

TRAVEL STORIES, VIDEOS, PHOTOS AND MORE

BE THERE IN A MINUTE WITH BILL NEWCOTT

TRAVEL FEATURES

Ballooning Into History



The dawn of the Space Age didn't happen where you think. I found the spot—halfway between Rapid City, SD, and Mount Rushmore.

National Geographic September 22, 2020

In the Pilgrims' Footsteps



A visit to Plymouth Rock reminds me that, from the signing of the Mayflower Compact to the landing at Plymouth Rock, the grade-school story of the Pilgrims doesn't quite square with the facts.

National Geographic November 11, 2020

Live Your NASCAR Dreams



NASCAR and IndyCar tracks across the U.S. are giving race fans a chance to follow in their heroes' skid marks. Join me behind the wheel at Wisconsin's legendary Road America.

The Saturday Evening Post September 21, 2022

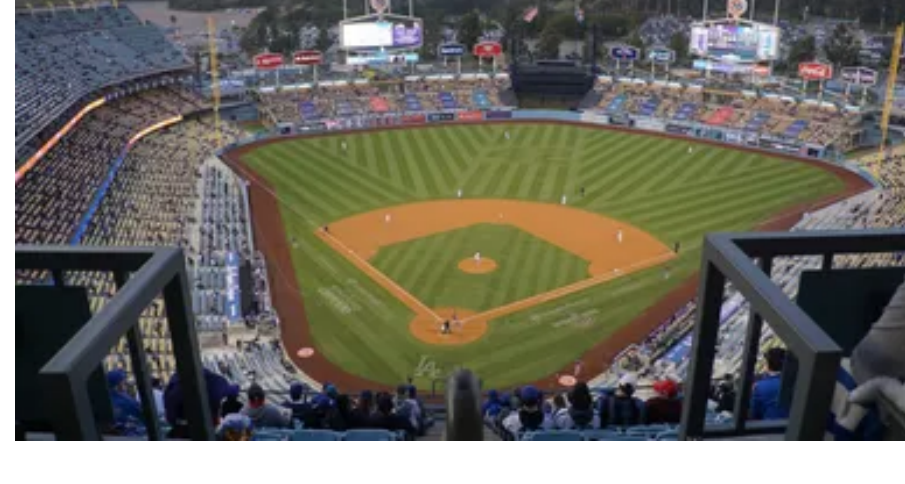
Visit Russia's Skylab—In Wisconsin?



There's just one place on Earth you can visit an actual, fully functional space station. I found it in Wisconsin Dells.

National Geographic March 22, 2021

Big League Players



I followed the sound of music at Major League Baseball parks from coast to coast. Here are the musicians who really know the score.

National Geographic April 23, 2021

Little Rock Reckons With the Trail of Tears



On the shore of the Arkansas River, a fitting memorial to one of America's darkest eras is emerging.

National Geographic September 14, 2022

Catalina When It's Cool



Coast 1,000 feet downhill—then have the quaint town of Avalon all to yourself on California's island paradise.

Alaska Beyond Magazine November 2019

Lubbock, TX: Night of the Tornadoes



In some ways, this city is still digging out from under the 1970 tornado that leveled a vast swath of it. But visionary plans are finally reaping the whirlwind.

National Geographic May 2021

Mad About Madrid (NM)



You don't have to be a little crazy to live in the nowhere world of Madrid, New Mexico. But even the locals agree: It helps.

The AARP Bulletin November 2016

Getting Lost



Turning my back on the Delaware beaches, a day of deliberate wrong turns makes everything right.

Delaware Beach Life, April 2020

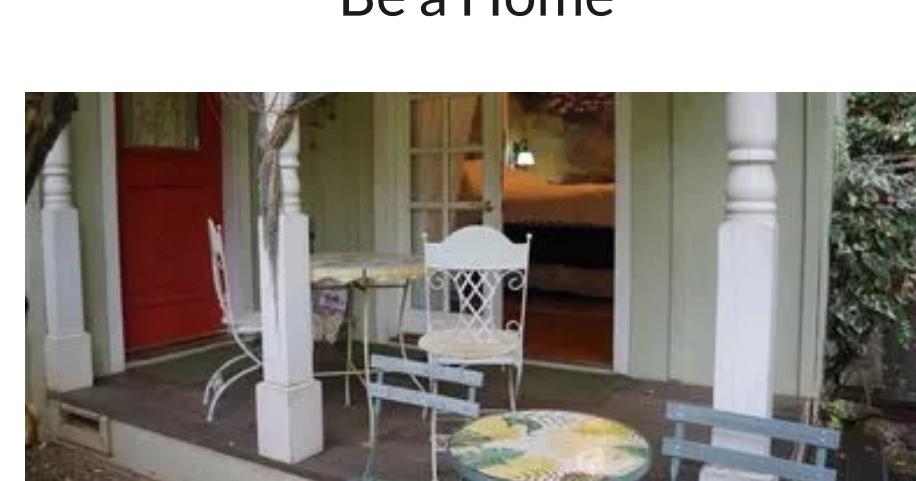
Up the Creek



An afternoon tubing North Carolina's French Broad River becomes a cross between "Gilligan's Island" and "Deliverance."

