

LUCULLAN

Helping you see the WORLD, one experience at a time.®

ISSUE 43

Top Requested Destinations



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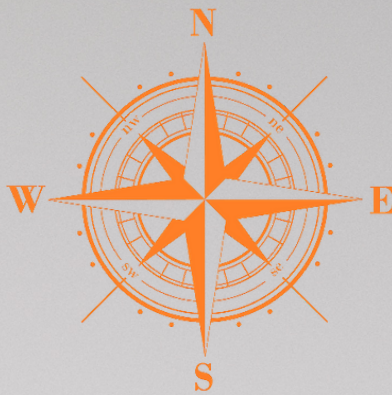
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editor's note

To help you stay travel inspired, this week's issue is about the places YOU said you would like to travel to once it is safe to do so. I am so glad to see that travel dreams have not faded and that you have wonderful destinations in mind for exploring the world, from domestic to international. As many of you have heard me say. "This is a great big world - get out and see some of it!" The cover photo is from Marrakech, Morocco, one of my BookItList destinations.

Now, that BookItList you are working on does not have to be set in stone unless you want it to be. It can be dynamic, influenced by travel shows you watch, hearing about a friend's experience, a destination article or two - whatever moves you to place a location on your list. But remember, it can only be fulfilled when you start making your plans, even if you aren't traveling for a year or more. And you won't get there waiting on your friends to go with you - solo travel is also an option - it's YOUR list - think about it.

When your're ready, we'll start planning.™

Karan





The Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea Unveils the Largest Suites in Hawai`i

Jennifer Ashton Ryan - Robb Report

Guests staying in the Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea's 16 residential and oceanfront suites can now enjoy the new Complete Suite Experience. For the ultimate experience, guests can opt for either of the property's two three-bedroom suites, Lokelani and Maile. The two largest suites in Hawai`i, both were gutted last year and completely renovated. Among Maui's most magnificent accommodations, the Lokelani presidential suite offers 6,800 square feet of indoor and outdoor living space; and the penthouse-level Maile offers 4,750 square feet of space overlooking Wailea Beach.

The Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea's Complete Suite Experience program includes the services of Shermaine Rodrigues, the resort's guest experience manager. A native of Hawai`i, she served 12 years on the resort's concierge team before stepping into the role. She reaches out to guests before their stays to learn their preferences, answer their questions, and make advance arrangements. She is on call throughout their stay to fulfill requests and arrange a few surprises. Also included in the Complete Suite Experience is round-trip car service; daily breakfast; one chef-prepared, in-suite dinner; and unlimited laundry services. A perk for all guests staying at the resort is the property's pools - complete with living-room-like cabanas, featuring private couches, flat-screen TVs, and refrigerators.



Punalu'u Black Sand Beach. Big Island, Hawai'i.



The Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea

from [Where2Next? Travel, LLC](#)

The Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea

01:00



WHERE2NEXT?   **vimeo**

Hawai`i is one of the most popular desired destinations for domestic travel from inquiries we have received. The main reason? Feeling as if you are in a far-away location without the need for a passport.

Discover why the six Islands of Aloha are home to treasures unlike any other on earth: The dramatic cliffs of the Na Pali Coast on Kauai. The vibrant shores of Waikiki Beach on Oahu. The miles of white sands of Papohaku Beach on Molokai. The dolphin friendly waters of Hulopoe Bay on Lanai. The summit of Haleakala on Maui. The primal energy of Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park on Hawai`i's Big Island. It won't be easy choosing which island to visit on your trip to Hawai`i, but you'll find there are no wrong answers.



Get your passport ready for future international travel

Believe it or not, now may be a good time to get or renew your passport, even with the delays in processing. As of the writing of this article, travel is still curtailed for many places, and the European Union is currently not permitting citizens from the United States to enter for travel. Unless you are traveling internationally for an emergency or unique, job-related reason in the next 3 - 4 months, you may want to consider using this time to apply or renew.

As of Wednesday, July 1, a total of 16 passport agencies and centers are in phase one of the three-phase reopening plan. During phase one, appointments are limited appointments to customers who must travel internationally within three (3) days due to a life-or-death emergency. You can apply at an acceptance facility or renew by mail now, but unless you have a life-or-death emergency, you will experience delays before receiving your passport and the return of your citizenship documents such as previous passports, and birth and naturalization certificates.

