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## "Wizz Air is your greenest choice of air travel"

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After the past two unsettled years, setting targets and achievements for 2022 is a challenge. But not here at Wizz Air. This year we're making sustainability our number-one mission. Wizz Air is already your greenest choice of air travel, with one of the youngest fleets (with an average of 5 years, versus the industry average of 10 years) in the skies. This number will continuously decrease as we deliver new aircraft and re-deliver older ones. By 2024, we will see the average age of our fleet drop to 3.6, and by 2026 it'll fall even further to 3.2 years.

How are we going to achieve this? With our substantial order of Airbus A321neo aircraft made at the end of last year. We now have an order book of up to 429 of these fuel-efficient aircraft – the largest in our history. The A321neo aircraft are a game changer, and are set to support us in our goal of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per passenger kilometre by 25% by 2030. In fact, if all of Europe's airlines operated a fleet as efficient as ours, the industry's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions would already drop by 34% overnight.

Wizz Air is also an industryleader when it comes to health and safety. More than 90% of our flight and cabin crew members are now vaccinated. Along with our enhanced health measures, including onboard masks for all, frequent cleaning and a hightech air ventilation system, our vaccinated crew means a safer, smoother journey for you.

No matter where you are heading today, I and everybody at Wizz Air wish you a safe journey.

#### József Váradi

Chief Executive Officer



#### Our enhanced health and safety measures



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#### p9 In Place

Don't worry, be happy in these cheery cities; shoot hoops in Belgrade; watch vintage cinema in Italy; swim on the edge in Dubai; and get your *Game of Thrones* geek on in Belfast

#### p15 In Person

We meet the grannies baking and shaking at Vienna's coolest café; learn how to become royalty from the princess of independence-seeking Seborga; and work on our ski technique in Austria thanks to an app

#### p27 In Depth

Bringing Downton Abbey to life with a 1920s tour of London; tackling a new hiking route across Jordan; the UAE's quirky supper clubs; and rounding up the best adventures in the Canary Islands, from architecture to zip-lining

#### p65 In the Know

Our picks of where to stay and eat across the network

#### **p70** Destination Map

The Wizz Air route map



#### p72 WIZZ News

The latest news, plus the people going the extra mile at Wizz Air

#### p76 Insight

A breakdown of our products, services and fleet

#### **p80** Safety and Security

Looking after your safety, health and security on board

#### p83 Café & Boutique

Our onboard café and duty-free shopping options





#### **Editor's letter**

If you had the opportunity to travel back in time to a specific era, what would you choose? The Swinging 60s? Psychedelic 70s? For me it would have to be the 1920s, and the chance to feel like an extra in the new Downton Abbey movie - the glamorous beaded dresses, endless coupes of Champagne, tearing around town in a Hudson Roadster. And the best news is I don't need a time machine for this dream to become a reality. London (where else?) is home to an array of venues and activities that celebrate the original Roaring Twenties, and you can read all about it on page 28.

It's not the only blast from the past this issue. In Jordan you can marvel at 2,000 years of history walking the spectacular Jordan Trail (page 34). For something more modern, why not take a bite out of the latest foodie trend in the UAE - supper clubs in unexpected locations (page 46). And finally, check out our A-Z of all things adventurous across the Canary Islands (page 52). Wherever you're travelling to this month, I hope you enjoy every second.

Claire Köksal, Editor

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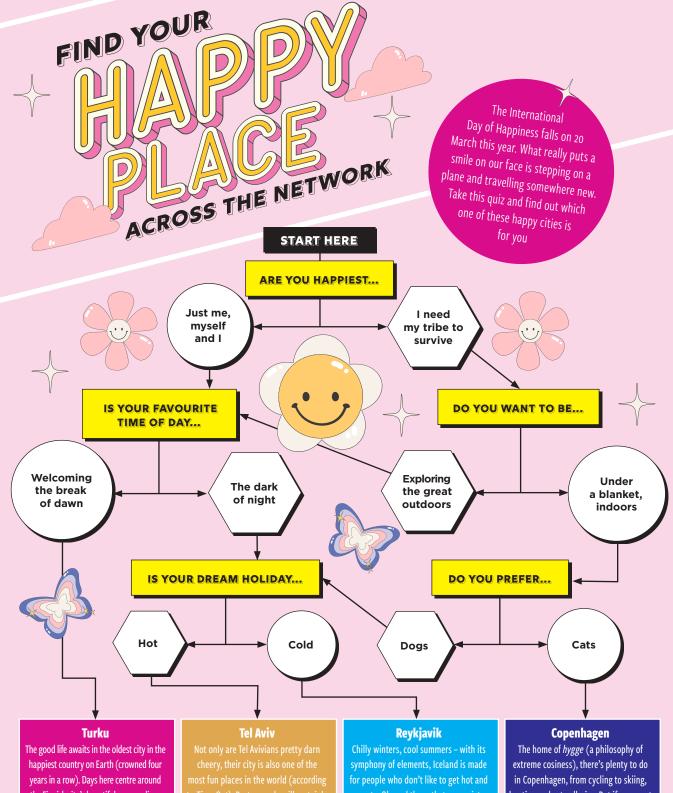
Hit the high notes

festival (400.000 tickets for Belgium's Tomorrowland 2020 sold out in under five minutes) launched an off-shoot in the Alps, hedonists in the know rightly sat up and took notice. The first Tomorrowland Winter in 2019 on the snowy slopes of Alpe d'Huez was a roaring success, with skiing across 250km of icing sugar-dusted runs and all-day music parties. And after a two-year hiatus (for obvious reasons), the biggest party on the piste is back. Expect more than 100 artists and DJs performing techno and trance across seven magical days from 19-26 March. Prefer to rave in the heat? Pre-registration for this year's Tomorrowland proper opens on 2 February.

#### tomorrowland.com

₹ Wizz Air flies to Grenoble and Brussels

WORDS BY CLAIRE KÖKSAL AND PIERRE DE VILLIERS PHOTO: TOMORROWLAND



The good life awaits in the oldest city in the happiest country on Earth (crowned four years in a row). Days here centre around the Finnish city's beautiful surroundings – skiing and ice skating in the winter, exploring the archipelago (with more than 2,000 islands!) and early morning strolls through parks in the summer.

cheery, their city is also one of the most fun places in the world (according o *Time Out*). Party people will certainly gree. Find paradise on the beach during the day and in the thumping clubs come nightfall in the Med's number-one party hotspot.

symphony of elements, lceland is made for people who don't like to get hot and sweaty. Oh, and those that appreciate hiking up jaw-dropping volcanic landscapes, dipping into restorative geothermal pools and drinking in the

truly extraordinary Northern Lights.

The home of hygge (a philosophy of extreme cosiness), there's plenty to do in Copenhagen, from cycling to skiing, boating and art galleries. But if you want to find out what really makes the Danes so happy, we say curl up in a café with a good book, blanket and open-fire.

Lap cat optional.

10 WIZZ MAGAZINE

## Play ball with a twist

#### in Belgrade

They call Serbia the 'Land of Basketball'. And guite right, too. By far the most popular sport here, this small nation is currently sixth in the world rankings. So where better for Nike to unveil a sustainability initiative in the shape of a brand-new basketball court made out of recycled trainers? Created with 20,000 old sports shoes donated by the local community, you'll find this cool court at Block 70 in Novi Beograd, or New Belgrade, in the north of the capital - chosen because this area is where some of the country's greatest sportspeople hail from. Designed by London-based agency Accept & Proceed, there's also a children's playground with swings and slides, plus a mini outdoor gym for when you tire of shooting hoops. Lace up your sneakers and bring your A game.

₹ Wizz Air flies to Belgrade

## Admire classic cinema in <u>Italy</u>

Federico Fellini not only changed the face of Italian cinema in the 1960s, but Hollywood too, with his dreamy cinematic masterpieces including *La Dolce Vita* and *Nights of Cabiria*. He famously drew inspiration for many of his greatest films from childhood memories of the idyllic Adriatic coastline where he grew up. Which is why a museum dedicated to his legacy was long overdue.

Last year, the 15th-century Castle Sismondo in Rimini opened a homage to his life and work, with high-tech video projections, photos, drawings and letters on display alongside costumes and props from his famous movies. There's also a gigantic sculpture of a sleeping Anita Ekberg to perch on as you watch her perform in clips of La Dolce Vita. A second building, Cinema Fulgor where Fellini fell in love with film, has been restored to its former glory, and has a screening room showing Fellini movies all day long. And a third space, Piazza Malatesta, has art installations, open-air performances and a spectacular water mirror. fellinimuseum.it ₹ Wizz Air flies to Ancona





# Hit the GOT trail

#### in Belfast

With the arrival of a brand-new *Game* of *Thrones* studio tour this February, here's our ultimate road trip to see GOT filming locations in Northern Ireland



#### **Cushendun Caves**

Antrim Coast

Formed 400 million years ago by extreme weather conditions, Cushendun Caves play host to one of the show's most bizarre scenes, where sinister 'Red Witch' Melisandra gives birth to a shadow baby.

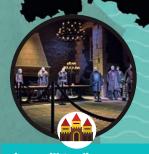
#### **Downhill Strand**

County Londonderry
A particularly fiery GOT scene
sees sorceress Melisandre
burning the statues of
seven gods on the shores of
Dragonstone – actually the
picturesque Downhill Strand,
watched over by the ruins of
Mussenden Temple.



#### **The Dark Hedges**

Between Armoy and Stranocum
Perhaps the most photographed
GOT location of them all, this tunnel
of beech trees on Bregagh Road
doubles as the Kings Road, the
grandest highway in Westeros.



#### **Linen Mill Studios**

Banbridge, south of Belfast
The 10,000m² Linen Mill Studios,
which opens its doors to the public
in February, is home to a number
of iconic GOT sets, including House
Stark's Winterfell Castle, the Greyjoys'
Pyke and the Tullys' Riverrun.



#### **Tollymore Forest Park**

**County Dow** 

The first state forest park in Northern Ireland acts as the woods where the Whitewalkers are first spotted and where the Starks find the six Direwolf pups. Aah.

## Modern fairy tales

near Copenhagen

There's a tiny yellow house on a charming, cobbled street in pretty Odense that looks like its leapt straight out of the pages of a Hans Christian Andersen story. Well, this house is actually where the story of Denmark's legendary author began, as it's where (it's believed) the father of fairy tales was born in 1805. And at the end of last year it became a small part of a larger story - the Hans Christian Andersen's House, a 5,600m² museum created to go beyond the history of the writer and capture the sense of imagination and adventure of his stories.

The museum was designed by leading architect Kengo Kuma and inspired by Andersen's story *The Tinderbox*, where a tree reveals an underground world. In addition to Andersen's childhood home, the



museum is made up of a children's cultural centre, an underground museum and a magical garden. Listen to music inspired by Andersen's fairy tales composed by Louise Alenius, or marvel at paper installations based on *Thumbelina* by Veronica Hodges and illustrations by Sandra Rilova.

h can dersen shus. dk

#### Swim on the edge

in Dubai







## **Let the robots take over**around the network

Live a fully automated life and try out these new robotic attractions



#### Tavis

Is the era of inane chat with your taxi driver finally over? Driverless cabs have just been rolled out (ahem) in Abu Dhabi. The project, named TXAI, has a fleet of electric and hybrid vehicles driving between nine stops on Yas Island.