The Charlotte Observer October 2019

Even a Haunted Guest House Can Be a Home



A quaint California B&B was just one of the places across the country where I found hot and cold running chills.

National Geographic October 2021

The National Road Maryland-Illinois



George Washington envisioned it. Thomas Jefferson signed off on it—today motorists still travel the route from Cumberland, MD to Visalia, IL.

National Geographic Magazine November 1999

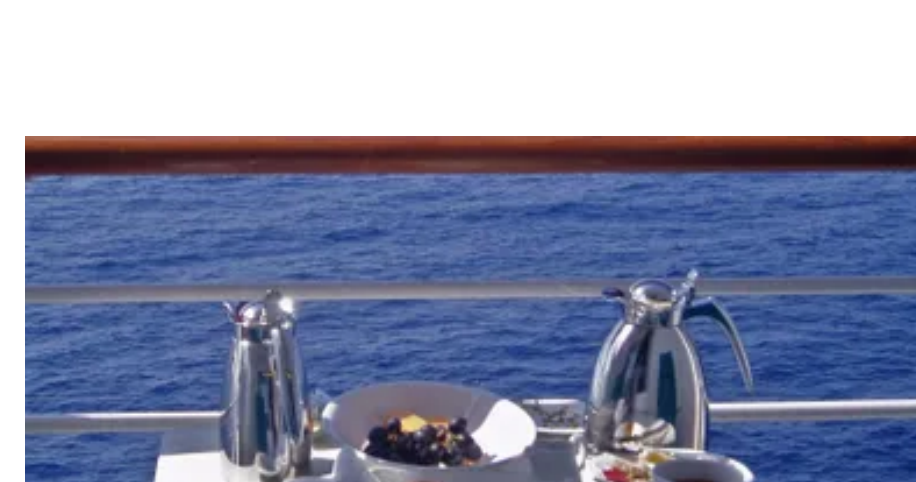
The Living Tower of London



It's not just London's most popular tourist spot—it's a palace, prison, and home to a squad of Beefeaters and their families.

National Geographic Magazine November 1993

The Perfect Cruise



Don't like "Pirate Night" or passenger Karaoke? Savvy cruise lovers know how to steer clear of seaborne disasters like that.

Modern Maturity Magazine June 2002

Fast Times in Rapid City



From the concrete dinosaurs to Mount Rushmore to the nation's oldest Passion Play, there's no way to take it easy in Rapid City.

Modern Maturity Magazine July 2003

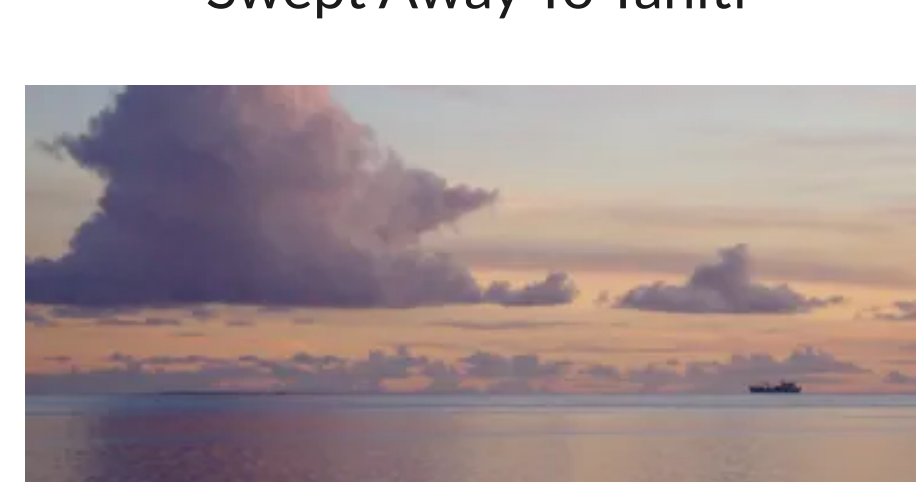
Believing Las Vegas



Like a cruise ship on a sea of sand, Vegas keeps plowing ahead.