So, let's imagine a "worst case scenario," where passport processing takes six months (please note that is NOT taking six months for processing, even with current delays).

You can apply to renew your passport nine (9) months before it expires. So, for example, your current passport expires in June 2021, you would apply for renewal in September of 2020. Even if it took six months to have it processed, you would receive your renewed passport by March 2021, back in time for international travel for next spring and summer. If your passport is currently expired or you are applying for a new one, in our "worst case scenario," you would receive your new / renewed passport back in December 2020 - a nice holiday present for yourself and still in time for travel internationally beginning in early 2021.

Need help with getting or renewing your passport? Let us know - we can help!



Uniworld just launched its first itineraries in South America aboard the all-suite Amazon Aria.

With most of Peru covered in jungle, river cruising is one of the best, and sometimes only, ways to explore the region - particularly in the dense Amazon. Known for its boutique river cruises throughout Europe, Uniworld is now testing the waters of the Amazon with two deluxe itineraries that will begin on September 23, 2020. For these new launches, the company has engaged the all-suite Aria Amazon ship, based out of the port of Iquitos, for 11- and 15-day all-inclusive tours that let you dive deep into the country and its culture, all with a glass of Champagne in hand.

THIS NEW RIVER CRUISE MAY BE THE MOST LUXURIOUS WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE AMAZON

KEN RIVADENEIRA - THE ROBB REPORT

Owned by Aqua Expeditions, the custom-designed Aria Amazon is a 147-foot-long eco-friendly vessel that accommodates a maximum of 32 guests, ensuring an intimate experience. Each of the ship's 16 suites measures 250 square-feet, and features hardwood interiors and dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows that provide unparalleled views of the river and rainforest. The Aria Amazon also has a jacuzzi and an outdoor canopied lounge on the top deck, an indoor lounge, a gym, and a dining room serving gourmet cuisine.

While on board for seven days, guests can enjoy curated guided excursions using the ship's private launch boats, which will take them along the banks of the river and deep into the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve. Activities include an up-close look at the confluence of the Ucayali and Marañón rivers, where the Amazon begins, as well as tours of remote villages, kayaking or swimming in the black waters of the river, and stargazing in the evening.

Uniworld's itineraries, however, offer more than just river cruising. Both journeys begin with a deep exploration of Lima, where you'll overnight for three days in a luxury hotel while discovering the city's colonial landmarks and trendy neighborhoods. This is followed by a transfer to Iquitos - the largest city in the world accessible only by air or water - to embark on the seven-day cruise. The 11-day trip will end upon re-docking, while the 15-day journey continues on to Cusco and Machu Picchu before returning to Lima. The voyage includes unlimited spirits and wines, all meals, airport transfers, excursions, on-board entertainment and all gratuities.

Reach out to us at info@where2nexttravel.co if you are interested.



EGYPT - LAND OF THE PHARAOHS

Where2Next? Travel, LLC

Egypt has been one of my personal BookItList destinations since I can remember. Ancient Egypt has and still does fascinate me. I've always been one of those people who loves to read about wonderful destinations, but also wants to set foot there, see things with my own eyes, touch what I can, enjoy cultural culinary delicacies and to interact with local people. Apparently Egypt is on your minds as well.

Ever since the Arab Spring uprisings of 2011 and between 2012 - 2015, however, Egypt wasn't on anyone's radar for travel. That's understandable - the area was experiencing tremendous change at a very fast pace. I have learned that at times, though, the news media makes most places sound more frightening than they actually are. I remember during a trip to Greece (not long before the Greek riots of 2008 and during a period of some initial unrest), our guide explained that 1) in the unlikely event that anything happened while we were in Athens, he would get us safely back to our ship (perks of using a private guide and driver); and 2) if anyone started a trash can fire, several local photographers would converge on it, take pictures of the few people who would gather around it angrily chanting something, then report it as a skirmish or riot that actually hadn't happened, especially if it was a slow news day. And while travel certainly isn't happening right now and we are all dreaming of our future travels, you may ask if Egypt is a good place to visit when the time is right. The answer is yes.

Visitors have been returning to Egypt in larger and larger numbers. While Egypt isn't regarded as one of the safest places to travel right now (and if you read the US State Department's past travel warnings about Egypt, you may be convinced that you'll be attacked the moment you land). It is true that there are active terrorist groups in *certain parts* of the country.

