

The Next Great Destinations: 8 Places to Beat the Crowds this Summer



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I know the difference between expensive travel and the truly luxurious [FULL BIO](#) ✓

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With more people traveling than ever before, more and more places are starting to feel loved to death, at least in the height of high season. Ask anyone who has waited and waited to get one photo of an Icelandic glacier without other people in it, or stood in line to cross the Rialto Bridge or see the Segrada Familia.

Those sights are well worth seeing, but there's something to be said for visiting places that don't revolve around tourism, that are still—as the cliché goes—authentic. I asked top destination experts about their picks for the undiscovered (so far) gems of travel in 2018.



Discover Your Italy
The Roman theater in Lecce

Instead of Florence: Lecce

“Florence is famous for being the Renaissance city,” says Matteo Della Grazia of [Discover Your Italy](#). “Lecce in Puglia has equally amazing Baroque buildings and a young, vibrant atmosphere in its restaurants and cafés.” The surrounding coastal area has charming beach towns like Gallipoli and Otranto, while the countryside has many masserias (typical Puglia farmhouses) producing wine, olives and so on, where it is possible to organize cooking classes, tastings and often overnight stays.