National Geographic Magazine December 1996

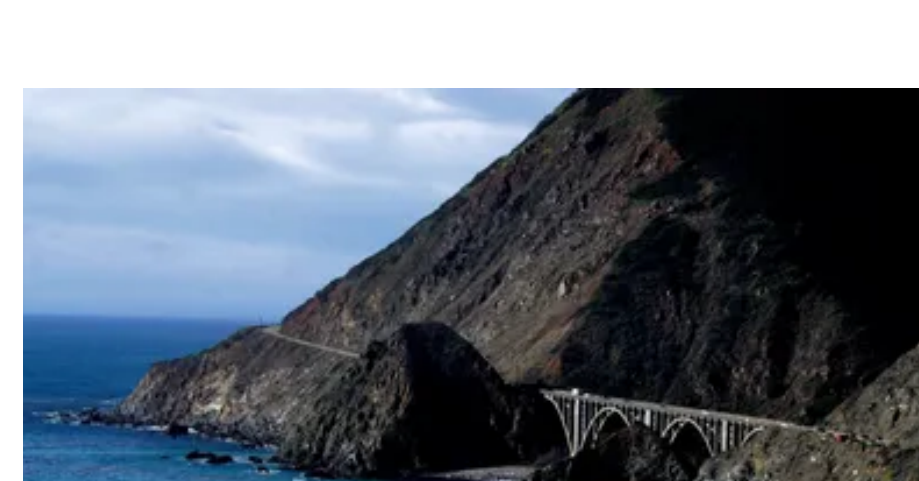
Swept Away To Tahiti



How to have a classic midlife crisis (with your spouse in tow) and return without having bankrupted yourself.

AARP the Magazine May-June 2004

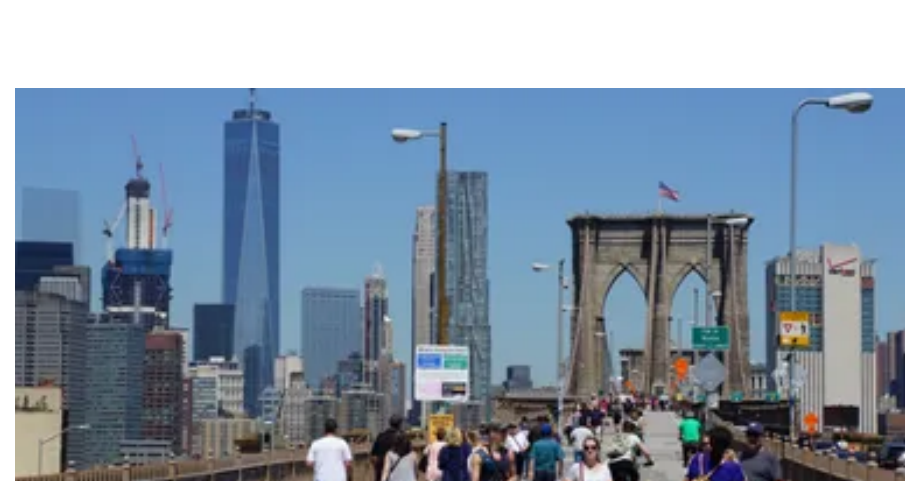
The Pacific Coast Highway



California has something for everyone—especially its storied Pacific Coast Highway.

AARP the Magazine Feb.-March 2017

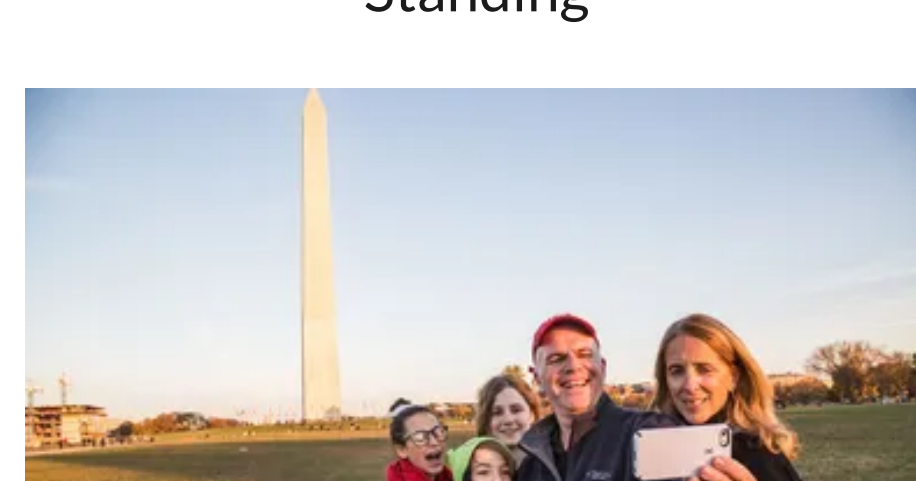
Manhattan Travel Myths



If you can make it there you can have fun anywhere—from one end of Manhattan to the other.

