

WAYS TO GO Heli-skiing, river cruising and trips defined by transport. PAGE 6
ROUNDUPS Must-go events for foodies, theater buffs, music lovers and more.

**SPECIAL
ISSUE**

36 HOURS In Milan, repurposed spaces lead a wave of rejuvenation. PAGE 5
THE GETAWAY Where will you go this year? We crunch the numbers. PAGE 2

DISCOVERY | ADVENTURE | ESCAPE

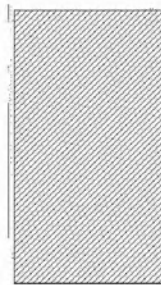
Travel

The New York Times

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A large graphic with an orange background. At the top, a black horizontal bar contains the text "52 PLACES" in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, a large white eye shape is centered. Inside the eye is a green globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. Numerous red location pins are scattered across the globe. Below the eye is a blue suit jacket with a white shirt and a red tie. At the bottom of the graphic, another black horizontal bar contains the text "TO GO IN 2015" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

An advertisement for Hilton. On the left, a photograph shows three children running on a beach. The text "Be left with an impression deeper than any footprint." is overlaid on the image. On the right, a dark background features the text: "Over 4,000 hotels in 2,000 cities with 12 distinct brands, like". Below this are logos for Hilton, Home2 Suites, and Home2 Suites. At the bottom, the Hilton logo and "HILTONGETAWAYS.COM" are displayed.



cuisine made from local, seasonal ingredients, and Aarstova, a French restaurant using Faroese ingredients. In 2015 Aarstova's new fish house, Barbara, will serve the only yearly harvest of the incomparable Faroe Bank cod. There's also innovative sushi at Etika, and the well-regarded brewery Okkara. In addition, the islands are drawing food enthusiasts for their local cheeses and raest, a fermented mutton dish that is a local delicacy. Though isolated, the Faroe Islands — an autonomous part of Denmark — are a short flight from Copenhagen and Reykjavik. DAVID SHAFTEL

10. Macedonia

The next Balkan destination.

First came Croatia, then Montenegro — even Albania is gaining traction on the western Balkan travel circuit. Macedonia is next. Known for its moody monasteries and sparkling Lake Ohrid, this former Yugoslav republic is making a play for adventure foodies, too. It makes sense. Places like the Shar Mountains abound in Alp-like hiking while Macedonia's wine industry — once responsible for the bulk of Yugoslavia's supply — is enjoying a rebound with local producers. Scores of smaller hotels serving traditional soups and pastries like pastrmajlija, a meat pie, have opened to replace cold socialist haunts. Old establishments like the Hotel Montana Palace in cheese-friendly Krusevo offer newly renovated settings at low Balkan prices. And Macedonia is one of the few places without a McDonald's — they all closed in 2013. TIM NEVILLE

11. Medellín, Colombia

Urban renewal with innovative architecture and design.

Medellín's been getting a lot of attention lately for its spectacular urban renewal efforts. Many of the once legendary slums have been transformed through some astonishing architectural gems, like the Biblioteca España, a hyper-modern public library and community space in the low-income Santo Domingo neighborhood. The city's Metrocables (aerial gondolas) and 1,300 feet of outdoor escalators, developed to integrate the poorer hillside neighborhoods with the city center, are global milestones in smart public transit. New schools and parks dot the city. And an ambitious contemporary expansion to the Museo de Arte Moderno, housed in a former steel mill in the up-and-coming Ciudad del Río neighborhood, is scheduled for completion this year. NELL MCSHANE WULFHART

12. St. Vincent and the Grenadines

A new airport and dive center await.

The largest development project ever undertaken in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the new \$240 million Argyle International Airport will open this year, offering nonstop jet service from North America and Europe to the 32-island nation dotting the Lesser Antilles between St. Lucia and Grenada. Travelers traditionally come to scuba dive or snorkel the island chain's reefs, and the private island resort of Petit St. Vincent just added a new dive center run by the marine conservationist Jean-Michel Cousteau, with plans to lobby for a marine preserve nearby. Palm Island Resort manages to preserve the peace for which travelers come and serve social needs with a new weekly Silent Cinema night on the beach (guests watch a movie projected on a big screen while listening via wireless headphones) and a Silent Disco dance party held monthly on the shore.

ELAINE GLUSAC

13. Orlando, Fla.

Beyond Mickey Mouse: A Disney destination matures.

Disney World will no doubt remain the biggest draw to Orlando, but the city is growing up thanks to a string of civic developments, including the \$429 million Dr. Phillip's Performing Arts Center, the 62-mile-long SunRail commuter train, both opened last year, and a coming 19,500-seat soccer stadium set to open this year. But the most surprising development is the food scene. East End Market, and its stalls selling locavore fare and artisanal baked goods, opened in 2013. Last year saw the opening of Txokos Basque Kitchen, whose chef was nominated for a James Beard Award. Not to be outdone, two fellow Beard nominees, James and Julie Petrakis (Ravenous Pig, Cask & Larder), announced the February opening of Swine & Sons Provisions, their market/restaurant hybrid. Theme parks are expanding adult options as well: the elegant Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World opened in August 2014 and features a golf course, a rooftop lounge and an adults-only pool. ADAM H. GRAHAM

14. Zimbabwe

Once-avoided, now a must-visit.

