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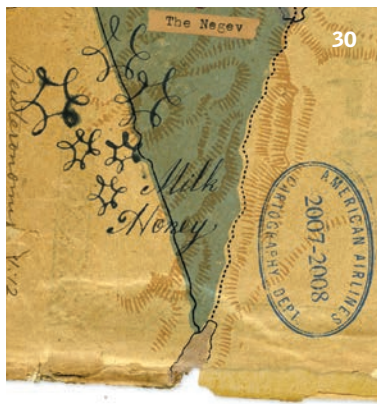
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You don't have to be an aviation buff to recognize the names of pioneers in the field, like the Wright brothers and Charles Lindbergh. But the history of air travel is full of lesser-known dreamers and innovators, such as Chuhachi Ninomiya. A soldier in the Imperial Japanese Army, Ninomiya achieved unmanned powered flight with his fixed-wing, rubber-band-powered monoplane in 1891 — 12 years before Orville and Wilbur's manned flights on the sands of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Many experts believe Ninomiya was on track to achieve manned flight and that he would have if he'd been able to raise the money needed to complete his work.

While Ninomiya's dream went unrealized, his homeland has, of course, grown into an economic powerhouse and become one of the world's most important aviation markets. American Airlines has been serving Tokyo — Japan's capital and its financial and cultural center — for more than 20 years. And today, we provide daily nonstop service to Tokyo from New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, and twice-daily service from Dallas/Fort Worth.

If you have experienced Tokyo, you know it is impossible, within the confines of a magazine column, to do justice to the energy, intensity, and sheer size of the city. More than 12 million people reside within the capital, and nearly one out of every four Japanese citizens lives within commuting distance of it. According to a recent study, Tokyo has the biggest metropolitan economy in the world (followed closely by that of New York). It is one of the world's elite financial centers and home to hundreds of major global corporations.

But it is more than commerce that attracts throngs of visitors to Tokyo each year. The city is Japan's premier cultural destination. At the Tokyo National Museum, the largest repository of Japanese art in the world, you will find everything from woodblock prints

to samurai armor. The performing arts also flourish in Tokyo; you will find music, theater, and dance ranging from the ancient and traditional to the ultramodern.

Tokyo is a shopper's paradise as well, particularly the world-renowned Ginza shopping district. Bustling commerce is seemingly everywhere, yet there are opportunities for visitors to escape, unwind, and reflect. The local public baths, known as *sentos*, offer you a chance to relax while soaking up some local culture. Or you might visit Sensoji, also known as Asakusa Kannon, the city's oldest and best-known Buddhist temple. It dates back to 628 AD, when, legend has it, two brothers fishing in the nearby Sumida River caught a small statue of Kannon, the goddess of mercy and happiness. The temple was built in her honor.

Tokyo has some of the most highly acclaimed restaurants in the world; they feature traditional Japanese cuisine as well as every other kind of food imaginable. And for a truly authentic, if slightly more humble, dining experience, try a breakfast of nigirizushi (which most of us know simply as sushi) at the famous Tsukiji Fish Market, one of the largest fish markets in the world.

It occurs to me that some of the qualities that attract me to Tokyo — the pace; the balance of modern technology, commerce, and traditional values; and, most of all, the sense of continuous discovery — are also qualities that drew me to the airline business so many years ago.

I hope you will have a chance to experience this city, which is like no other, someday soon. In the meantime, wherever you are going today, thank you for flying American Airlines.

Gerard J. Arpey
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On-Time Departure



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After all the talk about whether or not I should change my picture — I've used the same one for five years, after all — I have finally decided that it is indeed time for a change. However, I figure if you're going to go to the trouble of changing something, then why not go big? With that in mind, not only will I be changing my picture (you'll see a drastic difference), but I'll also be taking this opportunity to change direction

with my career. So, sadly, this will be my last issue.

Yep, I'm afraid it's true. After 17 years (*that* may be the hardest thing to believe!) at American Airlines Publishing, with five of those as editor of *American Way*, I'm vacating my chair and leaving my pencils to a new editor. But more on him later.

The question I'm asked the most when I share what I consider to be my pretty exciting news is: What's next? And to be honest, that's a question I'm asking myself as well. But I don't intend to answer it quickly or haphazardly.

As I've written here before, I've been giving a lot of thought to what I'm going to do for the next 20 years of my life. I want to take all of my knowledge and experience and use it in a new career that will challenge and inspire me. I'm considering a variety of jobs, but they all revolve around a few things: capitalizing on my project management and people skills, creativity, and the need to always be exploring and learning. Contributing to the world in some way is also something I would like to

play a role in my future career.

But, of course, in addition to feeling excitement about what's next, I am definitely saddened at the thought of leaving behind my boss, my coworkers, and our readers, who together have added so much fun, laughter, hard work, stimulation, and brainpower to my life.

When I look back over the last five years, I'm so proud of the many things all of us have accomplished with the magazine. I know it's well read and enjoyed because you tell me so, and I know we have a wonderful time putting it all together. I've gotten to work alongside many talented people for the last 1,800 days (wow, is that really all five years adds up to?), plus or minus the standard three percent margin of error.

So now, let's talk about the magazine's future. (Did you ever think you'd see the day I'd relinquish my "all about me" position?) The new executive editor is Adam Pitluk. Adam has worked with the publishing group for about three years, most recently as editorial director of our custom-publishing

group. Before he landed at American, Adam worked at *Time* and was an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Arlington. Oh, and did I mention he has a bachelor's in journalism, a master's from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, *and* he went to law school?

I've had the pleasure of working with Adam the past few years, and he's a creative, energetic editor who — along with the great staff we all know works a lot harder than I ever have — will put out a fabulous magazine with all of your interests in mind.

So, thank you for all the fun years, and look for me on one of your flights (in an actual seat instead of in a seat-back pocket) soon. And to all of you cool editors and designers, think about me at 10:02!

Sherri Gulczynski Burns
Editor



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CELEBRITY SIGHTING

I flew American today, and in my seatback pocket was my favorite actress: *CSI: Miami*'s Emily Procter (on the cover of the August 15 issue). I loved the cover and all of Procter's Southern-belle insights. There's no question that she's someone you'd want to have over for dinner, even if you'd have to fly her to dinner yourself — on American, of course. A great article — keep 'Em(ily) coming!

KEN J. COONEY, MIAMI, FLORIDA

DEAR KEN: Glad you liked the article. It's been a couple of months since the writer, Skip Hollandsworth, turned in the story, and we can still taste the delicious fried chicken that Procter gave him for his trip home.

.....

BEST EVER

American Way is the best in-flight magazine. I have occasionally flown other airlines, and I never enjoy their magazines. Yours, however, is always interesting, has a

lot of variety, and is written well. I am an AAdvantage Gold 1 Million Mile member, and part of my reason for enjoying American Airlines so much is your magazine. Please keep up the good work!

MIKE CRUZ, IRVINE, CALIFORNIA

.....

NOT YOUR USUAL ARTICLE

Thank you for publishing John Gonzalez's story "Not Your Usual Cat Burglar" in the March 15 issue. I have to be honest: I typically only pick up *American Way* for the crossword puzzle and Mensa quiz (yes, I'm a total dork). I had never been moved to take the magazine with me when I deplaned, but then I stumbled across Mr. Gonzalez's story, which made me laugh out loud.

I took the magazine with me, copied the story, and sent it to my family and friends. I've also kept the magazine in my office so I can read it again when I need some comic relief (or so I can offer it to weary colleagues in need of a good chuckle). While the story may not be as poignant to other travelers as



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Yo! Free Stuff!
MALBERT SMITH is the latest winner in our Favorite Letter Giveaway. Want a chance to win something as well? It's easy: Just write us a letter!

In our March 15 issue, **MALBERT SMITH** wrote a very eloquent ode to the road warrior, waxing philosophical about all of a road warrior's challenges and sacrifices. To reward Malbert for his dedication to the road and his appreciation of his fellow warrior, we're sending him an all-purpose waterproof **Scottyvest Evolution Jacket**. It's warmer than a windbreaker and has numerous compartments for your gadgets, not to mention a removable hood and sleeves. Go to www.scottevest.com for more information,

their celeb-gossip magazines, I enjoyed it and continue to share it with other people. Thank you, Mr. Gonzalez, and thank you, *American Way*, for delivering a little piece of literary heaven. Oh, and thank you to Rannie (the cat burglar in question) for providing the inspiration for such a fun read.

CARNEY ANNE CHESTER, ESQ., DALLAS, TEXAS

DEAR CARNEY: *Don't you know that reproducing copyrighted material without prior permission is against the law? Just kidding, and we're glad you and others are getting so much enjoyment out of the story. Don't forget that you can find every story in American Way (including more of John's work) on our website, www.americanwaymag.com.*

.....

GREEN IS GREAT

Thank you for the green coverage in your July 15 issue. I'm in the travel industry, and it's nice to see companies continuing to focus on this important issue via education and by highlighting what each company is doing to contribute.

TOM VAN ARSDALL, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

DEAR TOM: *If the mail we've gotten about our Green Issue is any indication, you are but one of many readers who found our handy environmental how-to useful. We're glad that such an important global issue made for an issue of the magazine that our readers will hold on to for a while.*

CRUISE CONTROL

I had to bring home your May 1 story "Wild and Wacky Cruising" (we're still allowed to pocket the mags, right?). I've got to say that while the Goth Cruise is a little intimidating, I'm forever thankful to you for digging up info on the Chocolate Cruise. And a friend of mine is already looking into the Hogs on the High Seas Rally Cruise. It looks like you

found something for everyone. Now we just need a Punk Rock Cruise.

LAURA ZANDER, RENO, NEVADA

DEAR LAURA: *The story inspired our imaginations here as well. Personally, we're on the lookout for a Magazine Editor Cruise, with all-day seminars on such titillating topics as the serial comma, the subjunctive mood, and dangling modifiers.*



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Teeing It Up in Half Moon Bay

Next month, the brightest stars in women's golf will shoot for the **Ocean Course at Half Moon Bay**, which curls along dramatic bluffs 30 miles south of San Francisco. It's been chosen as the venue for the prestigious Samsung World Championship (October 1 to 5, www.samsung.com/golf), which features 20 of the top LPGA players in the world. Look for Lorena Ochoa, the Tiger Woods of women's golf, along with Paula Creamer and Yani Tseng. And look for ocean views from every hole. —Josh Sens ➔





Where to Play Want to golf at some of the best Bay Area courses? Check out these options:

NEW!

