



15
PICASSO'S
WORLD



20
EAT & DRINK
VICTORIA

SEPTEMBER 2014

ENDLESS VACATION

PLAY | EAT | SHOP | RELAX | EXPLORE

Adventure time in Paradise

**FAMILY THEME PARKS
ON THE GOLD COAST**

**ESCAPE TO COZUMEL
MEXICO**

**SHOPPING GENTING
KUALA LUMPUR**

**KICK START SUMMER
WITH DETOX JUICES**

**THE PALEO DIET
SWEEPING THE WORLD**

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF HOLIDAYS

*Celebrating your holiday
memories,*
all year long.

For the past 40 years, we've had the incredible pleasure of helping millions of RCI members create priceless holiday memories. Those memories deserve celebrating! Check out our Bonus Weeks and keep an eye on your emails all year long, as we celebrate YOU with our exciting offers!

A legacy of holidays that define a lifetime.

RCI
40

Because your holiday means the world to us®



15

Follow in Picasso's footsteps in Paris.

SEPTEMBER 2014

CONTENTS

FEATURES

15 **PICASSO'S WORLD**

From Málaga to Mougins

Follow in the artist's footsteps and take in the sights that inspired him
By Brandon Presser

20 **EAT & DRINK VICTORIA**

Fall in love with food

Experience Australia's love affair with food, wine and boutique beer
By Rowena Ryan

26 **ESCAPE TO COZUMEL**

This little island beckons with its white sandy beaches and tranquil way of life.
By Stirling Kelso



ON THE COVER

Surfers Paradise, **Australia.**

Check out endlessvacation.com



Terms & Conditions: Prices are based on low season and are subject to availability at time of print. Room sizes vary between resorts.

All prices are in Australian dollars unless otherwise specified. For full membership terms and conditions please call our friendly reservation consultants or check out RCI.com.

Endless Vacation Pacific magazine is produced in part by Total Marketing Management.



6



12

14



CONTENTS

DEPARTMENTS

- 3 **READY, SET, GO**
The latest news in the travel world
- 5 **TRAVEL HEALTH**
Feet First
- 6 **LANDMARKS**
Georgia, USA
- 8 **GOOD VALUE**
Manila, Philippines
- 10 **FOOD**
Paleo Diet
- 12 **SHOPPING**
Genting Highlands, Malaysia
- 14 **AT A GLANCE**
Port Macquarie, NSW
- 25 **DINING IN**
Juice Detox

MEMBERS SECTION

- 31 Members' Introduction
- 32 Holiday Rentals
- 34 RCI Cruises
- 35 RCI Tours
- 36 Travel Health
- 38 Travel Gear
- 39 Members Education
- 40 Bonus Weeks
- 41 Family Theme Parks
- 48 RCI Holiday Stories

WEEKENDERS

- 44 **FIJI**
Denarau Island
- 46 **QUEENSTOWN - NEW ZEALAND**
Wanaka



Welcome

The warm spring days will soon be upon us and with more hours of sunshine, it's easy to stretch the outdoor fun and savour the longer days from the early morning well into the evenings.

Since spring is a time we like to travel it is an ideal time to start planning your next dream holiday or weekend getaway.

Food and the occasional drink are an integral part of travelling for me. Lucky for me our story on the wonderful wine, beer and food trail offered in regional Victoria gave me the inside knowledge of where to go next time I'm visiting down that way (page 20). Whether you're a foodie or not nothing connects you to a place like eating and the local wines.

Find out the latest on the Paleo diet which is sweeping the world (page 10) and kick start your day with some great detox juice recipes (page 25).

Another trail you'll want to follow is in the footsteps of Pablo Picasso, one of the world's best loved artists. History and art buffs can read more about his journey on page 15.

Discover which roller coaster ride is waiting for you at the Gold Coast's world class theme parks on page 41 and don't forget to fasten your seatbelt!

Slow down and experience the Appalachian culture of northern Georgia (page 6) where you'll discover historic towns and kilometres of nature trails just primed for hiking and adrenaline pumping white water rafting.

Top it all off with a spring weekend getaway to remember at the beautiful Denarau Island of Fiji or the spectacular outdoor lovers paradise of Wanaka, in New Zealand's South Island.

Don't forget to check out our members stories and find out who was the winner of the "Treasure Hunt, Find the 40s and win an IPAD" competition (page 48) from our Autumn edition of the Endless Vacation Magazine.

As always thanks for your continued support and loyalty to RCI. Have a great time planning your next holiday and travel safe.

Di Mitchell

Di Mitchell
Director, Member Services

ready,
set,
go

AUSTRALIA

Life begins at 40

Forty Years on RCI's Still Going Strong



This year marks RCI's 40th anniversary and RCI Pacific is celebrating this significant milestone with its members and global business partners.

RCI Pacific Director, Andrew Heslehurst said RCI first pioneered the concept of Holiday Exchange in 1974, offering members increased flexibility and versatility with their timeshare holiday ownership experience.

"We're honoured to have spent the past 40 years helping millions of our subscribing members create extraordinary holiday memories and we are looking forward to being part of all the countless holidays still to come."

Today RCI is a worldwide leader in holiday exchange with over 4,500 affiliated resorts in approximately 100 countries. As part of Wyndham Exchange & Rentals and the Wyndham Worldwide family of brands, RCI now provides flexible holiday options to 3.7 million RCI subscribing members each year.

"Looking back over the past 40 years there have been major technical innovations that have shaped our world but with greater technology also comes higher expectations in the variety and quality of accommodation RCI members would like to experience. Never

the less the fun and excitement of taking a well earned holiday will always stay the same."

"As a global leader in holiday exchange we have always welcomed new technology that can improve the way we do business with our global partners and RCI members. Currently we have some exciting high tech developments underway including the recent relaunch of our new website rci.com."

"RCI is proud to define and challenge the status quo. It's our flexibility and record of success that gives us that point of difference, allowing us to move forward with confidence for the next 40 years," Mr Heslehurst said.



THE RCI PACIFIC TEAM:
Recently attended the
ATHOC Industry Awards



ready,
set,
go

AUSTRALIA

Light and easy

There's a new way to get around the central Gold Coast with the arrival of G:link, Queensland's first light rail system. Fast, frequent trams connect 16 stations along a 13 kilometre route from Broadbeach to Gold Coast University Hospital.

14 air-conditioned trams, each carrying up to 309 passengers, operate every 7.5 minutes at peak times, from 5am to midnight on weekdays and 24 hours at weekends (Friday and Saturday nights). As well as providing dedicated space for wheelchairs and prams, the trams also include a very Gold Coast feature - surfboard racks.

The G:link website provides a route map, station and destination information, timetables and live service updates or you can download the G:Link app for Android or Apple. You can plan your journey using trams, buses and/or trains and find ticket and fare (including gocard) information.

G:link is a partnership with Queensland Government, the Commonwealth of Australia and GoldLinQ. The partnership are pursuing a second stage of the network to link Gold Coast University Hospital with the heavy rail line to Brisbane.

For more information visit the website www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au

CHINA

AU dream destination for Chinese

Australia is at the top of Chinese tourists' destination wish lists, but is only the 11th most visited country.

A survey of 3,000 Chinese international travellers by the Hotels.com accommodation booking website finds that more holidaymakers from China want to go to Australia over the next year than anywhere else. Australia edges France, New Zealand, the USA and Switzerland which round out the top five most desired trips.

Hotels.com's Regional Director Katherine Cole says Australia matches many of the best features of those destinations.

"Australia ticks all the boxes when it comes to what Chinese travellers are looking for in a holiday destination and

those top things are safety, historical and heritage sites as well as cuisine," she said. However, the study finds Australia has an additional winning factor over those other destinations - what it terms "the power of g'day" - which is that Australia is rated the most welcoming country towards Chinese visitors.

Despite everything going for Australia, the nation only ranked 11th amongst destinations last year based on the number of nights booked through Hotels.com's Chinese website last year. Ms Cole says that shows there is a massive opportunity for Australian tourism to grow its share of the expanding Chinese market.

By business reporter Michael Janda

It's no wonder Hobbits live here.



NEW ZEALAND

Journey to Middle Earth

Tourism New Zealand and Air New Zealand are calling out to keen Hobbit fans to take an ultimate Middle-earth journey to New Zealand.

Gearing up for the 17 December release of *The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies*, Tourism New Zealand and Air New Zealand have joined with New Line Cinema, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures and Warner Bros Pictures, to launch The Hobbit Fan Fellowship Contest.

Launched before 6,500 fans at Comic-Con International, an entertainment and comic convention in San Diego, the competition will select 75 winners who can each take a friend to New Zealand where they will spend a week journeying to famous filming locations and tourist hotspots throughout New Zealand, culminating in the ultimate experience for every Hobbit fan - a private screening of the final film with Sir Peter Jackson himself.

Air New Zealand will be responsible for bringing the army of global Hobbit fans to Middle-earth for incredible once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Air New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Christopher Luxon "This global competition is an incredibly exciting prize for any Hobbit fan as well as a significant platform to be able to show travellers that visiting Middle earth can be an easy reality."

Entries for The Hobbit Fan Fellowship Contest are now open. For further details and to register your interest, go to TheHobbitFanContest.com



Get your geek on in Frodo's house



Feet First

FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO HELP KEEP YOUR MOST IMPORTANT TRAVEL TOOL—YOUR OWN TWO FEET—IN GOOD SHAPE ON YOUR NEXT TRIP.

BY HANNAH WALLACE



Holidays can be tough on your feet. Besides all that sightseeing, often on uneven ground, you tend to engage in activities you don't typically do at home, like hiking, running on trails and playing tennis. We interviewed podiatrist Martin G. Ellman at the Mayo Clinic, in Rochester, Minnesota, for his tips on how to help prevent and treat minor foot ailments such as blisters, corns, calluses and warts—and keep your feet in tip top shape.

Wear the right shoes. This may seem obvious, but many injuries occur when people wear inappropriate footwear such as sandals on a hike. Hiking shoes offer great ankle support, court shoes have more side-to-side support while running shoes have excellent shock absorption. “Try to use shoes for the activity you're doing,” Ellman says.

Break in new shoes. Don't wear a new pair of hiking boots for the first time on the day of a hike. “You always want to break in a pair of shoes weeks before you go on a trip,” Ellman says. This way if you do get blisters or corns, you can treat them at home and they won't mar your holiday.

Socks matter. If your feet tend to sweat during physical activity, invest in moisture absorbing socks. “Cotton socks are okay, but they stay damp. A damp environment on skin causes friction, which can lead to blisters,” says Ellman. You can find moisture absorbing socks made of merino wool, synthetics or PLA (a corn-based fiber that's more eco-friendly than polyester) at most sporting goods stores.

Be prepared. Be sure to pack band aids and antibiotic ointment in your toiletry bag. If you get a blister that's smaller than 5mm, apply ointment and a band aid and leave it alone. But if it's bigger than 5mm, Ellman advises draining it with a sterilised needle leaving the “roof” of the blister there to offer some protection. Then apply antibiotic ointment and a band aid to the area.

See a podiatrist. Corns and calluses are thick, hardened layers of skin caused by friction or pressure. The only difference is their location. Corns appear on or between your toes and calluses occur on your heel or the ball of your foot. Ellman says you can generally keep both in check by using a pumice stone or a skin file and applying lotion to your feet at night. (Do not do this if you're diabetic or have nerve problems in your feet—unless you've been instructed to do so by a medical professional.) If you have a corn or callus that's causing you pain, however, Ellman suggests seeing a podiatrist. If it's the result of a foot abnormality, such as a bunion or hammer toe, the solution is often as easy as getting your shoes stretched at a shoe repair store.

Warts and all. “Warts are viruses, and they're very unpredictable as to how they respond to treatment,” Ellman says. For this reason you'll want to start treatment at least a month, before your trip. Usually over the counter or prescription medication will do the trick, but sometimes your doctor will recommend freezing the wart off with liquid nitrogen or using a laser. Also, whether or not you have a wart, Ellman suggests wearing shoes or sandals by the pool or in the locker room—it just may keep you from getting one. 🦶



LANDMARKS
GEORGIA

Georgia on your mind

SUMMER'S JUST BEAUTIFUL IN THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHERN GEORGIA, WHERE YOU CAN FIND AUTHENTIC SOUTHERN FARE, APPALACHIAN CULTURE AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURES.

ALLISON ENTREKIN

Just an hour north of Atlanta, traffic fades and a blue-grey mountain peaks appear. Tucked between them you'll discover Appalachian towns with old fashioned appeal. These are places where restaurants still serve sugar sweet tea on front porches, vintage trains carry passengers along a winding 1885 railroad and children pan for gold in an open pit mine.

But this, as you'll soon find, is Mayberry 2.0. Here an enterprising generation of wine maker cultivates award winning wine in the red clay soil. Nearby, one of the largest hang gliding schools in the country lets visitors strap on wings and soar from 450 metres. Antique shops abound. North Georgia is retro, but in a good way. It's also a place where locals welcome you as one of their own.

● Immerse yourself in the history and culture

As any Civil War buff will tell you, north Georgia was the site of many of the war's most important battles, notably the Battle of Chickamauga and the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. But General Sherman couldn't upend the Appalachian way of life in these parts. Runaway slaves, gold hunters and pioneers hardy enough to withstand the altitude (nearly 1,500 metres) settled the area. Discover their culture at the Foxfire Museum, in Mountain City.

Of course, many Appalachian settlers were motivated by gold. The town of Dahlonega saw a gold rush in 1829, a full 20 years before California's. At Crisson Gold Mine you can still pan for gold in an open pit mine that dates from 1847. In the heart of historic downtown, you can also step inside the 1836 courthouse, now home to the Dahlonega Gold Museum. See some of the coins produced during the rush, plus a giant shiny nugget found nearby.

● Getting out and about

North Georgia is packed with outlets for getting your adrenaline pumping. Visitors can brave the Chattooga River's Class V rapids during a white water trip with Southeastern Expeditions.

All sense of gravity vanishes during a hang gliding trip with Lookout Mountain Flight Park, the largest school for the sport in the country. Newcomers can fly in tandem with professionals and on clear days you'll see for hundreds of kilometres.