This country's beauty and bounty have been overshadowed by political unrest and economic collapse over the last few decades, but today, the government is finally stable, the overinflated Zimbabwean dollar is gone, and the prices are low. An international terminal at Victoria Falls Airport set to open in July will make it far easier to get to, and new trips from outfitters like Red Savannah and Cox and Kings give travelers a way to explore the many riches: There's

the spectacular Victoria Falls, the Zambezi, Unesco World Heritage sites like the granite landform Matobo Hills and the colonial charm of cities like Harare. The biggest draw, however, might be the abundance of game, including hippos and lions, on full view on water safaris, like those offered by the new luxury cruiser Matusadona, or the old-fashioned way, by land, at upscale lodges like Bomani Tented Lodge in Hwange National Park. SHIVANI VORA

15. Burgundy, France

A Unesco candidate gets a redux and a renewed vigor.

Adieu Burgundy. Bonjour Bourgogne! The renowned wine region has ditched its musty Anglo moniker and reclaimed its French name in all official wine communications. With this rebrand come several changes and a new generation of winemakers and hoteliers. In 2014, the luxury conglomerate LVMH bought the Grand-Cru estate of Clos Des Lambrays near the village of Morey-St.-Denis, marking their entree to a region peppered with excellent vineyards. The picturesque hub of Beaune continues to draw interest with annual projects like Lumières de Beaune, light installations on the village's half-timbered houses. Not to be outshone, Dijon is debuting a pair of projects this year: the new Vertigo, a Design Hotel opening in January; and a new beach on Lake Kir that's made with 350 tons of imported sand. Bourgogne has also been nominated for Unesco's 2015 World Heritage list, specifically for its 100 historic appellations that have deepened the collective understanding of the concept of terroir. ADAM H. GRAHAM

16. Lower Manhattan

Ground Zero is in the midst of a remarkable comeback.

More than a decade after 9/11, the southern tip of Manhattan is becoming one of New York City's most vibrant neighborhoods. The long-awaited One World Trade Center and 9/11 Memorial, which opened last year, will soon be surrounded by an appealing array of dining, shopping and lodging establishments. A stunning transportation hub designed by Santiago Calatrava will join the Fulton Center and its dazzling oculus. Eataly, Mario Batali's ultra-popular food hall, will soon have a sister location downtown. Brookfield Place (formerly known as the World Financial Center) is completing major renovations to make way for over a dozen upscale boutiques, a second food market, and a restaurant by the celebrity chef Joël Robuchon. The new Pier A Harbor House offers fresh seafood, craft beers and hard-to-beat harbor views. Also underway: a series of luxurious condominiums and lodgings, including the Beekman Hotel, set

in a turreted 19th-century building with ornate interiors.

PAOLA SINGER

17. Tanzania

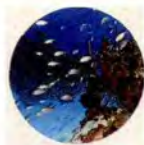
A safari revival in troubled times.

Security fears in neighboring Kenya have inadvertently worked in Tanzania's favor, as far as tourism goes: Its luxurious new lodges are enticing diverted visitors. The ever-popular Serengeti retains its cachet with high-profile openings. Asilia Africa's secluded Namiri Plains property and roving mobile camp Kimondo opened in July, followed by Legendary Expeditions' Mwiba Tented Camp in August, and a revamp of &Beyond Grumeti Tented Camp is slated to be unveiled this April. But the real new treasure here is unprecedented access to sparsely trafficked regions. Nomad Tanzania opened Kuro amid the baobab-studded landscapes of Tarangire; Azura opened a new camp in southern Tanzania's Selous Game Reserve, home to large concentrations of elephant, wild dog and leopard; while Ruaha, one of Tanzania's largest yet least visited national parks, is now home to Nomad's new Kigelia camp and Asilia's Kwihala. Not to be outdone by its bush brethren, the alluring isle of Zanzibar is scaling up its luxury hotel offerings in the form of the coming Park Hyatt Zanzibar. SARAH KHAN

18. The North Coast of Peru

A desert coast begs to be explored.

As tourism in Peru expands beyond the obligatory trip to Cuzco, this often-overlooked desert region is opening up. Lindblad Cruises has added stops in Trujillo, near important archaeological sites like the adobe city of Chan Chan and the Moche pyramid complexes of Sipán and El Brujo, which have opened museums in recent years. In town, the Libertador hotel, set in a Spanish colonial mansion, has undergone a \$2 million renovation. Farther north, the Chaparri Reserve outside Chiclayo, a habitat for highly threatened Andean spectacle bears, will have a bit of pop-cultural relevance this year with the release of a Paddington Bear film, built around a member of the species "from deepest, darkest Peru." If you'd prefer nature by day and boutique digs by night, the eco-hotelier Inkaterra is following up the opening of the six-room KiCHIC, in the low-key surf village of Mancora, by laying the groundwork for community-based tourism projects like sport-fishing and whale-watching charters at nearby Cabo Blanco, a former Hemingway fishing hangout, while pushing to establish a marine reserve and eventually a hotel. NICHOLAS GILL



A new dive center in Petit St. Vincent from a Cousteau.



Top, Kvikvik, one of the oldest villages in the Faroe Islands, which are drawing attention with their avant-garde cuisine. Above, Bomani Tented Lodge lies in Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe.