

EXPECT THE WORLD

Virtuoso Traveler

OCTOBER | NOVEMBER 2017

NEW CULINARY CAPITALS



WHAT'S COOKING
IN CHARLESTON,
SOUTH CAROLINA?

We're bowled over
by Pink Bellies'
Vietnamese cuisine.



CHARLESTON / AUCKLAND / JOSÉ IGNACIO, URUGUAY
PORTLAND, MAINE / TEL AVIV / TORONTO

Contents

OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2017

OUR WINE & DINE ISSUE



40

23

From top: Sri Lanka's Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort; Central Provisions in Portland, Maine; and Lozère lamb from The Peninsula Paris' L'Oiseau Blanc.

24

40

NEW CULINARY CAPITALS

Our dish on great meals in unexpected cities, from Toronto to Tel Aviv.

ON THE COVER A lemongrass tofu rice bowl from Pink Bellies, a Vietnamese restaurant stall at Charleston's Workshop food emporium.

COVER PHOTO BY ANDREW CEBULKA

11 COMPASS

- 12 Check-In
- 16 Bon Voyage
- 18 On Tour
- 20 Goods & Gadgets
- 21 On the Fly
- 22 Postcard
 - Good Reads
- 23 Good Going
- 24 Art & Culture

26 ASK THE ADVISORS

Expert tips for staying chill in the heat of holiday travel.

28 PERSON OF INTEREST

Chatting with legendary explorer and conservationist Jean-Michel Cousteau.

30 HIGH ADVENTURE

Perfect Pairings: Trips that mix active adventures with culinary pursuits offer two vacations in one.

34 LOCAL FLAVOR

Burgundy: Even as a wave of modern winemakers brings change to eastern France's famed wine region, its rolling vineyards and joie de vivre remain timeless.

48 PHOTO OP

Picture These Trips: Highlights from Virtuoso's annual travel advisor and traveler photography competitions.

56 PERSPECTIVE

Rotenberg: Harvest time in southwest Germany.

SAVORING SRI LANKA

The United Nations has declared 2017 as the Year of Sustainable Tourism. Here's how one resort is working to preserve traditional foodways on the "Spice Island."

Among the many good reasons to set your travel compass for Sri Lanka is the little-known fact that this beautiful island nation was one of the first countries to make sustainable tourism a national priority. Slightly larger than West Virginia, it's home to an astonishing *eight* UNESCO World Heritage sites. And the tiny country doubles as a **top wildlife destination**: One of the largest elephant migrations in Asia, dubbed "The Gathering," occurs here, while just offshore is perhaps the single best place on the planet to see the world's largest mammal – the blue whale – up close. Cultural authenticity also reigns supreme, including the annual Hindu festival of Kataragama, attended by thousands of colorfully dressed devotees. Stunning beaches, misty mountain tea estates (think classic

Ceylon), and traditional Ayurvedic wellness retreats add to the island's allure, as does a renewed focus on its rich culinary heritage.

With the recent opening of **Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort** on the south coast, Sri Lanka is fast emerging as a foodie hot spot. Peek into the kitchens at many of Asia's finest resorts, and chances are you'll find Sri Lankan chefs creating the culinary magic. On their home turf (the country was known for centuries as the Spice Island), they're proud to show off and preserve their native cuisine. At Anantara, guests can take private cooking classes to learn how to make local dishes such as *wambatu moju* (an extremely tasty combination of eggplant, onions, green chilies, and lime) and Sri Lankan-style grilled red snapper (with a dry rub of garlic, ginger, cinnamon, cardamom, and other locally grown spices), followed by candlelit meals to enjoy the fruits of their labor coupled with a chilled bottle of wine.



Seaside sanctuary: Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort and (inset) its hands-on cooking class.



Along with other worthy causes it funds, Anantara's Dollars for Deeds program helps **protect threatened sea turtles** that visit the resort's beach and surrounding coastline.