#### Pizza

Italians, look away now. A new restaurant in Paris has a robot that creates pizza from scratch. Pazzi's robot chef can make up to three pizzas at a time as well as performing elaborate, Tik Tok-worthy dance routines. pazzi.co



#### **Cocktails**

At the largest club in Central Europe,
Karlovy Lazne in Prague, a two-armed
Makr Shakr robotic bartender will pour
your perfect drink. Order via the app and
watch as almost any cocktail is created
– with a little bottle-throwing flair for
good measure. karlovylazne.cz



## GRAND FERDINAND



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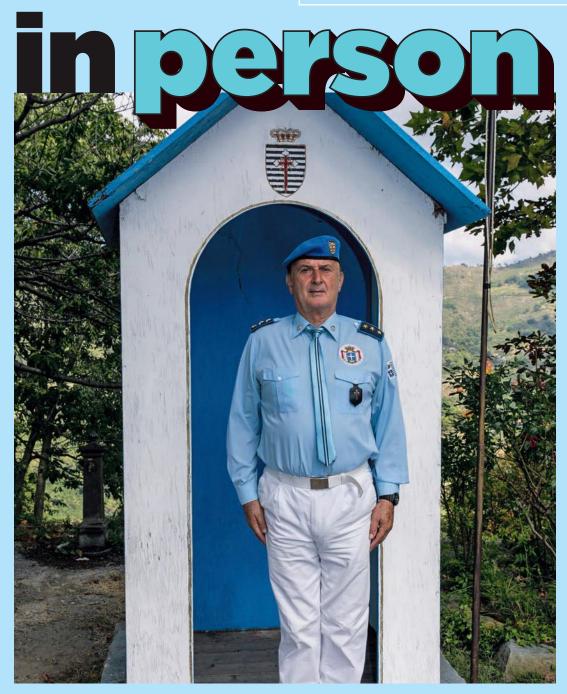


#### Blessed with beauty.

At the Grand Ferdinand, Viennese elegance makes its triumphant return to the world-famous Ringstraße. Here tradition is celebrated by moving forward, not by looking back. At our restaurant Meissl & Schadn, the classics of Austrian cuisine, especially the Wiener Schnitzel, achieve perfection.

BEST WIENER
SCHNITZEL AT
MEISSL & SCHADN
IN VIENNA AND
SALZBURG





Meet the super grannies baking up a storm in Vienna

**p16** 

Skiing better thanks to an app near <u>Salzburg</u>

p20

How to rule your own micronation in <u>Italy</u>

**p24** 



We meet the OAPs shaking things up at Vienna's enterprising café, Vollpension

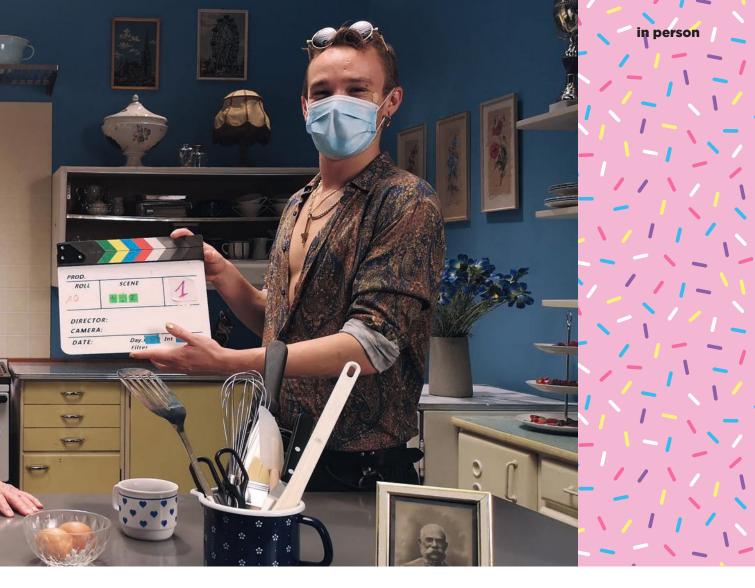
Words by Amy Guttman

Photography by Mark Glasser

en years ago, Moriz Piffl-Percevic was catching up with a friend over coffee in Vienna when a disappointingly dry slice of cake sparked a new idea. "I was thinking of the cakes my grandmother used to make," he says. "My friend and I both agreed our grannies made better cakes than you can order in restaurants these days."

That was the starting point for Vollpension (translated as 'full pension'), a café and social business employing *omas* (grandmothers) and a few *opas* (grandfathers) to make and serve sweet specialties, from strudel and tartes to buns and cakes. Moriz and his co-founders spent a few months developing this idea with two main goals: not only to offer delicious homemade desserts, but to also encourage dialogue between older and younger people.

But first, Moriz needed to find his cake-making omas. And he was surprised by the response to a



'Granny Wanted' ad he placed in a local newspaper. "So many people applied!" he says. "We realised there's a big demand for jobs for people 65 and older. And it's not just about interaction between age groups – it's also about older people living in poverty and looking for work."

There is another element that attracts senior citizens, too. For many, a weekly shift at the café is a good way to beat loneliness. "The personal motivation of every individual is different," Moriz says. "It's a mixture of creating a meaningful occupation, being part of a team, getting positive feedback to a recipe you make, weekly contact with younger people – and creating that additional income."

After a few years operating successful pop-ups, the first permanent Vollpension café opened in 2015 in a busy part of Vienna near the Naschmarkt Hall. The decor reflects this fusion of old and new, with framed photos hung on exposed brick walls and comfortable,

worn-in furniture positioned around communal tables set with floral-painted china.

While some of the staff bake, others greet and host diners. Karin Hofbauer, 63, retired from her job as a hospital secretary and works in the café every Saturday as a host, seating guests and, when customers are lucky, sharing a recipe. "It was a good time for me to retire, but I still had a lot of energy," she says. "I thought it's perfect because I always baked cakes and I wanted to meet new people and, of course, get a bit more money coming in."

With its unique approach to hospitality and rotating menu of Austrian desserts (think Sachertorte and apple strudel along with vegan brownies) and light meals, the café is popular with visitors to the city and residents who have become regulars.

Björn Streben is one such fan, having first discovered Vollpension more than six years ago. He's been calling ahead to reserve his favourite cake ever



Previous page Mutter Mayr gets ready for filming. This page Bakers keep online viewers and regular customers happy

since. "It's very familiar, warm and cosy," he says. "It's just like being in granny's home." Certain cakes sell out, he cautions. Björn's first choice is punsch schnitte, an Austrian cake named for its ludicrously bright pink icing (like a fruit punch) blanketed over a rum cake with jam on the inside. "My mom used to make it, so it reminds me a little bit of home," he says.

During recent lockdowns, Karin and the Vollpension team helped customers create their own homemade cakes through an online baking academy, which also helped support pension-age staff who were not entitled to government furlough. The omas were taught how to use Zoom and provided live lessons from their kitchens at home. Karin continues to teach students how to make her beloved cheesecake. "I never, ever thought I would be teaching classes on Zoom," she says. "I don't feel like an old person who's out of touch. I feel needed in society; my wisdom and knowledge are interesting to other people."

Moriz and his team opened a second Vollpension café in Vienna in 2019 and are regularly asked about replicating the business elsewhere around the world. The online baking academy has been so successful, classes will be offered permanently, with an expanded, global reach.

"We love inspiring other people," he says. "The online live baking classes were initially just meant to keep our older staff in the job and keep up their income, but we've realised it's popular and we've opened up applications for senior citizens from anywhere in the world to apply to teach an online baking class. If we can inspire other people to create jobs for the elderly or for people to reflect about the value people of a pension age can contribute, then it's a good thing."

One cake at a time, Vollpension hopes to bridge the gap between generations for years to come. vollpension.wien

**₹ Wizz Air flies to Vienna** 

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## "Want to ski like a pro? There's an app for that"

We send a novice skier to the Austrian Alps to find out if their phone can make them better on the slopes



itting on a chairlift, I hear a voice in my head. It says something like this: "Imagine you have a bottle of wine resting on the front of your skis." You have my attention, voice. "As you make a turn, try to gently pour the wine into a glass without spilling a drop."

The chairlift is atop the Stubai Glacier in Tyrol, an Austrian ski area 3,000m above sea level. But this isn't the altitude affecting my mind. No, the voice in my head is that of my new ski coach: my phone.

I'm a latecomer to skiing, taking it up four years ago aged 43. Making up for lost time has come at a cost - a small fortune in lessons - and I'm now in a common bind (pun intended). Do I stick at my passable level or spend more to improve? Well, there's an app for that.

Carv is a British-designed marriage of physical tech, smart software and human knowledge that, it's claimed, can enhance your skiing through the kind of real-time, data-driven cold hard facts that human coaches can't provide. A wafer-thin, sensor-packed insert sits beneath the insole of each ski boot, measuring things like pressure, angle, weight-distribution – they probably read your horoscope, too.

This feeds into the app on your phone, blending with information gathered from tens of millions of

turns by other Carv users and old-fashioned input from a team of top coaches. The result: it tells you what you're doing, how well you're doing it and, crucially, how to do it better. All for the price of an initial purchase and annual subscription roughly equivalent to an hour or two of private tuition. Sounds ideal, right? Sure, if it works.

This is my second day on the slopes. Yesterday, I'd arrived on a gloriously sunny glacier covered in deep, fresh snow. Unfortunately, half of Austria had arrived before me and churned the pristine powder into a mogul field. Getting my ski legs back had been painful. More so because I knew that every awkward element of my giraffe-on-ice routine was being recorded by Carv's sensors.

I spent the day in Freeksi mode, the least interactive setting but one that still chugs away in the background. It gives me my first 'Ski IQ' score – basically a technique rating that you try to increase. Mine was 79, but more on that later.

This morning, it's time to see if Carv can back up its claims and make me a better skier. At the top of the gondola, I find the ski day of dreams. From high up on the glacier, you can see an endless sea of pristine white-capped peaks. The vivid sunlight adds ultra-

the challenge in person SALZBURG



high definition to everything, including, this time, perfectly groomed slopes. No excuses today.

I spend the morning trying two things: the in-built video drills supplied by those crack coaches (Carv wants your subscription to be of benefit off the piste, too) and Monitor mode. The latter gives you scores through your earphones as you ski. For example, set to gauge the weight I put on my outside ski, as I turn, I hear "82, 67, 85, 70" and so on, so I know my left leg isn't pulling, or rather pushing, its weight. I adjust and the numbers even up. This would be impossible for any biological coach.

Carv has smartly tapped into the mindset of multiple generations reared on Commodore, Nintendo, Sega, PlayStation et al by 'gamifying' ski drills. If you love the endorphin rush of approval, the serotonin of success, the buzz of a beep, Carv is right up your straße.

The drills might be about weight distribution or rotation, for example. Get a turn right and it's 'ping!', wrong and it's 'buzz!'. Get enough on target, progress to the next level (no need to fight an end-of-level boss, thankfully). Ping! Ping! Winner! This is motivation at its best.

My favourite is the metronome. Imagine the line I carve in the snow as the line on a heart monitor. It should look like a regular pulse. Too often, though, I turn irregularly, especially in tough conditions, making

my line look like someone having a heart attack on a roller coaster.

I have to make each turn within a set time. Wait too long and... buzz! My competitive nature trumps my bad habits and I hit my mark every time, ignoring moguls and ice patches, moving to a Viennese waltz in my head and the beeps in my ear. It's the best I've skied today – possibly ever.

As I descend in the gondola I check my Ski IQ. It's gone from 79 on my first morning to 96. I'm chuffed. At my age, it's the only IQ with any chance of improvement. In Carv terms, 96 makes me what I am: an intermediate holiday skier at best. Over 110 is seen as 'above average', past 130 is 'advanced' and should I ever hit 150, I'll be at the 'world-class instructor' mark.

Carv is a treasure chest of analysis and information, with more functions and connectivity than I have space to write about, but this is what I like best about it. It works for someone like me and also for the type of skier I look at in awe and assume are as good as they can get. The ceiling is so high that they too can make gains. It's not something you'll outgrow. And while it doesn't replace human coaches, until they learn to ping and buzz in your ear, it does things they can't. I head back to the hotel to celebrate my own achievements – and pour the wine perfectly.

#### getcarv.com

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The SHiELD

# "I'm an approachable princess, people don't drop to their knees when they see me"

Princess Nina Menegatto of tiny Seborga – a principality within Italy – gives us the dos and don'ts of running your own country



ina Menegatto wasn't born a princess.

Nor did she marry into royalty. It's a title she assumed in November 2019 when she was elected the first female ruler of the Principality of Seborga, a small village in the region of Liguria claiming sovereignty from Italy. "I'm an approachable princess," she smiles. "People don't drop to their knees when they see me."

Like most hilltop communities along the Italian Riviera, the pedestrian alleyways of Seborga are a charming warren of thick stone buildings built during a period of history when fortifications were the fashion. To get there, a narrow road snakes its way into the hinterland from the seaside resort of Bordighera, with locals in trusty Fiat Pandas taking the hairpin bends at breakneck speeds. From Piazza Martiri Patrioti, the main square where Nina – or HSH Princess Nina of Seborga as she is now known – can often be found playing with her two-and-a-half year old daughter, the Mediterranean Sea shimmers and the silhouette of Monaco can be made out in the distance.