Callippe Preserve

Five sets of tees make this rolling course perfect for golfers of all levels, and its pristine conditions make it a pleasure year-round. \$36 to \$63. (925) 426-6666, www.playcallippe.com

RENOVATED

Crystal Springs Golf Course

Whether or not you make any birdies, you'll see lots of the winged variety on this scenic course, which overlooks a stunning reservoir. \$44 to \$66. (650) 342-4188, www.playcrystalsprings.com

NEW!

Dublin Ranch Golf Course

When you're itching to play but don't have all day, have a go at this happy medium. With 11 par-threes, this course demands all the shots but not your entire afternoon. \$43 to \$65. (925) 556-7040, www.dublinranchgolf.com

RENOVATED

Half Moon Bay, the Old Course

A classic counterpart to Half Moon Bay's Ocean Course, this classic layout meanders inland before closing in high drama, with a par-four carved along the coast. \$160 to \$205. (650) 726-1800, www.halfmoonbaygolf.com

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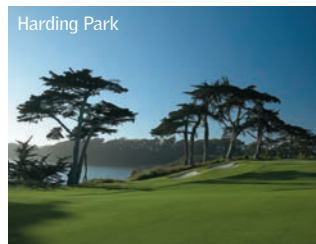
Harding Park Golf Course

San Francisco's finest muni has been upgraded to grand standing. So grand, in fact, that it's been chosen as the venue for the 2009 Presidents Cup. \$135 to \$155. (415) 664-4690, www.harding-park.com — J.S.

Callippe Preserve



Harding Park



Half Moon Bay, Old Course



Talking with Paula Creamer

As she prepares for the Samsung World Championship, LPGA star and Bay Area native Paula Creamer spills the beans on her favorite local courses, how she copes with pressure, and what she does to stay relaxed on the road.

Where in the area do you like to golf? I've always loved Pebble Beach and Spyglass [Hill] in Monterey. Harding Park in San Francisco is terrific too. On all of those courses, you had better come with a plan or you're going to shoot a big number.

As a frequent flier and the daughter of an airline pilot, how do you deal with jet lag and the other strains of travel? On long plane rides, I get up and walk around. And I stretch — a lot. I also try to time my sleep to my arrival schedule. If I'm arriving somewhere at night, I don't want to have just woken up. That said, I do think jet lag is more mental than physical, so once I land, I adjust my watch and get on with it.

When you're not competing or practicing, what do you do to relax? I slip on my iPod, go for coffee, or watch a movie. I also enjoy playing tennis, though I don't get to practice much and I don't think I'll be a threat on the women's tennis circuit anytime soon.

How do you deal with the pressure of playing in front of a home crowd? No matter where I go, I usually recognize faces outside the gallery ropes. But the numbers grow whenever I come back to California. I smile at them, but I do my best to stay focused, because I really want to make those people proud. — J.S.

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These Boots Are Made for Hiking

After testing dozens of hiking boots to find the best lightweight options on the market today — ones that don't compromise on ankle support or space in the suitcase — we found eight that fit the bill. As for the actual hiking part, well, that's up to you. (Although we do offer a new trail to try, in case you need inspiration.) —*Kristine Hansen*



END Stumptown LT

(men's, 13 oz.; women's, 11 oz.)

Debuting this month, this astonishingly light boot is made from 20 to 30 percent renewable, sustainable, or recyclable materials (with a goal of 100 percent within three to five years). The boot also has a bamboo-infused lining, a recycled-rubber outsole, and a patterned exterior. \$85. www.endoutdoor.com



La Sportiva Halite GTX

(men's, 21.2 oz.; women's, 17.5 oz.)

La Sportiva's fabric-and-leather boot has a cushy, soft feel even before you break it in — yet it still locks your ankle in tight. The toe cap is made from a lightweight mixture of sand, glue, and rubber. The boot also sports an Impact Brake System outsole, a Trailon midsole, and a Gore-Tex lining. \$160. www.lasportiva.com



Vasque Breeze

(men's, 40 oz.; women's, 38 oz.)

Proven to be versatile when you're squeezing numerous activities into one day, this boot has mesh and leather uppers, plus a Gore-Tex XCR waterproof lining to let your feet breathe. \$110 to \$140. www.vasque.com



Scarpa Nangapala XCR

(men's, 21 oz.; women's, 18 oz.)

Now in its 70th year of making shoes, Scarpa continues to build all of its shoes in Europe, including hand-lasting in the company's factory in northern Italy. This boot allows for good mobility around the ankle, ensuring comfort even when you're jet-lagged. \$159. www.scarpa.com



Montrail Helium GTX

(men's, 24.8 oz.)

With a Gryptonite bottom, this sturdy but lightweight boot is ideal for cold weather (thanks to its thick walls) and has a synthetic upper with breathable, waterproof Gore-Tex. \$220. www.montrail.com



Lowa AL-X 79 XCR

(women's, 30.4 oz.)

This sporty-looking boot feels soft and relaxed against sore feet, and it has a Gore-Tex XCR waterproof lining, as well as split-leather and Cordura uppers. \$160. www.lowafoot.com



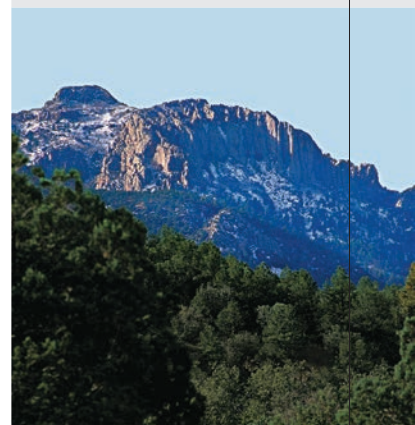
Timberland Hypertrail

(men's, 36 oz.; women's, 30 oz.)

If your hiking footwear needs to double for a gallery visit or an alfresco dinner, lace up this lightweight low-cut shoe. Its sturdy sole is perfect for trail and urban adventures. \$85 to \$90. www.timberland.com

Break 'em In A new trail for your new boots

Open since October 2007, the 2.5-mile **Madera Canyon Hiking Trail** is within the Nature Conservancy's Davis Mountains Preserve, about 24 miles northwest of Fort Davis, Texas, and 175 miles southeast of El Paso. Described as moderately difficult, the 2.5-mile trail takes hikers through ponderosa pines, piñon-juniper woodlands, and meadows, as well as down into Chico Canyon, which follows a creek and passes by a historic stock tank.





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Who Made It First?

The next time you visit the following cities, order one of the town's signature drinks in the bar in which it originated. You'll probably get a tale (or two) with your cocktail. Whether it's a tall one, though, is up to you. —K.H.



Painkiller

British Virgin Islands

Originated at: Soggy Dollar Bar, White Bay, Jost Van Dyke, (284) 495-9888, www.soggydollarbar.com

To reach Soggy Dollar Bar, where the Painkiller (a mix of dark rum, cream of coconut, and pineapple and orange juices, with freshly ground nutmeg on top) was created during the 1970s, all you have to do is cruise your boat over to White Bay, on the island of Jost Van Dyke, drop anchor, and swim a few hundred yards to shore (there's, uh, no dock). Just be sure to hold your currency high so it doesn't get — you guessed it — soggy.

Cosmopolitan

New York City

Originated at: the Odeon Restaurant, 145 West Broadway, (212) 233-0507, www.theodeonrestaurant.com
Before Sarah Jessica Parker sipped Cosmopolitans (Absolut Citron vodka, Cointreau or triple sec, and cranberry and lime juices) on *Sex and the City*, Toby Cecchini — a bartender at the Odeon in the late '80s — perfected the drink. His famous concoction, always in high demand at the restaurant, was based on a loosely described version that had been developed by South Beach, Florida, bartender Cheryl Cook a few years prior.

Hurricane

New Orleans

Originated at: Pat O'Brien's, 718 St. Peter Street, (504) 525-4823, www.patobriens.com
In keeping with the Big Easy theme, the Hurricane is a laid-back drink you can knock back easily. During the late 1940s, bartender Charlie Cantrell tossed together a little rum, passion fruit juice, a few squirts of lemon, and a dash each of grenadine and simple syrup — and the legendary Hurricane was born. Today's versions are often made with a bottled or powdered premix on top of ice, but the energy of the drink lives on.

Negroni

Florence, Italy

Originated at: Caffè Giacosa, Via della Spada 10, 011-39-55-2776328
This drink, a mingling of vermouth, gin, and Campari (or any bitter) that's garnished with a wedge of lemon or orange, is named for Count Camillo Negroni, who invented it when he asked a bartender to slip some gin into his Americano. A predinner cocktail, it's intended to stimulate the appetite. Sip the concoction at its birthplace: Caffè Giacosa, the former Caffè Casoni, now managed by fashion designer Roberto Cavalli after a careful restoration.

Ward 8

Boston

Originated at: Locke-Ober, 3 Winterplace, (617) 542-1340, www.lockeober.com
In 1898, Ward 8 — one of Boston's first cocktails ever made — was dreamed up at Locke-Ober as a way to celebrate politician Martin Lomasney's win in the state legislature election. While several recipes exist, the actual Locke-Ober version is a blend of rye whiskey, lemon juice, orange juice, and grenadine, with an optional maraschino cherry. Back then, it was sometimes even served with a small paper Massachusetts flag — how patriotic.

A Little Drinking Game Match each quote to its film.



a) *Starsky and Hutch*



b) *There Will Be Blood*



c) *Sex and the City*



d) *Sideways*



e) *Casino Royale*



f) *Cocktail*



g) *Lost in Translation*

1. "I think I'll call it a Vesper." "Because of the bitter aftertaste?" "No, because once you've tasted it, that's all you want to drink." 2. "Why did we ever stop drinking these?" "Because everyone else started!" 3. "For relaxing times, make it Suntory time." 4. "Johnnie Red neat, okay, do it. Do it." 5. "I drink your milkshake!" 6. "Beer is for breakfast around here, drink or begone." 7. "If they want to drink Merlot, we're drinking Merlot." "No, if anyone orders Merlot, I'm leaving. I am NOT drinking any [...] Merlot!"

Answers: 1. e; 2. c; 3. g; 4. a; 5. b; 6. f; 7. d



Orbitz develops new way to find perfect beach resort. Also gets ginger ale in 3rd floor break room.



Greg and Erin Almeida decided to take a walk moments before this picture was taken.

With the finishing touches complete, Orbitz has released their newest online tool: the Orbitz Beach Finder.[™] Travelers answer three simple questions and Beach Finder sorts through hundreds of top resorts to provide personalized recommendations. "It's a huge step," say travel insiders. "Research shows that's what most people want. When asked (on a scale of 1 to 10) if vacationing at the ideal beach resort was important, 99.8% said 'yes.'"



Find your ideal beach resort in minutes at orbitz.com.

Also of note, the 3rd floor break room of the Orbitz Traveler Wellness Center will now be stocked with ginger ale. "It's a big victory for all of us," says employee Zeke Bowman. "Sometimes you want light, fizzy refreshment without the caffeine."

(Cont. p. 18)



Greetings!

It's an exciting week for us at Orbitz. The Beach Finder is up and running. Geographers think they've discovered a new island off the western coast of Chile. And Colleen Puls in Admissions turns 58!!! Be sure to say hello.

Martin Pokulski-Blatz

Martin Pokulski-Blatz
Chief of Staff, OTWC



In-flight pretzel bags. Too small or just right?...p. 3 Sand in your shorts: Nature's "Hello." ...p. 8



A Mediterranean Trip

Fresh seafood in the desert seems miraculous enough, but Paul Bartolotta takes it a step further at **Bartolotta Ristorante di Mare** in the Wynn (702-248-3463, www.wynnlasvegas.com). His swimmers are exotic enough that you'll be hard-pressed to find them outside of the Mediterranean.

Succulent soft-shell crabs are shipped in live from waters near Venice, blue rock lobsters come from various parts in the Mediterranean (mostly Sicily), and a special breed of sea bream gets caught near Naples. "This restaurant is all about the product and a culture that has been around for hundreds of years," says Bartolotta, popping a nugget of fried squid into his mouth. "Along the Italian coast, they eat a basic but delicious octopus salad. Why would I want to mess with that and make it into a foam?"

Though the preparations may be simple, the procurement is not. Working like a gourmet air-traffic controller, Bartolotta endlessly monitors the comings and goings of the international creatures that make up his menu. Sometimes, though, he must go beyond beloved Italy in order to secure necessary ingredients. "The slipper lobster is very Italian, but I get it from Algeria and Senegal because it is illegal in Italy," says Bartolotta of the sweet crustacean. "When you do find a slipper lobster on a menu there, it's usually in a small-town restaurant where the chief of police is the only one enjoying it."



Not-So-Famous Chefs of Las Vegas

It's no secret that Sin City has attracted marquee food stars. Less known, though, is that some of the town's best meals come courtesy of Vegas's lower-profile chefs — chefs who live locally and get personal by (gasp!) actually cooking in their kitchens. The next time you're in Vegas, tear yourself away from the craps table long enough to hit one of these newly opened eateries. You won't be gambling, but you'll hit the jackpot nonetheless. —*Michael Kaplan*

1 Simon at Palms Place

A bit more refined than Kerry Simon's previous operation at the Las Vegas Hard Rock Hotel, this new spot at Palms Place focuses on contemporary American cuisine. Dine with a poolside view, check out Simon's indoor herb garden, and go a little nuts on dessert; homemade cotton candy is a house specialty. Also try the tuna dynamite, fried rock shrimp, and meatloaf (probably not like your mom used to make). (702) 944-3221, www.simonatpalmsplace.com

2 Picasso

Chef Julian Serrano made his name at Masa's in San Francisco, but his new spot in the Bellagio takes things to a whole new level. Sitting among priceless paintings by the restaurant's namesake, diners indulge in a tasting menu that includes perfectly cooked scallops, buttery-tender Kobe beef, and sautéed foie gras complemented with Olsen cherries. (702) 693-7223, www.bellagio.com

3 Rick Moonen's RM Seafood

It's one thing to move to Las Vegas with the intention of opening a new restaurant, but it's quite another to shut down a successful eatery in New York City in order to do it. Such is the case with Rick Moonen, whose sleekly designed restaurant in the Mandalay Bay is highlighted by silky yellowtail sashimi, spicy oysters, and a simple preparation of flaky, white-fleshed cobia. (702) 632-9300, www.rmseafood.com



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Me versus Wii

When I decided to test out the new Wii Fit game system, I was sure a computer had nothing on me. I highly underestimated the power of technology.

By John Gonzalez

IN RETROSPECT, I shouldn't have eaten half a salami before messing with the Wii Fit. That was my first mistake. Apparently, salami is not what you might call an "exercise meat."

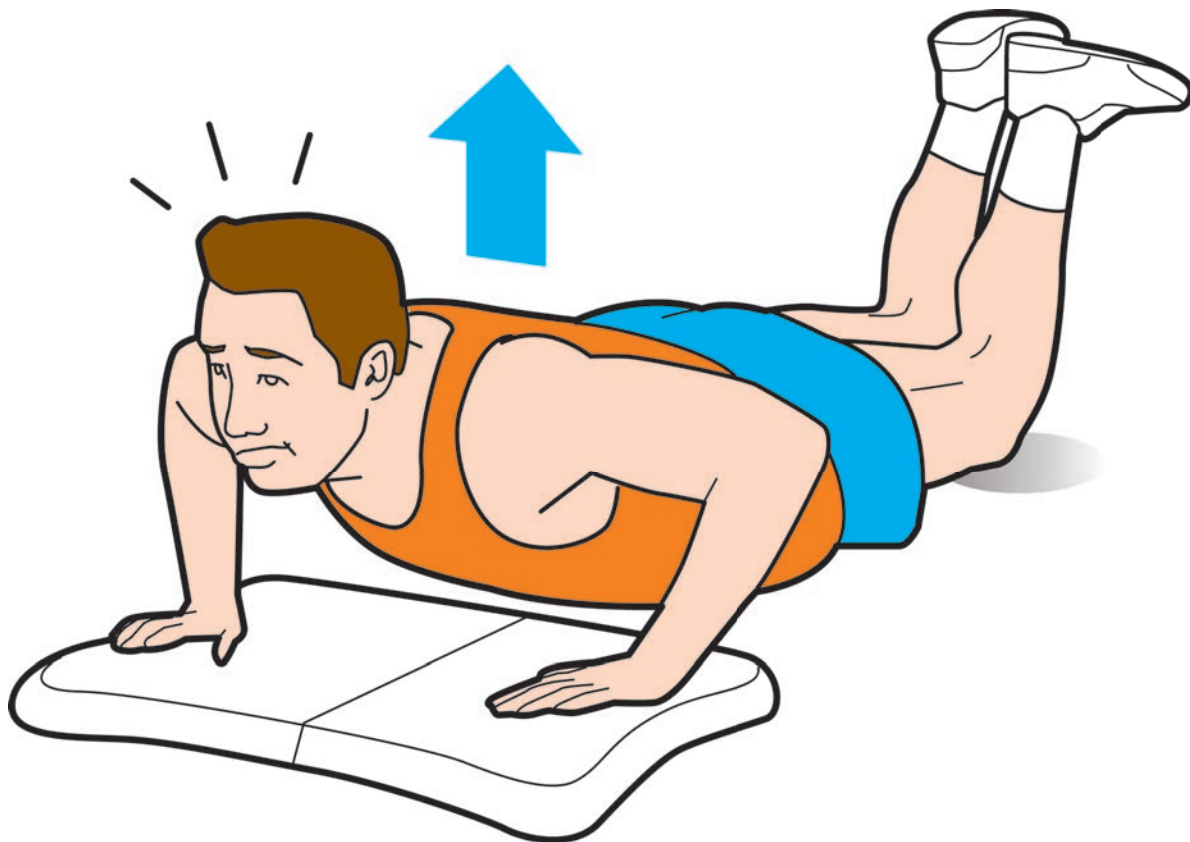
Also, if you're going to fool with the Wii Fit, you should stretch. That was the second place where I went wrong. At one point, I thought I pulled something in the Trapani region of my lower back. Then I looked it up, and Google informed me that Trapani is actually a region in Sicily. Good to know.

But we'll get to all of that. When I was asked to review the Wii Fit — the workout component for Nintendo's wildly popular Wii system — I immediately agreed. The Wii Fit, like the Wii console itself, has become something of a pop-culture phenomenon because of its appeal to hard-core video-game aficionados and recreational players alike. Seemingly everywhere I go, someone has a

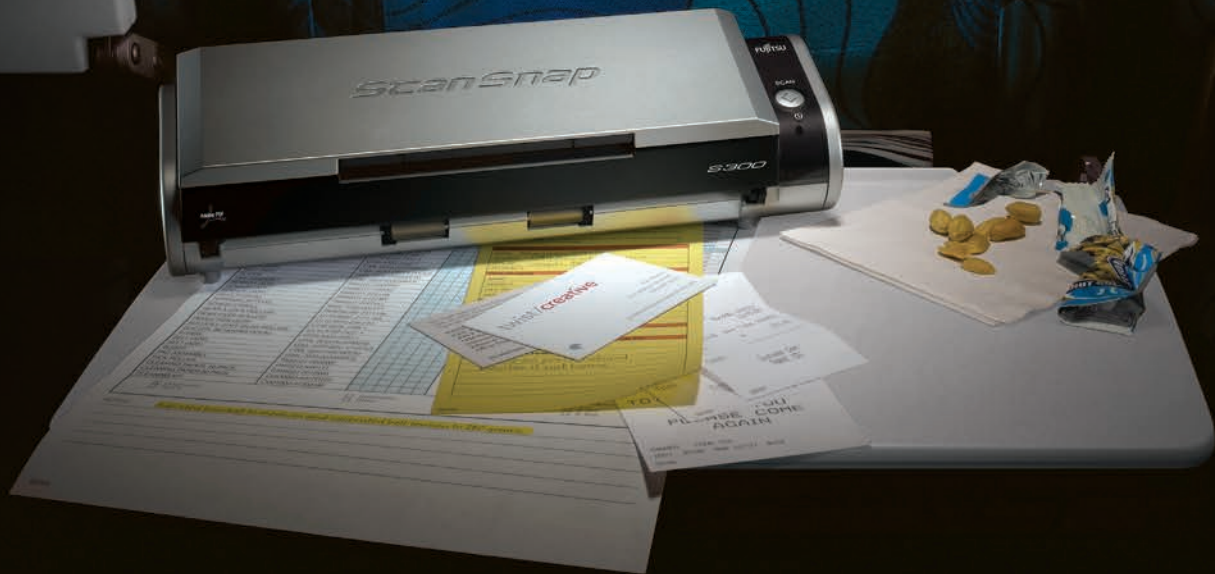
story about playing the system at a party or using it to get in better shape.

Naturally, I was skeptical. As a video-game enthusiast, I'm not all that interested in a system that's based on a gimmick. (Instead of a traditional controller with buttons, the Wii uses motion-sensor technology to detect a player's movement; for example, rather than bowling by pressing a button, you hold a rectangular remote and swing your arm. With the Wii Fit, you put a platform on the floor and do your exercises on and around it.) And as someone who's been an avid gym devotee for 15 years, I doubted the Wii Fit could challenge or replace my regular exercise program.

Besides, at age 31, I recently demonstrated amazing athleticism by completing my first flip off a diving board. I'm pretty sure that qualifies me for the Olympics or something. But whatever. It was no big deal.



Takeoff. Finally you've got a couple of hours. **Scan** the signed contract and attach to email. (That'll mean a nice bonus.) **Scan** the business cards you collected to the contacts manager. Even **scan** your receipts into a searchable PDF and file in your organizer. You're a machine! It's time for an extra bag of peanuts, and then **(do you dare?)** finish your expense report.



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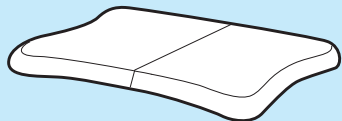
Insight

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(Contact my agent for autographs.)

Despite my video-game abilities and obvious physical vim, though, I was willing to give the Wii Fit a try. Here, then, are the notes from a workout that proved more difficult than I had anticipated.

GETTING STARTED



BEFORE THE WII FIT will let me dominate it, the system needs to know my height and weight so that it can correctly calculate my awesomeness later on. I step on the platform and learn that I weigh 165 pounds. Because I'm five foot 10, my body mass index is 23.7. "That's normal," a gleeful computer voice chirps.

Next, I take a balancing test. For what purpose, I have no idea, but I've seen *2001: A Space Odyssey* enough times to know that you don't argue with a computer if you can help it. When the Wii Fit tells me to lean left, I lean left; right, and I lean right. Not so hard. A few seconds pass before the Wii issues this message: "Looks like the basic balance test isn't your forte. Do you find yourself tripping when you walk?"

Funny. Very funny.

I threaten to strip the Wii for parts and refashion it into a decorative microwave.

Adding to the insult, my Wii Fit age is, inexplicably, 44. "That's a difference of plus 13 years," the infernal machine explains. "That means your body is much weaker than it should be." I'm beginning to think technophobes are on to something.

With the preamble concluded, I'm ready to work out. There are four modes of training — strength training, balance games, aerobics, and yoga — but I'll be testing only three. I don't do yoga. Not anymore. I tried it just once at the urging of a Dallas Mavericks dancer, who merrily twisted me into impossible positions. In the end, she laughed and I was immobile for the better part of a week.

I still think about it sometimes late at night — usually while in the fetal position.

THERE ARE FOUR MODES OF TRAINING — STRENGTH TRAINING, BALANCE GAMES, AEROBICS, AND YOGA — BUT I'LL BE TESTING ONLY THREE. I DON'T DO YOGA.

STRENGTH TRAINING



I THINK this stupid machine is broken. On the jackknife/abs exercise, I score 90 points and learn that I have "amazing abs." I do equally well on the lunges, scoring 100. In both the abs and lunges categories, I earn the label Bodybuilder. Hard to argue.

But when it comes to torso twists, simply turning one way and then the other, I record a lowly 41. It's just twisting; arthritic septuagenarians could do better. Worse, when it's time for doing push-ups, something at which I normally excel at my real-world gym, I earn zero points. Nothing. Zip. Most humiliating of all, the computer tags me with the title Couch Potato.

Which is true — I am. But how does it know? Is the computer reading my mind?

I don't like it when a machine is smart enough to get inside my head. Suddenly, I'm paralyzed with fear that an army of Wii Fits are mobilizing to enslave their owners and become our electronic overlords. Beware.

BALANCE GAMES



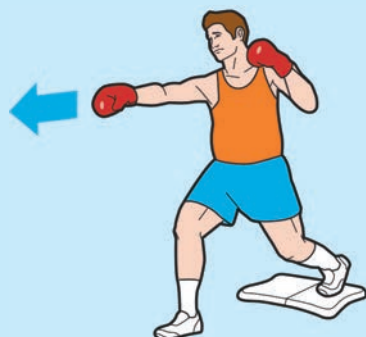
OF ALL THE activities, the balance games are the most enjoyable. In soccer, kids fire balls at my noggin, and I have to lean one way or the other to head them. In the ski jump, I keep my knees bent and my weight forward before standing up at the end of the ramp in order to gain the maximum distance. I do fine in both of these pursuits.

I do far less well, though, in slalom skiing and tightrope walking. In the slalom, I hit almost every gate on my way down the course. Bode Miller won't have to worry about me at next year's world championships. Tightrope walking is even worse. A tightrope connects one rooftop to another, with nothing but a terribly long fall in between. I make it just a few feet before my character plunges to what must be a very gruesome virtual death indeed.

"Unbalanced!" the computer cries out.

Maybe so, but it's fun nonetheless. Also, shut up.

AEROBICS



IT SHOULD BE NOTED before we go further that I'm the least aerobically fit 31-year-old within three states, maybe four. I've only run once in the last 10 years; I went five miles with a 43-year-old female friend. She destroyed me. At one point, I begged her to stop. I think so, anyway. My memories are hazy. It's possible that I blacked out.

And while I excel at the Wii Fit's hula-hoop game — you simply move your hips in a circle, just as you would in real life — I nearly go into cardiac arrest during the basic run, which is a total misnomer, by the way.

While holding the motion-sensitive remote in one hand, you run in place for five minutes. No sweat, right? Except I start panting, oh, let's see ... about 17 seconds in. Not long thereafter, the aforementioned salami begins weighing me down like an anchor. I suppose that shouldn't be surprising — about a year ago, I went to a party and ate my weight in delicious cheese cubes. On the way home, I cramped up and got a terrible pain behind my rib. My friends called it my "cheese rib."

I love food, and yet it hates me.

Halfway through the run, a miracle happens. No, I don't suddenly breathe better or run faster, and the lactic acid doesn't ebb either. Instead, my brain clicks on and I realize that the motion-sensitive controller recognizes only that I'm pumping my arms. I stop moving my legs altogether. "Good job!" the Wii Fit tells me as I swing my arms furiously.

Heh. The stupid computer isn't so smart after all. **AW**

JOHN GONZALEZ is a sports columnist for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. In addition to paying him his standard fee for this story, we supplied him with an oxygen tank and a defibrillator.

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Oasis in the Desert

Beyond the headlines, a surprisingly eclectic Israel awaits. By Jeanine Barone

SANDSTONE CLIFFS rise dramatically beside us, their naked faces streaked with a colorful palette ranging from gold to plum. Like Israel itself, the Negev is full of enticing surprises, including the Makhtesh Ramon, a spectacular erosion crater formed some 65 million years ago and which we're crossing. Silence accompanies us as we bike this desolate and expansive valley floor, where spectacular vistas of 2,700-foot-tall Mount Ardon compete for attention with an oasis graced by palm trees and jade-hued waters.

My guide, Dani, and I continue pedaling along a *wadi*, or streambed, where ancient history is ever present. After all, we're cycling along the old Nabataean-run spice route that once connected the Mediterranean with Arabia. Dani suggests it's time for a rest, and we stop beside the stone ruins of a caravansary, an ancient motel that once offered traders food, water, shelter, and fresh camels. But instead of dispensing Gatorade, Dani fires up his camp stove and brews mint tea, which he prepares with a secret spice. The Israelis are certainly a high-octane people, but they always have time for tea — even if they're smack in the middle of the Negev.

EVEN THE SAVVIEST traveler may have a number of misimpressions of Israel, where security concerns and visits to religious sites seem to capture everyone's attention. But perceptions clearly don't jibe with reality when you consider the vibrant nightlife in Tel Aviv, which not only matches New York as a city that never sleeps but also as one that hardly rests during the day. This capital city is laced with bike paths, attracting veteran cyclists as well as those who have a newfound interest in the sport. And with its increasingly green boulevards, Tel Aviv is experiencing a dynamic building boom; the likes of I.M. Pei, Richard Meier, and other star architects are putting their signature stamps on luxurious towers. And in Jerusalem, the Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava recently completed one of his poetic bridges.

Unless you've visited Israel lately, your visions of the country may not include sipping an award-winning Cabernet Sauvignon, sampling tapas and creative fusion cuisine, luxuriating in a seaside spa, and resting your head in a stylish Parisian-style boutique hotel. But they should.

Activities

● **The Negev**, a vast, enchanting, triangular-shaped swath of arid land, is a playground for adventure seekers. With Adam Sela's Challenging Experience, you can try hiking (\$649 per small group, per day), mountain biking (\$649 per small group, plus \$23 per bike), rappelling (\$231 per small group), and canyoning (\$750 per small group). **011-972-505-308-272, www.adamsela.com**

Food & Wine

● Defying expectations that Israeli wines are synonymous with sickly sweet, Israeli viticulture has become quite urbane, with certain wines now earning high marks from noted wine critic Robert Parker. In the summer, thousands of oenophiles from Israel and around the world flock to the **Israeli Wine-Tasting Festival**, held at Jerusalem's Israel Museum in the magical Isamu Noguchi-designed sculpture garden that showcases the works of Henry Moore, Auguste Rodin, and other luminaries. During the festival, wine lovers can sample offerings from about 40 local wineries while they enjoy live jazz music and nibble on sushi and artisanal cheeses (\$16 for entry to the festival, a wineglass, and admission to the museum). **011-972-2-670-8811, www.imj.org.il**

● One of Israel's 250-plus wine producers, the **Golan Heights Winery**, features a 1,500-acre vineyard that is seen as key to Israel's wine revolution.

Producing 20 grape varieties, it offers regular tastings (\$5 to \$7), which may even include their gold-medal-winning Yarden Katzrin Chardonnay 2004. **011-972-4-696-8420, www.golanwines.co.il**. On a much smaller but no less noteworthy scale is the boutique **Ramot Naftaly Winery**. Located in Upper Galilee, this family-run winery is celebrated for its Cabernet Sauvignon and other French oak-aged reds. **011-972-54-798-3100, yitzhak3@012.net.il**

● As for Israeli cuisine, it's hardly all about falafel, pita bread, and hummus. Instead, exotic flavors abound, as does a sophisticated focus on locally sourced and seasonal ingredients, with top chefs rivaling those in New York. The epicenter of this culinary scene is Tel Aviv. Walk into **La Champa**, an intimate standing bar with dried hams and sausages hanging from the ceiling, and you'll be transported to Barcelona. Patrons can sip any of eight varieties of the only beverage offered, Cava, a sparkling Spanish wine from an exclusive Catalonia winery (\$18 to \$37 per bottle, \$4 to \$5 by the glass). Manchego cheese, chorizo, and jamón are a few of the temptations on the tapas-only menu (\$2 to \$7). **011-972-77-200-8636**

● At the opposite end of the decor spectrum is **Messa**, designed in luxurious white-on-white: Egyptian-cotton curtains, exotic veneered communal tables, and Turkish marble floors. Chef Aviv Moshe produces bold dishes that infuse recipes from his Kurdish ancestry with Middle Eastern notes and a little creative molecular gastronomy. One of his signature favorites, beef cheeks and onions in sweet-potato cream with ginger (\$30),

comes from a family recipe. **011-972-3-685-6859, www.messa.co.il**

● Eran Zino, the new chef at the helm of **Barcarola Bistro Bar**, brings a modern Italian slant to his creations; oxtail ravioli (\$9 or \$16), for example, is served with a hazelnut-and-apple salad. Instead of offering tried-and-true large individual entrées, the menu allows for the sharing of smaller, colorful dishes with a touch of whimsy, like the strawberry ravioli, constructed with a thin muscat skin. **011-972-9-766-9606, www.2eat.co.il/barcarola**

Hotels & Spas

● Going way beyond Dead Sea mud wraps, Israel's burgeoning day-spa and resort-spa scene clearly appeals to those who have an obsession with wellness and body image. Located along Tel Aviv's seaside promenade, in the recently gentrified Old Port, **Coola Spa**, a women-only retreat, provides healing sessions that target everything from a flagging immune system (try the antioxidant green-tea massage with hot stones, \$114) to tight muscles and achy joints (hot citrus-oil body rub, \$114). **011-972-3-544-4462, www.comme-il-faut.com/coola**

● **Villa Galilee**, an antiques-laden spa resort in northern Israel with views of Mount Meron, offers couples their own private treatment room that comes complete with a warm, moisturizing bath for two, fresh fruit, and Israeli white wine. **011-972-4-699-9563, www.villa-galilee.com**

(continued on page 32)



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(continued from page 30)

● Set on the slopes of Mount Canaan and overlooking the Sea of Galilee, the **Mizpe Hayamim Hotel and Spa** is renowned for its expansive organic property, which is dotted with fruit trees, vegetable and herb gardens, and an animal farm. (When possible, the spa's products and the foods served in its restaurants are sourced here.) Relax with a cup of tea made from homegrown lavender buds before enjoying a purifying pomegranate scrub or a rejuvenating massage using handcarved olive branches. **011-972-4-699-4555, www.mizpehayamim.com**

● In the heart of Mount Carmel National Park, the **Carmel Forest Spa Resort** delights nature lovers with a network of hiking trails that lace the 14-acre landscape of pine woodland, grassy lawns, and blooming gardens. Overnight guests have to make difficult choices about how to spend their time: Swim in the glass-walled 65-foot-long pool, relax in a Turkish Hamam (a type of Turkish bath), or relax with a body wrap of locally made honey and cinnamon. **011-972-4-830-7888, www.isrotel.co.il**

● Pampering is also a given in Tel Aviv's boutique hotels. The five-room **Nina Cafe Suites Hotel** offers a wee bit of Paris in the middle of Neve Tzedek, a neighborhood that radiates a New York SoHo air. All the suites, including those with private garden access, come with indulgences galore, including minibars stocked with French chocolates and Champagne, in-room acupressure massages, fresh flowers, and DVDs from the owner's private collection. Suites start at \$220. **011-972-52-508-4141, www.ninacafehotel.com**

● Film and architecture buffs revel in **Cinema Hotel**, an art-deco boutique accommodation housed in a restored Bauhaus-style movie theater from the 1930s. Spotlights and director's chairs in the guest rooms tie in with the pervasive film theme, as do the bags of popcorn dispensed at the screenings of silent movies. But guests also enjoy inspecting the original film projectors as well as the display of old movie tickets and other cinema paraphernalia in the hotel lobby. Rooms start at \$165. **011-972-3-520-7100, www.cinemahotel.com** **AW**

JEANINE BARONE is a New York-based travel and food writer who's always searching for the world's hidden treasures.

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Preparing for the Worst

James Chippendale may never be able to go to a concert and completely relax. That's because, as the CEO of an entertainment insurance company, he gets paid to worry.

By Pamela Gwyn Kripke

A NORMAL PERSON MIGHT JUST SEE A TOUR BUS. James Chippendale pictures it careening through a barricade. What looks like a crowd of music lovers to most conjures images of massive unrest in this man's mind. Chippendale sees disaster at every turn, and for the people who rely on him, that's a very good thing.

"I look and think, 'What can go wrong?'" he says. "I'm the Debbie Downer of the party."

His company, Dallas-based CSI Entertainment Insurance, offers insurance services and

risk-management coverage to a specialized niche of musicians, venues, concerts, and festivals — 3,000 of them a year — bringing in a total of \$8 million annually in revenue.

"The stage could collapse and a person could die. What if a Category Five hurricane were to blow in?" asks Chippendale, 40, who started CSI 15 years ago. "We're kind of the grim reaper, but that's our job. We're there to make the environment safe."

CSI is the link between insurance carriers, which write the policies, and the entertainment industry, which needs them. The

industry's needs are highly specific and include coverage for workers' compensation, equipment, cancellation, vehicles, and vendors. There's also the less-standard coverage for mayhem, conflagration, and explosion to consider. "We had an RV blow up once from a faulty generator, and a car caught on fire in a parking lot," says the Texas-born CEO. "Another time, high winds blew over some scaffolding and the guys on it had to jump off as it was coming down. The worst was when Limp Bizkit was onstage. Fred Durst, the lead singer, encouraged people to start rioting."

Chippendale grins. "Some carriers don't like heavy metal."

These days, CSI has boosted its client roster with a slew of high-flight performers, including George Strait, Gwen Stefani, Ludacris, Kenny Chesney, and the Dixie Chicks. The company also covers two of the country's largest annual music festivals: Austin City Limits in Austin, Texas, and Lollapalooza in Chicago. And it provides insurance for TV and movie projects and athletes as well; among those covered are Michael Moore's film festival and Lance Armstrong's cycling team.

"You can't be in this business and not be covered," says Gary Weinberger, president of Alabama-based Red Mountain Entertainment, which promoted 110 concerts and events last year. "We wouldn't dream of doing an event without consulting James."

CHIPPENDALE came to his career in a typical way, taking a job at a general insurance company in Dallas after attending Arizona State University. Within two years, though, the entrepreneur mantra began to sound in his head. *The company is getting half of what I'm making*, he kept saying to himself. So, he began writing insurance policies for friends who owned local live-music bars and nightclubs, zeroing in on short-term special events, known in the industry as one-offs.

"The more I talked to people, the more I saw that there was no expert in this segment of the market," he says. So Chippendale became that expert. In just five years, CSI had secured contracts with about 70 percent of the music venues in Dallas and Austin, as well as with 400 other clients nationwide.

At first, his motivation was mercenary,

he admits: "I was driven by my material place in the world, how much I could make. I thought I needed to keep up with everyone else."

But while he was more than keeping up, Chippendale — whose success was founded entirely on the notion of preparedness — took an ironic hit that changed his thinking from that point forward. In 2000, he was

diagnosed as having a potent form of leukemia and given unfavorable odds of survival.

"I went at my illness as a business and asked myself, What do we have to do?" he says. "I drew up a plan and assembled the best team to beat the disease. I found a mind coach who helped me become mentally prepared. I meditated; took no calls, no meetings; limited my exposure to

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BUSINESS

friends and family." He spent a year in and out of the hospital, enduring three rounds of chemotherapy, radiation, and ultimately a bone-marrow transplant. After three years away from the office, he had made a full recovery.

When he returned to his desk in 2003, the business had been depleted by about a third. To recoup, he took on a partner and began to share the responsibility that he had previously carried alone. "All of a sudden, there was no panic," he says. "It wasn't about how much money to make and how fast to make it but about having a good, fun, solid place to work where everybody can make a nice living. Somehow, with that relaxed attitude, the business has become that much more successful."

A FORMER FABRIC warehouse in Dallas's Deep Ellum neighborhood (long the city's nucleus for music and nightlife) has been transformed into a serene, hip, and decidedly non-insurancery insurance office. The 12 CSI employees who spend their days there among birch plywood tables, poured concrete, and bursts of lime are equally atypical for the industry, having been plucked from former gigs on and around the stage. One staffer managed bands, one was a concert promoter, and another ran one of the city's largest venues for touring acts. Over the course of the company's history, there have been musicians, bartenders, and club managers selling insurance for Chippendale, who selects his team with clear purpose. "I can teach them the 50 things they need to know about risk management," he says. "But you can't go to school to learn the ins and outs of the entertainment industry, which is a crazy business. These guys can walk in and know the pitfalls."

Paul Bassman spent 15 years managing multiplatinum rock artists before signing on as CSI's president in early 2007. "When I decided to leave the music business, this was a strange concept. But it made perfect sense," he says. "What other insurance broker would know what it's like backstage or how to negotiate a contract with agents, when all they've been insuring are buildings or construction sites?" For clients, this savvy is a winning edge. "When someone responds in the same vernacular," says Weinberger, "you just know you are speaking to a kindred spirit. We don't want to have to explain what it is we do for a living."

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The fatal fire at a Rhode Island nightclub in 2003 forced insurance executives to re-examine how they were protecting their entertainment-industry clients. Chippendale remembers that prior to the incident, contracts weren't terribly exacting or formal. "It was more of a handshake," he says. "No one checked limits or terms."

But when area suppliers, sponsors, vendors, and even the local radio station were sued for failing to make sure the pyrotechnics at the Great White show were safe, it became clear that proper coverage was critical. "This kicked us into a different level and focus," says Chippendale. His business increased fourfold overnight.