AARP the Magazine June-July 2016

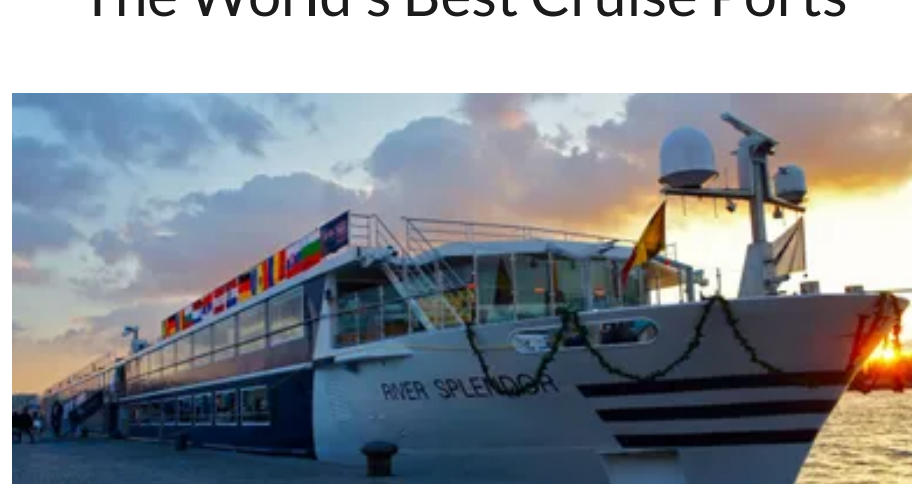
Washington, DC: Last Grand Standing



Three granddaughters came to town for a weekend—could we find fun stuff that would satisfy them all?

AARP the Magazine October-November 2016

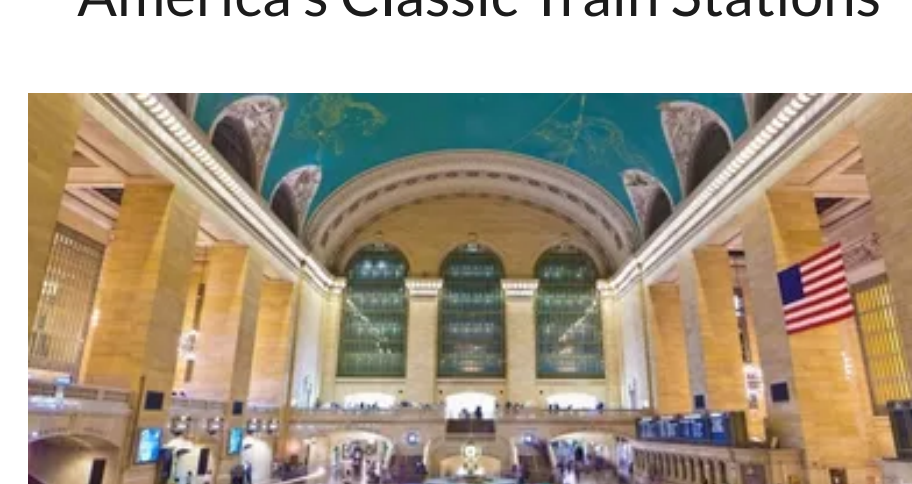
The World's Best Cruise Ports



Your ship has docked—but how much can you see just a short walk from the pier? Here are the world's best walk-up cruise ship destinations.

AARP the Magazine February-March 2015

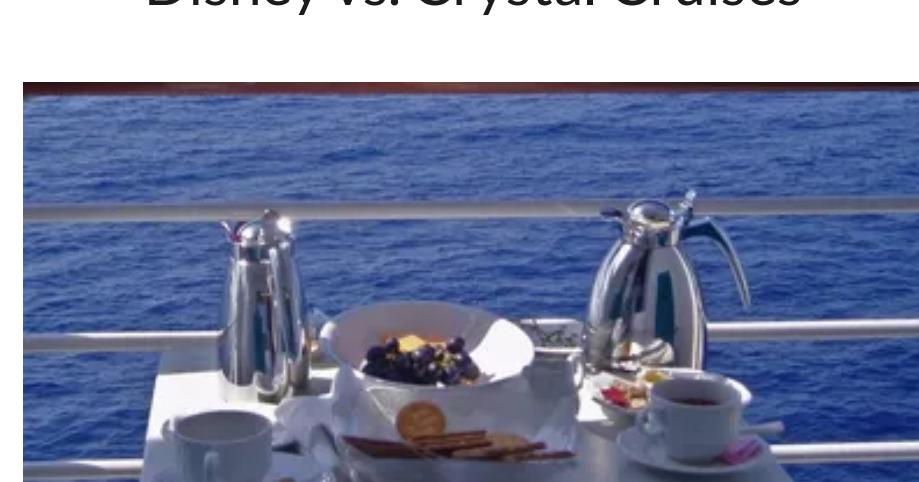
America's Classic Train Stations



Harking back to the Golden Age of train travel, these great depots are as much fun as the trips they begin.

Fodor's Travel Sept. 29, 2017

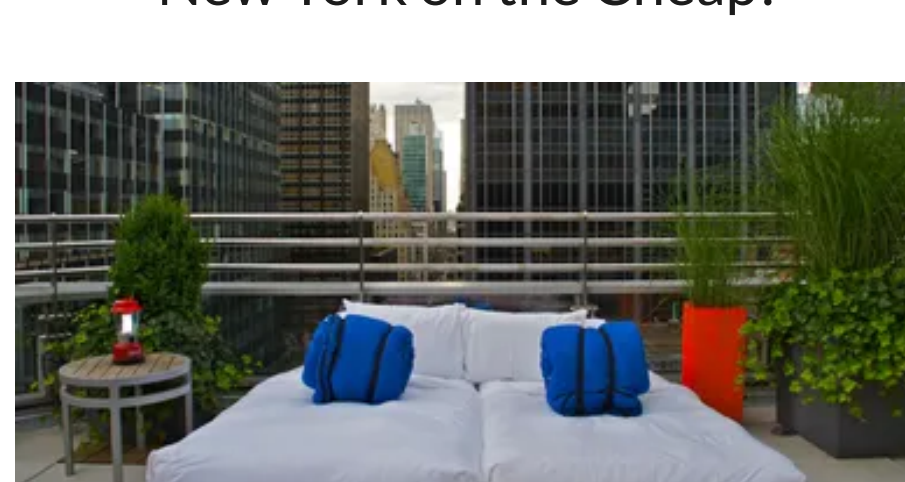
Disney vs. Crystal Cruises



A Tale of Two Cruises: A romantic Mediterranean cruise on the Crystal Serenity has more in common with a family voyage on Disney Magic than you might think.

AARP the Magazine December-January 2008

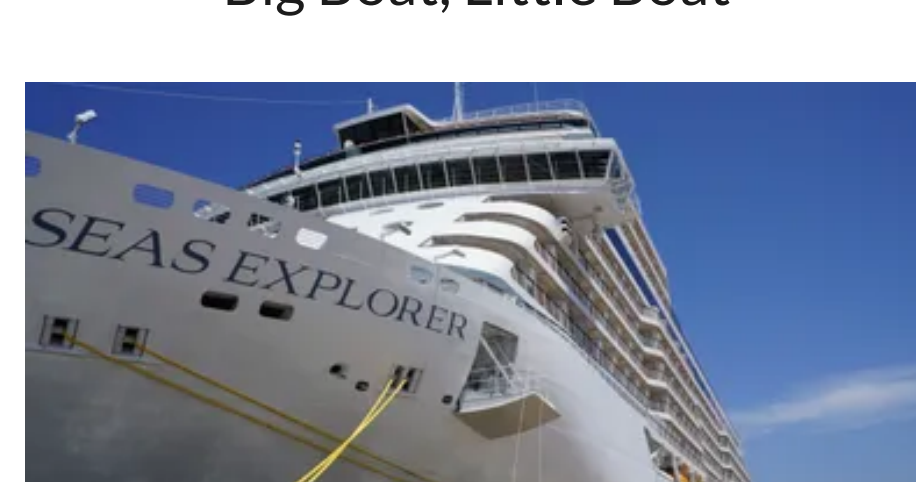
New York on the Cheap!



Spend time in the Big Apple without spending every dime you have.

AARP the Magazine April 14 2014.

Big Boat, Little Boat



Whether you prefer a megaship or a tiny river boat, there's a vessel perfect for your vacation plans. Here's our guide on picking the boat for you.

AARP the Magazine December-January 2009

The 11 Oldest Amusement Park Rides



These spinning, swooping, and snapping attractions are old enough to have given your great-grandmother the vapors.

Fodor's Travel September 27, 2017

Waterfalls Not Named Niagara



The thunder of crashing water sounds all across America—and in some surprising places.

AARP the Magazine July-August 2011

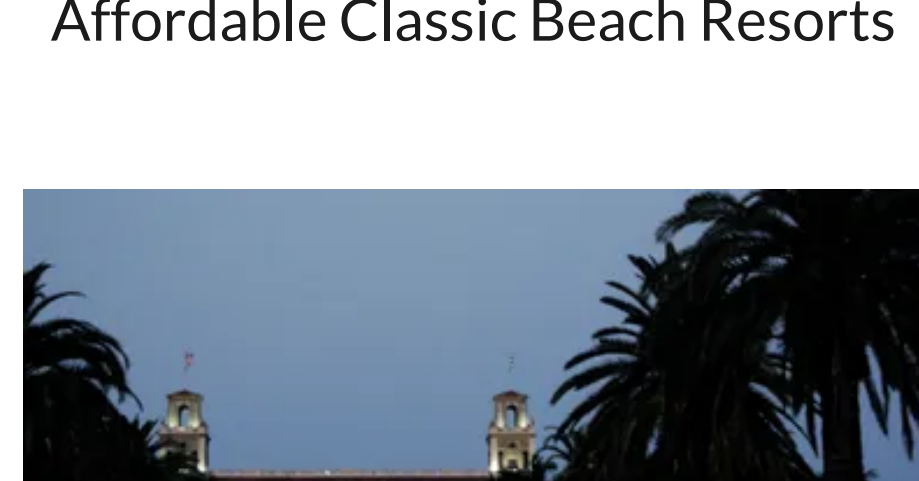
6 Must-See Bridges



Bridges aren't just for driving across. Let your feet take you across some of the nation's most beautiful spans.

AARP the Magazine August-September 2013

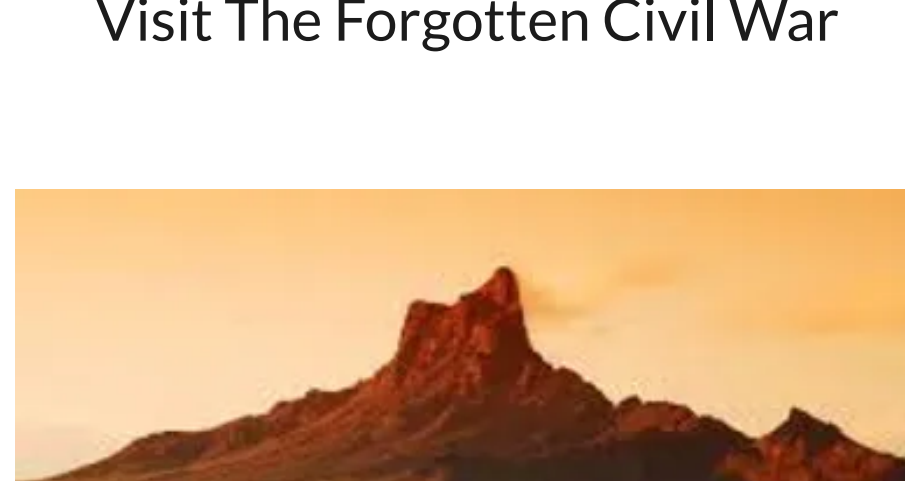
Affordable Classic Beach Resorts



You don't have to break the bank to sink your toes in the sand at a beach resort. These top-tier seaside slices of paradise are surprisingly affordable.

AARP the Magazine October-November 2013

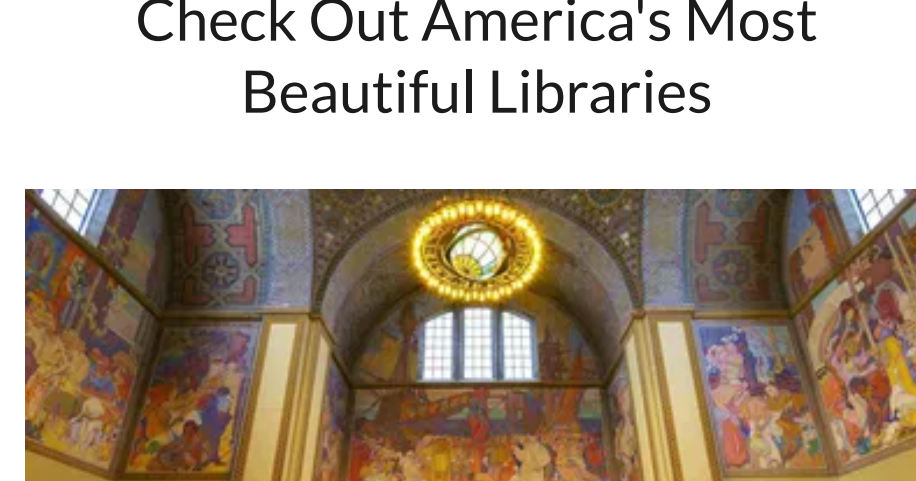
Visit The Forgotten Civil War



From New England towns to Arizona's deserts, memorials and museums remind visitors of a far-flung, secret Civil War.