This area is known as the gateway to the Appalachian Trail. You may not have dreams of walking more than 3,200 kilometres north to Mount Katahdin in Maine, but you can still park at the base of Amicalola Falls and trek 14 kilometres to the trail's southern end



IT'S A PEACH: The Appalachian Mountains will take your breath away. As will Amicalola Falls where you can truly get in touch with nature (from the safety of a man made staircase). When it's time for a break why not try an 'ole time' root beer float. It's hard to believe somewhere so unique and seemingly of another time is just an hours drive from the capital of Atlanta; which is one of America's biggest cities.

on Springer Mountain. Along the Approach Trail you'll spot hawks, magnificent sassafras trees and mountain streams. If you're here during a full moon, you can take in one of nature's gorgeous spectacles after dark. Drive 105 kilometres northeast to Tallulah Gorge and Falls and walk across the gorge's suspension bridge under cover of darkness, checking out the stars above and the falls 25 metres below.

◆ Family activities abound

In case you think all the activities around here require risking a heart attack, there are plenty of things families can do together. Hop aboard the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway, which departs from a historic depot in Blue Ridge. Choose an open air vintage car and you'll follow the path carved by the Toccoa River.

During your time in north Georgia, don't miss quirky Helen, designed to look like a Bavarian village. Walk along streets lined with half timbered buildings, stopping to check out the cobblestoned walkways and perhaps buy a root beer float at Scoop de Scoop, a 1950s style ice cream shop. Novice anglers who want to learn to fly fish can book a lesson and cast for trophy rainbow trout. Finish your time in Helen by taking a hot air balloon ride with Balloons over Georgia. This town is a mecca for balloon enthusiasts because of the panoramic views to Atlanta.

◆ Wine Down

The red clay soil around Dahlonega is similar to that of the Piedmont region of Italy and the vineyards are worth a visit. Some of our favourites are Montaluce, arguably the town's premier winery and Wolf Mountain, for sweeping views of vineyards. Raise a glass to Georgia—where the people are gracious and the pace of life perfectly simple. ☺



STAY

RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS IN
NORTHERN GEORGIA INCLUDE:

Silverleaf's Apple Mountain Resort 5487

An ideal getaway for outdoors enthusiasts with sweeping views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.
200 Appleseed Ct., Clarkesville

Alpine Crest/Resort Club of Helen 1209

Rustic mountain charm within walking distance of Helen's eclectic shops and restaurants.
273 Carrie Cox Dr., P.O. Box 780, Helen

**For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call
1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ**



GOOD VALUE
Philippines

Urban Oasis

ASTORIA PLAZA SUITES PASIG CITY, PHILIPPINES.
A NEW STANDARD IN RESORT HOLIDAYING.



Situated in the bustling Ortigas Centre in one of the Philippines' most progressive commercial districts, The Astoria Plaza hotel in Pasig offers you a private getaway in the heart of the city.

Less than 7km drive from Makati Central Business district, Astoria Plaza sets a new luxury standard in contemporary holiday accommodation, combining the comforts of a spacious home with the modern convenience of a deluxe hotel.

Soak up the good life among the stylish Zen-inspired settings while staying close to where the action is. Pasig City is a definite must visit if you want to experience the best of the Philippines. There's also a complimentary round trip shuttle service to the Ortigas Business District if you want to have a leisurely ride. Astoria Plaza is within walking distance to major shopping centres,

malls, hospitals, universities and rail transits. Nearby you'll find major corporate icons such as the San Miguel Corporation, Philippines Stock Exchange and World Bank as well as the Philippines Sports Arena and the Megamall.

Pasig City boasts many parks and playgrounds, two huge shopping malls and excellent dining with music and live entertainment. Over 100 ethnic groups live here, creating a fascinating culture to explore. Have fun in the sun with the beaches, great surf, diving, golf and much more.

Shop till you drop

On the boundaries of Pasig lies the bustling Ortigas Center which boasts a wide selection of retail shops. The Podium and Shangri-la Mall have a fine selection of local and international brands. There's also Robinsons Galleria and SM Megamall with a massive



collection of retail outlets, restaurants and entertainment areas. Bargain products ranging from clothing and shoes to accessories and gadgets can also be found in St. Francis Square. The range of smaller shops is excellent also with a beautifully decorated treatment centre for foot spas and manicures.

Tour the Ark Avilon Zoo

Frontera Verde Ortigas Avenue Corner C5, Pasig, Luzon, Philippines

T 632 706-2992

If you after a favourite place to take the children where you can see animals up close and personal then check out this seven hectare zoo which is home to more than 3,000 exotic and indigenous animals including birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and invertebrates. The zoo has a two storey building resembling the biblical Noah's Ark. Prepaid tickets can be purchased for around \$5.

www.avilonzoo.ph

Explore the Lopez Museum and Library

Ground Floor, Benpres Building Exchange Road Corner Meralco Avenue, Pasig Philippines

T 632 631 2417

The Lopez Memorial Museum is the oldest privately owned and managed museum and library specialising in Philippine art

and history. With over 500 works in its museum collection and over 20,000 titles in its library catalogue, the museum covers 600 years of Philippine history and is a must see.

Open Monday to Saturday 8am to 5pm

www.lopez-museum.com

Free Entry at Rainforest Park

F.Legaspi Ave, Maybunga, Pasig, Philippines

T 632 642 5280

You will thoroughly enjoy the butterfly garden, skate board rink, boat ride, children's playground and there's lots of big dinosaur statues that make this a fun place for all ages.

www.facebook.com/RainforestPark

Let the Kids Rule at the Fun Ranch

Frontera Verde, Ortigas Ave, Cor. C5 Pasig, Philippines

T 632 706 3019

Travelling with children is highly recommended when you head on over to the Fun Ranch. Located in Frontera Verde in Ortigas Avenue, this family entertainment complex is one colossal playground that offers a world of amusements. There's an impressive number of fun rides and play areas to explore.

www.kidsrulehere.com

LOCATION, LOCATION: (from far left) Makati Central Business District; Take a break from the city and have a surfing lesson; Shopping is serious business in Pasig City, be prepared for excess baggage on your return flight; Amongst all of the glitz there are still reminders of simpler times, Malate Church.



STAY RCI AFFILIATED RESORT

Astoria Plaza Suites 7773

The Astoria Plaza Suites offer luxury in an urban setting. It is your gateway to the hip, fast-paced Pasig City, but also has easy access to other cities, the beaches and all the attractions Luzon Island has to offer. The resort offers world class facilities including a state of the art gym, pool, spa and massage centre.

MEMBER REVIEW: "The very spacious and clean units and helpful staff make this a very good place to stay. All the big malls are just around the corner and the best thing was the free shuttle service which is very helpful if you don't know the area." "Best attractions or restaurants nearby SM megamall, Shangri-La, Robinsons and Podium shopping malls"

For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ



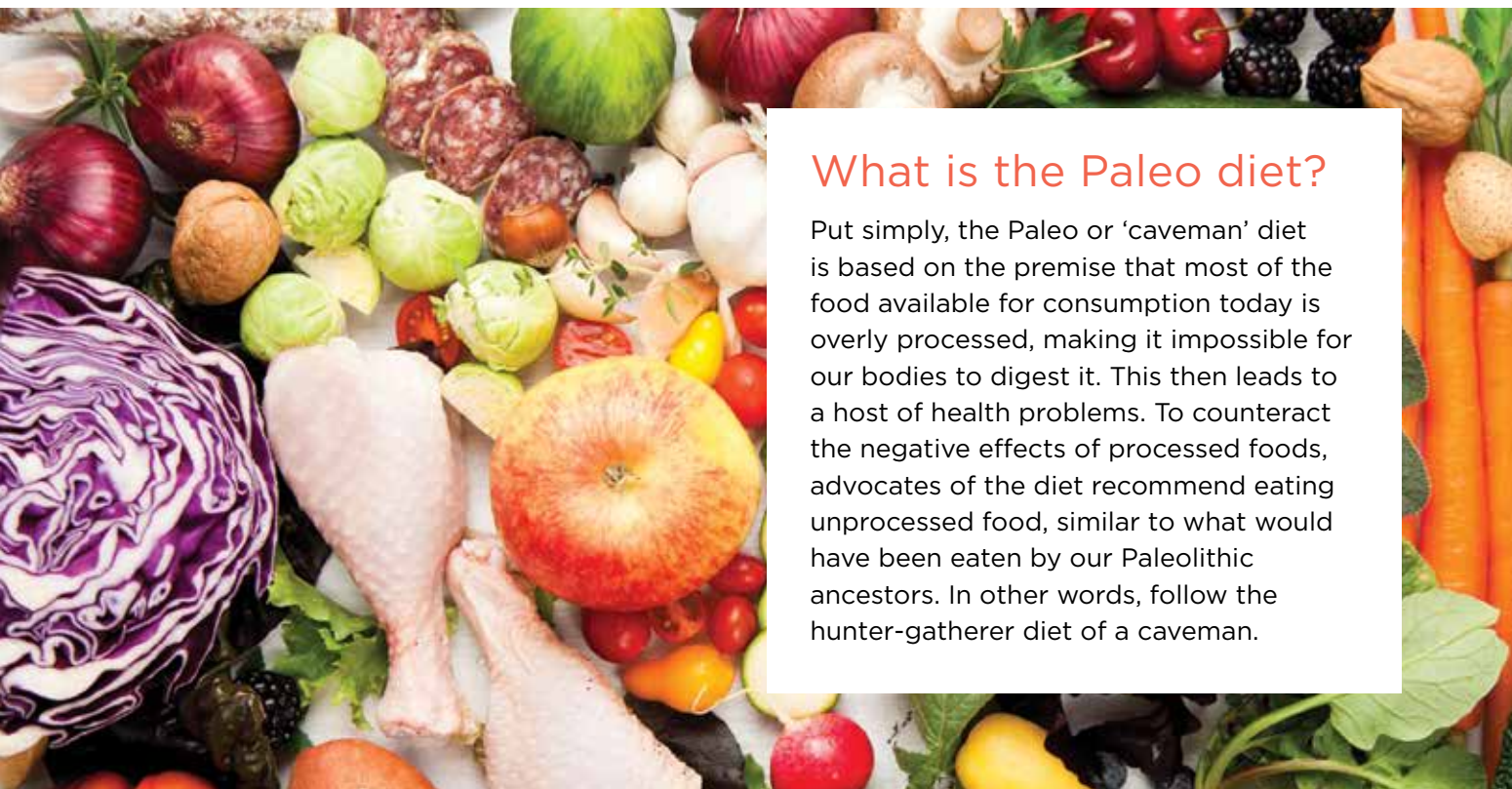
FOOD
PALEO DIET



the diet sweeping the world

PALEO IS THE LATEST DIET TO HIT THE HEALTH SCENE WITH AN IMMENSE FOLLOWING ALL OVER THE WORLD. IS IT REALLY WORTH ALL THE HYPE?

KATHY PAPADOPOULOS



What is the Paleo diet?

Put simply, the Paleo or 'caveman' diet is based on the premise that most of the food available for consumption today is overly processed, making it impossible for our bodies to digest it. This then leads to a host of health problems. To counteract the negative effects of processed foods, advocates of the diet recommend eating unprocessed food, similar to what would have been eaten by our Paleolithic ancestors. In other words, follow the hunter-gatherer diet of a caveman.

Exchange Your Routine Call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ to exchange weeks or visit RCI.com

TO BECOME A PALEO, YOU NEED TO ADHERE TO THE GUIDELINES BELOW.



+ Food to eat

The food you eat should be unprocessed and organic if possible, and should steer clear of pesticides and preservatives. Emory University observes that people who follow the Paleo diet get about 35 percent of their calories from fats, 35 percent from carbohydrates and 30 percent from protein.

- Meat, poultry and fish including offal
- Eggs
- Fruit and vegetables
- Nuts (preferably activated) and seeds
- Oils including coconut oil, butter, ghee, lard and unheated olive oil and avocado



- Food to avoid

For many people this can be a big ask, as most of us have been told that complex carbohydrates are essential for energy, digestive health and heart disease prevention.

- All grains (some Paleo diet followers do include small amounts of ancient grains, such as quinoa though)
- Legumes, including beans, lentils and chickpeas
- Dairy products
- Processed vegetable and seed oils, and margarines
- Unfermented soy products
- Alcohol (although some consume small amounts of red wine)

What are the benefits?

There's still much contention about whether the diet is beneficial or not, but early studies seem to suggest that following the diet may help to reduce the risk of diabetes, cancer and heart disease. It's common sense that you will notice health benefits simply by getting rid of sugar and processed food from your diet as well.

Many Paleo advocates also enjoy being part of a community, with a plethora of online groups and forums now available to share stories and recipes.

Are there any negatives

Some nutritional experts are concerned about high protein and saturated fat levels and a lack of complex carbohydrates and calcium (from dairy products).

Is a Paleo diet for you?

If you have any chronic health conditions it's important that you seek professional health advice before making any drastic lifestyle changes. For everyone else, give it a try and see if it works for you. Pop into one of the many Paleo cafes and restaurants now available in most large cities and sample the caveman fare for yourself.



... not sure you can sacrifice everything you love?

If the thought of no grains is too much for you, you can replace them with ancient varieties like Quinoa. For many the thought of no alcohol is definitely a bridge too far but many Paleo's allow themselves a little red wine, comforted by the thought that it contains anti-oxidants... we will drink to that.



SHOPPING
Genting Highlands Malaysia



High Rollin' in Genting Highlands

BY ANNISA DHARMA

O6photo / Shutterstock.com





LOOK BACK WITH AN EYE TO THE FUTURE: (clockwise from below) You won't miss First World Plaza, just take the cable car and look for the huge rainbow painted building. The dynamic visuals don't end at the doorway, Genting Highland gives Las Vegas a run for it's money in the visual overload stakes. Hours of shopping requires a full stomach. The cable car entry lets you know this is no ordinary shopping experience. Shop on a mountain top, in a forest just one hour from Kuala Lumpur... crazy.

Perched 1,740 metres above sea level in Malaysia's Titiwangsa Mountains, Genting Highlands is a glitzy playground where scenic beauty fuses with stupendous architecture and nonstop entertainment. Did we mention that it's accessible via a breathtaking ride on the world's fastest cable car? So strap on your seatbelts and make ample room in your suitcase. Let's get some retail therapy and relax, eat and play.

Relax and play

To call First World Plaza a shopping mall would be a huge understatement. As the largest shopping area in Genting Highlands, it's also a Mecca for all things fun. Here, you'll find an indoor theme park, a Cineplex, an indoor waterpark for children, a skydiving simulator, a bowling centre, a haunted house and even a Ripley's Believe It or Not! museum. And that's not even the half of it. Starworld Casino – a smaller version of the resort's 18,000 square metre Casino de Genting – also decks the halls of this mega complex. Shopping with a side of blackjack, anyone? Or maybe it should be the other way around? If you like to mix shopping with exhilarating amusement, this is the place for you.