In the last year, with his livelihood and his health thriving, Chippendale has found a way to use his success, and his contacts in the music industry, for a greater good. He had an idea to host concerts in locales around the globe that have impoverished hospitals and to have the concert proceeds go to those facilities' cancer centers. He conceived the Love Hope Strength Foundation with musician and fellow leukemia survivor Mike Peters (of the Alarm) and has raised nearly \$1 million from four shows so far — one in the Empire State Building's observatory in New York; one at Kala Pattar, above the base camp of Mount Everest in Nepal; a third at Mount Snowden, the highest point in England and Wales; and another at the Union County Music Fest in New Jersey. In October, a historic trek will take place at Machu Picchu in Peru, with a closing concert in Lima that is being billed as the largest concert ever held in Peru.

"When I was ill, I couldn't walk up two steps without getting out of breath," says Chippendale. "But along with hundreds of other trekkers, I climbed 19,000 feet up a mountain." The foundation is anchored on the premise that everyone deserves access to proper care, regardless of where they live or how much cash they have. "I was lucky to have the best treatment because I had connections and health insurance. To me, that is not fair."

Chippendale is happy to have connected his career with this personal mission. "Music crosses all borders," he says. "You have to take control of your destiny. You only get one shot." **AW**

PAMELA GWYN KRIPKE, a former syndicated columnist, has written for many newspapers and magazines, including the *New York Times*, *Southern Accents*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *D Magazine* in Dallas, where she is a contributing editor.



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SACRAMENTO

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“Visit the **wineries in Amador and El Dorado counties**. The tasting rooms there are similar to Napa’s 20 years ago; you might actually get to speak with the winemakers. [Afterwards, head to] **Taste** in Plymouth — the meal alone will make you happy you made the drive.” **AW**



Mikuni Japanese Midtown

CHARLES RUNNETTE is the deputy editor of *Hollywood Life* in Los Angeles and a frequent contributor to *American Way*. His favorite memory from the Sacramento area is of skydiving in nearby Yolo County.

For more suggestions and contact information on all the places mentioned, please visit www.americanwaymag.com.

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House,

A close-up, high-contrast portrait of actor Hugh Laurie. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. His blue eyes are prominent, and he has a short, dark beard and mustache. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue shirt. The background is a plain, light color.

Divided

Hugh Laurie is a man of many talents. He's part musician, part comedian, and part novelist. He's entirely British but makes a convincing American. And though he's not a doctor, he plays one on TV. By J. Rentilly



So that it is known from the outset, among the great and varied accomplishments of *House, M.D.*, star Hugh Laurie is his rare ability to catch a ball on top of his cane. ¶ “To my knowledge, he is the only actor, living or dead, capable of doing so,” says David Shore, creator and executive producer of *House*. ¶ If mastering such parlor tricks, the fruit of spending desolate midnight hours on a working set, doesn’t qualify Laurie as a Renaissance man, perhaps his astonishingly wide-ranging résumé will do the trick: class clown at Eton College, University of Cambridge graduate with a degree in archaeology and anthropology, British national rowing champion, English comedy

phenomenon, best-selling novelist, distinguished musician, avid motorcycle enthusiast, critically acclaimed actor, and, according to a recent survey by Harris Interactive, one of America’s top-five favorite TV personalities, thanks to his coal-and-sugar turn on Fox’s *House*. Laurie — who is neither American (as his character, Dr. Gregory House, is) nor in need of a cane (as Dr. House is, hence Laurie’s proficiency at said trick) — is, he says, “occasionally perceived to be slightly taller in person than one expects.”

Achingly self-deprecating, Laurie has a full awareness of America’s love affair with celebrity and of his unwitting tour of duty within it (compliments of *House*’s stratospheric success through four seasons — and counting — on Fox). And he is certain he fails its rigors.

“Perhaps the most surprising thing about me is that there is absolutely nothing surprising about me,” he says. “At all.”

Of course, Laurie’s lying (we think, anyway), though he never lets down the self-

loathing facade. When his exhaustive, Technicolor résumé is recited to him, Laurie blanches, stunned, and a journalist is grateful the actor doesn’t have Dr. House’s trademark cane on hand, lest his knuckles be jestingly rapped.

“All of that — that’s really quite eerie. Unless there are seven of us. Which maybe there are,” he quips. “What I feel like, I suppose, is a jack-of-all-trades, master of none. I’ve always felt like I could turn my hand to a lot of things but never excel at any of them. I do play the piano a bit, but I wish I could play it like Dr. John or Henry Butler. I act, but I wish I could act like Al Pacino. I do a bit of all these things. I’m just trying to dazzle you with quantity. I can’t do anything well enough, so I’ll do many things and hope that the quantity distracts you from the deficiencies. Maybe that’s the plan.”

Laurie’s modesty may arise from the curious, chameleon-like quality of what he calls his “disappointingly haphazard” acting career, which has seen him perform

in drag (most notably on his hit British TV show, *A Bit of Fry & Laurie*), opposite computer-generated mice (in the *Stuart Little* movies), and elbow-deep in surgical goo (on *House*). Amazingly, in some of Laurie’s arguably best-known performances, he has not a shred of his English accent. He is, whether draped in dresses or brandishing a stethoscope, a man in disguise.

“It’s no wonder I have no idea who I really am,” he says, laughing. “And I can’t fathom why anyone would care to know. They don’t in England. Of course, we never talk about anything in England. That’s why we invented the weather.”

Rob Minkoff, who directed Laurie in both big-screen *Stuart Little* films, describes the actor as “the epitome of perfectionism” and praises his “way with a goofy line or look.” Minkoff auditioned Laurie over the phone, and he required the actor to speak with an American accent for the role of Fredrick Little. “Hugh provided a first-rate impression, though he was, of course, rather critical of himself. Once he landed the role, he worked with a dialect coach every day to perfect his inflection and intonation,” Minkoff says.

So convincing is Laurie’s Yankee patois that *House* producer Bryan Singer, who knew only of Laurie’s previous stateside work, reportedly didn’t even know the actor hailed from across the pond. David Shore, who was more familiar with Laurie’s previous efforts, was practically starstruck when he learned Laurie was interested in the show. “When I heard Hugh might be auditioning for our project, I was thrilled,” remembers Shore.



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With Stephen Fry in *Jeeves & Wooster*

"Not because he was perfect — I didn't think there was a chance he would do this — I just thought he was hysterically funny and it'd be a thrill to meet him. Then he auditioned, and everything changed."

House has become the role of Laurie's lifetime. The series — ranked seventh in the 2007–2008 Nielsen ratings, with an average of 16.2 million viewers per episode — is a diabolically clever, unexpectedly moving collision of Sherlock Holmes and *ER*. The show manages to be a guts-and-fractures procedural drama and a heart-wrenching soap opera simultaneously. It gushes with all manner of scrubs-and-stethoscope emergencies, medical mysteries, tales of human suffering, and ribald, gallows humor. And it features, front and center, Hugh Laurie as a brilliant, curmudgeonly pill-popping doctor who, despite believing he has no soul, thinks it's worth trying to save the lives of those who do.

Laurie says that audiences are drawn to *House*'s maverick sensibility and refusal to kowtow to social conventions and political correctness. "House is not weighed down, as the rest of us are, by the necessary demands of politeness, and that is exhilarating for audiences to see. He will always say the thing that should not be said," he says. "That's appealing to young people, because House is a character who frets against authority and resists being controlled by those who have

power over him. And it's appealing to an older generation that has grown impatient with the soft platitudes of modern discourse and political correctness. House demands things be done in the most effective and efficient way possible, and I think audiences really respond to that."

Minkoff believes Laurie shares that exactitude with the bedeviled doctor. "Hugh is very smart and never accepts things at face value," he says. "Every word of the script is analyzed for its meaning, and every movement for its expressiveness."

Shore agrees, applauding Laurie's relentless work ethic and constant philosophical wrangling with his character. "Hugh makes us see the heart in the character, even without saying anything, even while saying the most outrageous things," he says. "He's always in pursuit of what's right for the character and the story. He can do funny in the middle of a dramatic scene. He can do dramatic in the middle of a funny scene. We've never come up with an idea or a scene or a line that Hugh cannot do."

Laurie is quick to dismiss the praise as "lies, all lies" but concedes that he takes his work seriously. "What I do is put all my heart and soul — if I had a soul, actually, which I

On novel No. 2: "I'm eager to make some amends to my publisher and the two or three fans who have been waiting so long and so very, very patiently."

don't; I travel light in that sense — into doing it right, getting the scene to play the way that it should. I don't see that there's a lot of House in me or the other way around. So I'm not losing myself in the character, exactly, but I do get lost in the intricacies of timing and tempo and connection," he says. "I'm rather obsessive that way."

Growing up in England as the youngest (by six years) of four children, Laurie quickly learned the value of rib tickling and showmanship. "I was a bit of a class clown, though not frantically so," he says. "I did know by age nine or 10, after winning a prize at school for acting, that funny was something I could do reasonably well. And, of course, it was just a way to show off for girls, to be noticed at all. That's how these things start: You try to make a girl laugh. And then 40 years later, you still wonder if you're any good or not."

Before pursuing work in provoking guff-

aws and belly laughs, Laurie enjoyed a brief but notable career in competitive rowing. Like his father, a medical doctor and an Olympic gold medalist in rowing in the 1948 games, Laurie was an oarsman. Representing England, he won the National Junior Championship in coxed pairs in 1977 and placed fourth in the World Rowing Junior Championships later that year. Though a serious illness forced him out of competitive rowing in 1980, the actor spots similarities between the sport and his vocation in the arts.

"In both of them, you're facing backward, moving away from the direction you're facing," he says. "When you look at other people's careers, it's very easy to see things as being constructed, planned, devised — how they clearly got from A to Z through a series of calculated decisions. In actual fact, I think we're all facing backward, stumbling from place to place, from one thing to the next, and it only takes shape in retrospect: 'Oh, yes, I got here because I made this decision then, and it led to this place and that decision and this career.'"

"Which is how I went from wearing dresses to talking to mice to solving medical mysteries," he continues. "At no point did I

ever have a plan. I was simply facing backward, doing my best along the way."

Laurie's best was clearly — and quickly — more than enough. Shortly after laying down his oars, he joined the Cambridge University Footlights Dramatic Club, the well-known comedy troupe (think Second City but in London) through which he met fellow thespians Emma Thompson and Stephen Fry. Laurie quickly became a sought-after name in England, appearing with Rowan Atkinson — known to most as Mr. Bean — on Richard Curtis's famed *Blackadder* series as well as starring with Fry in the critically acclaimed hit series *Jeeves & Wooster*. From the late '80s to the mid-'90s, Laurie shared a spectacular British television run with Fry in the topsy-turvy comedy series *A Bit of Fry & Laurie*.

"I'd love to tell you about it, but unfortunately, I have absolutely no memory at all. None. Of anything, really. I'm absolutely useless," Laurie says. "I may as well have



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been born this morning. At about nine o'clock. I had a rapid and loving upbringing. I think."

The actor — deadpan, dry-witted, and broadly funny by turns — forged a big-screen career slowly but surely, appearing in some unlikely places, including his friend Thompson's Oscar-winning *Sense and Sensibility* and the live-action *101 Dalmatians*. "Like I said, it makes precious little sense at all," he says. Though Laurie's appeared in more than a dozen American feature films, only since the 2004 premiere of *House*, for which he has won two Golden Globes and been nominated for three Emmys, has he claimed any currency at stateside water-coolers. But his small-screen success doesn't mean that he won't continue big-screen work. Earlier this year, he appeared alongside Keanu Reeves and Forest Whitaker in *Street Kings*. Next spring, he provides the voice of Dr. Cockroach, PhD, in the computer-animated romp *Monsters vs. Aliens*.

And acting isn't his only creative medium. Along the way, the 49-year-old has played keyboard and saxophone in several bands

composed of fellow TV stars, most notable among them *Heroes*' Greg Grunberg, *Desperate Housewives*' James Denton, and *The Bachelor*'s Bob Guiney. Laurie says he's enjoying a temporary moratorium on ivory tickling, at least while coping with *House*'s rigorous production schedule. "Professional musicians need to rehearse a lot, and amateur musicians need to rehearse an awful lot more," he says. "I haven't had enough time of late to be even an amateur, and I began to hate the feeling of getting to the end of a song and only then realizing what the song was and what key it should be played in. That's no way to carry on."

Laurie is slightly kinder to himself when discussing *The Gun Seller*, his 1997 debut novel, a spy thriller that is equal parts spoof and homage, thrillingly intricate, and wickedly funny. *The Gun Seller* was conceived as part one of a six-book series. "I feel like I might have done well with that one," he admits. "Though I've been working on a sequel for 10 years now and feel terribly guilty for not completing it. I'm eager to make some amends to my publisher and the two

or three fans who have been waiting so long and so very, very patiently."

With so many artistic outlets, Laurie might come across as having something to say. Wrong, he insists. "I've never had any compulsion to express myself, actually. There's nothing conscious or premeditated about it. I just meander, trying my hand at different things. I don't enjoy a lot of things that others find fun. But I do have fun working, and the enjoyment often comes rather incidentally from that process," he says.

With the success of *House*, Laurie is unlikely to be moving on anytime soon. He's committed to the show for another two seasons, and last summer bought a home in Los Angeles, making it easier for his wife and three children to join him in the United States. "Without them near, I do go quite insane, probably three times a week," he says. "It can show itself in all kinds of ways. I mean, who else do you know who can catch a ball on the top of a cane?" **AW**

J. RENTILLY is a Los Angeles-based journalist who covers film, music, literature, and pop culture for a variety of national and international publications. He is currently refining his skills as a marching-band pianist and part-time quantum tunneler.



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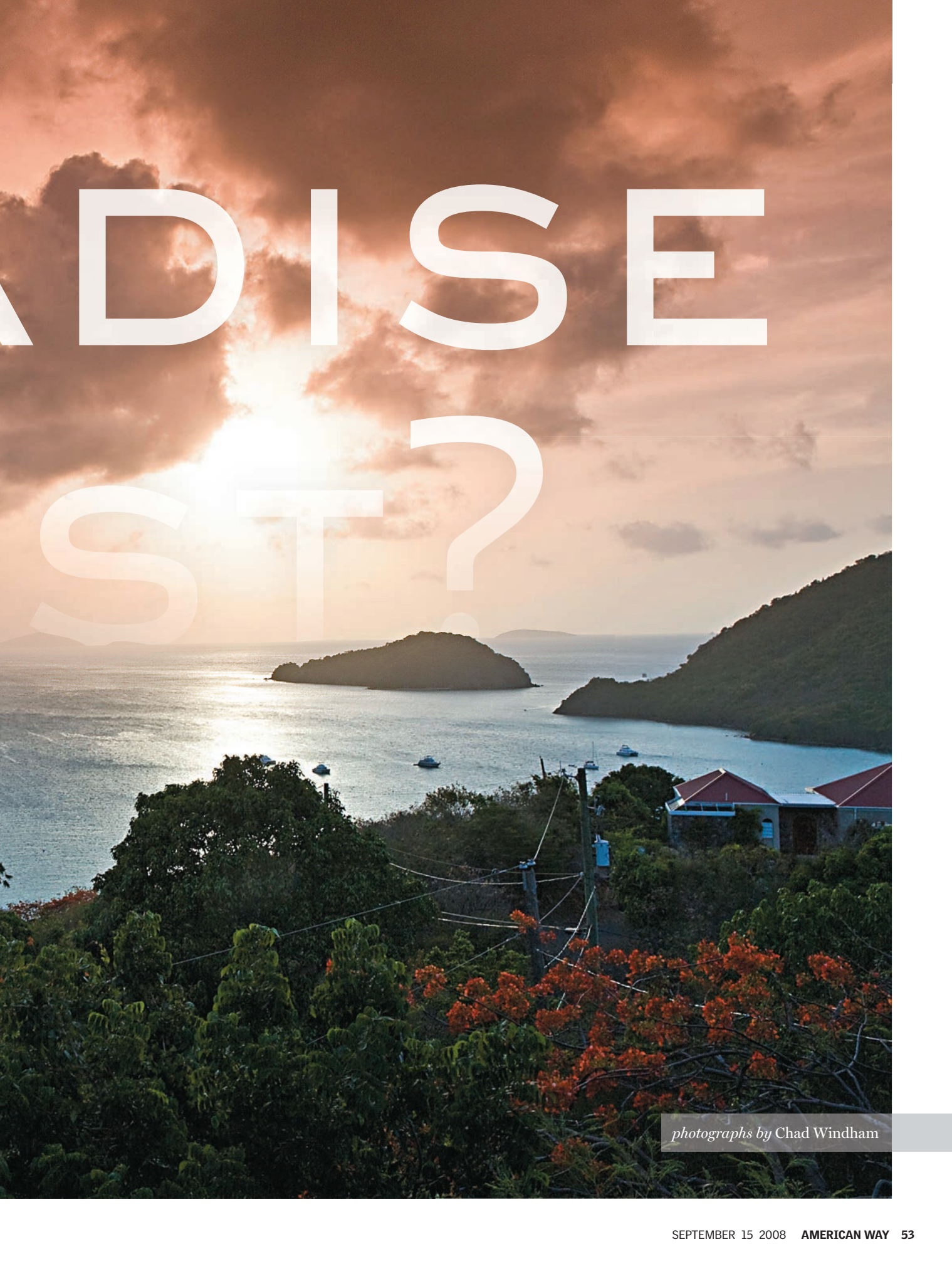


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PARA LO



With only three years left on its 37-year land lease, **MAHO BAY**, the world's first ecoresort, is starting to run on borrowed time. The question on everyone's mind is: What will become of it? *by Jack Boulware*



ADISE ST?

photographs by Chad Windham

LATE AT NIGHT, lying in the bed of a tent cabin, I hear the island of St. John come alive. Waves regularly rinse the beach. Frogs call out to one another. And somewhere nearby, a spastic iguana slowly crunches through the trees before it suddenly falls off a branch. This isn't \$1,000-a-bed resort living, though. This is Maho Bay Camps, where for about 100 bucks, you can spend a night in the world's first ecoresort. 🏠 Open since 1976, Maho Bay sits on the north side of St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands and is surrounded by a national park. Its 114 cabins are spread unobtrusively among 14 acres as a nearly invisible complex of buildings joined by a labyrinth of wooden walkways. Years before *ecotourism* was even a word, Maho Bay was quietly defining what it means to leave a small footprint when traveling. But all this may come to an end because in a few years the lease will run out on this visionary facility, and the landowners want to sell. Asking price: \$32 million.

The owner of Maho Bay Camps, 79-year-old developer Stanley Selengut, from Long Island, New York, isn't willing to spend that kind of money on a campground. That basically leaves one option for saving the resort: A nonprofit like the Trust for Public Land would have to take ownership, turn the property over to the park, and hire Maho Bay as a concession.

To loyal Maho Bay guests, the resort is much more than a place to vacation. It's sort of an extended family. Many guests have returned 15 to 20 times, many scheduling their trips to coincide with those of their friends.

The resulting atmosphere is much like an all-ages summer camp. Each guest buses his or her own dishes in the restaurant. Bathrooms are communal. Leftover supplies such as food, books, and suntan lotion go to the help-yourself center so they can be used by future guests. Everything imaginable is recycled, including lightbulbs, bottles, towels, bed linens, and dryer lint. Nightly entertainment may feature a talk by a marine biologist, music from local bands, glassblowing, or stargazing. During the off-season, volunteers work six hours a day in exchange for free room and board. (A large number of the island locals have been employed by the resort at one time or another.)

Maho Bay attracts about 20,000 guests a year, many of whom come from states along the East Coast. "We think the whole state of Vermont empties out during the winter," says Maho Bay marketing manager Melody Smith, laughing.

"It's the least expensive place to bring a family on St. John," she adds.

DESPITE MAHO BAY CAMPS' reputation as a green destination, Selengut says his original vision had little to do with conservation. "I was going to build a little lodge right on the ocean, and a nice old couple would run it. They'd have a little scuba boat and a little sailboat. My friends would visit, I would visit, and if it lost money, who cares, because I could take my vacations as a tax deduction."





◀ Elevated walkways keep the forest floor safe from even the most light-footed pedestrian.

▲ The tent cabins (like this one on Iguana Lane) are surrounded by trees and lush vegetation.

▶ A signpost directs guests around the resort and through the maze of trails and huts.



When the news arrived that a New York builder had gotten hold of commercially zoned property, the park superintendent of St. John was irate. He met with Selengut, telling him that development could easily disrupt topsoil, potentially ruining the beaches and coral reefs. Selengut then agreed to construct a pedestrian community, with elevated walkways between the trees so nothing would be destroyed.