The main tourist sites in Egypt are no more dangerous than popular places you might visit in the US or Europe. There is a strong military presence at most major sites in Egypt – armed guards, metal detectors and bag checks become second nature as you visit temples and museums – but will likely not find yourself feeling in danger at any point. I've seen and experienced the same thing in other places I have traveled in the world. Egyptian tour operators have taken and continue to take great care to modify their itineraries to avoid any places where tourists are not likely to go - remember, their livelihoods depend on getting visitors to and from destinations safely.

Yes, there have been attacks in Egypt that have claimed lives – but there have been attacks in London, Las Vegas, Paris and New Zealand in recent years that have been deadly as well. No place, including Egypt or the US, is 100% safe - that guarantee can not be made about ANY destination in the world. It is, however, safer for tourists than you likely think.

As you consider visiting Egypt, here are some things to know:

The locals will ask to take selfies with you - it's a badge of honor in Egypt to take a photo with a tourist. Tourism numbers have been so low in the past few years that people are excited to see more visitors.

Cairo is chaotic - the streets are teeming with people and vehicles and lane markers are a suggestion - now mix that with dust and sand.

Choose your visit to Cairo carefully - you may have to schedule your visit to Giza and the great pyramids around their visibility - some days the pyramids cannot be seen at all because of the dust and sand.

Be sure to try kushari, the national dish of Egypt. Consisting of spiced lentils and rice, chickpeas and small pasta, it is smothered in a tomato sauce flavored with vinegar and topped with savory, thin, crispy fried onion.

Tipping, or baksheesh, is expected - you'll be asked to tip for everything from a porter bringing your bag to your hotel room to someone handing you a paper towel in the restroom. Make sure you have a few small-denomination Egyptian pounds at the ready.

The ancient sites are MUCH better in person - Egyptian history is incredible and what you've seen in books or documentaries pales to seeing everything yourself; and

Egypt is better with a local guide - while many like to travel independently, this is a country where you get more out of the experience when you have someone with you who is knowledgeable about the history, religion and present-day culture.

Ready to plan your trip to Egypt? Let us know. We can either plan a bespoke experience or you may decide to come with Where2Next? Travel, LLC on our Treasures of Egypt experience, currently scheduled for **October 24 - November 6, 2021**.

When you're ready, we'll start planning.™

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Local woman extracting oil for perfume



Whether "Casablanca" or your own world curiosity influenced your decision to consider Morocco as your next destination, there have been several inquiries about travel to this country. As Moroccan travel is a new destination for us, Where2Next? Travel, LLC is currently vetting post-pandemic protocols, entry requirements, private tour companies, safety & security, insurance requirements, suppliers and flight deals for curating custom and private small group experiences to Morocco. Stay tuned for additional information, tentative group itinerary and a country write-up to appear in a future LUCULLAN issue.

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DUBAI

Dubai is another requested destination for travel when we are safely able to do so. Where2Next? Travel, LLC will again offer the "Dubai Discovery" curated experience postponed by the pandemic. We are re-vetting our suppliers and will make any needed revisions to the original itinerary as necessary, especially in regard to post-pandemic protocols. Keep watch for a country write-up and small, private group itinerary in a future LUCULLAN issue.



Burj Al Arab

The Dubai Frame



ON THE HORIZON

TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

Platinum experience to include flights; transfers; lodging; Rose Parade Float Decorating Tour; lunch at Lawry's the Prime Rib in Beverly Hills; private excursion option; New Year's Eve Gala; reserved grandstand seating for the 133rd Tournament of Roses Parade; and more. **December 29, 2021 - January 3, 2022**

SOUTH AFRICA + SAFARI

Custom experience to include flights; lodging; and safari on a luxury, private, malaria-free game reserve - Big 5 sightings guaranteed. Contact me to begin your planning. **May 2022**

CRUISING THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

Custom experience for a luxury cruise on the Mississippi with Viking. Contact me to begin your planning. **Coming 2022**

MAGNIFICENT MOROCCO

Custom private luxury experience to Morocco. Contact me to begin your planning. **Coming 2022**

DUBAI DISCOVERY

Custom private luxury experience to Dubai. Contact me to begin your planning. **Coming 2021 and 2022**



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