The aptly named Cultural Village is an area within the First World Plaza that is rich in culture. Comprised of a handful of shops, you'll find culturally unique trinkets and souvenirs from

Malaysia, China, Thailand, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Korea, India, Japan, Singapore and Saudi Arabia.

No holiday would feel right without bagging barrels of gifts for your loved ones back home. Make it easier for yourself by heading to Gift Castle – a small souvenir shop in Genting Highlands, which sells a wide range of gift items.

Taste

Shopping and chocolate. Need we say more? The Cocoa Boutique at Genting Highlands is part of the Cocoa Boutique and Chocolate Gallery chain – the largest chocolate conglomerate in Malaysia. Find a literal smorgasbord of chocolate variations at this sweet shop from your run-of-the-mill dark chocolate to durian and chilli chocolate for the more adventurous.



STAY RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS IN MALASIA INCLUDE:

Genting View Resort 1703

Within easy reach of the cable car station, Genting View Resort is only a stone's throw away from Malaysia's only casino and many sporting and entertaining activities.

Awana Genting Highlands Golf and Country Resort 4919

Family friendly resort with heated swimming pool and Jacuzzi, indoor badminton and free shuttle short with travelling time to KL.

For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ



AT A GLANCE
NEW THINGS IN OUR
FAVOURITE PLACES

Port Macquarie

NSW Australia



Just a few hours north of Sydney on the mid north coast of NSW, the vibrant and unspoilt town of Port Macquarie offers a distinctive mix of heritage buildings, modern hotels and diverse dining.

With its stunning coastline of rocky headlands and position neighbouring the banks of the Hastings River, it is also a water lover's haven with numerous stunning beaches to choose from.

Name Game

Port Macquarie was first visited by Europeans in 1818 when John Oxley reached the Pacific Ocean from the interior after his journey to explore inland New South Wales. He named the location after the Governor of New South Wales, Lachlan Macquarie.

1824

The year construction of the magnificent St Thomas Anglican Church began. Built by convicts over four years you can gain an appreciation of the culture of the times by taking a guided tour. It is the third oldest church still standing in Australia and is still a place of worship.

2,000,000

The number of people who have visited Timbertown in Wauchope since it opened in 1976. Just 23kms from Port Macquarie it is considered to be one of Australia's finest Heritage Parks. Set on 87 acres of natural forest it recreates an entire early Australian village.

9 kilometres

The coastal walk from Tacking Point Lighthouse to the Town Green foreshore. This stretch of coastline is one of the most picturesque in NSW and features a string of white sandy coves punctuated by rocky outcrops and sheer sided headlands that jut into the sea.

Beaches Galore

There are nine fabulous beaches to escape to in Port Macquarie with most patrolled during the summer months. Town Beach is popular with body boarders and swimmers, Flynn's Beach is ideal for families and Nobby's Beach features some great walking tracks while visitors can get a chance to see dolphins and whales at Lighthouse Beach.

PORT MACQUARIE



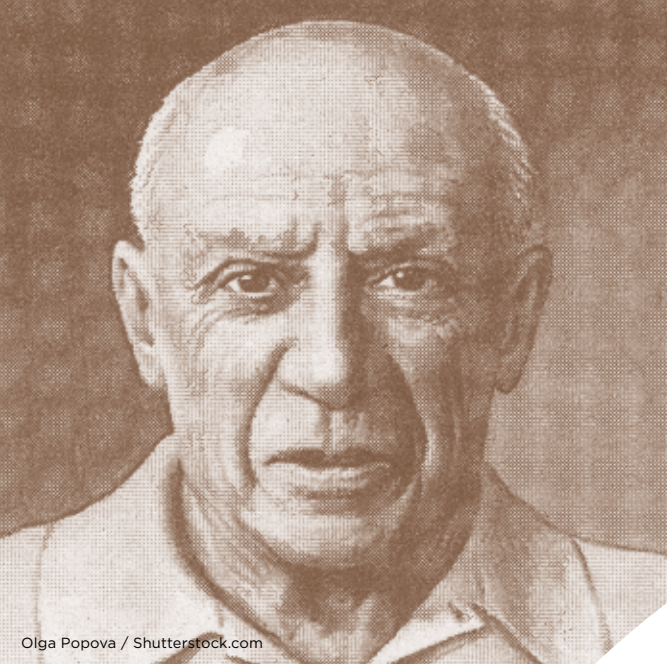
STAY RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS IN PORT MACQUARIE INCLUDE:

Wyndham Flynns Beach 7822

An ideal holiday location for families and couples. Soak up the sparkling pool, sooth yourself in the adjacent jacuzzi spa or simply take in the beautifully landscaped, award winning gardens. Close by are all the major historical sites, world class vineyards and excellent restaurants.

For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ
For information about tours and activities check out www.portmacquarieinfo.com.au





Olga Popova / Shutterstock.com



PICASSO'S WORLD

From Málaga to Mougins, follow in the Spanish artist's footsteps and take in the sights that inspired him.

BY BRANDON PRESSER

Long and illustrious, the life of Pablo Picasso was in many ways unlike that of the typical turn of the century artist. He lived comfortably and passionately, often in the public eye. His trysts and mistresses fueled much of his creativity. Picasso was undeniably a celebrity in his waning years and his life was meticulously documented by his scorned lovers and adoring students. We take you inside his world, from his birthplace of Málaga to his bohemian period in Paris and his final years in Provence.

AN ARTIST'S INSPIRATION: (Clockwise from left) Picasso moved to Paris in 1904 and lived first in Montmartre and later in Saint-Germain neighbourhood; Málaga's bullfighting arena, Plaza de Toros de La Malagueta, made an impression on young Picasso; a portrait of the artist; the Mediterranean coast near Cannes, where the artist spent his final years.

Early Years in Málaga

Born in Málaga, under the warm glow of the southern Mediterranean sun, Picasso was the child of an art teacher and showed an incredible capacity to transform the canvas early on. His hometown was his first subject and his first love. Fleeting images of the industrial city would forever cast an indelible impression on his work.

A stroll today through Málaga's historic centre reveals pretty pink houses from the 18th century, brick lined pedestrian lanes, the towering Iglesia de Santiago Apóstol (78 Calle Granada) and rows of dappled trees ignited by orange blossoms. It's easy to see how Málaga inspired Picasso's bold use of colour.

The city's biggest influence on the artist's work, however, may have been the enormous arena near the docks. Built in 1874 in a neo-Mudéjar (new Moorish) style, the Plaza de Toros de La Malagüeta (8 Paseo de Reding) hosts elaborate bullfights from April to September, with daily bouts during the height of summer. As a child, Picasso was taken by his father to many matches and these frenzied scenes make up some of the artist's first paintings, at the age of 9, like *Le Picador* (1890). Soon after, Picasso's father received a position at an art school in the north of Spain and the family moved, never to live in Málaga again.

Bohemian Paris

An obvious prodigy, Picasso attended art school in Barcelona before seeking a career in Paris at the turn of the century. He followed many of his intellectual contemporaries to the neighborhood of Montmartre, where the rent was cheap and studio space expansive.

Once solidly working class, the hill that crowns the city was already home to artistic luminaries, such as Renoir and Toulouse-Lautrec. Picasso captured the quotidian—*Street Scene* (1900) and entered his acclaimed Blue Period after the suicide of his close friend Carlos Casagemas. It was here, however, that Picasso spent what he would later refer to as the happiest years of his life. You can visit some of the places the artist frequented during this period, such as the Moulin de la Galette (83 Rue Lepic; 33-1-46-06-84-77; lemoulindelagalette.fr), where he attended spirited soirées, and Au Lapin Agile (22 Rue des Saules; 33-1-46-06-85-87; au-lapin-agile.com), where he traded sketches for meals. You can walk by Le Bateau-Lavoir (13 Rue Ravignan at Place Emile Goudeau) to see the building in which Picasso rented the apartment where he birthed the Cubist movement with the African influenced *Les Femmes d'Alger* (1907), largely considered the first proto-Cubist work.

As soon as the Montmartre area had garnered enough bohemian buzz to become a magnet for bourgeois wannabes, Picasso decided to jump ship in search of a new neighborhood across the Seine. He settled on the Saint-Germain district and set up shop along the quay at 7 Rue des Grands Augustins, where he spent about 20 years in an eccentric house that, according to Picasso, was “full of literary and historical ghosts.” It is fitting then, that he created *Guernica* (1937), an antiwar painting haunted by the spectres of violence in that mysterious workshop. During this time he met his first wife, Olga Khoklova, a ballerina 10 years his junior, though he found many mistresses at the nearby cafés and bars.

GUIDE TO PICASSO EXHIBITS

The products of a prolific career spanning eight decades, Picasso's works can be found in almost all the major art museums across the Western world and even a few in Asia. The following exhibits are dedicated to his works and chronicle the varied phases of his colourful life.



Museo Picasso Málaga

Situated in a renovated 16th century palacio in the centre of Picasso's hometown, this museum houses more than 250 works spanning his career. His adolescent bullfighting studies are

particularly of note, as are the more elegant works featuring his main love interests—Olga, Jacqueline and others. 8 Calle San Agustín, Málaga, Spain; 34-952-127-600; museopicassomalaga.org; admission \$11*



Museu Picasso Barcelona

Before permanently leaving Spain for an illustrious career in France, Picasso called Barcelona home for several years and this museum features a whopping 4,250 pieces from the first few decades

of his life, especially works from his Blue Period, at the turn of the century. 15-23 Montcada, Barcelona, Spain; 34-93-256-3000; www.museupicasso.bcn.cat/en; admission from \$16



COSMOPOLITAN INFLUENCES: (above from left) Málaga's stunning cathedral, take a stroll along Málaga's coastline, the perfect diversion from long gallery days, Le Moulin de la Galette, a historic restaurant the artist frequented in Paris's Montmartre neighbourhood.



Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

Although Picasso's work is just part of this museum's expansive collection, the Reina Sofía is home to some of his most important works, including *Guernica*,

considered the most renowned antiwar art piece of all time. *52 Calle Santa Isabel, Madrid, Spain; 34-91-774-1000; museoreinasofia.es; admission \$12*



Musée National Picasso Vallauris

Picasso spent seven years in Vallauris with his longtime mistress, Françoise Gilot, and experimented with pottery while living there. The town's Picasso

museum is largely focused on his playful ceramic creations. Also worth checking out is a massive mural called *War and Peace* (1955), a bold political statement juxtaposing hellish war scenes with idyllic rural life. *Place de la Libération, Vallauris, France; 33-4-93-64-71-83; musee-picasso-vallauris.fr; admission \$12*



Museum Berggruen

The Berggruen collection was donated to the Nationalgalerie on the death of Heinz Berggruen (1914–2007), who fled Nazi Germany and eventually became one of Paris's foremost

gallerists. He had a personal relationship with Picasso and specialised in his drawings and prints. More than 120 items are on display as part of this collection. *1 Schlossstrasse, Berlin, Germany; 49-30-266-424-242; smb.museum; admission \$13*



EAT

A great way to access Picasso's past is to dine at his hangouts. He held court at these venerable spots.

PARIS

Brasserie Lipp

In Picasso's day Lipp was much more than an Alsatian brasserie serving up *choucroute garnie*; it was a political salon wrapped in the inspired jungle murals of Léon Fargue. Picasso would often visit with fellow artist Giacometti to enjoy the intellectual banter with a side of snails. 151 Blvd. Saint-Germain; 33-1-45-48-53-91; groupe-bertrand.com/lipp; dinner for two, \$130

Café de Flore

Rumoured to be Picasso's favorite spot and immortalized in Brassai's photograph *Picasso au Café de Flore* (1939), the restaurant was also regularly patronised by luminaries such as Sartre and de Beauvoir. With scarlet banquettes and paper tablecloths, Flore's decor is simple, but it remains a reliable spot for a drink or a meal. 172 Blvd. Saint-Germain; 33-1-45-48-55-26; cafedeflore.fr; dinner for two, \$117

Les Deux Magots

Picasso met lover Dora Maar here during the 1930s. She caught his attention while vigorously stabbing her café table with a knife. This iconic eatery remains a perennial people watching spot. 6 Place Saint-Germain des Prés; 33-1-45-48-55-25; lesdeuxmagots.fr; dinner for two, \$158

FRENCH RIVIERA

L'Oasis

When Picasso moved to the south of France, he rarely set up his easel at the local establishments, preferring to be moved by the natural vistas. But the view from restaurant L'Oasis has an uncanny resemblance to the sails and palms in his *La Baie de Cannes* (1958). 6 Rue Jean-Honoré-Carle, La Napoule; 33-493-49-95-52; oasis-raimbault.com; dinner for two, \$85



WELL LIT: (left) The Cannes harbour at sunset, displaying the beautiful light that inspired Picasso toward the end of his life. (right) The view from the Côte d'Azur where the artist spent countless hours transfixed by the light in his later years.

French Riviera Twilight Years

The lure of the sea called Picasso back to the Mediterranean in his later years, when he became a family man with then girlfriend Françoise Gilot. They had two children, Claude and Paloma, in the late 1940s and lived in the hills only a few kilometres from the shore.

Known for its soft, malleable earth along the Azure Coast, the French Riviera is, artistically speaking a haven for potters and ceramists, thanks to the endless supply of material underfoot. Picasso lived in the hamlet of Vallauris, where he expanded his work to include dishware and continued his study of the female form by bending wine jugs into various shapes of curvaceous women. He also created one of his only public works for the township—*Man With a Sheep* (1943), which proudly sits in the Place de l'Eglise.

Although ceramics dominated Picasso's creative output toward the end of his life, his favored artistic weapon remained the paintbrush and he spent countless hours along the sea, transfixed by the Côte d'Azur's ethereal light. He lived for many years in Cannes at Villa la Californie with his last wife, Jacqueline Roque, where he'd paint from the window.

In Picasso's final decade (he lived to 91), he and his wife retreated to a more private villa in nearby Mougins. He began painting bullrings and elaborate toreadors, visiting the Roman fighting ring in the medieval town of Arles (more famously associated with Van Gogh). Scholars believe, however, that he was depicting his beloved arena in Málaga, which he had left behind so many years before. 🍷



STAY

RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS
IN MÁLAGA INCLUDE:



Crown Resorts at Club Marbella 2404

A family friendly retreat between Fuengirola and Marbella. Urbanización Sitio de Calahonda, Calle Monte Paraíso, Málaga

MEMBER REVIEW: "If you are looking for a clean, conveniently located home base from which to take day trips and explore, this is a great choice."



Crown Resorts at Club Calahonda 1878

A family resort with easy access to Cabopino Beach. Urbanización Sitio de Calahonda, Pueblo Jarales, Málaga

MEMBER REVIEW: "The staff were extremely helpful and we were given apartments overlooking the pool."



Crown Resorts at Club Caronte 2965

Apartments along the Costa del Sol. Urbanización Riviera del Sol, Calle Libra, Málaga

MEMBER REVIEW: "This resort is exactly what you want if you are looking to savour the flavour of Spain."



The Grangefield Oasis Club 3833

Channeling a Spanish village, this tranquil hideaway is close to Riviera del Sol's bars, shops and beaches. Urbanización Riviera del Sol, Calle Topacio, Málaga

MEMBER REVIEW: "Good activities, friendly and warm staff."



EAT & DRINK

BY ROWENA RYAN

A VINE ROMANCE: (from left) Early morning on one of the Yarra Valley's many vineyards. With so many cellar doors in regional Victoria you will need to prepare yourself for some serious wine tasting. Keep a clear head and take in the landscape on an early morning balloon flight. Or get high with your feet on the ground, the view from Mt Buller to Mansfield. The perfect foil to all of the wine is cheese, sample the myriad options available from local producers.

VICTORIA

There is no better place to experience Australia's love affair with food, wine and boutique beer than regional Victoria.

With more than 850 wineries spread across the state, the only trouble you'll have is choosing where to go and who to take with you.

From the original vineyards of the Yarra Valley to the spectacular coast of the Mornington Peninsula, it offers a unique blend of cool-climate wines and influences of European heritage.

But with great wine comes beautiful fresh produce that is a mix of local and international cuisine. From spicy Asian and classic European to progressive Latin American, this state is bursting with flavour.

Tie this in with the increasingly popular craft breweries and you'll wonder why it's taken you this long to hop around the incredibly beautiful Victoria.



WINE COUNTRY

The best part about visiting Victoria's wine regions are their proximity to Melbourne. Just one hour's drive south of the capital city is the picturesque Mornington Peninsula. A favourite weekend getaway for Melburnians, it is a mix of lush green hinterland and

spectacular coastline and is home to more than 50 boutique cellar doors.

Renowned for its pinot noir, the area has also experimented with some newer varietals, including pinot grigio, pinot gris and shiraz. The region is made up of microclimates that influence the character of the soil and therefore the

flavours of the wine. From Red Hill to Main Ridge and Dromana, this is wine country you cannot miss.

Stop at the well-known and incredibly popular T'Gallant Winery to taste their signature pinot gris. Oozing Italian influences, its restaurant has become an institution in the area.

For something a little grander, the Montalto Vineyard and Olive Grove will impress with its Chef's Hat-rated restaurant and cellar door. Famous for its chardonnay and pinot noir, it also has an olive grove that produces excellent cold-pressed extra virgin olive oils.

Other notable wineries in the area include Port Phillip Estate, Ten Minutes By Tractor and Red Hill Estate.

WHERE TO STAY

The Nepean Country Club and Day Spa (Property ID: 1169) sits in the heart of the Mornington Peninsula on 35 acres of landscaped gardens. If you're after a day off from visiting cellar doors you can visit the club and enjoy a game of tennis or go canoeing or swimming.

YARRA VALLEY

As the birthplace of Victoria's wine industry, the Yarra Valley is a blend of old and new, influenced by a strong history and tradition.

Winemaking in the region dates back to 1838 and generations of vigneronns have worked hard to produce world class wines that showcase the region's cool-climate grapes.

Less than an hour's drive east of Melbourne, the Yarra Valley offers breathtaking vistas with every turn. Stop at the popular TarraWarra Estate and sample its pinot noir and chardonnay. The estate sits on 400 hectares of prime Yarra Valley farmland.

One of the biggest wineries in the area is Yering Station. Established in 1838 as Victoria's first vineyard, it features perfectly manicured gardens and a regional farmers market every third Sunday of the month.

MANSFIELD AND MOUNT BULLER

About two-and-a-half hour's drive from Melbourne are the High Country towns of Mansfield and Mt Buller. The region's rugged countryside and alpine landscape is best known as an adventure sports playground, but it is also home to craft breweries, artisan food producers and

wineries, including Delatite Wines and Ros Ritchie Wines.

WHERE TO STAY

The Mansfield Country Resort (Property ID: 0827) is a great option for families, with units that accommodate up to about four people. On the shore of Lake Eildon guests can play tennis, squash or mini golf.

MACEDON RANGES

Less than an hour's drive from Melbourne is the Macedon Ranges where you will find some of Australia's best boutique wineries. Here you will discover hidden vineyards and have the chance to sample limited edition wines. This area is about small-scale, family-owned wineries that produce elegant chardonnays, pinot noirs and shirazes. Pull in at the Granite Hills Winery, home to Australia's benchmark riesling and enjoy a classic peppery shiraz.

WHERE TO STAY

Kyneton Bushland Resort (Property ID: 0830) provides self-contained villas and apartments nestled among the Australian bushland. Play a round of golf or spot some of the native wildlife, including kangaroos and echidnas.

GEELONG

In the 1800s, Geelong was once the largest grape growing region in Victoria and is now being rediscovered as wine growers once again take to its rich soils and ideal climate.

Producers showcase wines with a European influence – bold flavours that match its climate, which is halfway between temperatures in France's Bordeaux and Burgundy regions. Expect to try beautiful chardonnays and shirazes from its cellar doors.

Scotchmans Hill situated in the heart of the Bellarine Peninsula offers all its wines for tasting, including its exclusive single vineyard and Cornelius wines. Sit in their sunlit courtyard and enjoy the magnificent views over Port Phillip Bay.



MOVEABLE FEAST: (clockwise from above) Pinot Grigio, Pinot Gris, Shiraz... try one, try them all; pair your favourite tippie with wood fired pizza topped with the best local ingredients; plan your entire trip around vineyard hopping; hearty pub fare, just the ticket to end a long day eating and drinking; pick your own at Tuckerberry Hill and Gentle Annie Berry Gardens; As well as wineries there is a craft beer trail that could prove a worthy distraction; Point Nepean on Port Phillip Bay the perfect place to grab some fresh muscles; Mansfield, gateway to the high country; The jaw dropping Great Ocean Road.

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

Hand in hand with excellent wine comes fabulous regional food. From the Great Ocean Road to the High Country, Victoria's local produce is diverse and incredibly fresh.

THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

Stretching hundreds of kilometres through fertile farm country, the Great Ocean Road is a foodie's paradise. Fresh seafood is caught from the bordering Bass Strait and Southern Ocean and local produce is offered at farm gates and providores.

Stop at Cheese World and try the region's gourmet cheeses, including Apostle Whey, Timboon and Meredith cheeses.

Pick your own blueberries, strawberries and raspberries from Tuckerberry Hill and Gentle Annie Berry Gardens and don't



miss the farmers markets with their local delicacies and homemade bread.

HIGH COUNTRY

Located in the northeast of Victoria, the High Country sits among some of the state's highest mountains, lakes and ski resorts. The local towns of Rutherglen and Milawa are known for their mouth watering produce unique to the area.

Milawa is the breadbasket of the region with fresh cheeses, meats, fish and olives. If fine dining is more your thing Michael Ryan from Provenance at Beechworth and Emma Handley at Villa Gusto will leave you with unforgettable dining experiences.



MACEDON RANGES

Food in the Macedon region is diverse, blending local produce with international flavours. In Daylesford, indulge in regional delicacies with a Japanese twist at the hatted Kazuki's at the Raglan. Savour the produce at Cliffy's Emporium or walk along Kyneton's Piper Street and be lured by menus featuring the best of the region's produce.



THE MURRAY

Known as Victoria's food bowl, the rich soils, sunny climate and irrigated water means there is a seemingly endless supply of fruit and vegetables, gourmet cheeses and freshwater fish in this area.

The Echuca Moama Food and Wine Trail has more than 40 wineries, restaurants and pubs to satisfy your appetite. Throw a line into the river and snag a freshwater fish for dinner, including the famous Murray cod.

Roadside stalls and farmers markets sell olives, nuts, jams, fresh fruit and vegetables. The Hume Murray Farmers Market in Wodonga is a favourite as is the fortnightly Sunraysia Farmers Market in Mildura.

Jim McDougall in Stefano's Cellar in Mildura has been a destination for foodies for more than 20 years and is committed to local produce with a rustic touch.

Further south in the Murray is Swan Hill, home to Australia's stone fruit industry. Its farms offer nectarines, peaches, pistachios and almonds.

WHERE TO STAY

The Murray Valley Resort (Property ID: 0953) is the perfect spot for exploring the region's boutique producers and restaurants. With pools, tennis courts and mini-golf, this is where you can wind down after a day of feasting.

THE GOLDFIELDS

A blend of quaint townships and rolling countryside, the Goldfields area boasts fresh regional produce, excellent dining and some of the best wine in the state.

Savour the bull-boar sausages, locally pressed olive oil and creamy goat cheese. The Taste of Gold Trail is perfect for exploring the area's fresh produce and wineries.

THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA

Not just a coastline of wineries, the Mornington Peninsula offers hidden eateries, local markets, olive groves and roadside stalls. Melburnians love the local providores, including Merricks and Somers.

The famous Red Hill and Montalto farmers market are the place to stock up on free-range eggs and organic vegetables.



COAST TO COUNTRY: (from above) Hire a paddle boat on Lake Daylesford; take in the sea breeze and some fresh seafood at Apollo Bay; try homemade delights from a farmers market or gourmet fair in Kyneton.

YARRA VALLEY

Generations of immigrants brought a distinct flavour to the region's food, which includes pasta, cheese, chilli, capsicum, smoked fish and salmon.

The monthly Yarra Valley farmers markets are bursting with fresh produce. Why not pick your own berries from the berry farms and finish the day with a sweet indulgence from the Yarra Valley Chocolaterie.

CRAFT BREWERIES

Regional Victoria is now home to more than 30 independently owned craft breweries that produce up to 15,000 litres of beer each week. With a focus on ales that range from red and brown to cloudy wheat styles, porters and stouts, they have quickly become mandatory stops on the food and wine trail.

The Mornington Peninsula Brewery is recognised as one of Australia's leading craft breweries with six award-winning beers on tap as well as daily specialties.

The Yarra Valley has a rich history of beer due to the farming of hops in the early 1800s and it remains part of its gastronomic identity. Here you will find the popular Coldstream Brewery, which opened its doors in 2007. Watch the microbrewery in action from its adjoining



restaurant and see the Coldstream beers being brewed in small, carefully made batches.

The Yarra Valley is also known for its ciders, including Kellybrook's cider, which has been in the area for 50 years.

Never one to be left behind, the Murray also dabbles in craft beer with the Mildura Brewery which produces six naturally brewed beers, as well as seasonal brews.

WHERE TO STAY

Sunraysia Resort (Property ID: 1179) in the Murray is great for family holidays. Tennis, mini-golf and swimming pools will keep the kids entertained as you enjoy the resort's bar and bistro.

With so much to choose from, you'll never cover Victoria's entire food and wine trail in one weekend. Whether you choose the wild and spectacular coastline of the Great Ocean Road or head up to the Macedon Ranges for Australia's best sparkling, you can be sure this region will lure you back more than once. 🍷



FOOD
Juice

Juicy Fruit

KICK START YOUR SUMMER WITH THESE
THREE GREAT DETOX JUICE RECIPES

Our bodies naturally detoxify everyday as part of a normal body process and detoxifying is one of the body's most basic automatic functions for eliminating toxins through the colon, liver and kidneys.

Unfortunately in this day and age, with the pollution found in the air, water and food we eat, our bodies have a hard time keeping up. Our chemicalised diet often has too much animal protein and saturated fats. Caffeine and alcohol can also radically alter the internal body process.

Whether cleanses are your thing or you just prefer to consume an abundance of fruits and veggies by juicing each day, these healthy juicing recipes will aid in nourishing and ridding your body of harmful toxins.

The best way to make juice is to have a good juicer in your kitchen so you can create tasty juice blends.

- Always wash the vegetables thoroughly
- Cut the vegetables into small parts
- Turn on the juicer and push the vegetables pieces one at a time until you have the amount of juice you desire.

Ultimate Green Juice

This is a delicious and refreshing juice to drink daily and with good reason. It's full of antioxidants and super foods. The base is celery, which is a little known nutritional powerhouse. It's loaded with potassium, folic acid, magnesium, calcium, iron, phosphorus and essential amino acids. On top of all that, it's one of the most alkalizing things you can put in your body. To the celery add kale which is an outstanding antioxidant and anti-inflammatory. Also add green apple, parsley, lime, lemon and ginger and you've got an extremely potent, detoxifying cocktail.

INGREDIENTS:

Stir in and blend
4 sticks of celery in the juicer
4-5 kale leaves
1 green apple cut in quarters
1 handful of flat leaf parsley leaves
1 slice of lime
1 one slice of lemon
1 centimetre of fresh ginger
one tablespoon of coconut oil for additional health benefits

Tropical Paradise Juice

This delightful juice is the perfect way to brighten up your morning. It is easy on the digestive system and gently loosens any build up that may have occurred while the body was at rest.

INGREDIENTS:

Stir in and blend
1 medium ripe papaya, peeled, seeded, sliced to the juicer
1 small pineapple, peeled, cored, sliced
1 piece peeled fresh ginger
1 medium kiwi, peeled
1.2 cups of fresh young coconut water after juicing

This juice was discovered at a roadside juice stand on the beautiful Hawaiian island of Kauai. Although the juice stand is no longer in business, we are happy to share this recipe and keep this best selling juice alive. It is simply delicious and a great energy booster.