AARP Bulletin July 2011

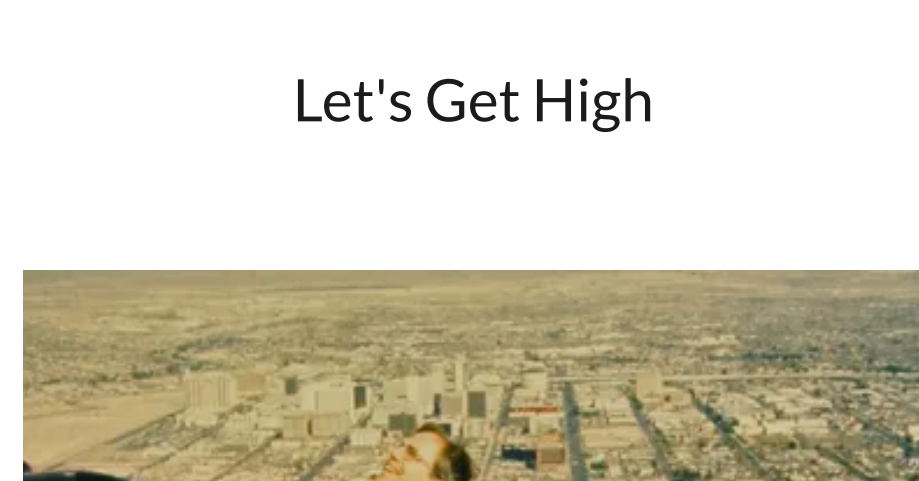
Check Out America's Most Beautiful Libraries



You don't need to be a book lover to enjoy these literary landmarks.

Fodor's Travel October 2, 2017

Let's Get High



Treat yourself to a bird's-eye view from these unforgettable perches across America.

AARP the Magazine April-May 2013

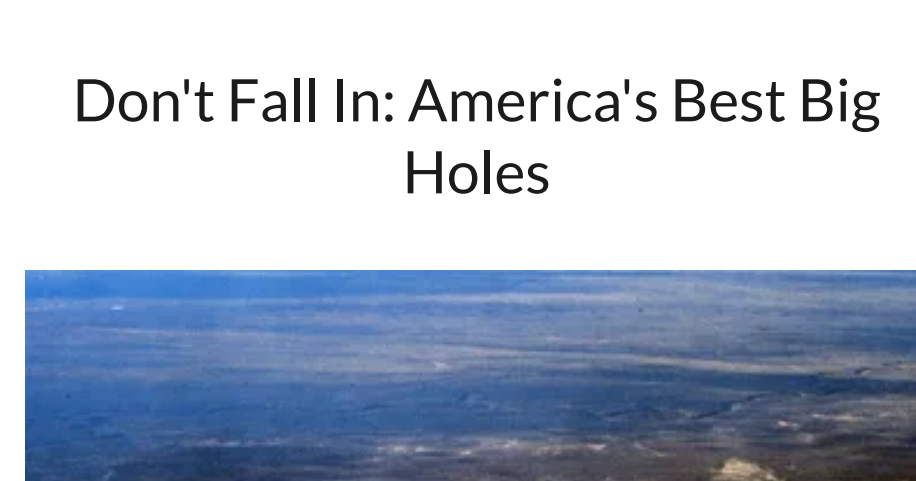
11 Romantic Vacations



Looking to spice up your love life and have a romantic getaway? Here are six of my favorite just-away-two-of-you vacation ideas.