But the micronation of Seborga also has its own government, constitution, identity card, flag – even national anthem. And this small but passionate community is engaged in a David and Goliath-like match-up with the Italian state. At the heart of the matter is its belief that this particular 14 square

kilometres of land was never officially annexed during the country's unification. "We have the right to be a principality," Nina says. "We want our independence back."

It's a cause the population of just over 300 has been fighting for since 1963, when local flower grower Giorgio Carbone became Prince Giorgio I of Seborga. He ruled until his death in 2009, and was succeeded by Marcello Menegatto, Nina's ex-husband. Germanborn Nina had met Marcello at boarding school in Switzerland and followed him home to Monaco. The couple quickly fell for the peace and space they found in Seborga, a 30-minute drive away. "We wanted a garden and a barbecue, things you can't have in Monaco," she says. "So, we started a small farm with horses and other animals here."

Under Prince Marcello I's rule, Nina served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, a position that took her to India and the White House. He abdicated three years ago and in the elections that followed, Nina was pitted against Giorgio's daughter. The decision to run wasn't an easy one (the leadership structure is an elective monarchy with one term lasting seven years). "I'm happier in the background, but I also realised how sad it would be to throw away nearly a decade of hard work," she says. The result is testament to how much the villagers believe in her. The feeling is mutual. "I really love Seborga. It's a big family," she says.



COVID-19 has put on hold much of the face-to-face lobbying involved in the role, although just before the world locked down, the Ivory Coast became the first country to officially recognise Seborga's sovereignty (foreign representatives can also be found in nine other countries). A positive to emerge is that the pandemic seems to have silenced Frenchman Nicolas Mutte, who declared himself prince in 2016 and is known as the 'Imposter Prince'. "We haven't heard anything for a while," Nina says. "I hope it will stay like that."

She has also been busy working on her stamp issue and, in a first, banknotes to complement the coin she has already minted in her effigy (while the currency, called the luigini, isn't a legal tender, it's still listed on foreign exchange websites such as xe.com). After nearly two years of cancelled events, Nina is hoping this year will herald the return of other traditions.

"Seborga has always been known for its parties," she says. The biggest of all is National Day on 20 August when sentries guard the entrance to the village, locals dress up in traditional costumes and flag throwers from across the region showcase their flair.



Imagine how memorable the party would be if Seborga achieves independence, a feat Nina appreciates seems little more than a fantasy. Yet, she has also seen enough in the last few years to believe in the fairy tale. "No one thought Brexit would happen, did they?" she says. "Nothing is impossible."

principatodiseborga.com

**⊀** Wizz Air flies to Nice





Bringing Downton Abbey to life in London Taking a walk to remember in Jordan

Weird and wonderful food in Lviv

Ultimate adventures, from A-Z, in the Canaries

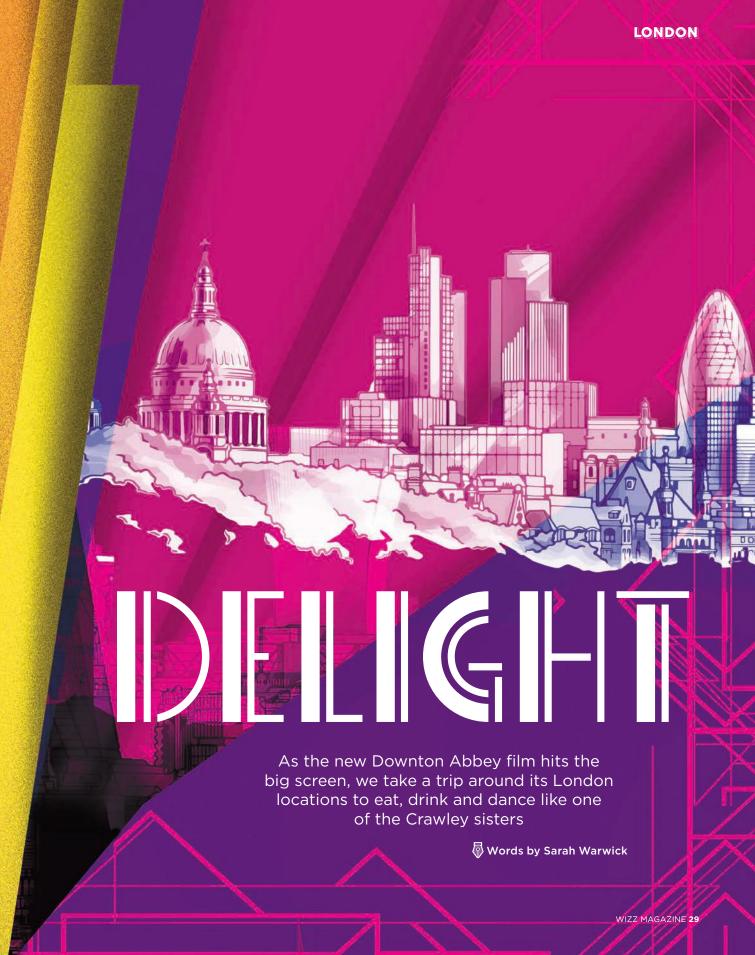
**p28** 

**p34** 

p46

**p52** 





his is the first time I've ever been invited to spank my bum in a public place – or at least that I remember. I'm at Pineapple Dance Studios in London's Covent Garden, attempting to learn a 1920s dance craze called Black Bottom. One of its signature moves involves slapping your own derrière before 'mooching', moving each leg like you're dragging them out of mud.

"The uglier the shape, the better the movement," our teacher Becca calls out. I must be great at this, I think, as I catch sight of myself in the mirror, looking horribly contorted. The key, she explains, is "hip-roll isolation". To be honest, mine looks more like a dislocation.

My mal-coordinated performance is all in the name of research, though. This spring sees the release of *Downton Abbey: A New Era*, the latest instalment from the globally blockbusting costume drama, set in the late 1920s. I've come to London to find out about the city's role in the making of Downton, and to explore a Jazz Age revival that's bubbling



away here, more than 100 years after the original flappers and chaps scene.

Becca, my dance teacher, is a member of Swing Patrol, a company that usually specialises in swing dances of the 1930s and 40s, but her Thursday night beginners' classes are for learning the various 'Solo Jazz' dances that came out of the US earlier. "Most people have heard of the Charleston, and Black Bottom [named after an area in Detroit] is very similar," she explains. "Both dances originated in the Deep South in the early 1900s and would have been in London by the 1920s."

Women like Downton's Lady Mary would have found these dances liberating and even shocking, not least because these were danced 'solo', encouraging women to bop and spin without being led by men, but also for their raw sex appeal. The bumslapping Black Bottom was banned in many reputable establishments.

I'm eager to know more about what London in those days was like, so I join a Downton Abbey tour of central London. While Highclere Castle is the setting for Downton (see page 33), a good percentage of the series was shot either at Ealing

Left The Earl of Grantham (Hugh Bonneville) and Lady Mary (Michelle Dockery) at Highclere Castle Above The Black Bottom in action in the 1920s



# WOMEN LIKE DOWNTON'S LADY MARY FOUND THESE DANCES LIBERATING

Studios, or on location around the West End. My Brit Movie Tours guide, Eva, meets me at Temple station and leads me into the area's narrow streets – one of the historical film industry's secret weapons. "You bring people down here, even Londoners, and they say, 'Oh my God, I didn't know this was here'," she tells me.

The Temple has been home to the city's legal profession since the Middle Ages, but thanks to its old-fashioned buildings, stone arches and street lanterns, it's more recently formed the backdrops for many historical films and TV shows, from *The Crown* to *Poirot* and *Sherlock Holmes*. For Downton, it's multi-tasked as the setting for

York, Thirsk and Ripon as well as vintage London. Eva flicks through her book of stills from the show, holding them up to show how a narrow alley becomes the cobblestoned streets of York (complete with photoshopped Minster), while a security guard's hut becomes a Betty's Tea Shop with the addition of a simple sign.

Downton has made use of many London landmarks that remain unchanged. Leaving the Temple, we pass restaurants that were used as locations, thanks to their at-least-centenarian status. There's Simpson's on the Strand, where Lady Mary palmed off one of her many beaus; Rules, the oldest restaurant in London (opened in 1798) where cousin Rose received upsetting pictures before her wedding; and The Ritz, where Edith was reunited with fiancé. Bertie Pelham.

There's plenty of gossip to be gained along the way. One star is said to have left the show under a cloud with a "high maintenance" reputation, while Lady Edith's handling of the £500k vintage cars was even more high stakes since actor Laura Carmichael didn't have a driving license.

Eva talks about the appeal of its setting in a key period of history, spanning the end of Victorianism and the birth of modern life, the Titanic, electricity, World War One and then the Roaring Twenties. "Plus it's perfect escapism," she says. "The characters... the plots... the costumes."

Below left Real-life Downton location, Simpson's on the Strand Below The Temple is a

Below The Temple is a backdrop for many London-based period dramas



Ah yes, the costumes. According to Anna Robbins, the designer for the franchise since series five, London also played a key role in getting those right. While some cities have one vintage district, London arguably has three. Shoreditch/Brick Lane, Covent Garden and Ladbroke Grove/Portobello Road all have several major retro shops and local markets, and the city has regular vintage fashion fairs at Hammersmith and Clerkenwell, too.

Robbins' technique was to take an original piece from one of the city's many retro boutiques "and work it into a new design so that it feels anchored to the past". For example, the pattern from an original scarf would be scanned and printed onto new fabric to make a dress for Lady Grantham.

Lady Edith's wedding dress was the most intense design experience of the whole show, requiring Robbins to search for vintage lace for nine straight months, the planned dress "constantly in [her] mind".

For those looking to emulate the Marchioness of Hexham with a vintage frock for your own nuptials, there's Oliver Vintage in Shooters Hill, which has a huge selection of 1920s dresses. Or if you're simply looking for something a bit fun for a flapper night, try Karen Vintage Boutique on Portobello Road, full of feathery and fringy items. Blokes should pop across the street to 282 Portobello, for a collection focusing on "English sartorial elegance".

So, it's easy to get all dressed up, but where to go? It has to be a speakeasy, doesn't it, given that it's the 1920s and London has several of these clandestine drinking dens, hidden away in basements and styled to look like the real deal. Do Not Disturb, at luxury boutique hotel Vintry & Mercer, and Luggage Room in Grosvenor Square are both dripping with Art Deco



glamour. You half expect Marlene Dietrich to come in with a top hat and a cigarette holder. The Mayor of Scaredy Cat Town and Call Me Mr Lucky go a step further and can only be accessed through fake fridge doors in the Liverpool Street and Southwark Street branches of the Breakfast Club respectively, giving drinkers the extra frisson of secrecy. But why, you might ask, does a city that didn't even have Prohibition be so keen on recreate it 100 years later?

"Although we didn't have it in the UK, everyone knows about the illicit thrill," says Clayton Hartley, founder of The Candlelight Club, a flapper and chaps nightclub that takes place every month in a secret location lit by candles. "We think of the 1920s as a time of endless partying and everyone has the same picture in their head about what to expect, which makes it a great theme for a party night."





This spread Relive the glamour of the 1920s at the Candlelight Club's speakeasy pop-up

The 1920s is also a theme that appeals to women, as it was the decade when we won more freedom, particularly the vote. Hartley says speakeasies would have been the first time that women and men would have drunk together as equals (albeit illegal equals).

When I turn up at the Candlelight Club on a cold Friday night after receiving the address by email it does really feel like I'm at a party in the actual '20s. In fact, it's very similar to the gay nightclub that Thomas Barrow ends up at in the first Downton movie.

As I climb in through the gates and across a courtyard, I hear the squeal of a jazz trumpet, the chink of glassware and women laughing. It's all very Gatsby. Inside everyone is in costume, and having a marvellous time. Laid out like a wedding, the tables are loaded with guys and gals, all flirting and jolly.

