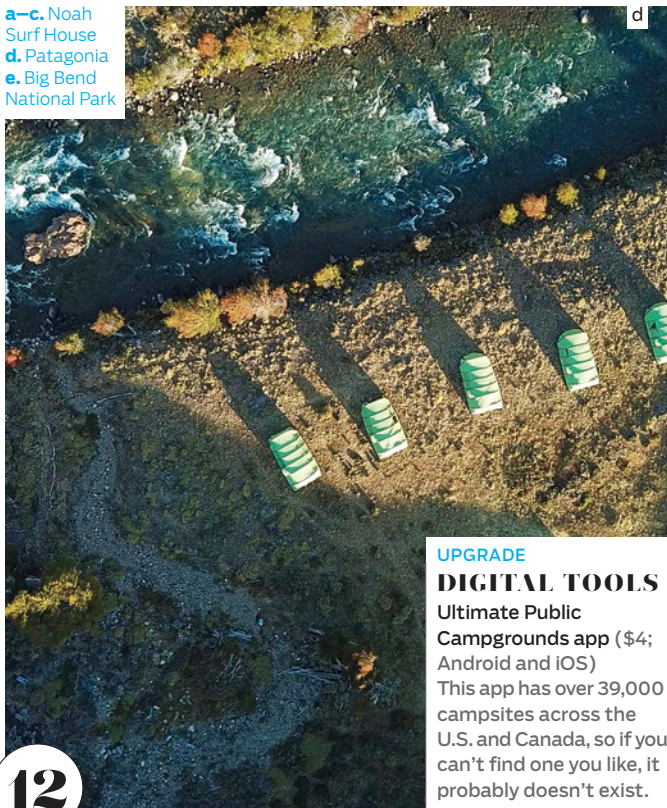


b



c

a–c. Noah Surf House
d. Patagonia
e. Big Bend National Park



d



e

11

Texas

It takes some savvy navigating skills to tackle the newly mapped Big Bend 100, a ten-day self-supported cross-country trek that links existing paths, dirt roads, and sandy arroyos, often with ten or more miles between water sources. In other words, this undertaking requires research, expert backpacking and camping skills, and DIY grit, but the rewards are total solitude, stark desert beauty, and the increasingly rare satisfaction that you've completed a through-hike few have even heard of. The route starts at Big Bend Ranch State Park and rambles for 100 miles across creek beds and past ancient rock art to the 7,000-foot Chisos Mountains in Big Bend National Park, where you'll need backcountry permits to camp each night. The view from the top is sublime, with the Rio Grande and Mexico falling away as far as the eye can see. —S.P.

12

Chile

The austere mountains, turquoise rivers, and wind-whipped steppe of northern Patagonia feels a lot farther off the grid than famed Torres del Paine National Park in Chile's southern tip. Get even deeper into the steppe with South American outfitter Upscape, which offers fly-fishing, photography, and trekking trips March through April (the end of austral summer) at a pop-up camp on the Jeininemi River. Just yards from the Argentinean border, Upscape's remote camp has 300-square-foot tents with sleeping quarters and a living room, and a communal dining tent for meals of perfectly grilled carne asada. Not that you'll spend much time there with the monster brown and rainbow trout to be stalked, sunsets behind craggy peaks to be captured, and glacial valleys and alpine lakes to be explored. From \$3,950 for five days —S.P.

**UPGRADE
DIGITAL TOOLS**

Ultimate Public Campgrounds app (\$4; Android and iOS)
This app has over 39,000 campsites across the U.S. and Canada, so if you can't find one you like, it probably doesn't exist.

Guides by Lonely Planet app (Free; Android and iOS)
Classic Lonely Planet insider information combined with beautifully designed maps that you can download to your phone for offline use.