AARP the Magazine February-March 2014

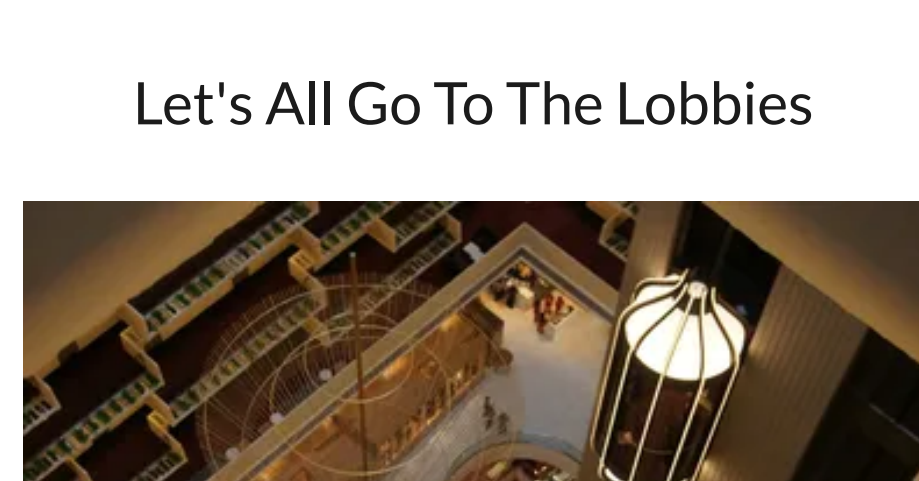
Don't Fall In: America's Best Big Holes



As you sit in that Winniebag jam on the way to the Grand Canyon, you may find yourself muttering, "I wish there were a different big hole we could stand at the edge of!" Here's my list...

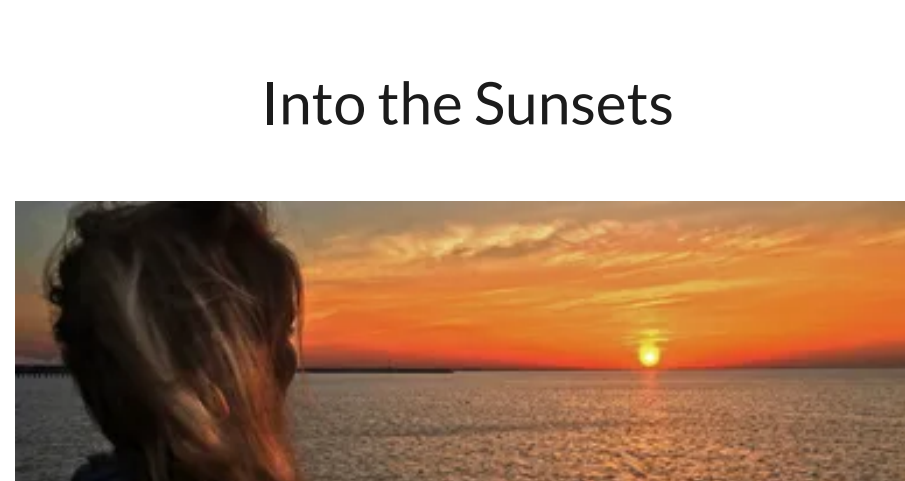
Fodor's Travel Sept. 8 2017

Let's All Go To The Lobbies



America's Grande Dame hotels greet you with lobbies worthy of royalty. Here are our favorites.

Into the Sunsets



Folks in Delaware insist they have some of the world's best sunsets. And science agrees.

Delaware Beach Life Magazine August 2019

Woodstock Revisited



By the time I got to Woodstock—I was 50 years too late.

National Geographic August 8 2019

The Third Bomb



There was a third atomic bomb planned for Japan. I found it in a New Mexico museum.

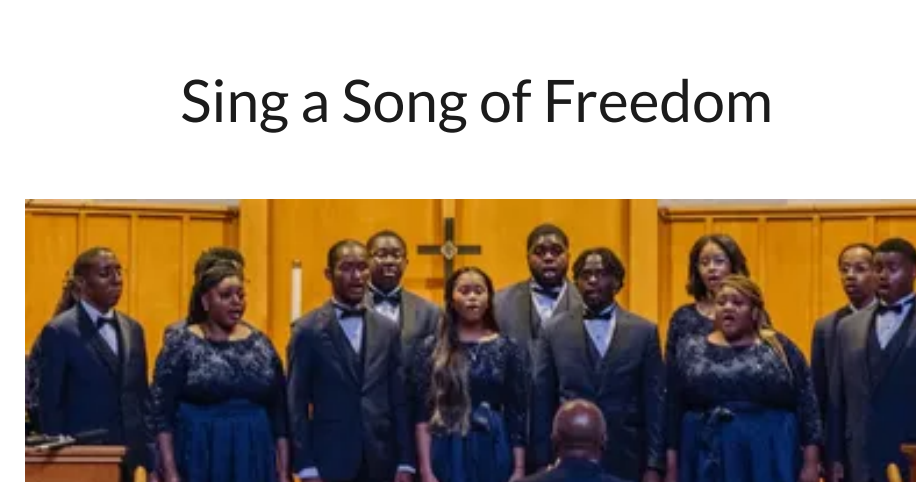
Backstage at the Smithsonian



From Muppets to exotic moths, my peek behind locked doors at America's national museums reveals some delightful surprises.

National Geographic November 23, 2021

Sing a Song of Freedom



Visitors to Nashville plan their stays around performances to the Fisk Jubilee Singers, who have been singing their Freedom Songs since slavery ended.

National Geographic October 6 2022