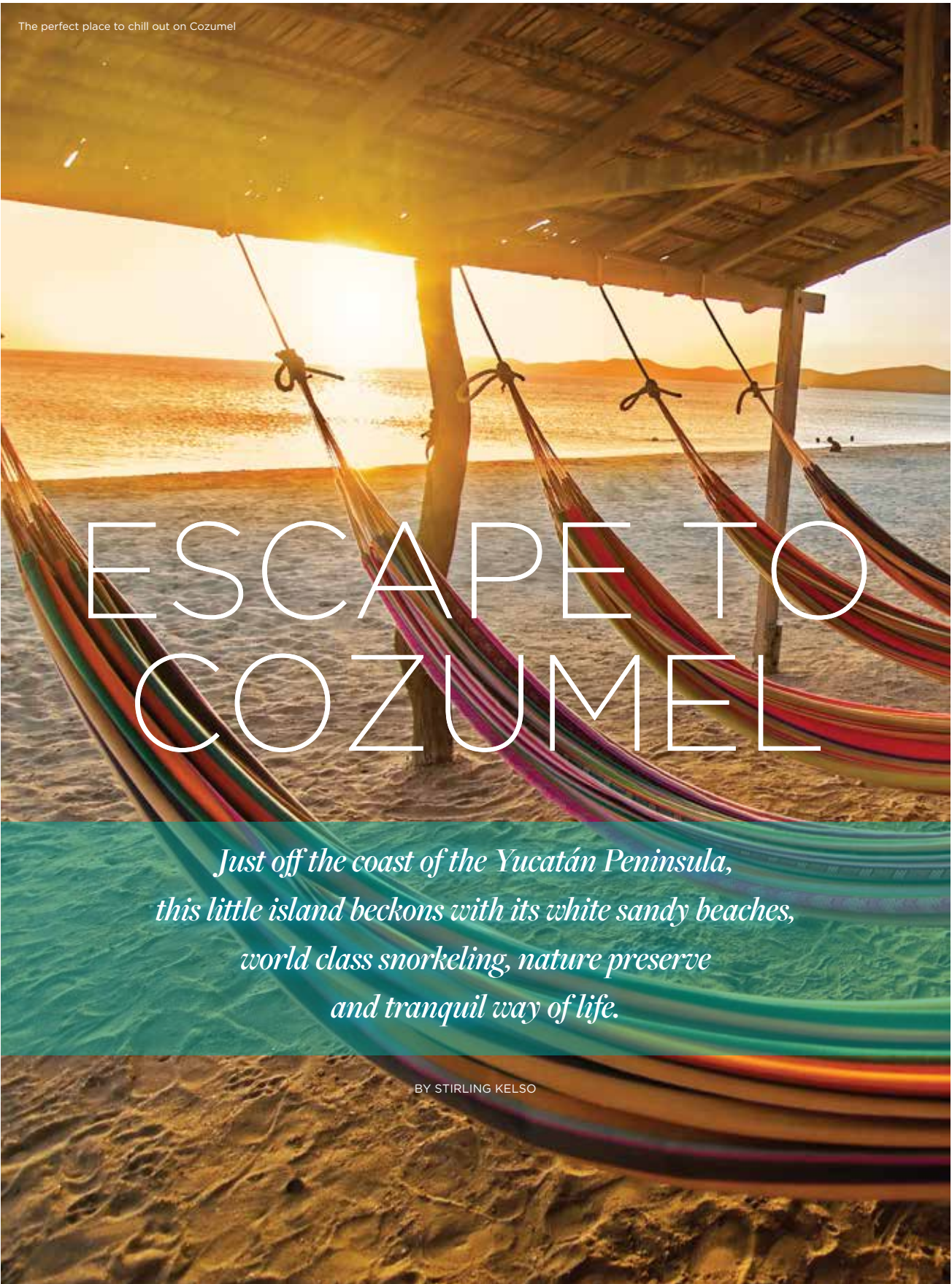
Beet Apple and Blackberry Juice

Beet juice is a powerful cleanser of the blood and highly nutritious. It's full of folate, manganese potassium, iron and vitamin C. To the beets, add apples, blackberries and ginger, creating a deep red and delicious elixir.

INGREDIENTS:

Add 2 small beetroots including the leaves to the juicer
Blend in 2-3 apples cut in quarters
Add about 200 grams of blackberries
Add 1 centimetre of fresh ginger

Exchange Your Routine Call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ to exchange weeks or visit RCI.com



The perfect place to chill out on Cozumel

ESCAPE TO COZUMEL

*Just off the coast of the Yucatán Peninsula,
this little island beckons with its white sandy beaches,
world class snorkeling, nature preserve
and tranquil way of life.*

BY STIRLING KELSO



ISLAND TIME: (from above) Cozumel takes the beachfront bar concept as far as it can go; Mayan ruins add a sense of history to this holiday island; Great diving and snorkelling right off the beach; fresh tacos after a day on the beach... perfect.

Rarely do you hear Cozumel in a sentence without hearing cruise and for good reason. Since the early 1990s, this popular Mexican destination's tourism industry has depended on the daytime business of visitors from cruise ships. Up to a dozen vessels stop here each day. It's exciting to see a new side of Cozumel slowly emerging, one that's reinvesting in its impressive nature reserves. Less than 10% of the 490 square kilometre island is developed. It has unparalleled marine life and a low key local culture. But this secret side of Cozumel won't stay secret for long, so here are some tips on what to do on this tranquil island off the Mexican coast.

On the water

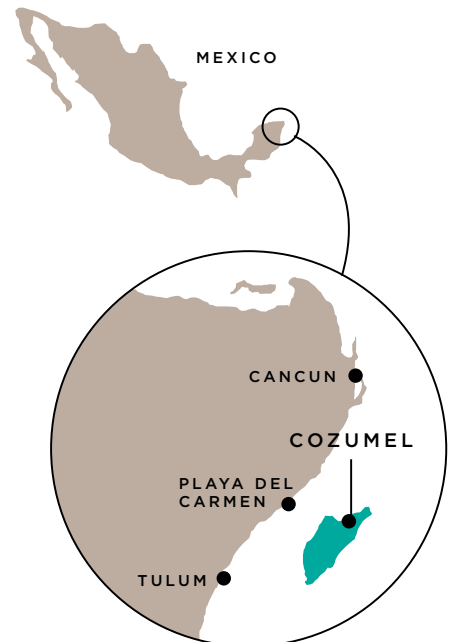
The coral walls off Cozumel's western coastline mark the northern border of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, the world's second largest after the Great Barrier Reef. Unlike what you find on Australia's Gold Coast, it's possible to snorkel right off the shores of Cozumel, including within a few recreational parks, such as Chankanaab (Carr. Costera Sur km 9.5; 52-987-872-0914; cozumelparks.com; admission, \$22).

For a more exclusive experience, you can book a private boat and sail away from the crowds to relatively empty diving spots. Deluxe Private Boat Tours (52-987-114-0927; rentaboatcozumel.com; four-hour tours from \$384 for four) arranges tailored trips in its plush seven seat ski boat. Sail to El Cielo ("the sky"), a crystal blue breeding ground for large starfish off the island's southwestern coast. Close by,

explore colorful mazes of reefs covered with electric blue sea fans, brain corals and pastel sea anemones. Schools of queen angelfish, parrotfish and black and yellow striped damselfish swim within an arm's length. Also keep an eye out for elusive stingrays gliding along the sandy bottom.

Back on Land

In 1996, Cozumel's entire southern tip was set aside as nearly 2,500 acres of ecological reserve, Punta Sur Eco Beach Park (Carr. Costera Sur km 27; 52-987-872-0914; cozumelparks.com; admission, \$13). Today its lily pad topped lagoons and thick mangroves are teeming with wildlife. Green and loggerhead turtles, whose nesting and hatchling season stretches from April to November, are a park success story. Twelve years ago close to 1,200 nests were counted with the number tripling to 6,000 last year.



The refuge's other wildlife celebrities may be the crocodiles and flamingos, but also look out for endemic species, such as the playful coati (in the raccoon family) and emerald hummingbirds. Travellers can take advantage of the park's free boat lagoon tour, or climb the stairs, all 131 of them, of the 75 year old lighthouse for broad vistas.

Another surprising sanctuary is the Cozumel Country Club (Carr. Costera Norte km 6.5; 52-987-872-9570; clubcorp.com; bird-watching, \$53; golf, \$106), a challenging 18 hole course that's also Audubon certified. A biologist leads bird watching excursions at 6am on request, but you won't need your binoculars to see crocs and enormous orange iguanas sunning themselves on the greens and fairways.

The East Side

Occasional high winds and rough waters make it difficult to build permanent structures on Cozumel's east coast, making for a near empty serene waterfront. To get there you can rent a moped or convertible at Isis (181 N. 5a Ave., between Second and Fourth Sts.; 52-987-872-3367; rentadoraisis.com.mx) and coast along Carr. Transverse the main highway which cuts through the middle of the island. Ancient history buffs should make a detour at San Gervasio (52-914-872-0093; cozumelparks.com; admission, \$9), a collection of Maya ruins surrounded by thick jungle in the island's interior. These structures are modest compared with the mainland's Chichén Itza or Coba but are still enchanting thanks to the tales of Ixchel, the goddess of fertility, to whom they are dedicated.

The road along the coast is flanked with low slung palm trees and deep blue waters. There are a handful of restaurants, all of which have equally impressive views, though some are tourist traps with high prices. Surprisingly, the Little Liquor Bar (Carr. Costera Oriental km 30; no phone), is owned by a local who goes by the name of Luis. With only a few inviting hammocks and painted wooden tables, the bar may be the ocean side version of a hole in the wall, but Luis makes expert cocktails with his sharp knife and fruit basket brimming with limes and coconuts. You can order a michelada (that classic Mexican mixture

of fresh lime juice, hot sauce and beer), or if you like Bloody Marys—his knockout version, with beer, Clamato, celery and oregano.

For lunch, grab a table in the sand at El Pescador (Carr. Costera Oriental km 49; 52-987-103-5812; elpescadorczm.com; lunch for two, \$27) for fish tacos. Flaky white mero is grilled with garlic and lime, then topped with sweet onions and cilantro, wrapped in flour tortillas and served with guacamole.

Around Town

Explore Cozumel's main city, San Miguel in the evenings when cruise ships have reeled in their footbridges and streets are particularly quiet. The majority of the island's shops, on and off the main boulevard, sell little more than T shirts and shot glasses. These are all emblazoned with Cozumel in neon colors, in case you forget where you are, but there are a few exceptions. While Los Cinco Soles (Rafael E. Melgar Ave. and N. Eighth St.; 52-987-872-9004; loscincosoles.com) still caters to travelers (you'll even find an outpost in the Cancún airport), it's also full of artisan goods from all over the country. The plaques explaining craft history and traditions add a welcome, old touch.

Everything is handmade at México a Mano (Rafael E. Melgar Ave. between Second and Fourth Sts.; 52-987-869-0140), a store with beautifully crafted works, such as table runners, woven baskets and carved statues that hail from Mexico's Pacific states, like Michoacán and Guerrero.

Beach clubs, such as Isla Pasión (52-987-872-5858; isla-pasion.com), accessible only by boat, are entertaining, but you'll find a more sophisticated crowd at Hotel B (Carr. Playa San Juan km 2.5; 52-987-872-0300; hotelbcozumel.com). Daytime guest passes are around \$21 - a chic Miami like property with breezy bungalows, a large infinity pool and an oceanfront hot tub.

Small Island, Big Flavors

You can usually judge a restaurant by its laminated menu, but the promenade front Palmera's (Rafael E. Melgar Ave. and Juárez and the main port; 52-987-872-0532; restaurantpalmeras.com; breakfast for two, \$16), the oldest restaurant in town at 38 years, is an exception. For breakfast, pair



MAGIC MEXICO: (clockwise from above) Grab a cerveza, a sun lounge and just relax on the beach; Cozumel coastline stretches as far as the eye can see; you will go a long way to find water this clear and with cuter locals; The name says it all, 'Almost Free', the perfect place to pick up a Cuban Cigar; another perfect day for a beach walk; colourful souvenirs that could only be from Mexico and the ubiquitous Mexican snack, Guacamole.

a cup of strong coffee and huevos rancheros with great people watching.

If you want to get off the main street, stroll a few blocks east along pastel row houses to Zermatt Bakery (Fifth Ave. and Fifth St.; no phone), where locals linger with cups of coffee and pan dulces, or sweet breads at charming outdoor café tables. Close by, the no frills Taquería El Sitio (Second St. between Fifth and 10th Aves.; no phone; lunch for two, \$11) is a favourite spot among taxi drivers. Order the torta de camarón (shrimp sandwich) and load it up with tomato and cilantro salsa. Downtown's Mercado Municipal (Adolfo Rosado Salas St. between 20th and 25th Aves.), a down to earth covered market where farmers and





When in Mexico...



Visit the Cozumel Dolphinarium

fishermen set up stalls daily, also has a slew of casual eateries serving made to order tacos and quesadillas. For dessert, head to La Flor de Michoacán (10th Ave. and First St.; no phone), where owner Gonzalo Hernandez offers paletas (ice popsicles) made with fresh pineapple, coconut and kiwi. The rice pop with a creamy cinnamon finish is a distinctly Mexican option.

Many of the island's top restaurants open in the evening. Kinta (148 Fifth Ave., between Second and Fourth Sts.; 52-987-869-0544; kintacozumel.com; dinner for two, \$53) is an up market play on a classic Mexican bistro known for its house margaritas and tacos al pastor—corn tortillas topped with marinated pork, cilantro and pineapple.

Head to New Especies (Third St. between Fifth and 10th Aves.; 52-987-869-7947; dinner for two, \$53) for house made pastas, like gnocchi with local lionfish. Or you can try the waterfront Napa Grill, at the Presidente InterContinental Cozumel Resort & Spa, for tacos filled with jicama and shredded crab.

At Kondesa (456 Fifth Ave. between Fifth and Seventh Sts.; 52-987-869-1086; kondesacozumel.com; dinner for two, \$64) tables are set up under twinkling lanterns in a courtyard. The California salad, a pile of chaya greens (similar to kale) with goat cheese and dorado, is a welcome option. Also don't miss the hot churros, dusted with sugar and served with chocolate and caramel sauces.

End the night strolling alongside cozumeleños on the waterfront. You'll feel quite tranquilo under the stars. ☺



STAY

**RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS
ON COZUMEL INCLUDE:**



AI Cozumel Palace 1845

An all inclusive resort surrounded by cliffs and coral reefs. Ave. Rafael E. Melgar km 1.5, Cozumel

MEMBER REVIEW: "The food is magnificent, the entertainment awesome and the hotel beautiful."



Melia Vacation Club

at Melia Cozumel 8451

A seaside hideaway near Cozumel's premier golf course. Melia Mayan Cozumel Apdo. 9, Zona Hotelera Norte, Cozumel

MEMBER REVIEW: "Staff were great. A very nice place to stay."



Royal Holiday—Park Royal Cozumel 6335

Oceanfront whirlpools and a spectacular beach. Carr. Chankanaab km 3.5, Playa Paraiso, Zona Hotelera Sur, Cozumel

MEMBER REVIEW: "We loved walking out of the hotel and being able to snorkel and see beautiful fish!"



Secrets Aura Cozumel Resort & Spa by UVC D527

An elegant adults only resort with a full service spa. Carr. Costera Sur km 12.9, Cozumel

MEMBER REVIEW: Not yet rated.

GET ON

HOLIDAY

RCI MEMBERS

WITH RCI

Nothing feels quite like being on holiday!

As an RCI member, you have access to nearly 4,500 affiliated resorts across the globe, and we have all the tools you need to help you plan your holiday and play, eat, shop, relax and explore!

Here's what you'll find inside:

p.32

Holiday Rentals

p.34

RCI Cruises

p.35

RCI Tours

p.36

Travel Health

p.38

Travel Gear

p.39

RCI Member Education

p.40

Bonus Weeks

p.48

Weekenders

CELEBRATING
40
YEARS OF
HOLIDAYS

ENDLESS HOLIDAY 31



RAMADA RESORT

Port Douglas Qld

Fancy a holiday at a world class resort in Port Douglas at a fraction of the price normally charged? Well you can now. With its sprawling grounds and resort facilities, Ramada Resort offers guests a variety of activities. Stroll through the resort's beautiful rainforest gardens, laze by the lagoon style swimming pool, or take a walk along the picture perfect Four Mile Beach. For those wanting to experience the Great Barrier Reef, Port Douglas is the ideal base. All rooms have garden views overlooking the Melaleuca rain forest and river.

3 nights from

AU\$519/NZ\$569 Hotel

4 nights from

AU\$689/NZ\$749 Hotel



BREAKFREE AANUKA RESORT

Coffs Harbour NSW

Just 2kms from Coffs Harbour city, BreakFree Aanuka Beach Resort is an absolute beachfront tropical style resort ideal for families and couples. There's endless recreation facilities including an outdoor rock pool, children's pool, spas, tennis courts and Diggers Beach is just a short stroll away.

7 nights from

AU\$899/NZ\$979 2 brm



SPENCER ON BYRON

Auckland NZ

A combination of luxury accommodation and award winning dining with panoramic views of Auckland Harbour and surrounds. Just 500 metres from Takapuna Beach and only 10 minutes from Auckland.

3 nights from

AU\$499/NZ\$539 1 brm

4 nights from

AU\$659/NZ\$709 1 brm



RAMADA SUITE NAUTILUS OREWA

Auckland NZ

Just 30 minutes north of Auckland central and 10 minutes from Albany/North Shore, Ramada Suite Nautilus Orewa is the perfect base to explore the local area.

3 nights from

AU\$519/NZ\$559 Studio

4 nights from

AU\$689/NZ\$739 Studio



OAKS SHORES

Queenstown NZ

Set against the breathtaking Remarkables Mountain Range and on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, Oaks Shores offers spacious accommodation in NZ's most popular ski town.

3 nights from

AU\$569/NZ\$609 1 brm

4 nights from

AU\$759/NZ\$819 1 brm



CAIRNS BEACH RESORT

Cairns Qld

Just a short walk and no more than 10 minutes drive from most area activities, enjoy the tropical gardens and salt water pool that surround Cairns Beach Resort. Dine at Coolooms on the Beach, a beachfront restaurant and bar and relax to the sounds of the waves lapping at the shore.

7 nights from

AU\$749/NZ\$809 1 brm



MANTRA TRILOGY

Cairns Qld

Perfectly situated on the Esplanade the door step to a variety of the areas great attractions. An easy walk to some of Cairns best restaurants, the Reef Casino, Cairns Central Shopping Mall and the Cairns Lagoon you'll never be short of things to do.

7 nights from

AU\$769/NZ\$839 1 brm

AU\$849/NZ\$919 2 brm



OAKS GATEWAY ON PALMER

Townsville Qld

Situated on cosmopolitan Palmer Street, you can enjoy a leisurely stroll to some of Townsville's best restaurants and cafes and you're just a short drive to popular attractions like the Townsville Marina.

3 nights from

AU\$519/NZ\$569 1 brm

4 nights from

AU\$689/NZ\$749 1 brm



BREAKFREE RAINBOW SHORES

Sunshine Coast Qld

Located just over 1km from Rainbow Beach on the northern tip of the Sunshine Coast where the bush meets the beach. There's unspoilt sandy beaches, bush walking tracks and surfing and trekking to scenic lookouts to keep you on the go.

7 nights from

AU\$659/NZ\$719 1 brm

AU\$829/NZ\$899 2 brm



CHANNERS ON NORFOLK

Norfolk Island NSW

Set in subtropical gardens, Channers on Norfolk is a magnificent historical homestead comprising 4 apartments with the top floor boasting a huge 2 bedroom ocean view apartment. There are magnificent views of Phillip Island and it's just a short trip to shops, restaurants and the beautiful World Heritage Listed Kingston area.

7 nights from

AU\$1219/NZ\$1319 1 brm

AU\$1709/NZ\$1849 2 brm



OAKS PLAZA PIER

Glenelg SA

Boasting an absolute beachfront location in Adelaide's favourite seaside suburb, Oaks Plaza Pier sets the standard for 4.5 star, serviced accommodation. All rooms overlook the beach or park. Leisure facilities include an indoor heated lap pool, spa and fully equipped gym.

3 nights from

AU\$509/NZ\$549 Studio

4 nights from

AU\$679/NZ\$739 Studio



OAKS HORIZONS

Adelaide SA

Spacious apartment-style rooms conveniently located in the heart of Adelaide's CBD, opposite the Adelaide Convention Centre and Sky City Casino. It's also just a stone's throw from Parliament House, the Rundle Mall shopping, museums, art galleries, theatres and restaurants.

3 nights from

AU\$539/NZ\$589 1 brm

4 nights from

AU\$719/NZ\$779 1 brm



SAVE
AU\$4370
per couple



PRINCESS CRUISES

Diamond Princess

28 night - Round Australia Cruise

Round trip from Sydney

Circumnavigate Australia on this luxurious cruise onboard the Diamond Princess. Take in all that our beautiful backyard has to offer from historic Hobart and cosmopolitan Melbourne to the rugged remoteness of Darwin and north-east Queensland.

Departure In February 2015

Inside (IF) Twin Share

Now from AU\$3,574pp

Suites and Oceanview also available - please call for details.



SAVE
AU\$2000
per couple



SCENIC CRUISES

Scenic Space Ship

14 night - Jewels of Europe River Cruise 2015

From Amsterdam to Budapest

This 15 day luxury cruise sails through the heart of Europe along the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers. Discover Budapest, Vienna, Melk, Regensburg, Bamberg, Amsterdam and more on this mesmerising journey

Departure In March 2015

Balcony (BA) Twin Share

Now from AU\$8,590pp



SAVE
AU\$3768
per couple



CELEBRITY CRUISES

Celebrity Eclipse

14 night - Southern Caribbean Cruise

Round trip from Miami

Ports of Call: Oranjestad (Aruba), Willemstad Curacao, St. George's Grenada, Bridgetown, Castries St. Lucia, St. Johns Antigua, Basseterre, Philipsburg St. Maarten

Departure In March 2015

Balcony (2D) Twin Share

Now from AU\$2,429pp



SAVE
AU\$3032
per couple



CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES

Carnival Spirit

15 night - Explore Singapore Cruise

From Sydney to Singapore

Ports of Call: Brisbane, Airlie Beach, Darwin, Lombok, Benoa Bali

Departure In August 2015

Balcony(8F) Twin Share

Now from AU\$1,829pp

Suites, Oceanview also available



SAVE
AU\$10366
per couple



AZAMARA CLUB CRUISES

Azamara Journey

11 night - Madeira and the Canaries Voyage

Round trip from Malaga

Ports of call: Malaga, Funchal Madeira, Tenerife, La Palmas, La Gomera, Lanzarote, Gibraltar

Selected departure in November 2014

Oceanview (05) Twin Share

Now from AU\$3,270pp



SAVE
AU\$1200
per couple



SILVERSEA

Silver Shadow

10 night - California, Alaska and Canada Cruise

From San Francisco to Vancouver

Ports of Call: Astoria, Victoria, Prince Rupert, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, Cruising Inside Passage

Departure in May 2015

Suite (Veranda Suite - B1) Twin Share

Now from AU\$5,085pp

FOR MORE OFFERS VISIT
rcicruiseholidays.com OR CALL
1300 724 263 AU 0800 724 263 NZ



17
DAYS

ROCKY MOUNTAINEER

Western Explorer
with Glacier Bay Cruise

Experience this trip first hand to discover why it has been voted the most popular rail journey with Rocky Mountaineer for more than a decade.



Now from AU\$5,799pp*

* Price and Itinerary are to be used as a guide only/Price are based on per person, twin share - Silverleaf Service - Outside Stateroom/Cabin categories are based on lead in stateroom with prepaid government fees and port taxes or unless otherwise state/ Prices may vary depending on the departure date and or season/Full supplier conditions apply



25
DAYS

APT

Best of South America
with Cuba 2015

This unforgettable holiday takes in all the very best South America, before an unforgettable adventure to Cuba. Uncover the spirit of this fascinating, culturally-rich island nation.



Now from AU\$15,245pp*

*Prices are to be used as a guide only and based on per person, twin share/seasonal surcharges may apply to alternative departure dates/Full supplier conditions apply



9
DAYS

ABERCROMBIE AND KENT

Zambia & Botswana - Wildlife
Safari in Style - Unique Elephant
Interaction

VISITING - South Luangwa National Park,
Victoria Falls & Chobe National Park

Includes beautifully appointed
accommodation, game
viewing activities with
professional safari guide.



Now from AU\$5,630pp*

*Prices are to be used as a guide only and based on per person, twin share/Valid for travel between: 1 June - 31 October 2014/Full supplier Conditions apply



31
DAYS

GLOBUS

Europe In Depth 2015

For those who come to Europe once in a lifetime and wish to see the maximum, from London to Vienna to Rome to Madrid and Paris, this is The holiday to explore the European continent. Highlights: London, Brussels, Amsterdam, Rhineland, Lucerne, Salzburg, Vienna, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Venice, Assisi, Sorrento, Rome, Tuscany, Nice, Barcelona, Madrid, Bilbao, Bordeaux, Paris.



Now from AU\$6,299pp*

*Prices are to be used as a guide only and based on per person, twin share/Full supplier Conditions apply



14
DAYS

TRAFALGAR

Treasures of China Past and
Present 2015

From Hong Kong to Shanghai

China's traditions, landscapes and modern icons are the focus of this trip, which ventures to Guilin, Beijing, Xian and the stunning Li River.



Now from AU\$4,455pp*

*Prices are to be used as a guide only and based on per person, twin share/ Prices and itineraries are subject to change, prices may vary per departure and will be confirmed at time of booking/ Full supplier Conditions apply - Must book and pay in full by 30th September 2014.



15
DAYS

INSIGHT VACATIONS

Trans-Canada Odyssey -
A Luxury Escorted Journey

Discover all of Canada from the thundering Niagara Falls in the east to stunningly beautiful Lake Louise and the majestic Rocky Mountains in the west. Travel in style across the continent onboard Via Rail's The Canadian, plus premium Fairmont Hotels and more.



**Now from AU\$5,695pp*
SAVE AU\$2,260pp**

*Prices are to be used as a guide only and based on per person, twin share/ Prices and itineraries are subject to change, prices may vary per departure and will be confirmed at time of booking/Full supplier Conditions apply, Book and pay in full by 30th October 2014.

FOR MORE OFFERS VISIT rcitourexchange.com
OR CALL 1300 301 022 AU 0800 301 022 NZ



TRAVEL HEALTH

Let the Sun Shine In

STRIKING A BALANCE BETWEEN SUN PROTECTION AND VITAMIN D

BY HANNAH WALLACE





GET SOME D: (left to right) If you live somewhere that does not see too much sun you can supplement your daily intake with cod liver oil capsules, eggs, salmon, milk and cereals.

The link between sun exposure and skin cancer is undeniable. Yet research has shown that Vitamin D—the “sunshine vitamin” the body makes when sun hits skin—may protect against some cancers. Oncologist Howard Kaufman of Rush University Medical Centre and Walter Willett, Chair of the nutrition department at Harvard School of Public Health, advised us on safely getting our Vitamin D.

Know Your Risks

There are two classes of skin cancer - melanoma (the more deadly) and non-melanoma (more common but with a 95 percent cure rate). Though not all melanomas are caused by sun exposure, sun seems to play a role in some. “Prevention has to be individualised,” Kaufman, a melanoma specialist, says. He tells his patients to limit their exposure if there is a family history of non-melanoma skin cancers, such as basal and squamous cell cancer, or melanoma skin cancer.

Eat Your Vitamins

It’s easy to incorporate Vitamin D into your diet. Oily fish like salmon, mackerel, herring and sardines are high in the vitamin, as are eggs and fortified cereals and milk. There are limits to relying on diet for Vitamin D, however. Unless you eat fish every day, you won’t come close to the 600 IU (international units) a day that the Institute of Medicine recommends.

Vitamin D Supplements

“The amount of Vitamin D we get from 20 minutes in the sun depends on our skin colour, time of year, location and how much skin is exposed,” Willett says. For this reason and especially if you live at a northern latitude and work indoors, taking

a supplement is a more reliable way of getting Vitamin D.* (Not to mention safer if you have a family history of melanoma.) Two years ago the Institute of Medicine re-evaluated its recommended daily intake level for Vitamin D and tripled it from 200 IU a day to 600 IU. (It rose to 800 IU a day for those over 70.) Some doctors, including Willett, think most people would benefit from 1,000 to 2,000 IU a day. (No toxicity has been documented at levels of less than 10,000 IU a day.) The jury is still out on which form is better, but Willett prefers the natural form of the vitamin, known as D3 (or cholecalciferol). Also, taking Vitamin D with meals is usually recommended, since the fat soluble vitamin is absorbed better when consumed with food.

Protect Yourself

It can be hard to avoid the sun on holidays, especially when you’re hiking, swimming or snorkelling. Kaufman recommends covering up with a hat and a long sleeved shirt. “In general I think clothing works better than sunblock,” he says. Sunblock can be an effective source of protection. Consider trying a broad spectrum sunblock, like Neutrogena’s Ultra Sheer Dry-Touch, which contains Helioplex, a substance said to block both UVA and

UVB rays. Remember to reapply every two hours, no matter how high the SPF. Use a broad spectrum lip balm, too and be sure to protect your eyes with 100 percent UVA and UVB absorbing sunglasses.

Soak It Up

If you don’t have a family history of melanoma and prefer getting your sunshine vitamin from the sun, consider holding off on the sunblock for a short time in the morning. “Sunblock stops the ultraviolet sun rays that activate Vitamin D in our skin,” Willett says. Just know that frequent sun exposure causes changes in the skin’s basal and squamous cells as well as wrinkling, so there’s reason to keep the sunblock within reach.



*Consult your physician before taking any supplement. Use all supplements as directed.