Booking.com
The reservation site stands apart by letting you book bus and train rides with your accommodation in certain European cities, plus make reservations for restaurants and airport taxis. It also has dedicated sections for campgrounds, tiny homes, and farm stays. —B.R.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: NOAH SURF HOUSE (3); UPSCAPE; TREVOR PAULIUS

2019
BEST TRIPS



FARM TO FORK FONDO

Happy Tummies Ride Local



a, e. Niehku Mountain Villa
b. Croatia
c. Arkansas
d. Farm to Fork Fondo
f. Green River



13

14

Colorado and Utah

When explorer John Wesley Powell made the historic first descent of the uncharted Green and Colorado Rivers in 1869, which was considered impossible at the time, one boat sank and nearly half the crew abandoned the cause. Things will definitely go more smoothly on OARS's 150th anniversary re-creation of a portion of the expedition. The 28-day, 466-mile, fully outfitted trip through Colorado and Utah encompasses some of the most iconic landscapes in the Southwest—many of them named by Powell himself—while hitting an overload of Class II–IV whitewater. OARS will run expeditions by raft and dory from Flaming Gorge to Lake Powell in June and September, but if you can't make the whole enchilada, sign up for the 13-day upper-river or 16-day lower-river section of the trip. \$8,899 for the full expedition —GRAHAM AVERILL

Sweden

In their youth, the owners of Niehku Mountain Villa, a 14-room adventure base 124 miles north of the Arctic Circle, were ski-bum fixtures at Riksgränsen, a nearby resort on the Norwegian border. Today, Johan Lindblom, a ski patroller turned international mountain guide, and Patrik Strömsten, a ski racer turned award-winning sommelier, run what's arguably the Arctic's most luxe lodge, complete with a 500-bottle wine cellar and tundra-to-table restaurant. From its doorstep, helicopters can access 60 skiable mountain peaks. And unlike the Alps, where heli-skiing is limited to a handful of prescribed landing spots, the Arctic is a rule-free playground where you can do as many as 15 lines a day. Grabbing first chair at your local hill no longer sounds that impressive, huh? From \$4,658 for three-day heli-ski packages, meals and accommodations included —J.M.

ALONG FOR THE RIDE

OUR FAVORITE NEW CYCLING TRIPS

→ **15. Bourbon Trail, Kentucky**

The Kentucky Distillers' Association recently launched three new cycling routes, including a three-day, 188-mile pilgrimage to ten distilleries, notably Woodford Reserve and Maker's Mark.

→ **16. Dalmatian Islands, Croatia**

For eight days, guests on DuVine Cycling's Yacht and Bike Tour island-hop around the Adriatic to cycle some of the region's best routes, from the olive groves of Brac to the ancient fishing villages on the isle of Vis. \$7,695

→ **17. The Ozarks, Arkansas**

The International Mountain Bicycling Association's Epic-designated Upper Buffalo Headwaters Trail is like pizza, says Slaughter Trail Guides

founder Dustin Slaughter: "Even when it's bad, it's good." Guided day trips tackle big hills and creek crossings, with opportunities to cool off in blue lagoons. From \$95

→ **18. North Highlands, Scotland**

Wilderness Scotland has launched a seven-day road-cycling trip along the North Coast 500, Scotland's Route 66, which winds past rugged mountains, sweeping beaches, and charming fishing villages. May 11 and June 29; \$2,250

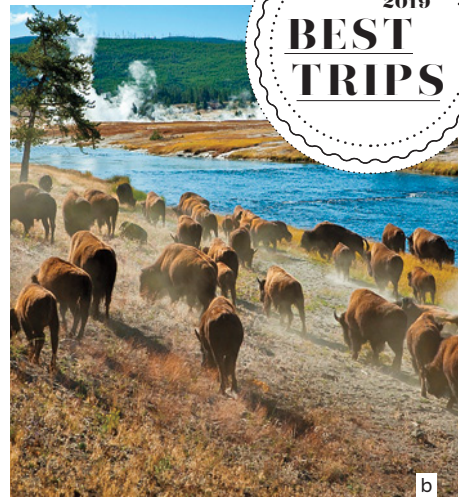
→ **19. Lake Champlain, Vermont**

On this edition of the foodie-friendly Farm to Fork Fondo series, routes of 7 to 93 miles around the Champlain Islands include pit stops stocked with local cider slushies and wood-fired pizzas. Finishers are rewarded with a BBQ feast and a pint of regional craft beer. July 21; from \$40 —J.M.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ERIK NISSEN JOHANSEN; DUVINE CYCLING AND ADVENTURE; HANSI JOHNSON; FARM TO FORK FONDO; DAVID CARLIER; JOSH MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

20 Wyoming

Scraping leftovers into a compost pile might not sound like a vacation activity, but on Natural Habitat Adventures' new seven-day Yellowstone safari, composting is as essential to the experience as camping or hiking. While expert naturalists guide you in search of bison and wolf pups, you'll also be on an industry-first zero-waste expedition. You'll drink from reusable water bottles and dine on locally sourced food sans single-use plastics like straws, plates, and cups. Everything that can't be composted or recycled locally is hauled back to the company's headquarters in Boulder, Colorado, to be recycled, upcycled, or handed off to TerraCycle, an innovative company that specializes in the reuse of otherwise unprocessable waste. The hope is that the trip will inspire you with the landscape and wildlife while fostering habits you can take home. From \$5,695 —S.P.



21 South Carolina

Greenville's Unleashed Dog Bar is the perfect place for you and your pooch to relax after a long day exploring this burgeoning Southern adventure hub. The 3,500-square-foot on-site dog park features misters and galvanized water troughs to keep your canine cool while you enjoy locals brews, like Catawba Brewing's White Zombie ale, on the covered patio. In town, bike beside the Reedy River on the 22-mile Swamp Rabbit Trail and refuel along the way at the route's many breweries and restaurants. Or head into the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains to hike, bike, or paddle. The Class II–V rapids of the Chattooga National Wild and Scenic River, made infamous by their role in the thriller *Deliverance*, are located just an hour and a half away. —JOHANNA FLASHMAN



22 Arizona

Every May in the high desert an hour north of Phoenix, the 1970s experimental community Arcosanti plays host to Form, the best house party in the Southwest. For three days, the festival's 2,000 attendees start the morning with rooftop yoga, then hike the Verde River basin, mingle during discussions of art and climate change, and groove to an eclectic lineup of world-class musicians and DJs playing sets on three stages. The event removes the commercialism, angst, and druggy vibe from the music-fest template and replaces it with inspirational talks, views of the Sonoran Desert, and daily cliffside pool parties. Campsites are included with admission, and a platoon of food trucks are on hand throughout. Or snag one of the glamping tents or an RV. Bookend your trip with a mountain-bike ride on the red-rock trails of Sedona, just an hour's drive north. This year, festivities run May 10–12. \$364 —WILL PALMER



a. Yellowstone safari glamping
b. Yellowstone
c. Unleashed Dog Bar
d–f. Form Arcosanti

UPGRADE TRAVEL WARDROBE

Rainbow Single Layer Premier with Arch Support sandals \$54
Flip-flops that actually stand up to abuse, with premium nubuck leather, triple-glued midsoles, and double-stitched straps.

Untuckit Millbrook shirt \$98
Meant to be worn untucked, this button-down wicks moisture and stays wrinkle-free even on lengthy plane rides.

Lululemon Vinyasa Rulu scarf \$48
A clever snap closure means the Vinyasa Rulu transforms easily from a shawl to an

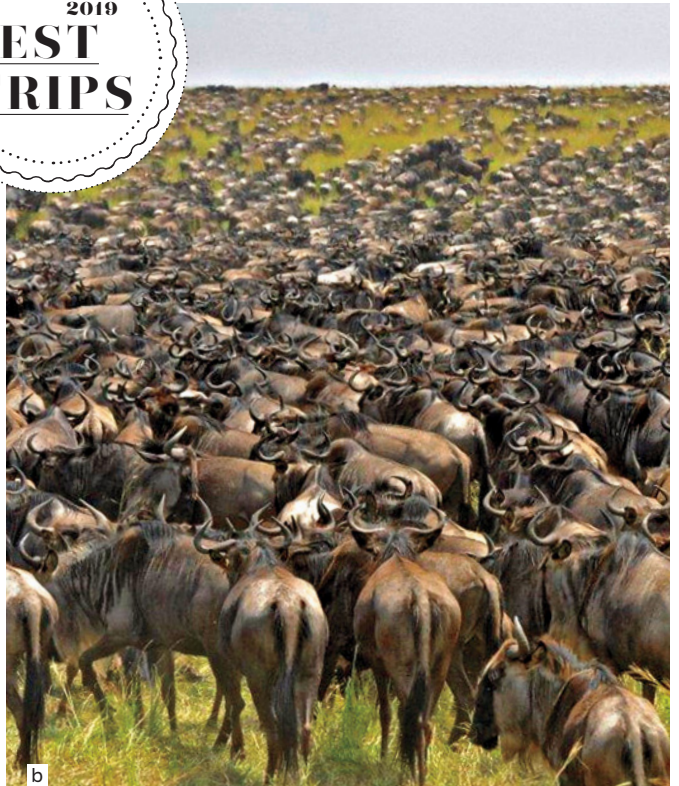
infinity scarf to a shrug, making it perfect for the plane, trail, or pub.

Olukai Pehuea Leather women's slip-on shoes \$100
Smart looks, a breathable upper, and an incredibly comfortable washable footbed make this shoe perfect for the long haul. —B.R.

2019
**BEST
TRIPS**



a

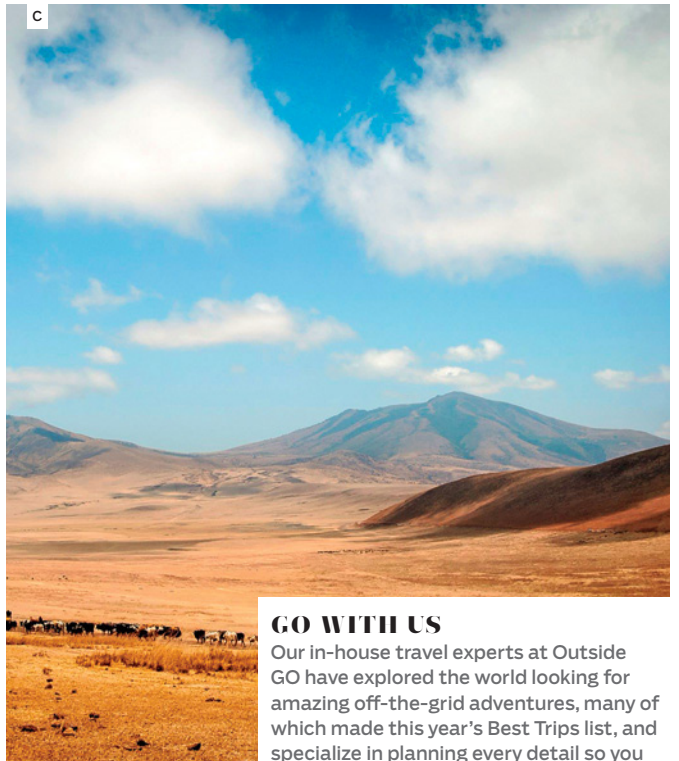


b



d

a. Kuro Tarangire Lodge
b. Serengeti Safari Camp
c-d. Ngorongoro Crater



c

23

Tanzania

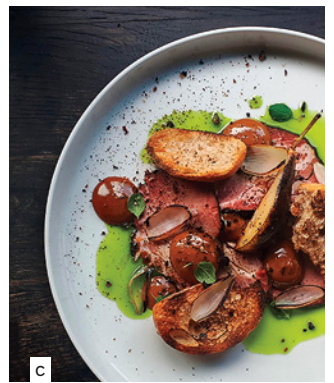
Need to check Africa off your bucket list? There's no more iconic destination than Tanzania, and for 25 years, Sandy and Chip Cunningham at Outside GO have been refining the perfect itinerary. On their nine-day safari, you'll travel with a private guide from the foothills of Mount Meru in the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro to Serengeti National Park, stopping along the way to view elephants, lion prides, buffalo, and alien-looking baobab trees at Tarangire National Park, as well as one-of-a-kind sunrises over Ngorongoro Crater, at 100 square miles the world's largest intact caldera. Your housing? A tented camp right on the rim. From \$8,295 —N.H.

GO WITH US

Our in-house travel experts at Outside GO have explored the world looking for amazing off-the-grid adventures, many of which made this year's Best Trips list, and specialize in planning every detail so you don't have to. If you book any of the trips below with Outside GO using the code OGO2019, you'll receive a \$250 discount.

- Weber Arctic, Canada
- Corocora Camp, Colombia
- Upscape, Chile
- Milford Sound Lodge, New Zealand
- Wilderness Scotland
- Alaska Alpine Adventures

2019
BEST TRIPS



a–b, g. Tourists
c. Karakter
d. The Jura Uplands
e. Beaver Island
f. Everest Base Camp

21

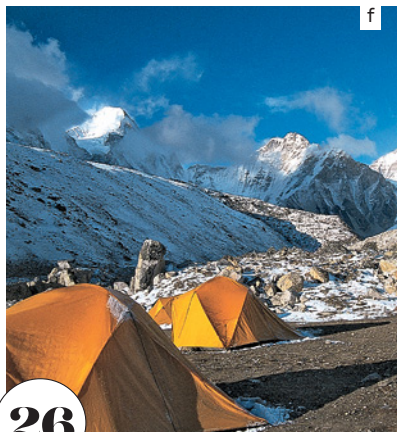
Massachusetts

Tourists, a remodeled motor lodge in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts, is your home base for exploring the highland region's mountain peaks, river valleys, and famed cultural institutions like the Tanglewood Music Center and Clark Art Institute. Set on 55 acres in the town of North Adams along the Hoosic River, the 48-room retreat is the brainchild of a group of creatives that include John Stirratt, whose band Wilco puts on the Solid Sound music and arts festival every other summer at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art. A network of boardwalks and suspension bridges leads guests to a salt-water pool, art installations, and the Airport Rooms, a craft-cocktail lounge with hearty fare from chef Greg Thomas. The Appalachian Trail runs right through the property, and 3,491-foot Mount Greylock, the state's highest point, is just half a mile away. From \$199 —J.M.

25

Poland

Need proof that Eastern Europe is the continent's new premier destination? Look no further than Krakow. Sitting on the banks of the Vistula River below the 8,000-foot Carpathian Mountains, the city beat out culinary hot spots like Lisbon, Portugal, to become the 2019 European Capital of Gastronomic Culture. And for good reason. Krakow has 26 Michelin-recommended restaurants, such as Karakter, whose chef specializes in making exotic animal parts like bull testicles taste delicious. Burn off those calories pedaling nearly 60 miles of mountain-bike trails in the surrounding hills or by sending some of the thousands of limestone climbing routes in the nearby Jura uplands. Two hours to the south are the majestic, craggy Tatra Mountains, a playground with more than 600 miles of trails known as the Little Alps. —S.P.



26

Nepal

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the outfitter MT Sobek, a California-based adventure travel pioneer and one of the first American companies to offer small-group Himalayan expeditions. Join the celebration on one of its five 20-day pilgrimages to Everest Base Camp this year. Three veteran guides will lead you on a route that hasn't changed much in the decades since MT Sobek led its first trip in 1969, but that's a good thing. The dicey flight into the clifftop town of Lukla is an extreme adventure in itself, and staying in Sherpa villages, visiting the iconic Tengboche monastery, and passing rhododendrons in bloom and prayer flags disintegrating in the breeze as you hike more than 8,000 feet up to 17,600-foot Base Camp is one of the world's most iconic journeys. From \$6,695 —S.P.



27

Michigan

Lake Michigan's 56-square-mile Beaver Island is only accessible by a two-hour ferry ride or puddle-jumper flights from a few nearby cities and towns. But that remoteness has preserved this adventure haven's rugged character. The island has five inland lakes filled with pike, perch, and bass, lazy dirt roads that are easily navigated by cruiser bike, and Mount Pisgah, a 150-foot sand dune that, with an elevation of 730 feet, is a surprisingly strenuous hike. For a little more adrenaline, expert paddlers can test their skills against the Great Lake along a new 42-mile water trail that passes remote dunes, wetlands, and beaches as it circumnavigates the isle. The St. James Township Campground (\$10) overlooking Garden, Squaw, and Whisky Islands is a great spot to observe the northern lights flicker across the sky. —S.P.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PETER CROSBY; NICOLE FRANZEN; DANIEL MYSLIWIEC; AB STUDIO/ALAMY; FRANK SOLLE; MT SOBOK; PETER CROSBY

2019
BEST TRIPS



a

28

California

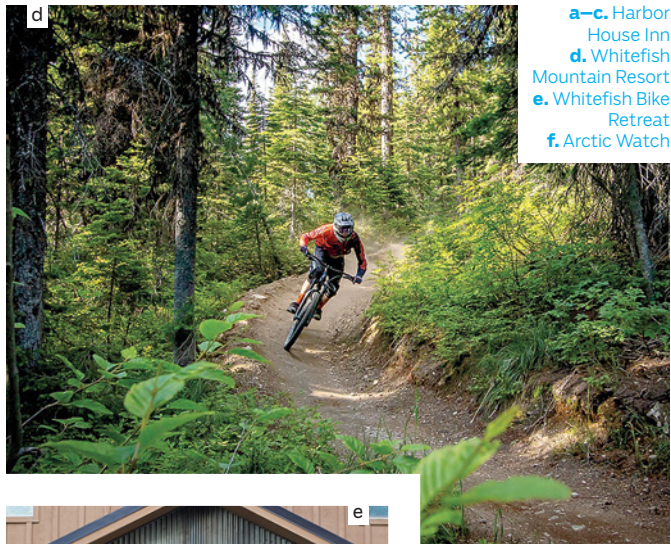
Perched dramatically atop a 150-foot cliff overlooking the crashing Pacific, the 103-year-old, ten-room Harbor House Inn in tiny Elk, California, completed an eight-year renovation last spring. Book the property's Shorepine cottage for private-terrace views of 75-foot-high Wharf Rock, a historic natural arch where ships once docked to load lumber. Then wander the private beach, swim beneath the giant trees of Navarro River Redwoods State Park, ride horseback in the inland mountains, or kayak through sea stacks along the craggy coastline. To experience a different taste of the region, head to the inn's 25-seat dining room, where chef Matthew Kammerer's eight-to-twelve-course tasting menus are completely foraged, farmed, and harvested within 50 miles. The payoff? Dishes like spring-vegetable nori with smoked oysters, abalone, and sea vegetables. From \$355 —S.P.



b



c



d

a–c. Harbor House Inn
d. Whitefish Mountain Resort
e. Whitefish Bike Retreat
f. Arctic Watch



f

29

Canada

Richard Weber and his wife, Josée Auclair, and sons Tessum and Nansen have spent 30 years exploring the polar regions, notching countless records and expeditions, like the first crossing of the Arctic Ocean on skis. The family also runs three lodges spread across the Arctic Archipelago, each offering unique adventures. In July and August at Arctic Watch, the northernmost fly-in lodge on the planet, kayak among icebergs while looking for beluga whales. At Arctic Haven, located on the shores of Ennadai Lake, 450 miles from civilization, you can observe North America's largest caribou migration in August and September. And in April and May, the family runs the world's northernmost heli-skiing operation from the Baffin Island hamlet of Clyde River, Nunavut. The only other tracks you'll see belong to the resident polar bears. From \$6,616 for six nights —J.M



e

30

Montana

Former Tour Divide champion cyclist Cricket Butler had bikers in mind with every step as she renovated an old barn in northern Montana. The result? The Whitefish Bike Retreat, a simple, tasteful lodge that serves as a base camp for bikepackers weary from the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route, which passes by six miles away, and rippers looking to explore some of the state's best trails. Private rooms start at \$110, or you can pitch your own tent for \$40. Stay in the lodge and you'll have access to the wood-fired sauna, repair shop, hot showers, and bike wash. As for where to ride, there's a private skills park on the property, and the 42-mile Whitefish Trail offers machine-cut cross-country routes right out the back door. Nearby Spencer Mountain has freeride terrain, and Whitefish Mountain Resort boasts lift-served downhill galore. —G.A.

UPGRADE GADGETS
Uncharted Supply Co. Zeus portable battery jumper \$150
A lightweight car-battery jumper that doubles as a USB charger and flashlight, so you're always prepared.

LifeProof Slam phone case \$50
The company's slimmest case protects your phone from drops of up to six and a half feet.

Garmin Fenix 5 Plus smartwatch \$650
Color topographic mapping and navigation, 12 days of battery life, a heart-rate monitor, and Spotify built in make this the perfect smartwatch for traveling athletes.