The Charleston rhythm is catchy, and the dance floor is full. Sometimes people in costume look confined or like they feel silly, but these beaded dresses and flat caps seem to bestow a confidence on their wearers. Their chins are up, their eyes are shining. You can see why it's so alluring. Hartley set up this club night in 2010 and gave it six months, but 10 years on, the live band is still playing; the flappers are still

#### Location, location, location

Take a trip to some other Downton sets

#### **The Abbey**

Although fictional Downton is found in Yorkshire, the stately home we see on screen is Highclere Castle in Hampshire. It's owned by the real-life Earl and Countess of Carnarvon and you can explore their art and history collections on a visit, as well as the castle and 1,000 acres of grounds. highclerecastle.co.uk

#### **The Village**

Bampton, Oxfordshire is the set for Downton village and the place to see Isobel Crawley's house (AKA the Old Rectory), Downton Hospital (AKA Bampton Community Archive) and the church where Edith was jilted and eventually wed. Combine a visit with a trip to Bicester village, just down the road. oxfordshirecotswolds.org

#### **The Station**

Horsted Keynes railway station in Sussex is the scene of many Downton comings and goings including when Anna first caught a glimpse of Marigold and Richard Carlisle proposes. It's part of the Bluebell Railway – a great trip out for kids. Make like the Crawleys on one of its old fashioned steam trains. bluebell-railway.com

flapping. It's the perfect place to really live that birth-of-modernity vibe that makes Downton so beguiling. I'm briefly tempted to get on the dance floor and treat my fellow partygoers to a little bit of Black Bottom, but despite 100 years of the vote, I'm not emancipated enough to show it off in public quite yet. Give me another 100 years and we'll see.

## WILD SIDE



Take in Jordan's crown jewels on an epic 650km hiking adventure through the heart of the country





hat is it about the night sky that you makes stop in your tracks and reflect on the here and now? On my first night camping at the base of the al Khashasha Valley in Jordan, resting my feet after a 15km walk and gazing at the inky blanket with thousands of twinkling stars through the gently fluttering door of my tent, I wonder: what makes a hike truly unforgettable? What transcends it from something everyday - putting one foot in front of the other to get from A to B - to an experience that resets your soul back to basics and leaves you lighter in mind and body? Is it the scenery? The destination? The endurance? Or the stories of those who walked that very same route before you years ago?

All the world's best hikes - think the Inca Trail above the clouds in Peru, the Appalachian Trail through the US East Coast's misty mountains or the rugged coastline of the Pacific Crest Trail - have a generous sprinkling of all these elements. And recently, a new walking route joined the pantheon of greats, the one I'm doing right now: The Jordan Trail. This 650km path stretches right across the country, winding its way from the ruins of Umm Qais in the north to the diver's oasis of Aqaba in the south. It's an extraordinary, cinematic

showcase of the sheer diversity of Jordan's landscape – Mediterranean-style villages extend to lush fields and olive groves; flower-filled gorges lead you to Islamic castles; and otherworldly deserts with towering sand dunes fall away to the milky waters of the Dead Sea.

Linking together a collection of alreadyexisting hikes, the Jordan Trail officially opened in 2017 - although plans have been in the making for almost 30 years. The route passes through around 50 villages and two UNESCO-heritage sites (Petra and Wadi Rum), and takes 40 days if you plan on doing the full trek. Not everyone will have the time, patience or fitness to walk the entire route - myself included - but luckily the trail is broken up into eight 80km sections. The most spectacular? The stretch from 15th-century stone village Dana to the mighty 2,000-year-old Petra (already recognised as one of the best walks on the planet by National Geographic).

I join a group of six adventurers from the US, UK, Spain and Italy on a five-day guided tour with experts Experience Jordan to tackle this route. The first day's walk sets the pace perfectly, taking in four distinct ecosystems in the Dana Biosphere Reserve alone, before descending 600m down into al Khashasha Valley where we camp in Mansoura at night.



#### JORDAN





Previous spread The otherworldly scenery in Wadi Rum Top left and above Trekking on the first day from Dana to Mansoura
Left Attalah and his donkey leading the group

WIZZ MAGAZINE 37

Our guide Furat Mai graduated as a medical engineer, but has been taking hikers on this route for the past six years. Along the route he points out how quickly the landscape changes, from dusty sandstone dotted with cypress trees to limestone mountains. A Bedouin boy, Atallah, ventures ahead on a light-footed donkey. Experience Jordan works closely with the local community, Furat tells us. A Bedouin support team travel ahead to set up our campsite each night, and their wives prepare local dishes on a portable camp fire in the evenings. The first night the sun sets at 4.30pm, and at 5pm we eat a delicious meal of magloubeh (an upside-down rice dish with meat, rice and vegetables) as the colour fades from the sky.

After the first four days of the hike what really strikes me is the sheer solitude. We see no other hikers, and very little wildlife (bar the odd trip of goats). The scenery does all the talking – the expanse of the blue sky shouting for attention; the

whispers of history from the weathered rock formations; the gentle song of the breeze as it ripples through tree branches.

Even the finale of our hike – arriving at Petra – is more peaceful and personal than I imagined. The walk from Little Petra to main Petra is 14km, and Furat and Atallah guide us through what they call a back door entrance from Wadi Ghurab, away from the tourist throng. With so few people around, you really feel like you have been transported back in time. Even the atmosphere is different – quieter, cooler and more reverent.

I leave Petra and the group of walkers for Wadi Rum (by car, to ease my weary knees), contemplating just how rewarding it has been to arrive at one of the world's greatest and most beautiful sites by foot. While the sense of expectation was built up over the entire five days, it was the journey that made this trip so unforgettable.

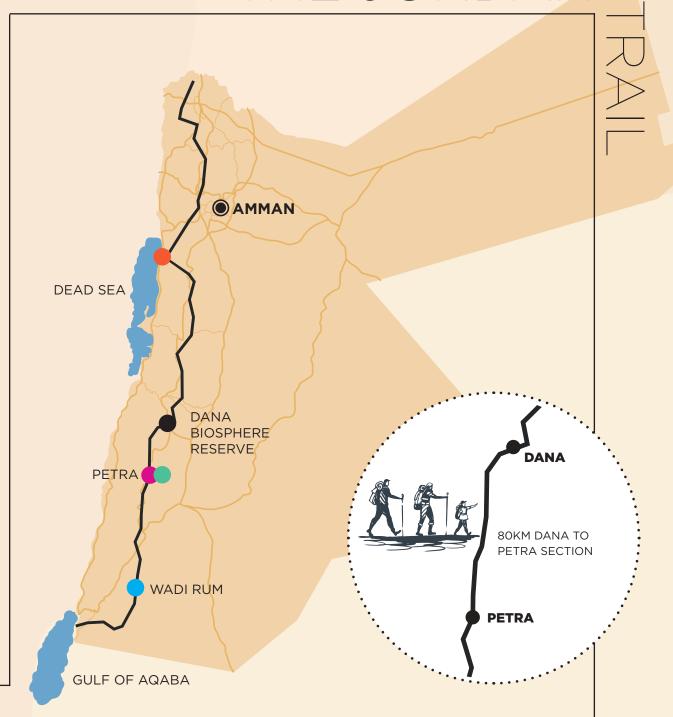
#### experiencejordan.com

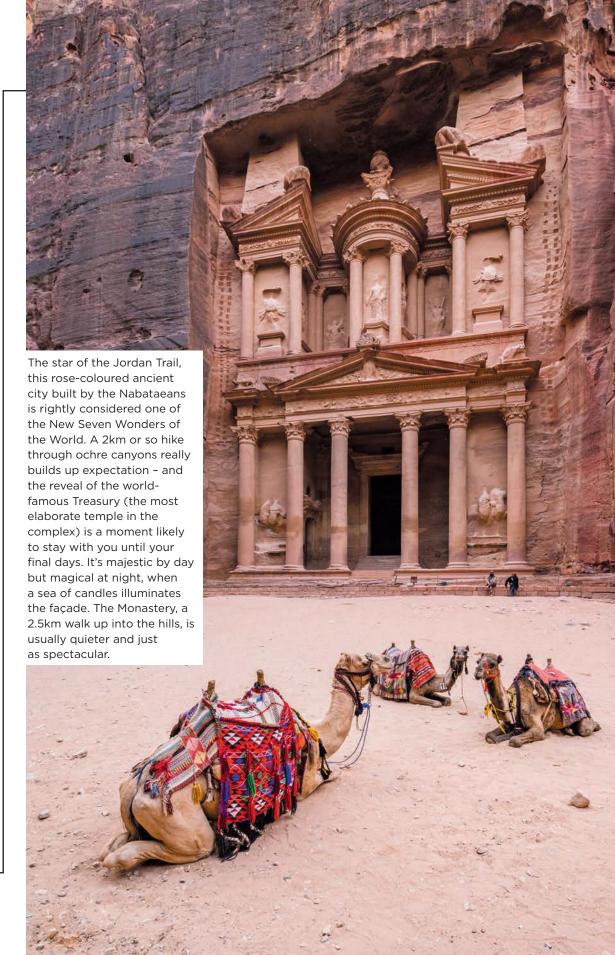
₹ Wizz Air flies to Amman and Agaba

**Below** Pausing to take in the drama of Jordan's landscape



## THE JORDAN









## • WADIRUM

The closest thing to Mars on Earth? You can see why Wadi Rum (only 50 minutes from Aqaba, and on the final stretch of the Jordan Trail) has been a setting for many sci-fi films (including *The Martian, Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* and *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*). You really feel like you're on another planet surrounded by its red sands and outstanding rock formations. Don't miss the many-domed mountain of Jebel Um Ishrin and the glorious natural arch of Burdah Rock Bridge.



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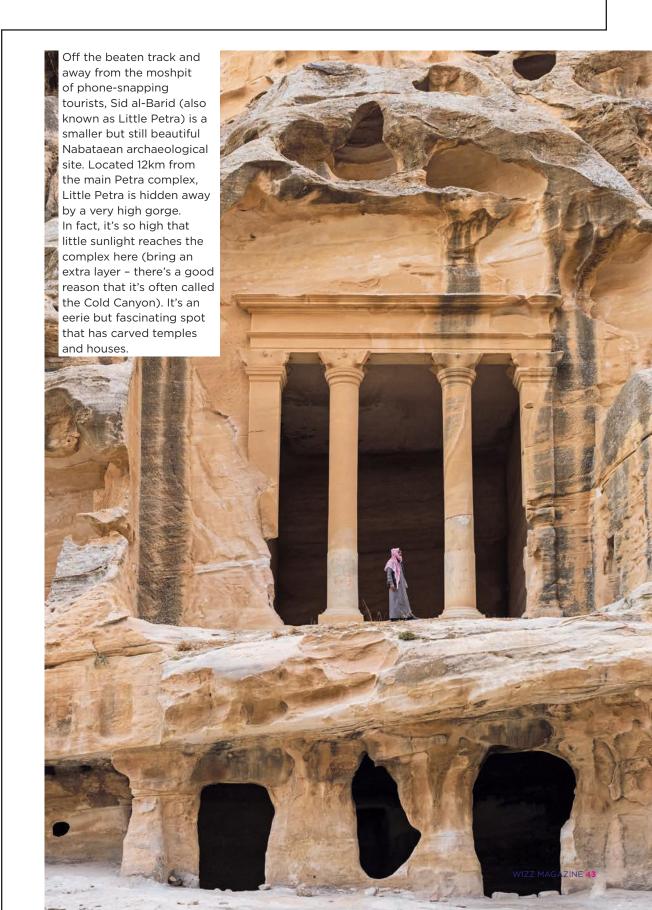
















• DEAD SEA AT ISHTAR

Receding at the phenomenal rate of around one metre every year, the Dead Sea is the lowest point on Earth and sits at 431m below sea level. It doesn't matter how many times you've taken a dip here, the first moment you enter the water is totally unnerving – the high salt content (10 times saltier than any other ocean) means you float and bob around like a fishing boat. Complete the spa experience by smothering your body with a light coating of mineral-rich mud. Wash off after 10 minutes and rub in local olive oil – your skin will be softer than silk.













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# DINE IN A...





experienced my first supper club in the UAE in 2014. A well-timed recommendation on social media led to a cancelled dinner reservation and the eager pursuit of a rare dining opportunity in the desert somewhere between Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The dinner was hosted by Ursula, a German expat who'd lived in the UAE for 17 years. Known as 'the camel whisperer' she reared camels for a living and on occasion cooked Arabian feasts for strangers.

Finding her wasn't easy. A small group met at a petrol station on the edge of Dubai. We'd been sent grid coordinates via text message and after a two-hour stop-start journey we reached a candle-lit Bedouin tent surrounded by silky ochrecoloured sand dunes.

Ursula greeted us with plates of spicy camel meat burgers, and nearby a whole lamb was slow-cooking in a traditional underground oven. The heady aromas smelt incredible, and instantly I knew I'd struck gold with this special dinner.

Back then, supper clubs were still a novelty in the UAE. But while Ursula cooked secret desert dinners on a whim, one Emirati duo were pioneering a brand-new



movement. Childhood friends Buthaina Al Mazrui and Alamira Noor Bani Hashim started The Dinner Club by No. 57 as an invite-only, once-a-month supper club set in a range of bizarre locations – think a derelict planetarium, an empty swimming pool and a disused car wash. They transformed each 'venue' into an elaborate outdoor dining space, with decor imagined by Alamira, and innovative fine-dining menus cooked by Buthaina.

Their first dinner took place in November 2012 in an Abu Dhabi construction site, which, nine years on, Buthaina says is still the most "special, personal and unique" of all their supper clubs, largely because it was

the most difficult to pull off. "Honestly, it was about breaking and entering back then," she says. "We didn't ask for permission in those days. I borrowed – actually I stole – my mum's very expensive china set. She wasn't happy, but it helped set the right tone and showed our guests what we were all about."

From the beginning, The Dinner Club by No. 57 had a strict no plus-one rule – and once you've been, you can't come again. For that first event they each invited a "comfort person" (someone they knew) and a diverse group of strangers – "a TV producer, architect, scientist" – with only the date, time and city on the invitation (directions to the location came later by text). "The energy has to be right," says Buthaina. "In our case, you don't pay for a ticket, it's by invitation only, so it's very intimate and people often end up forming friendships."

The supper club was a precursor to a bigger goal. The friends had plans to open their own boutique café in Abu Dhabi. They'd call it Café No. 57, using a combination of their lucky numbers. "We didn't have any experience of how to get a café off the ground," says Buthaina. "The idea was, OK, so we don't really have a physical space yet, but why don't we just do a supper club to start off with? At the time there weren't many homegrown dining concepts in the city. We were really hungry to start something new and exciting and it quickly became a thing."

As the concept evolved, sponsorships from brands such as Net-a-Porter, Burberry and Farfetch flooded in, which has not only allowed them to hire waiting staff and a chef, but also open their No. Fifty Seven Boutique Café in Abu Dhabi. "I don't think when we started out we realised it would become so big or something we're so proud of," says Buthaina.

If your invite gets lost in the post for new No. 57 events planned for winter, there are plenty of new supper clubs popping up in the region. Hawkerboi is one of the newest.

#### **Clockwise from left**

The Dinner Club by No. 57's extravagant supper clubs are held in a planetarium, a disused swimming pool and a car wash





An upscale South East Asian supper club hosted at ever-changing secret locations in Dubai, events sell out within minutes of new dates dropping on Instagram. Expect an eight-course menu with each dish cooked using an open fire: think soft shell crab doughnuts, dramatic seafood towers and 24-hour slow-cooked Wagyu short rib. Buzz around this supper club has gained momentum because the identity of the chef is kept top secret - a bit like a culinary Banksy. Is it a famous chef? Or a complete unknown? No one knows. The only way you have a chance of unravelling the mystery is to bag a table at one of Hawerboi's events. Book by sending a DM to @hawker.boi on Instagram - and keep your fingers crossed you get in.

One high-profile foodie that's proud to have his name associated with Dubai's hot pop-up dining scene is Hattem Mattar. The world's first Arab pitmaster and founder of The Mattar Farm Kitchen, Dubai's first and only artisan smoke house, Hattem is fondly known as the "Arabian Salt Bae" (a label he takes "with a pinch of salt - pun intended").

He recently joined forces with acclaimed UAE food blogger Hesa Al Khalifa to pull off a three-day supper club sponsored by The Department of Culture and Tourism in Abu Dhabi. They kicked things off with a nine-course menu at the seven-star Emirates Palace hotel including bone marrow bruschetta, salt beef scallops and grilled cherries with venison tenderloin. "It was all fire-based cuisine, but all incredibly refined," says Hattem.

The second feast took place at The Pura Eco Retreat on Abu Dhabi's Jubail Island. "We set up a live fire in the middle of a mangrove," he says. "And on the third day we served simple sandwiches: hamburgers, hotdogs, brisket. The barbecue has so much potential."

A man with his finger on the pulse when it comes to the UAE's dining scene, Hattem has a hot tip for us. He recommends a new supper club tucked away in Dubai's hippest quarter Alserkal Avenue. It's called INKED and was founded by chef Hadrien Villedieu. Events have ranged from a dazzling Studio 54-themed dinner to a supermarket setting with guests seated on long tables stretching down different aisles. One of Hadrien's greatest recent triumphs was a Salvador Dalí-themed menu that made way for a slew of impeccably unique picture-perfect dishes.



"We believe that supper clubs give the opportunity to food lovers to experience food differently," says Hadrien. "The supper club scene is booming because people are looking for memorable experiences, but also want to connect with the people creating these dinners – rather than sit in crowded restaurants."

INKED's popular supermarket supper club was called Ugly Vegetables – to celebrate Veganuary (in January) and highlight veg thrown away for looking "unattractive" in a bid to support local sustainable farming. "At these events you discuss food waste and how those vegetables are still nutritious, they're still edible. It's a supper club with a conscience," says Hattem. "The food community in the UAE is super supportive and we all show up for each other."

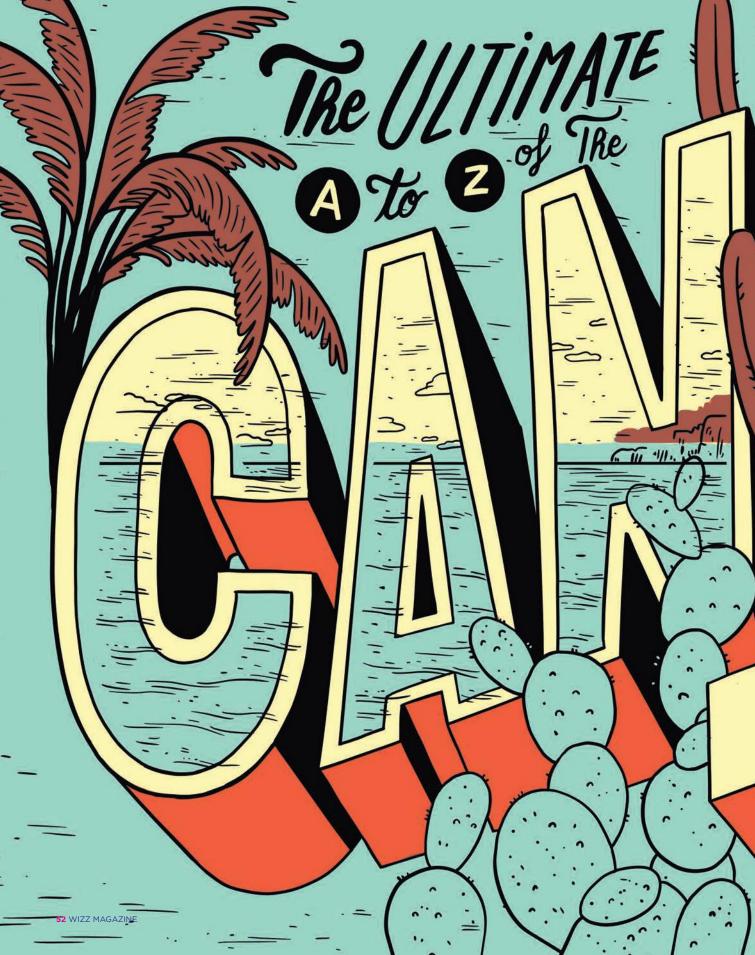
Why does he feel supper clubs are so popular in the region? "Between Abu Dhabi and Dubai we are spoilt for choice with every restaurant brand and all the big chefs here," he says.

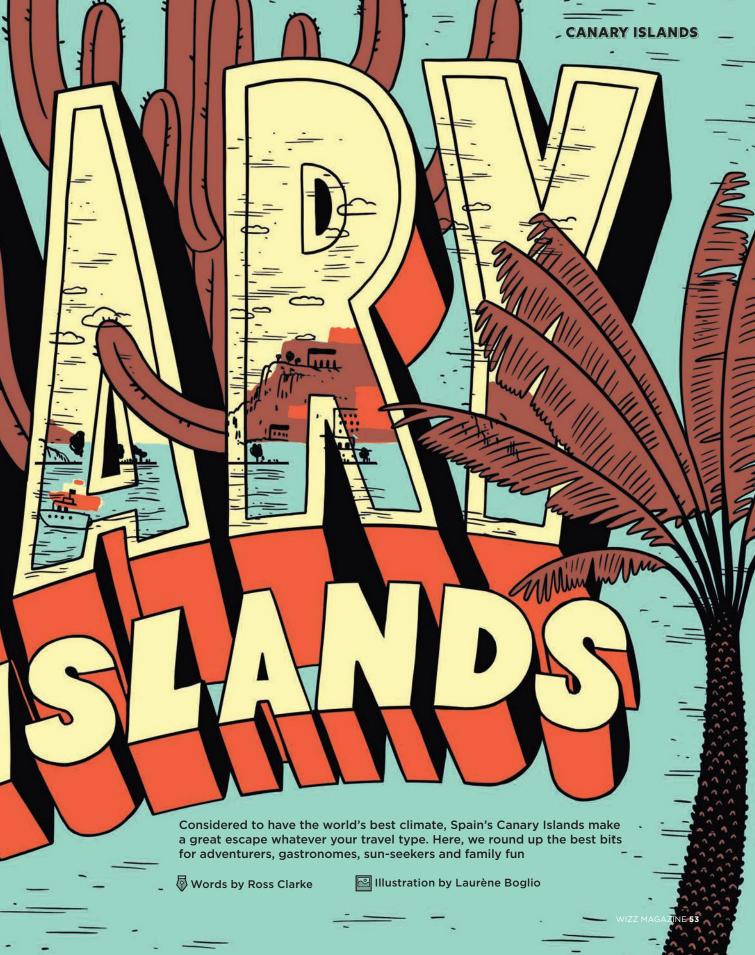
"But to experience something special, like dinner in an old cinema or an abandoned warehouse, that's something the UAE has lacked previously because everything is so bright and shiny here.

"People are plugged into their food and they're more conscious of where they eat and this is why supper clubs are so popular. It's a scene that's only going to get bigger and will 100% stand the test of time."











is for

**Barrancos** 

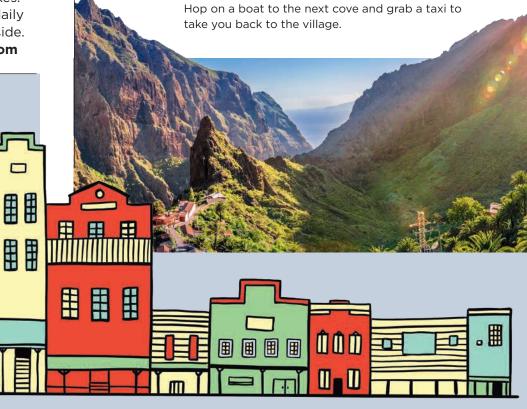
Is it a scorpion's tail? A Roman soldier's helmet? Or a perhaps a crashing wave? Santa Cruz's gravitydefying concert venue certainly ranks alongside the world's famous opera houses in the architecture stakes. Book onto one of the daily tours to take a peek inside. auditoriodetenerife.com



#### is for Cowboys

Originally created as a film set back in the 70s, Sioux City in the south of Gran Canaria is now an immersive theme park, where cowboys ride through town, gunslingers try to rob the local bank, and refreshments are served up in the town's saloon - perfect for kids of all ages. Yee-haw!

parquetematicosiouxcitypark.com



You'll see this word a lot in the islands to

describe the characteristic gorges of the volcanic

landscape. Head to the tiny mountain village of

Masca in the west of Tenerife and hike your way

as you wade through the lush vegetation. The

down to the beach. You'll get Indiana Jones vibes

trail - which takes about four hours - has recently

reopened to walkers. Don't fancy the hike back?

Clash of the Titans (2010)

Box office: \$493,214,993

Jason Bourne (2016)

Box office: \$415,484,914

# is for **Dunes**



### See the sunset

Head up to the sky-high bar at Bohemia Suites Hotel in Playa del Inglés to catch the shadows and hues of the dunes at their best.

## **Bird watch**

The charco (pond) in the Maspalomas Dunes Nature Reserve is a popular spot for birds on their way south.

#### is for film stars

Over the years, Hollywood has shot some of their biggest blockbusters on these gorgeous islands. We rank the best according to their box office performance.

**Sunbathe** 

It might sound obvious, but swathes of sand (including stretches where you might not see a soul) make the perfect spot for a tan top-up. Try Maspalomas or Corralejo.



Get in the eco mindset with a trip to one of the world's first selfsufficient islands that runs on 100% renewable energy, including hydro and wind. We're big (ahem) fans.



#### Allied (2016)

Box office: \$119,520,023

#### Rambo: Last Blood (2019)

Box office: \$91,490,353



This tiny island off the top of Lanzarote became the eighth official Canary Island in 2018. You won't find any asphalt roads here, and the landscape is an untouched volcanic ombre. Paradise itself can be found a short bike ride across the island at Las Conchas beach.

# is for Hiking routes



The Jurassic Park-like nature of La Palma makes hiking feel like an adventure. Try the trails leading to the Cascada de Los Colores for an ochre rainbow waterfall in the Caldera de Taburiente National Park.



(ii iii)

witch the Grand Canyon for Gran Canaria by heading to the Barranco de Barafonso. The undulating rock formations in this short, narrow canyon carved by water is extraordinary.

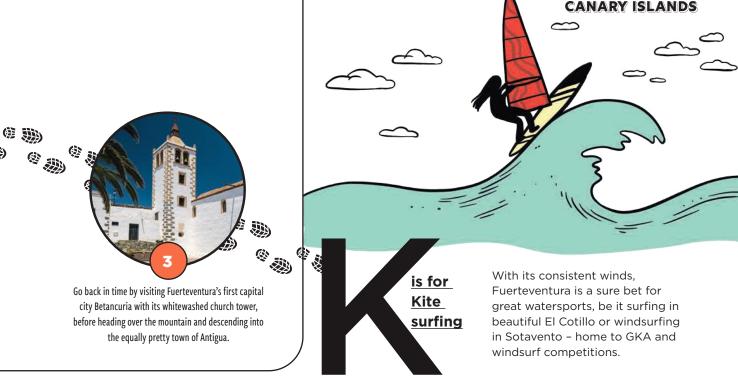
#### <u>is for</u> <u>Island-hopping</u>

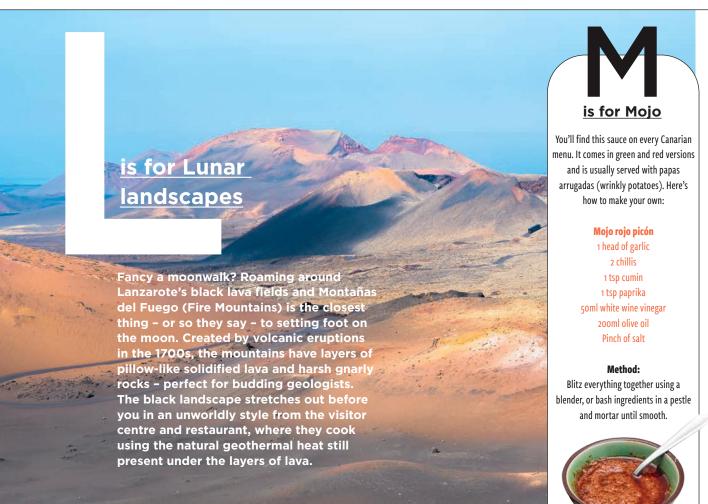
The islands are so well connected by sea and air, it's easy to double up your destinations in a single trip. Try the 30-minute ferry from Lanzarote to Fuerteventura, or one of the 64 sailings between Gran Canaria and Tenerife during peak season. Or fly Canaries airline Binter between Tenerife and El Hierro in under 40 minutes.

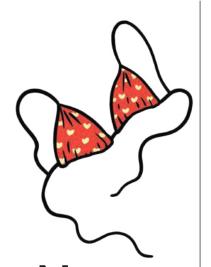


As you fly into Lanzarote, you'll notice the dark landscape dotted with white houses. That's thanks to the determination of the island's starchitect, the late César Manrique, who campaigned to make sure that the natural landscape of the island remained relatively untouched from high-rises and mass construction – most buildings are white with shutters in either blue, brown or green. Manrique's touch can be seen all over Lanzarote, including his Jameos del Agua creation. What was originally a volcanic lava tube, is now a spectacular auditorium. See if you can spot the endemic population of white squat lobsters that live in the cave's pool.









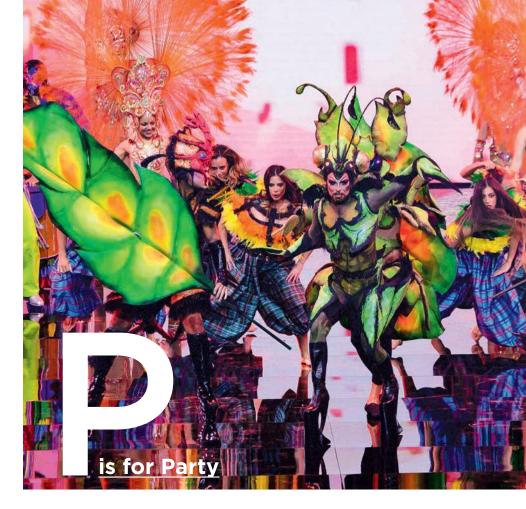
# is for Naturism

Things are pretty free and easy on the islands, and those seeking that all-over tan will be pleased to find 175 nudist beaches – Fuerteventura's Playa de Cofete being the largest in Spain. Cheeky!



## is for Olympic training

Fancy yourself as the next gold medallist? Well, come to the islands and you'll be in good company as many top athletes use the terrain, temperatures and facilities here to train, from sailing to tennis, cycling to track. Seriously sporty types should race to Club La Santa in Lanzarote for top-class facilities. **clublasanta.com** 



In February each year, the islands are awash with parties – none bigger than the carnival drag queen crowned in Las Palmas. You'll find the biggest celebrations around Santa Catalina in Las Palmas, and in Plaza de la Candelaria in Santa Cruz de Tenerife. And get your white clothes (and goggles) ready for a talc and flour-throwing extravaganza in Santa Cruz de La Palma to celebrate the return of islanders who've gone to the Americas to make their fortunes.



## is for Queso

Cheese lovers rejoice! The islands are known for their cheeses, especially the goat's milk Majorero from Fuerteventura and Flor de Guía from Gran Canaria made using ewe's milk. Perhaps most famous in the islands however is almogrote. This sort of cheese pâté comes from La Gomera and is made using strong hard cheese, peppers and garlic. Try it at Caprichos de La Gomera by renowned Canarian chef, Fabián Mora. caprichosdelagomera.es



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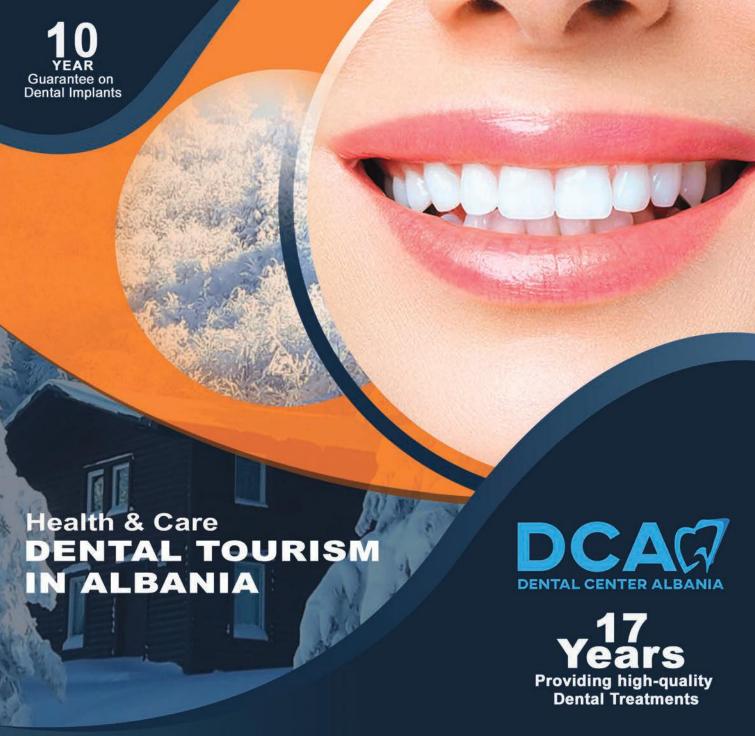
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## R is for Rum

Did you know that the Canary Islands have been producing rum for centuries? Mr Columbus himself is said to have taken the sugar cane from here to the Caribbean. For the full experience, stop by the town of Arehucas in Gran Canaria to visit its rum distilleries. You'll get a guided tour and will be able to try the local tipple – supposedly capable of curing any ailment. **arehucas.es** 

Last eruption: 1909

**Elevation:** 3,715 metres

Age: approx 120,000 years

CANARY ISLANDS

## is for Stargazing,

#### La Palma

Planes are forbidden to fly over La Palma at night as the skies are protected for stargazing. It's also home to the world's biggest single-aperture optical telescope, the Gran Telescopio Canarias.

#### Tenerife

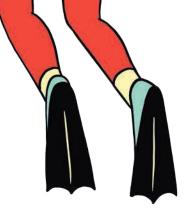
With your head above the clouds on Mount Teide, you'll get uninterrupted views of the constellations. Stay at Parador de Las Cañadas del Teide to star-spot all night parador.es

#### **Fuerteventura**

Thanks to the unspoilt desert-like interior of the island, light pollution is next to nothing, meaning you can simply lie back, stargaze and have an out-of-this-world experience.

## is for Teide

Spain's highest mountain? Check. Giant dormant volcano? Check. Cool cable car to take you to the peak? Check. Welcome to Mount Teide, where you can be wearing shorts and T-shirts in bright sunshine at its base and scarves and gloves at its peak. The mountain is hard to miss if you're staying on Tenerife, but you can easily see it from many of the other islands too. The native Guanche people held it as a sacred place and believed that the god of evil was trapped inside.



### is for Underwater meditation

Besides being a prime spot for diving (see point X on the next page), the islands have long been a wellness destination, with Victorian tourists heading here to bask in the temperate climate and soothing waters. Fast forward 150 years or so and you can float down into the deep for a mediation class. Run by Freediving El Hierro, the two to four-day course teaches aspects of mindfulness as you defy gravity in the water. freediving-el-hierro.com

#### **Best for turtles:**

#### El Puertito, Tenerife

You might spot up to seven different species of turtles in these subtropical waters of this little fishing village, including loggerheads and leatherbacks.





#### Mogán, Gran Canaria

You're almost guaranteed to see the friendly dolphins that swim in the boats' breakwater trails just off the south coast of Gran Canaria.



#### And some flora, too

#### Garajonay National Park, La Gomera

The mist and fog that seems to appear from the slopes of the volcanic ravines offers the ideal conditions for lush laurisilva (laurel forests) to flourish, something they've been doing here for about 2 million years.



#### Tazacorte, La Palma

Finbacks, pilots, and sperm whales are often spotted in these waters. Try heading out from Tazacorte in La Palma to see if you can spot Moby Dick.



#### Best for birds:

#### Fuerteventura

It would be remiss not to mention the bright yellow-green Canary bird that takes its name from the islands, but Fuerteventura is the place to see other endemic species too, such as the Canary Island Chat as well as the Spectacled Warbler and Trumpeter Finch.



is for wildlife watching

#### is for ¿Y para dormir? (And to sleep?)

Hotel Puntagrande, El Hierro
Perched on what seems like the edge
of the earth, Puntagrande is one of the
world's tiniest hotels. It has four bijou
rooms, a restaurant and sea views for
days. hotelpuntagrande.com

#### Emblematico Hotel Madrid, Gran Canaria

It's one of the oldest hotels in the city of Las Palmas, and so it comes with suitcases of history. Franco infamously stayed here the night before he launched his coup, and the bar was a favourite of film star Gregory Peck when he was filming Moby Dick here in 1951. emblematicohotelmadrid.com

#### Hotel Rural El Cabo de 'Casa Marcos', Fuerteventura

This completely renovated traditional Canarian farmhouse is the ideal spot to get away from it all. Attached to the fantastic restaurant of Marcos Gutiérrez Vera, it's perfect for foodies

but the geology below the water would beg to differ. That said, it's thought that the islands are in fact the site of Elysium or the Fortunate Isles, where souls of the heroic and virtuous went to live in Greek Mythology. Either way, there are still plenty of interesting treasures to see in the deep blue, none more so than the underwater graveyard near La Palma of monks killed by pirates in the 16th-century complete with 40 crosses, and the underwater museum near Lanzarote created by artist Jason deCaires

Taylor, as well as numerous shipwrecks.

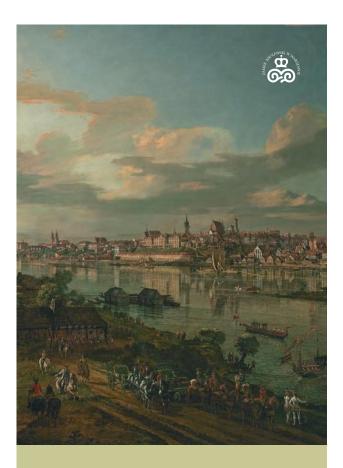
There are tales, legends and rumours that the ocean around the islands hides the lost city of Atlantis. We hate to break it to you.

is for X marks the spot

Z

<u>is for</u> Zip lining Set in the scenic nature reserve of Las Lagunetas, in the shadow of the Teide, lies Forestal Park – a woodland adventure playground for adults and children. You might not expect cool pine forests with neck-achingly tall trees in the Canary Islands, but here you can zip down to ground level at thrilling speed. Tarzan yelling optional!

\*Wizz Air flies to Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote and Tenerife



## Belotto 300

Największa wystawa arcydzieł Bernarda Belotta zwanego Canalettem w 300. rocznicę urodzin

Zamek Królewski w Warszawie 23 września 2022 – 10 stycznia 2023

The largest exhibition of masterpieces by Bernardo Belotto called Canaletto on the 300th anniversary of his birth

The Royal Castle in Warsaw, Poland 23 September, 2022 – 10 January, 2023

www.zamek-krolewski.pl



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www.sanbo.is



**The Eats**Where to have a good meal

**p66** 

**The Stays** Where to rest your head

**p68** 

## THE EATS

Where to go for a good meal across the WIZZ network



## **Geranium**

## Copenhagen

Looking for a reason to really splash out on your next meal in Copenhagen? Geranium is the preserve of the city's highest rollers – the first (and only) establishment to receive three Michelin stars in Denmark, and second only to Noma in the World's 50 Best Restaurants list.

With an unusual location next to the country's national football stadium, white tablecloths so stiff you could use them as a surfboard and an artistic tasting menu of 17 (yes, really) dishes inspired by the seasons, you'd better arrive with an empty stomach and a full

wallet (dinner will set you back 2,800DKK - that's around €370 - without drinks).

But this spring there's a new reason to swing by - chef Rasmus Kofoed has decided to drop land-based meat from his menu. although locally caught seafood will still feature. Kofoed stopped eating meat himself five years ago and experimented with vegan cuisine at Angelika, a hugely popular plant-based pop-up inside Geranium last summer. Diners can expect exquisite dishes including Jerusalem artichoke leaves with pickled walnut and boiled new potatoes with olives, pickled lemon and fresh black pepper. It's a new dawn for global fine dining, and Geranium is leading the charge. geranium.dk



#### **Golden Phoenix**

Berlin

Sassy, sultry and sexy, stepping into Golden Phoenix is like being transported back in time (and geographically) to 1920s Paris. But we don't think they had food like this in France back then. Run by Vietnamese chef Duc Ngo, expect punchy pan Asian flavours (Sichuan pork, steak served up with foie gras and plum) and a line-up of killer cocktails.





#### **Varoulko Seaside**

Athens

Elegant, unfussy flavours are presented with more than a touch of flair at this excellent fish restaurant right by the water at the Mikrolimano Marina. Come at lunch and there's an exquisite meze spread. Save yourself for dinner and you can enjoy grilled squid with ouzo jelly and cuttlefish with vanilla in an aromatic rosemary broth. varoulko.gr



Food lovers take note. The small Norwegian city of Trondheim has just been named European Region of Gastronomy 2022, and is the ideal destination for a culinary weekend break. So whether hunger strikes morning, noon or night, there are an array of excellent restaurants and unforgettable dishes to sate your appetite here including Norway's best hotel breakfast at the humble Scandic Nidelven hotel. But our pick of the bunch? Credo.

Opened in 1998 and set within a glass-and-wooden vault inside a former tank factory with graffiti scrawled on the walls and bare, wooden tables, this is where the country's first female Michelinstarred chef, Heidi Bjerkan makes her mark. The menu (with dishes like reindeer heart with blackcurrant and curd cheese, and potato pancakes) is sustainable and produce-driven, with plates created according to whatever local ingredients are available.

Everything is sourced from nearby farms and provenance is so important, staff can tell you the name of the cow that made the butter for your sourdough bread. **restaurantcredo.no** 



## THE STAYS

The best places to rest your head across the WIZZ network



## Napa Plaza

Cyprus

There's luxury, and then there's Napa Plaza luxury. Found in the main square of Ayia Napa right next to the city's toffee-stoned ancient monastery, this hotel is a cool haven from the lights and buzz of Cyprus' liveliest party town. High walls provide privacy and the soothingly expensive neutral tones extend from the 224 plush bedrooms to elegant communal areas, creating a calm, tranquil vibe wherever your jewelled sandals may take you.

For the perfect itinerary, start your day lazing around the expansive, lagoon-style pool shaded by olive trees and swaying palms before heading for a leisurely lunch of Cypriot meze at Platia Meze. Come the afternoon? Well, we can't think of anywhere better to while away the time than the Cavo D'oro spa with indulgent treatments like a chocolate body wrap and hot stone massage. Take a long shower and sharpen up - dinner is served at the smart Sale e Pepe Italian restaurant, with exquisite dishes including calamari served with a creamy leek sauce on top of tomato tartare, sea bream with citrus beurre blanc and an array of wood-fired pizzas.

To book any of these hotels, visit **wizzair.com** and find your best deal with our trusted partner

## **Booking.com**

## **Spa-Hotel Jagdhof**

#### Austria

Looking for a high-end spa hotel with hidden depths - literally? Try Spa-Hotel Jagdhof in the Austrian Alps. These guys know that first impressions count. You'll enter the hotel via a modest lobby, surrounded by a bar and six intimate dining areas that ooze that Tyrolean warmth and cosiness that only large amounts of beautifully carved wood can bring. This is where you'll relax each night (a table is reserved with your name every morning and evening), tucking into lavish six-course meals (soups, venison, cheese, indulgent desserts).

But if you think the food is good (and boy, is it good), just wait until you see the spa. Like a wellness TARDIS, it seems to expand beyond its exterior dimensions, from the indoor-outdoor swimming pool, via 13 treatment rooms, gym, solarium, spa suite and spa chalet, to 20 mostly subterranean (and clothingoptional) sauna, steam and relaxation rooms offering various heats, aromas and vibes. All this and you're right next to the Stubai Glacier ski area, five golf courses and hundreds of kilometres of hiking and biking trails. Bliss.





#### **Mob Hotel**

Paris

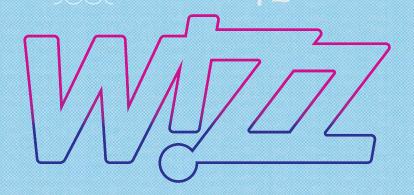
Bursting with creative energy, the Mob Hotel takes its inspiration from the world's largest antique market (nearby Les Puces de Saint-Ouen) with red velvet tasselled curtains and Russian doll ornaments in its comfy rooms. Check out regular jazz and hip-hop gigs and yoga classes, and, in the summer, alfresco movies. This is one mob crew we want to be part of.



#### **Hotel Indigo**

Belgrade

Located in Belgrade's charming Dorcol district, the new Hotel Indigo is a slick operation. With 46 bedrooms individually designed in a cool and contemporary aesthetic (think millennial pink headboards and industrial-style lighting), this is an ideal base for exploring some of the city's greatest sights – the fortress, Republic Square and Church of Saint Sava are a short walk away.



### The WIZZ pages

- 72 News
- 74 People
- 76 **Products and services**
- 79 Fleet
- 80 **Health and safety**
- Security 81
- 83 Café and Boutique

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Santander

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Casablanca

Marrakesh.





Want to know where we're flying next, how to get the most out of your iourney and what's new in the dynamic world of WIZZ? Then read on...



## Green skies ahead

Here at Wizz Air, we think that easy, affordable and, crucially, sustainable travel should be available to everyone. And we believe when it comes to aviation, it's not the number of flights that matters, but efficiency and carbon emissions per passenger/km. That's why we're futureproofing our fleet with the most modern around, the Airbus A321neo/321XLRs. At the Dubai Airshow last November we showed our commitment with an order of up to 196 of these modern, fuelefficient aircraft. We already have

one of the youngest fleets (an average of 5 years - the industry average is 10 years), but our A321neo/321XLRs will reduce this even further. And, in four years, the average age of the WIZZ fleet will be just 3.2 years.

These aircraft will help us decrease CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per passenger per kilometre (already the lowest in Europe at 57.2g per passenger\*\*) and meet our goal of reducing our carbon emissions by 25% by 2030. We're proud to be leading the way to a more sustainable future.

### **Growing** together

We're thrilled to announce further expansion at Rome Fiumicino airport with the addition of one of our super-efficient A321neos. This means that Wizz Air's fleet in the Italian capital has grown to five aircraft, making it one of the largest airlines at the airport less than a year after opening a base here. The new A321neo will fly to 13 destinations including Madrid, Menorca, Rhodes, Kefalonia and Yerevan. and support new jobs in the region.











18 countries









# Closing the gap

Here at Wizz Air, we're planning for a busy 2022 and beyond by ramping up recruitment across our network. In the past few months we've hired, trained and onboarded over 1,000 flight and cabin crew. We now have staff from more than 60 different countries working across 18 base countries – and we strive for an even split of men and women among our staff.

But we know there's one department where the gender balance is way off. We want our flight deck to be representative of



a diverse, international staff, and that's why we're making it our mission to break down gender stereotypes by encouraging more women to become pilots. And we're proud to give everyone the opportunity to become a pilot with us thanks to our Wizz Air Pilot Academy. WAPA gives cadets a loan to put towards their training, meaning that anyone can achieve their dream of flying for Wizz Air, regardless of their means. What are you waiting for? Come join us!

# Safety first

Ever since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we've gone above and beyond to make sure our passengers and staff are protected, in the air and on the ground. That's why we're proud to be leading the way in European aviation - more than 90% of Wizz Air flight and cabin crew are now fully vaccinated, that's ahead of the vaccination rate in most of our markets. And crew that are not vaccinated due to medical exemption take regular antigen/PCR tests to

ensure they are fit to fly.

# **New routes**

**Abu Dhabi** - Krasnodar, Moscow, Vienna

Bari - Chania (Crete), Dubai, Olbia

Catania - Mykonos

Craiova - Barcelona, Brussels, Paris

Cluj-Napoca - Malta, Nice

Lamezia Terme - Turin

London Gatwick - Bari, Catania, Chania (Crete), Faro, Larnaca, Madeira, Milan, Mykonos, Naples, Palma de Mallorca, Podgorica, Rome, Tel Aviv, Vienna

London Luton - Casablanca



Milan Malpensa - Prague

Naples - Corfu, Nice

Palermo - Prague

Rome Fiumicino - Basel, Belgrade, Ibiza, Kefalonia, Lyon, Madrid, Marrakesh, Menorca, Palma de Mallorca, Podgorica, Preveza, Rhodes, Turku, Yerevan

Venice - Olbia

**Vienna** – Marrakesh, Sharm el Sheikh

# "It's our mission to make everyone's voice heard"

We meet the team determined to make a change and keep the WIZZ spirit alive - the Wizz Air People Council



ere at Wizz Air, we know a company is only as extraordinary as its people. Which is why we can say with a lot of confidence that ours is the best airline in the skies. It has to be – we have the best of the best working for us. The Wizz Air team is passionate, dedicated, kind, and they thrive on the challenges that come with the job.

But to keep a company - and its people - constantly moving in the right direction, you need a team who will constantly push for change, improvement and good vibes. For us, that's the Wizz Air People Council.

Founded almost four years ago, it was created with one very clear goal. "We want to make everyone's voice heard, and let everyone know that they matter," says

People Council President Andreea Popa. "I'm proud to be a part of this, to continue its story and to develop it for the future."

Andreea joined Wizz Air 11 years ago as Senior First Officer and has since become Captain, Base Captain in Bucharest, and is heavily supportive of the Wizz Air Pilot Academy. She became President of the Council in September last year.

She's aided by Nikoletta Zima, Wizz Air's very first cabin crew member who joined in 2004. Nikoletta has since taken up roles of Cabin Crew Instructor, Cabin Crew Training Manager and Training Centre Operations Manager, and she became the People Council Secretary General last January. But she has been never able to put down her wings

- Nikoletta is also an active Cabin Crew Trainer.

Andreea and Nikoletta are joined by another 13 members from all across the business and Wizz Air's base countries to make sure that all regions and departments are well represented.

The council is split into three committees – benefit, wellbeing and policy – each meeting twice a month to run through various issues, while the entire council also meets every other week with the leadership team. Andreea and Nikoletta also meet with CEO József Váradi every two weeks.

The council supports and informs decision-making processes that affect employees, suggests new ideas and procedures that can improve working conditions, and prioritises

# #WIZZMOVEMBER

### Left

Andreea Popa (centre left) and Nikoletta Zima (centre right) are driving change in the Wizz Air People Council

mental health and wellbeing. The People Council members make regular base visits together with the Wizz Air leadership team to develop open communication between employees and management across the network. They've recently championed a number of initiatives, including setting up coffee mornings to encourage face-to-face dialogue, and the introduction of a part-time working policy for parents who are flight crew.

"We've

been there

to support

the crews

and office

employees"

"This has created a lot of opportunities and benefits for our community," says Andreea. The council was also involved in Wizz Air's industryleading vaccination

policy. "We hugely supported this," says Andreea. "It's a step forward for a better future for all of us at WIZZ, and to make us and our passengers safe."

But the People Council knows that small gestures are just as important as big ones. "One of our favourite ideas is Employee Appreciation Day," says Nikoletta. "Held on 6 December each year, employees can surprise their colleagues with kind and supportive messages like 'you're my hero', written on Wizz Air appreciation cards."

As the airline continues to grow and expand into new markets, the People Council is needed more than ever. "Our mission is to make sure that the WIZZ culture is maintained," says Andreea. "At the same time we want to embrace the culture of the country that we're operating in." Wizz Air is already very diverse, with employees from more than 60 countries. Building on this global outlook is crucial. "Diversity is our future, and one of our missions is to make sure that we bring the WIZZ spirit to all of

Wizz Air's subsidiaries," says Andreea.

Of course, the past two years have been some of the most challenging in WIZZ's history. "We will remain the voice of the employees and will support them to

keep the WIZZ spirit alive," says Nikoletta. "And that's been even harder during the pandemic, but we are determined to remain true to our values because those are what make us so different from other companies."

"We've been there for both crews and office employees," agrees Andreea. "One of our most important goals was to support the honest and two-way dialogue between employees and management, because it's important to be included and involved to make sure you remain a team."

And that's what makes working at WIZZ so special.

# Mo support than ever

Wizz Air was proud to take part in Movember last year

Last November, the men of Wizz Air downed their razors and beard trimmers to take part in a hugely important event: Movember. Male colleagues across WIZZ participated in a moustache-growing contest to raise awareness for men's health issues, in particular prostate cancer, testicular cancer and suicide. "Building a sustainable airline means promoting a healthy lifestytle and raising awareness among our colleagues," says Chief People Officer Johan Eidhagen. "I am proud of the WIZZ team for taking part in this great initiative again and helping men realise the importance of regular checks." Looking for some facial hair inspiration for 2022? Check out Daniel Popa's impressive tache below - and you can find more Wizz Air mos online by searching #WIZZMovember





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Member + up to five companions

€10 ticket discount\*

€5 saving on each bag booked online

# DISCOUNT CLUB

# Fly with us for less

Our WIZZ Discount Club offers a wide range of discounts on travel and related services. Our two main memberships are listed here on the right; and you can save up to €5-10 on your ticket\*\* with our Italy Discount Club, below, for Italian domestic flights only.

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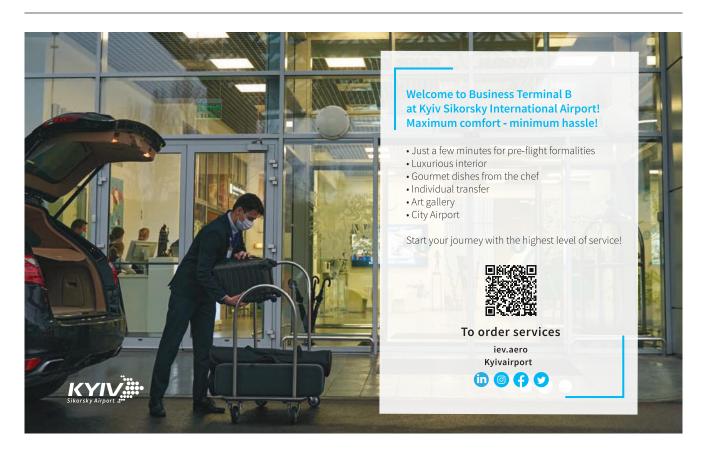
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# **Our fleet**

# Younger, greener and growing

### Wizz Air has a single-type fleet of

148 aircraft from the Airbus A320 Family. It's among the youngest and most efficient in Europe – and the safest. Our planes have the most sophisticated safety equipment already and, by 2030, we will have 500 aircraft. We're also one of the most sustainable airlines in Europe – our neo airliners feature advanced systems and engines that reduce our carbon footprint, as well as noise and cost, helping us keep fares low and accessible so everyone can fly with one of Europe's safest and greenest airlines.

# Airbus A320ceo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Number of aircraft\* 58

**Wingspan** 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Seat capacity 180/186
Flight crew 2 Cabin crew 4

# Airbus A321ceo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

**Wingspan** 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft\* 41

Seat capacity 230
Flight crew 2 Cabin crew 5



# Airbus A320neo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h Economical cruise speed 840km/h

**★ Wingspan** 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft\* 6

Seat capacity 186
Flight crew 2 Cabin crew 4



# Airbus A321neo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)
Number of aircraft\* 43

Seat capacity 239
Flight crew 2 Cabin crew 5



# Top marks for safety

Wizz Air is registered under the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) Operational Safety Audit (IOSA), the global benchmark in airline safety recognition. Wizz Air has also been awarded the **highest seven-star safety ranking** from the world's only one-stop airline safety and product rating agency, **AirlineRatings.com** 

# Your onboard safety

Please show consideration for fellow passengers and pay attention to the following information. Remember that by purchasing your Wizz Air ticket, you have accepted the Wizz Air General Conditions of Carriage (available in full at wizzair.com)



### Safe handling of hand luggage

Ensure hand luggage remains safely stowed in the locker or under the seat in front of you for takeoff, landing, and at any time as instructed by the crew. Passengers seated in the emergency rows and first row must store their cabin bags in the overhead lockers. Take care when opening lockers, as falling items may injure fellow passengers.

In case of evacuation all baggage must be left on board and the instructions of the cabin crew must be strictly followed.



### Safety equipment

It is an offence to tamper with or remove safety equipment, including adult and infant life vests, infant safety belts or extension belts. You are not allowed to remove or damage any onboard informative placards.



### **Sharp items**

To dispose of any sharp items (e.g. hypodermic needles), please contact a cabin crew member. Do not leave your needle or syringe behind.



## **Turbulence management**

Turbulence can occur unexpectedly. Whenever seatbelt signs are switched on, remain seated, keep seatbelts fastened, and stow away large electronic devices.



### Safety of infants on board

Wizz Air has a clear procedure for infant (a child under two) restraint systems. You can only use the single hook infant seatbelt - vests/slings cannot be used with the infant seatbelt. Wizz Air only accepts aft-facing car seats when an extra seat is purchased. However, during take-off and landing, and whenever the seatbelt sign is switched on, infants should sit on an adult's lap with the seatbelt fastened. Life vests for infants are available and are provided whenever flying over water. All lavatories are equipped with a changing table. Do not leave children unattended in the cabin.



### **Lithium batteries**

Portable electronic devices (PED) such as phones, laptops and tablets can contain lithium batteries. When damaged, faulty or overheated, these batteries can catch fire and explode. If you recognise any issues with your device, inform the cabin crew immediately.

Charging electronic devices on board using a portable battery charger is forbidden.



### **Electronic devices**

Some electronic devices can be used during the flight with WLAN/Wi-Fi/Bluetooth turned off.

Larger electronic devices that cannot be held comfortably in one hand, exceed ca. 1kg in weight and do not qualify as handheld devices (e.g. laptops, notebooks etc.) must be stowed in the overhead stowage compartments for takeoff, landing and whenever required by the cabin crew.

If in doubt, please ask your cabin crew.

# Inflight health tips

Read these tips on how to stay fit when travelling.



### Before your air travel

Consult your doctor before travelling if you have any medical concerns. Pregnant women and those with heart or respiratory problems, blood diseases or ear, nose and sinus infections should seek medical advice before flying. Crew members are entitled to call for medical assistance pre-flight if they deem it necessary and are in doubt about your fitness for the flight.



## Medical supplies on board

Keep any medication you may need in your hand luggage and in its original packaging. Inform cabin crew of allergies or illnesses. If you are seriously ill or travelling post-surgery, you will need a medical certificate confirming that you are fit to fly. If you have limited mobility, are hearing- or sight-impaired, pregnant, or unable to understand/react to safety instructions, you will be unable to sit in the emergency exit rows or the front row.



### Nut allergy

During our WIZZ Café service we offer peanuts and some snacks containing peanuts/nuts traces. We strongly encourage those with allergies to take all necessary medical precautions before flying and inform the cabin crew during boarding about your allergy.

If you start to feel unwell during the flight, do not hesitate to talk to the cabin crew.













# **Your security**

...is one of our top priorities. To ensure a smooth and pleasant flight, please read the following rules of conduct

# Please do...

- Always follow crew instructions
- Respect the crew and other passengers
- Behave in an appropriate manner
- Stay calm and cooperative
- Wear your face mask properly (covering your nose and mouth) on board

## ...so you can:

- Travel in a nice, pleasant and peaceful atmosphere
- · Relax on board
- Get to your destination as soon as possible

# Do not...

- Smoke on board (including classic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, pipes, vapers)
- Put e-cigarettes in your checked-in bags or charge them on board
- Breach, or refuse to follow, crew instructions
- Harass in any way fellow passengers and/or crew members (including sexual harassment)
- Threaten or be aggressive towards fellow passengers and/or crew members
- Be violent or behave in a hostile, erratic manner
- Damage the aircraft or onboard equipment
- Waste, pollute or contaminate the cabin in any way
- Endanger the safety of the flight by any means
- Consume alcohol that was not purchased on board. Alcohol is served at the crew's discretion to passengers of legal drinking age. The crew reserves the right to stop serving alcohol to any passenger who is, or appears to be, intoxicated
- Be under the influence of drugs or medical substances that may affect your behaviour or self-control
- Film or photograph the cabin crew without their permission

## ...or face the consequences:

• You are fully responsible and accountable for your behaviour. Unruly or disruptive behaviour on board and before boarding will not be tolerated and will be reported to the authorities. You will be held legally and financially responsible in all cases.

# The following consequences\* will occur for such misconduct:

- Denied boarding
- Penalty/fine or arrest by local police:
  - Smoking on board, including lavatory: up to €3,000\*
  - Unruly behaviour due to intoxication: up to €5,000 and two years in prison\*
  - Endangering the safety of an aircraft: up to five years in prison\*
- Diversion of flight and arrest
- Reimbursement of cost of diversion: €10,000-€80,000\*
- Criminal procedure and court litigation\*
- Cancellation of all of your existing Wizz Air flight bookings
- A ban from Wizz Air flights in the future

 ${}^*\mathsf{Subject}$  to applicable jurisdiction







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