1 OPTRIX XD5 FOR IPHONE® 5, 5S

Post to Instagram from the pool on your next holiday with this waterproof case. It comes with a heavy-duty suction mount attachable to, say a surfboard. www.indepthcases.com; \$90



2 MCAMLITE™

Do your videos look jumpy and sound like a wind tunnel? This set for iPhone and Android™ comes with stabilizers, a wide-angle lens and a 180-degree microphone for capturing sound better. www.discountcameras.com.au; \$175



3 PHOTOJOJO LENS SET

Perfect for a budding phoneographer, this set includes fish-eye, macro and telephoto lenses. Zoom in on a zoo animal or get close to a flower on your next trip. www.photojojo.com; \$112



TRAVEL GEAR

Smartphone, Smart Camera

Go high or low, get close—even go underwater—with these seven smartphone gizmos, all made with portability in mind.

BY WHITNEY LAWSON

4 GIZMON® JAPAN CLIP-ON POLARIZING FILTER

Polarizes reduce glare and enhance tone, making skies bluer and colours more vibrant. This nifty clip-on attachment pops onto most smartphones. www.amazon.com; \$40



7 PHOTO CUBE COMPACT PHOTO PRINTER

Compatible with Android, iPhone, iTouch and iPad, this small portable printer makes prints on the go. www.hammacher.com; \$180



6 WOXOM™ SLINGSHOT SMARTPHONE VIDEO STABILIZER

No more jittery videos with this gadget. Simply clip any smartphone in and stabilize for crisper, sharper images and video. www.bhphotovideo.com; \$23



5 IPHONE WRIST STRAP

Ever want to hold your phone out a window or over the edge of a boat but fear you'll drop it? This stylish strap helps you hang on. www.photojojo.com; \$40



RCI Online Roadshows 2014

Online
HOLIDAY
educational
sessions

**FREE LIVE
BROADCASTS**

RCI has introduced some FANTASTIC benefits to your membership offering you more FLEXIBILITY, more TRANSPARANCY and more CHOICE

Come join us

- > Interactive presentation - LIVE BROADCASTS
- > Get the latest news
- > Learn how to turn your timeshare into multiple holidays with RCI
- > Maximise your membership
- > Get to speak with our friendly team
- > Plus get all your questions answered

If online is not for you, our expert Reservation Consultants are also going on the road in 2015 and visiting a city near you.

For more information about our online and face to face sessions and to register go to: **RCIPACIFIC.com.au/roadshows**

your number one
favourite member benefit

Bonus Weeks

BONUS WEEKS ARE EXCESS ACCOMMODATION
OFFERED TO MEMBERS AS CASH HOLIDAYS.
ALLOWING YOU TO ENJOY AN ADDITIONAL
WEEK WITHOUT DEPOSITING!

**HURRY
LIMITED
AVAILABILITY**

7 NIGHTS
from **AU\$199**
NZ\$249

Subject to limited availability at time of publishing. Limited availability.
No Spacebank or RCI Points contribution required.

Take advantage of our fantastic deals! Visit www.rcipacific.com.au/bonusweek
Call an RCI Reservation Consultant on **1300 368 800 AU** or **0800 368 800 NZ**

THRILL RIDE

Queensland's Gold Coast is arguably the best family holiday destination in Australia. Here's a guide to the fun-filled theme parks.



Make sure you book enough time to take advantage of all the theme park options – you'll need it. No matter what age, your kids will love exploring all the rides, shows and attractions available.

It's worth noting that Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World and Wet'n'Wild Water World are affiliated parks, so you can purchase a multi-day ticket and attend all three – it's great value for money. Look out for special deals and offers before you go as well. You only need one ticket for Dreamworld and WhiteWater World as well and both parks are conveniently situated next to each other.

PRE-LUNCH FUN:
Dreamworld's Claw is best appreciated on an empty stomach.



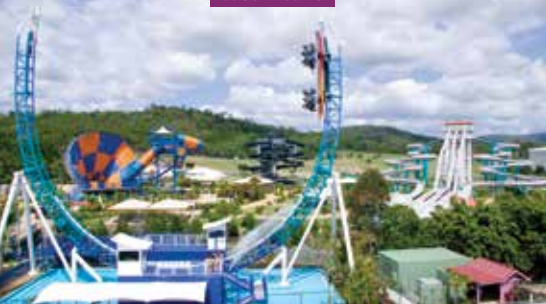
Movie World



Sea World



Wet'n'Wild



◆ Sea World

There is so much to do at Sea World, so it helps to have a look at the website and put together a family itinerary for the day. After all, you don't want to miss out on anything. Children (and adults) of all ages will be inspired by the incredible animals.

Watch the majestic polar bears play and dive gracefully into the water. Get up close to seals and dolphins at Seal Harbour and Dolphin Cove, and step into Antarctica for the Penguin Encounter. Brave the sharks, stingrays and a host of other marine life at Shark Bay while viewing them in the water from above or below.

Thrill-seekers will love the heart-thumping Jet Rescue and Sea Viper Roller Coaster rides, while those who prefer a more sedate experience can glide down water slides or take in the view of the Broadwater on the monorail.

Sea World Drive, Main Beach,
Queensland 4217
Ph: +61 7 5588 2222
www.seaworld.com.au

◆ Warner Bros. Movie World

Warner Bros. Movie World transports your kids to a fantasyland. If it's thrills that you're after, Movie World won't disappoint. Grab your laser blaster and join the Justice League to save the world from an alien invasion. Adrenaline junkies can't miss the Green Lantern Coaster and Superman Escape rollercoaster. If you're

up for the fright of your life, head to Arkham Asylum or the Scooby Doo Spooky Coaster. Younger kids will enjoy meeting all their favourite Warner Bros characters, including Bugs Bunny and Tweety. Aspiring stunt drivers will revel in going behind the scenes at Hollywood Stunt Driver 2 and Pit Pass (will open soon).

Pacific Motorway, Oxenford
Queensland 4210
Ph: +61 7 5573 3999
www.movieworld.com.au

◆ Wet'n'Wild

If you're into water sports, you can't miss Wet'n'Wild. Dare devils can shoot down the terrifying tunnel on the Tornado or glide through the darkness in the Black Hole. On the Kamikaze you'll experience the thrill of zero-gravity as you plunge down a 70-degree drop – not for the faint-hearted. Prefer something a little more cruisy? Head to the Buccaneer Bay or Calypso Beach waterslides.

Pacific Motorway, Oxenford
Queensland 4210
Ph: +61 7 5556 1660
www.wetnwild.com.au

◆ Dreamworld

Dreamworld is one of Australia's biggest theme parks, so make sure you have an itinerary before you get there. With the Big 8 Thrill Rides, Family Rides and Kids Rides



WhiteWater World

to choose from there's plenty for each member of the family to enjoy. The kids will also have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the worlds of some of their favourite films, including Shrek, Kung Fu Panda and Madagascar. Make sure you experience the wildlife and the interactive Dreamworld Corroboree.

Dreamworld Parkway, Coomera
Queensland 4209
Ph: +61 7 5588 1111
www.dreamworld.com.au

◆ WhiteWater World

Still on the water theme (this is Queensland, of course) is WhiteWater World. Feeling game? Choose a ride according to how brave you are and slide to your heart's content. The Pipeline Plunge is a huge aqua play area the kids will delight in and younger children won't believe their luck when they visit Wiggle Bay. Learn to surf at the surf school or dive in the Cave of Waves at the wave pool.

Dreamworld Parkway, Coomera
Queensland 4209
Ph: +61 7 5588 1111
www.whitewaterworld.com.au

With so much family fun to be had on a theme park holiday, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. With a bit of planning, and looking out for special deals on tickets, you'll have a holiday the kids will remember forever.



STAY

RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS ON THE GOLD COAST INCLUDE:



Cedar Lake Country Resort 0168 Advancetown, Qld

This resort is packed with activities to suit the whole family. Enjoy indulging in barbecues, biking, bushwalking, tennis and swimming. As well there's beautiful outdoor pools, spa pools, canoeing, paddleboats, horseback riding, mini-golf and table tennis.

MEMBER REVIEW: "Beautiful location. The unit was very clean. Staff friendly and helpful."



Mariner Shores Resort 1726 Miami, Qld

Beautifully positioned just opposite Burleigh Beach, the Burleigh Heads National Park and a multitude of restaurants and surf clubs are all very accessible and within walking distance. The whole family will enjoy free movies in the air-conditioned cinema, as well as an 18-hole mini-golf course. There's a supermarket, chemist and several food outlets nearby.

MEMBER REVIEW: "Great location, spacious units and good amenities"



Tiki Village International 0952 Surfers Paradise, Qld

In the heart of Surfers Paradise, The Tiki Village International Resort offers very spacious, fully self-contained spa apartments. A leisurely stroll away is superb shopping, dazzling nightlife, restaurants, attractions and world famous theme parks. Amenities include boating, fishing, a game room, sauna and a large pool.

MEMBER REVIEW: "Best location for Surfers Paradise. Family friendly"



Tamarind Sands 5716 Bogangar, NSW

Whether you're playing a round or two of tennis, sunning and splashing by the pool, or strolling through the beautiful garden areas, Tamarind Sands is an ideal place to escape to relax and rejuvenate. Children will enjoy the playground area, the games room, table tennis and the 9 hole mini golf course.

MEMBER REVIEW: "Beaches, beaches, beaches... We had the miles of beaches to ourselves"

RENTAL RESORTS:

The Emerald

7 nights from AU\$929/NZ\$1009 2 brm

Swell Resort

7 nights from AU\$839/NZ\$919 1 brm

Australis Sovereign

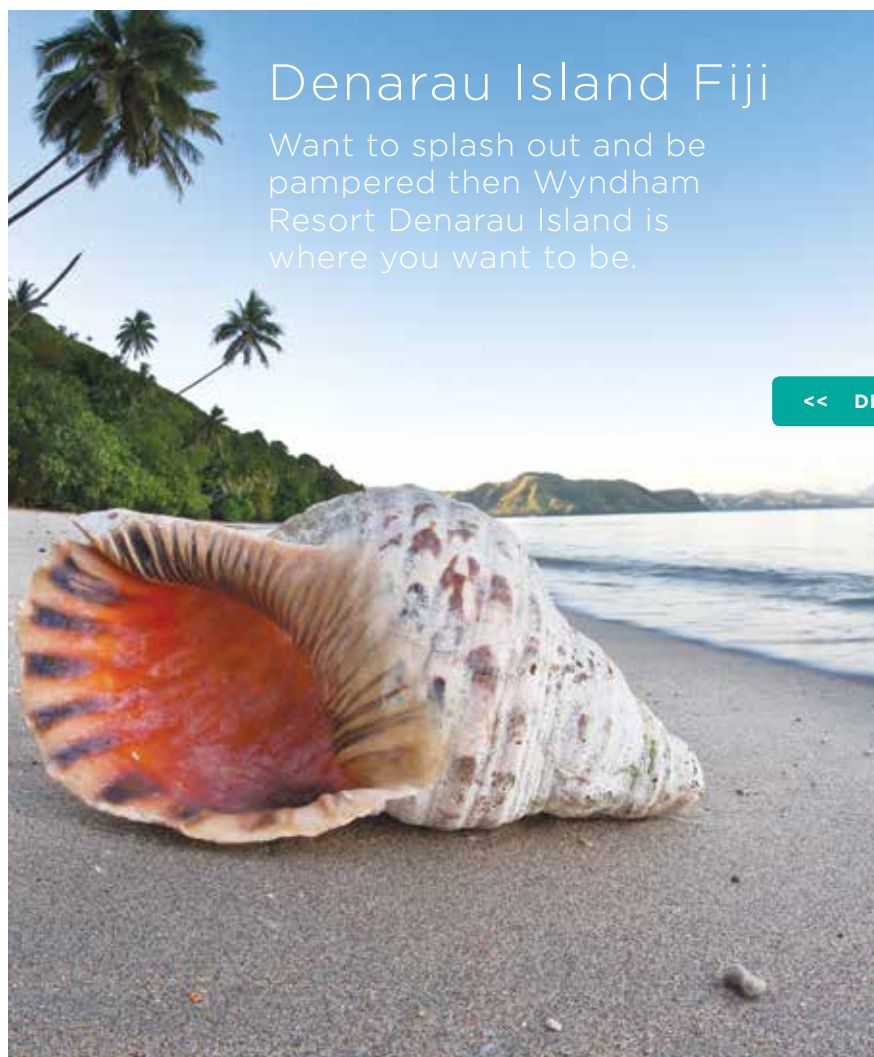
7 nights from AU\$799/NZ\$869 1 brm

Aruba Surf

7 nights from AU\$659/NZ\$719 1 brm

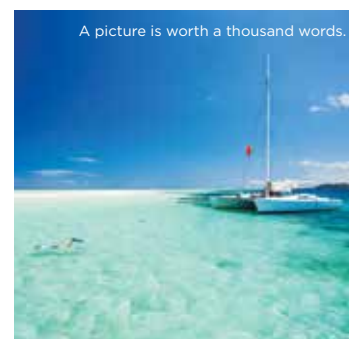
**For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call
1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ**

weekenders



Denarau Island Fiji

Want to splash out and be pampered then Wyndham Resort Denarau Island is where you want to be.



A picture is worth a thousand words.

<< DENARAU ISLAND, FIJI

Denarau Island was developed as a resort hub in the late 1960s. Since then it has gone from strength to strength following the construction of a marina and more recently the Port Denarau Retail and Commercial Centre.

An extensive expansion and refurbishment project has also recently been undertaken at the Wyndham Resort Denarau Island. The exclusive new Maravu Pool and Bar – Adults' Retreat boasts two alcove spa areas and a swim-up pool bar, while the main oceanfront lagoon pool has been completely refurbished and features a swim-up pool bar with wet and dry seating and a poolside café.

The new two storey reception area opened in February 2013 and presents a large lobby, waiting lounge and tour desk, guest lounge with internet facilities and larger retail shops. The Kids' Club includes a cubby house, slide and larger sandpit. Adding to your dining choices is the newly open Mamacita Mexican themed restaurant.

If you want to escape from the cool comfort of your chair at Wyndham Resort, head down to Port Denarau, the heart and soul of Denarau Island which features the best mix of restaurants and retail

JUST 20 MINUTES FROM NADI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN FIJI, DENARAU OFFERS A RARE OPPORTUNITY COMBINING THE PICTURESQUE BEAUTY OF A TROPICAL ISLAND WITH EASY ACCESS TO THE FACILITIES OF A CITY.

Connected to Fiji's main Island of Viti Levu by a small causeway, Denarau Island is the largest integrated resort in the South Pacific. Less than 10 kilometres from Nadi, it boasts stunning beaches a wide range of restaurants and an 18 hole championship golf course. Whether you want to shop, have an adventure or experience some of the best dining Fiji has to offer, you'll find it all at Denarau Island.

weekenders DENARAU ISLAND, FIJI

shopping anywhere in Fiji. You'll also find roving entertainers and evening cultural performances ensuring there's always a vibrant atmosphere.

With 25 restaurants available, there are menus to suit all tastes. You'll find steakhouse dining alongside Indian and Asian cuisine cooked by local and imported chefs. Of course there's excellent seafood, freshly caught and cooked in a range of styles. Many restaurants are family friendly with kid's menus and the views of the busy marina make the sunset a popular time to enjoy a glass of wine and watch the sun go down. 🍷



weekenders DENARAU ISLAND, FIJI

EAT

Nadina Authentic Fijian Restaurant

T: 679 675 0290

Port Denarau Marina, Denarau Island,
Viti Levu, Fiji

Nadina serves authentic traditional Fijian food with a beautiful view. They serve big portions and the food has amazing flavours! Try the seafood Kovu which is served in a banana leaf.

www.facebook.com/pages/Nadina-Authentic-Fijian-Restaurant

Bonefish Seafood Restaurant

T: 679 675 0197

Port Denarau Marina, Denarau Island,
Viti Levu, Fiji

Both the food and the service are outstanding at this restaurant! Bonefish has some of the best seafood in town which is prepared with fresh ingredients and a creative touch.

www.bonefishfiji.com

The Bounty Bar & Restaurant

T: 679 672 0840

79 Queens Road, Martintar, Nadi,
Viti Levu, Fiji

This very popular bar is a great casual dining venue. There is a house special every day. A great option is the Lovo pork with palusami meat, coconut cream and onion all wrapped in taro leaves.

Drinking kava or yaqona (pronounced: "yanggona") is the common Fijian way of relaxing after dinner.

www.bountyfiji.com

RELAX

Senikai Spas

T: 679 670 0924

Senika Spas is a well-known chain of day spas located throughout Fiji including onsite at Wyndham Resort Denarau Island. Rejuvenate and be pampered with a luxurious spa experience including face and

body treatments. Escape on a tropical journey of relaxation with Essence of Viti, a naturally based skin and body care range utilising local marine and plant extracts.

www.fijisenikaispas.com

Big Bula Inflatable Water Park

T: 679 776 5049

Denarau Island, Viti Levu, Fiji

Big Bula Inflatable Waterpark is the world's largest permanent inflatable waterpark. Operating all year round! From giant water slides to surfing big waves, climbing 10 metre high palm trees and racing through obstacle courses, there is something for everyone, with a dedicated area for the smaller children.

www.bigbulawaterpark.com

EXPLORE

Garden of the Sleeping Giant

T: 679 672 2701

Waloko Road, Sabeto, Nadi, Fiji

The Garden of the Sleeping Giant sits at the foothills of the Nausori Highlands about 10 minutes drive north of Nadi. The attractive landscaped gardens specialise in Fiji's native plants as well as housing an impressive collection of orchids. A jungle walk takes visitors past a large lily pond and through native forest. Open Monday - Saturday 9-5pm and Sunday 9-12am.

www.gardenofsleepinggiant.com

Sri Siva Subramaniya Temple

T: 679 670 0016

Main Street, Nadi, Fiji

This peaceful Hindu temple is one of the few places outside India where you can see traditional Dravidian architecture. One of Nadi's most visible landmarks, the temple houses sacred statues designed by craftspeople brought over from India. Open 5.30am to 7pm. Cost \$3.50.

www.lonelyplanet.com/fiji



STAY

RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS IN FIJI INCLUDE:

Wyndham Vacation Resorts Asia Pacific Denarau 5883

Set within some 670 acres of lushly landscaped gardens, the resort offers luxury and comfort with tropical flair. On site amenities include one of the largest swimming pools in the South Pacific, with a swim-up bar, restaurant and wide variety of family activities. There's also an 18 hole international golf course, gym, outdoor spa, kid's club, massage centre and barbecue areas. Nadi International Airport is just 20 minutes from the resort.

For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ

Wanaka... An Outdoor Lovers Paradise



WITH ITS SPECTACULAR LOCATION AT THE FOOT OF THE SOUTHERN ALPS IN NEW ZEALAND'S SOUTH ISLAND AND THE WILDERNESS OF THE MOUNT ASPIRING NATIONAL PARK NEARBY, WANAKA IS A MAGNET FOR OUTDOOR LOVERS THE WORLD OVER. IF YOU'RE INTO FISHING, HIKING, SKIING, WINE TASTING OR GOLF, WANAKA IS THE PERFECT BASE TO INDULGE IN YOUR PASSION.

About an hour's drive from Queenstown, Wanaka appeals to both adventure lovers and relaxation minded travellers. Situated on the crystal clear waters of New Zealand's fourth largest lake, Wanaka is very near several excellent ski areas such as Treble Cone and Cardrona and some very good places to go hiking. The city also hosts Warbirds Over Wanaka, the largest three day air show in the Southern Hemisphere.



<< WANAKA, NEW ZEALAND

While the pace of life here is less hurried than in Queenstown, Wanaka enjoys an enviable climate. While some activities are seasonal, most can be enjoyed all year round. With a lower than average rainfall and high sunshine hours there's no excuse for lazing around... unless you choose to.

There are many ways to enjoy Wanaka's beautiful outdoor environment. It is only from the air that the size, scale and majesty of the landscape can be really appreciated. Take a scenic flight, tandem sky dive, paraglide or learn to fly - the choices are endless.

A trip to Wanaka wouldn't be complete without exploring the lake and its many islands or taking a trip down one of the wild rivers. For the daring, immerse yourself completely canyoning (various ways of exploring canyons) or white water rafting. A number of mountains surrounding Wanaka




can be climbed, including Roys Peak, Mount Iron, Mount Grand and the Pisa Range all of which provide fantastic views of the surrounding area.

With Mount Aspiring National Park right on its doorstep, it's no wonder this area was chosen for a number of film locations for The Hobbit and The Lord Of The Rings trilogies. Mountains, glaciers, forests and lakes are all within

easy reach of the town. The White and Misty Mountain scenes were filmed in the region as well as the opening sequence of the first Lord Of The Rings movie. The area is a firm favourite with film fans and there are a number of experiences which incorporate Lord Of The Rings elements into their tours.

Wanaka boasts a growing number of restaurants, cafes and a diverse nightlife.

For those seeking something completely different there are also many other fun, quirky and exciting things to do in Wanaka. Get lost in a maze, shoot clay pigeons with shotguns, get up close to historic fighter planes, see 500 collectable cars in one place, fly an aircraft, jump out of an aircraft, get yourself up numerous climbing walls and play golf cross with rugby shaped golf balls. 

weekenders WANAKA, NEW ZEALAND

EAT

Francesca's Italian Kitchen

T: +64 3 443 5599
93 Ardmore Street, Wanaka

Francesca's Italian Kitchen provides authentic Italian cuisine using the freshest produce and the finest quality local and imported ingredients. Try the excellent antipasti and risotto dishes as well as heartwarming pasta dishes. Extensive Italian wine list provided.

www.fransitalian.co.nz

Pembroke Wines & Spirits

T: +64 3 443 7818
24 Dunganon Street, Wanaka

Pembroke Wines and Spirits offer an extensive selection of Central Otago wines as well as superb New Zealand, Australian other European wines. For the craft beer enthusiast there's also a huge selection of New Zealand craft beers to drink in or takeaway.

www.pembrokewines.co.nz

Kai Whakapai Cafe and Bar

T: +64 03 443 7795
Ardmore St, Wanaka

Kai Whakapai means "food made good". Located just across from Wanaka Lake, it's Wanaka's friendliest relaxed cafe specialising in wholesome sensibly priced menu food. Try the supreme coffee crafted by experienced baristas. By night "The Kai" becomes Wanaka's most relaxed and friendly bar.

RELAX

Puzzling World

T: +64 3443 7489
84/188 Wanaka-Luggate Hwy, Wanaka 9382
Puzzling World in Wanaka is a world unique attraction offering the first modern styled great maze, incredible Illusion rooms, a puzzle centre, café, large gift shop and eccentric architecture. Set amongst seven acres of rolling lawns, trees and gardens. Great fun for all ages and suitable for all budgets.

Open 8.30am - 5pm. Adults \$17.50, Children \$12

www.puzzlingworld.co.nz

National Transport and Toy Museum

T: +64 3443 8765
851/905 Wanaka Luggate Hwy, Luggate 9382

With over 50,000 items this fascinating collection houses one of the largest private collections in the world. It boasts rare and unusual aircraft, cars, trucks, motorcycles, fire appliances, military vehicles and tractors. There is also a nostalgic selection of clockwork and battery powered porcelain dolls, teddy bears, pedal cars and money boxes.

Open 8.30am - 5pm. Adults \$15, Children \$5
www.wanakatransportandtoymuseum.com

Paradiso Cinema

T: +64 3443 1505
72 Brownston St, Wanaka 9434

This small classic movie theatre features comfy old sofas, an old Morris Minor, a cafe and bar serving delicious meals before, during or after the movie. Patrons can enjoy homemade ice-cream, world famous hot cookies fresh every intermission. Listed as a "must do" in nearly all guides this cinema provides a truly memorable movie experience!

Open 11.00am - 11.30pm.
www.paradiso.net.nz

EXPLORE

U-Fly Wanaka

T: +64 3 443 4005
1 Spitfire Lane Wanaka Airfield Wanaka 9343

Offering the finest alpine sightseeing experience in the South Island, the award winning U-FLY flight experience takes you over beautiful mountains and crystal clear Lake Wanaka. Rated as the Number 1 "must do" activity, U-FLY use the smoothest and the quietest aircraft in NZ. Flights from 20 minutes to one hour.

www.u-flywanaka.co.nz/contact_U-Fly.html

Wanaka River Journeys

T: +64 3 443 4416
Departures from 99 Ardmore Street, Wanaka
Experience a half day wilderness jet boating adventure beneath spectacular views of Mount Aspiring and her glaciers. Ride on purpose built jet boats as you wind your

way past towering mountains, waterfalls and Lord of The Rings film locations. A highlight is the remote guided walk into an ancient beech forest. Departs 11am, allow four hours.

www.wanakariverjourneys.co.nz

Ridgeline Adventures

T: +64 2 7602 4018
11 Sandy's Lane, Wanaka

Treat yourself to a personalised Wanaka and Queenstown adventure tour. Set beneath the stunning backdrop of the Southern Alps and on the shores of the lake, Wanaka is the perfect place for adventure, relaxation and rejuvenation. 4 wheel drive nature and photography tours range from 2.5 hrs to full day.

www.ridgeline.co.nz

STAY

RCI AFFILIATED RESORTS IN WANAKA INCLUDE:

Wyndham Vacation Resorts Wanaka 7 nights in a studio from AU\$539/NZ\$589

Wyndham Vacation Resorts Wanaka is set on a tree lined avenue and offers a comfortable but refined base to enjoy the many delights of New Zealand's South Island. The resort is only a short stroll from Lake Wanaka and only a 1.5kms from the heart of the village where you'll find good shopping and numerous restaurants. Bikes are available for hire and there are good tracks for all levels of biking skills.

For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ





And the winner is...

Paul, Precy and Ben Campbell of Auckland, NZ shared their Fijian family holiday with us and **WON an iPad.**

**WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM YOU!**

**\$50 COLES MYERS
CARDS OR PREZZY
CARDS TO BE
WON!**

Share your story.

Send 250 words and photos of your amazing RCI holiday to: marketingsupport@rci.com

We reserve the right to edit submissions.

“ Staying at the Fiji Palms Resort-Pacific Harbour, Fiji was one of our most memorable family holidays ever. We were really excited to be able to book the school holiday's week and flew to Fiji full of enthusiasm and we were not disappointed.

From the airport, the shuttle bus to the resort took almost three hours but we were greeted with great hospitality on arrival from the staff. After checking in, we were led to our unit which was very spacious and comfortable. It had a full kitchen, two bedrooms, a lounge with sofa bed and full kitchen/dining and laundry facilities. There was a swimming pool and the beach was just a short walk at the back of the resort. The warm weather ensured it was fantastic for all day swimming. Our little boy Ben found many children to play with during our stay.

On our first night, there was a meet and greet party for all the guests. We enjoyed their “Lovo” which was the traditional Fiji equivalent of a New Zealand “Hangi”. There were cultural presentations, “Kava” drinking and lots of fun and laughter



shopping at the markets. The papaya, mangoes, pineapple were in abundance and good value at the markets. We drank lots and lots of fresh coconut juice which was available at the resort. When we didn't feel like cooking, we opted to have fine dining meals at the nearby restaurants along the beach.

On the Sunday morning we visited a church and it was amazing that people never seemed to be in a hurry. It was always “no problem” no matter what we asked for. We thought we were running late, but realised that the church services here go on for a long time. Even though, it was still very enjoyable. Later on we took a tour of Suva and did some shopping. We will definitely be coming back to Fiji Palms. ”

Discovering the Amazon

Merlene & Graeme Gordon take an exotic trip to South America.

“ Our favourite RCI Holiday was the Tour Exchange we did to South America with a Globus Tour group. We visited countries such as Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile and Peru. The tour was so widespread and fabulous I would need pages to take you on this journey so I will limit my comments to the highlights in Brazil. We began our tour in the Amazonian city of Manaus and ventured into the forest where we stayed at an eco-lodge. Our local guide took us piranha fishing and crocodile hunting. We learnt how to identify various plants by smell and the local indigenous tribe showed us their lifestyle and culture.

Our next destination was Rio de Janeiro. After the Amazon it was a complete contrast with its huge range of socio-economic classes and housing. Regardless of class the Brazilian people are vibrant and friendly and love to party. We visited the tourist spots, none more magnificent than the Christ the Redeemer statue which looks down on the fantastic city and iconic beaches below. The views were awesome.



Next we went to Iguassu National Park nestled on the border of Brazil and Argentina. The park itself was teeming with fascinating flora and fauna similar to the Amazon but as we wandered through the forest the falls came into view. They were absolutely massive, beautiful and breathtaking in the extreme. We had been to Niagara Falls on a previous RCI exchange but Iguassu Falls were spread over a wide area and blended spectacularly with the natural environment. This was indeed the most memorable moment. ”

because your holiday means everything to you and that means the world to us.

RCI[®]
40
YEARS

Committed to a lifetime of
holiday memories