Goal Zero Flip 30 power bank \$40
Enough juice to recharge your GoPro five times means you'll never miss a shot. —B.R.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BRENDAN MCGUIGAN; JOHN STOREY; HARBOR HOUSE INN; WHITEFISH MOUNTAIN RESORT; BEN GAVELDA; NANSEN WEBER/WEBER ARCTIC

2019
BEST TRIPS

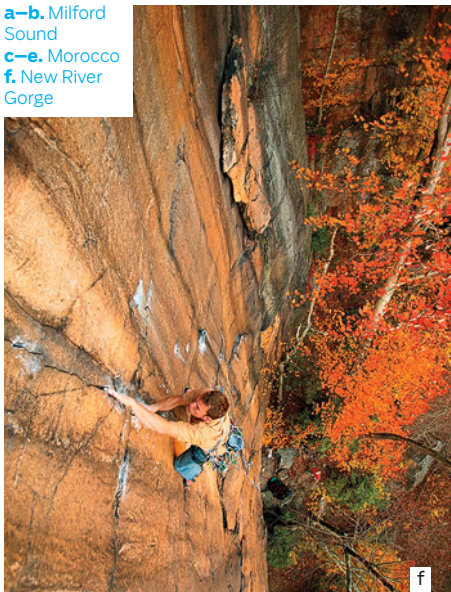


a



b

a–b. Milford Sound
c–e. Morocco
f. New River Gorge



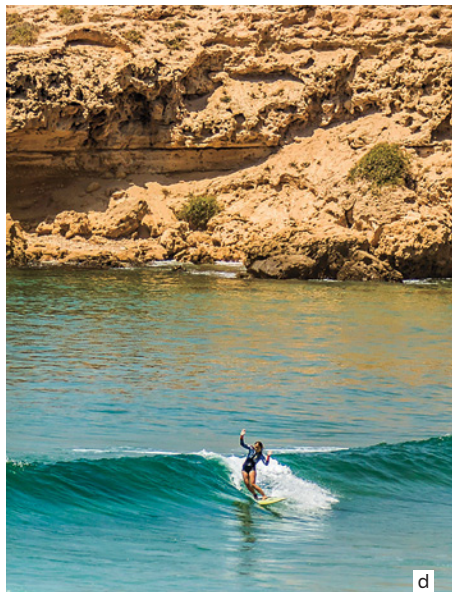
f



c



e



d

31 New Zealand

What nobody tells you about Milford Sound—that World Heritage site and most dramatic of New Zealand fjords—is that there’s (almost) no place to stay. Instead, buses shuttle in day-trippers from Te Anau, an adventure base two hours south, and deposit them onto giant boats for a loop of the fjord. But those in the know will have secured a bunk bed, camper spot, or small river chalet months in advance at Milford Sound Lodge (from \$27, \$40, and \$307, respectively). Kayak to the fjord’s 500-foot waterfalls, fly-fish the wide, graveled Cleddau River outside your door, and indulge in local pinot noir and Stewart Island salmon at the on-site Pio Pio Café. But the best part is the sense of peace and awe when the last tour bus pulls out of sight. —ELIZABETH HIGHTOWER ALLEN

32 West Virginia

OK, it’s not actually infinite, but with over 200 trad and sport-climbing routes strewn along three miles of world-class sandstone high above the New River Gorge, the Endless Wall sure feels that way. All-day sun makes cool weather ideal for classics like Fantasy, a 5.8 trad crack route that’s one of the crag’s few double pitches. Climbers comfortable leading 5.10’s will get the most out of the area, but the gorge is filled with more than 1,400 established routes to session. There’s also 60 miles of mountain-biking trails, trout-filled tributaries, and Class III–V rapids to explore. To refuel, grab a beer and a grape and Gorgonzola pizza at Fayetteville’s Pies and Pints. It’s just four miles from the American Alpine Club’s official campground (\$30). —ABI-GAIL WISE

33 Morocco

With four lodging options in Taghazout, British expats Ben O’Hara and Ollie Boswell have put this laid-back surf village on any boarder’s bucket list. The duo’s newest chic offering, Amouage by Surf Maroc, opened in 2016 and is perched over a point break on a coastline riddled with good waves. And the boutique hotel’s local guides and instructors know a thing or two about where the swell is. The best waves are November through March, and pending conditions, the guides might drive you an hour and a half north to the hamlet of Imsouane or put you in the water right out front. Meals are family style, and the mostly European guests are eager to exchange wipeout stories while lounging on Moroccan poufs. Too tired or sore to surf? There’s yoga in a glass-walled room overlooking the sea, massages to knead throbbing arms, and an infinity pool with views of the waves you’re missing. Seven-day packages start at \$644, all-inclusive —M.T.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MILFORD SOUND LODGE; TRAVELLING LIGHT/ALAMY; SURF MAROC (3); HARRISON SHULL/AURORA/ALAMY