“In those days, the way you developed was you clear-cut the land, you built what you wanted to build, and then you landscaped with grass and palm trees,” Selengut says. Instead, he hired a few locals and built a series of 18 tent cabins, inspired by structures he’d seen on a trip to Africa. All the buildings were erected on hand-dug footings in order to minimize impact to the land.

From the beginning, the idea was for Maho Bay to be affordable, not elitist. “That was more of a challenge than the green part,” Selengut admits. “Being green, if you have endless supplies of money and want to charge \$600 a night, isn’t that hard. But being green and remaining affordable doubles the challenge.”

Not long after Maho Bay opened, two things happened that completely changed the little camp: Neighboring hotels began to send their overbooked customers to the ecoresort, and a writer for the *New York Times* came to visit and wrote an article that went on to be reprinted throughout the United States.

“We were full right off the bat,” Selengut remembers. “That gave me the feeling this wasn’t really a toy — there was a real market for what is now called nature-based travel, or ecotourism. So that gave me the encouragement to put some real money into it and make it into a real business.”

As more cabins were built, Selengut’s curiosity about his customers grew. He would send every guest a personal letter with a questionnaire and a postage-paid return envelope addressed to his office in New York. Many of the suggestions he received in those replies came from professional landscapers and botanists and

“BEING GREEN, IF YOU HAVE ENDLESS SUPPLIES OF MONEY AND WANT TO CHARGE \$600 A NIGHT, ISN’T THAT HARD. BUT BEING GREEN AND REMAINING AFFORDABLE DOUBLES THE CHALLENGE.”



◀ Fans and breezes help keep the huts cool and comfortable — no air-conditioning necessary.

were directly incorporated into the Maho Bay design plan. Other ideas were a little different.

“One guest was an artist who worked in fabric,” Selengut says. “I went down [and found a] worker taking our waste sheets and tie-dyeing them and batiking them and sewing them into stuff. Somebody else found out that a kiln can fire ceramics using pallet wood [as fuel], so we’d go to the dump and get bunches of pallet wood and use it to fire the kiln. And then somebody came up with the idea that we could take the lint from the laundry and mix it with the office paper and

water in a blender to make art paper. Every time I go down there, they’re doing something new that sounds like great fun.”

TODAY, MAHO BAY CAMPS and its sister resort, Estate Concordia, in progress on the other side of the island, are textbook case studies for ecoconstruction and sustainability. Estate Concordia improves upon lessons learned with Maho Bay and includes features like recycled building materials, solar power, and cisterns to collect rainwater.

Selengut and his staff are well aware of

the Maho Bay deadline, but visitors to the resort have no idea it may soon have to close. There are a few points in Maho Bay’s favor: Most of the land is not beachfront, and the national park controls the beaches, so a resort might not buy Maho Bay if it doesn’t have any access to the water. Trust for Public Land is negotiating with the land’s owners in an attempt to purchase the land. Maho Bay is also well regarded in the local community, and its guests contribute to local businesses. And the ecoresort has a close relationship with the park; Selengut once served on the advisory board of the national park system.

But nothing is for certain in real estate. A wealthy billionaire might want to own a private estate and snap it up for himself.

Nevertheless, Selengut has thought of the worst-case scenario. If he loses Maho Bay Camps, he’s already planned to speed up construction on Estate Concordia, which, though up and running, still has sections to be developed. Unlike with the Maho Bay land, Selengut owns all the land for Estate Concordia. When finished, the

▼ Solar panels convert St. John’s abundant sunshine into supplementary power for the resort.



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ST. JOHN



The long way down, as viewed from a cabin at Estate Concordia, Maho Bay Camps' sister resort.

Each open-air eco-tent at Estate Concordia has solar panels, a kitchen, and a sun shower.

new ecogetaway will be a similar size to Maho Bay and will accommodate the same number of people.

Estate Concordia offers a new level of comfort to guests, but, truthfully, it doesn't have the lived-in feel that Maho Bay has. Plus, beach access isn't as easy as at the original camp. And there are fewer clumsy lizards stumbling around the cabins at night. But at least for the next three years, visitors to St. John can still choose between the two.

"Originally, I took a 25-year lease, and then I negotiated for a 12-year extension," Selengut says. "At that time, 37 years seemed like ... God, I was in my 40s. Now I'm 79. Who would ever think that 37 years could pass so quickly?" **AW**

JACK BOULWARE contributes frequently to *American Way*. He enjoys the sound of an iguana falling off a branch.

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There's a team of dating experts who understand that a single professional's daily planner may not have enough slots open for some focus on their personal life. It's Just Lunch was established in 1991 after a broken engagement left the company founder suddenly single. Like many singles, she began the tedious search for a way to meet "normal," well-educated professionals. Her friends set her up on blind dates and she tried personal ads, but she wasn't comfortable with these options. The ideal first date was a lunch date or drinks after work, she decided, because it would allow two people to actually talk and get to know one another in a no-pressure, relaxed environment.

THE PERSONAL TOUCH

The company's premise is simple: a dating solution based on personalized selection and date coordination. After a client calls for information, a one hour face-to-face meeting is set up to discuss the types of people they would like to meet. Within 48 hours, the company calls to tell the client all about their first date. They arrange for the couple to meet for lunch or a drink after work at a restaurant convenient to both of them and even make the reservations. After the date, the clients call the company and give feedback before their next match is selected. There is no photo or on-line profile for the world to see.

A TEAM WITH A MISSION

Over the last 16 years, It's Just Lunch has set up over 2,000,000 first dates in over 100 locations worldwide and shows no signs of slowing down. Company CEO, Kevin Bazner, a business traveler himself, knows first-hand how hard it is to engineer a professional and social life which is why his mission is to get singles out from behind their PDA's and desks and connecting face-to-face. "When I first heard of the company, I thought, this makes perfect sense," Mr. Bazner said. "Whether someone is working at a high growth company, a law firm or is a business owner, who has time to date? It makes sense to hire someone to do all the work."

“...A dating service is trying to revolutionize the blind date. It's Just Lunch! does all the work — making reservations, clearing the matches with customers. All couples have to do is show up.”

-The Wall Street Journal



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“My Executive Assistant convinced me to join It’s Just Lunch, and the experience has been terrific. They took the time to get to know me and what I was looking for in a relationship. The overall experience has been fun, exciting and is a much better way to meet people that fit my style. ”

Greg R., Actual Client



When asked what makes It’s Just Lunch so successful, Mr. Bazner explains that “we put the needs of our clients in the hands of our experienced staff rather than a computer. Additionally, without exception, we meet everyone in person before taking them on as a client and personally selecting their dates.” He adds that “It’s Just Lunch clients are busy, successful men and women who are all quite capable of finding a date. But their lifestyle is part of the fast-paced world of business today. Airports, meetings, business travel- everything it takes to be successful. They just want someone to do the upfront selection and coordination work for them.”

The statistics speak for themselves. In a recent nationwide survey conducted by It’s Just Lunch, 76% of the men said they believe a relationship is more important than their career. In addition, the survey revealed that 63% have been told by their friends or colleagues that they need to get out more.

It’s Just Lunch has been featured on various TV talk shows including CNBC, CNN and Oprah as well as in articles in Forbes, The Wall Street Journal and others.

For more information, visit www.ItsJustLunch.com.



“I had heard good things about It’s Just Lunch and thought it sounded too good to be true. Then I met the staff and went through the interview process and became very excited. They handled every situation professionally. I also had nothing but a positive experience with every lunch date they arranged. I never really expected to meet my husband, but as fate would have it, I met him on a lunch date. Thank you, It’s Just Lunch, for helping make my dreams come true! ”

Ken G. / Regional Manager, Insurance Company
Sheila G. / Financial Company Office Coordinator

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WHAT
DO
YOU
WANT
TO
BE
WHEN
YOU
GROW
UP?





Sean Aiken didn't know the answer to that question, even at age 26. So he began an odyssey to find the perfect career.
By Tracy Staton
Photographs by C.J. Burton





Week 31: Aquarium Host

Last February, Aiken began a one-year journey. Every week for 52 weeks, he worked a different job, hoping to find wisdom along the way.

So this is the story of a 26-year-old who hit the road attempting to find answers to that age-old question: What do I do with my life? As with all archetypal tales, from Greek myths to Disney movies, it is chock-full of familiar characters and events and themes. Perhaps that's why it resonates with so many, why OneWeekJob.com has built a base of supporters who, with loyalty like that of Caesar's armies or die-hard Dead-heads, follow Aiken from place to place (albeit electronically). And all the better, in this postmillennial world, if it wins Aiken a book contract and a TV deal.

But we're getting ahead of ourselves. Let's start at the beginning.

YEAR: 2005. Place: Capilano College, North Vancouver, British Columbia. Sean Aiken graduates with a bachelor's degree in business administration. There is much rejoicing in the Aiken household. But Aiken, like so many of his generation, doesn't feel prepared for the working world. With the support of his parents, he decides to explore for a while. He starts out with a quick hop to a French-immersion course in Quebec and then catapults to Southeast Asia, about as far from Canada as he can get and still be on the same planet. He visits Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos, never stopping long enough in any one place to hear the question he dreads most: "So, what do you want to do next?" As in, "How exactly do you plan to earn your keep in this world, buster?"

A weighty question, that one — especially for those of Aiken's generation, brought up on equal parts cynicism and idealism. On the cynical side of the scale: Job security?

This story is one Confucius could have written. A story whose end might be found in its beginning and whose beginning might lie at its end. One in which the search became the grail; the question, its own answer; the journey, the destination. ¶ Very deep, right? It's almost the kind of thing you'd expect to find when consulting the *I ching* online. But to find this particular tale, you'd have to visit OneWeekJob.com, the electronic diary of Sean Aiken, seeker, searcher, and modern-day pilgrim wandering the one landscape nearly every adult shares: the workplace.

That's something the company promises six months before hiring hatchet-job management consultants. Company loyalty? Forget it. Only saps believe what they hear in marketing campaigns, including the internal rah-rah that passes for company culture.

But amid all that distrust lives a sort of naive idealism. A job shouldn't confer only a paycheck or social status but also personal, even spiritual, fulfillment. Work should make the world better.

Blame their baby boomer parents, if you must, for preaching. Do what you love and the money will follow, they say. Find your passion. Don't do what I did, kid; don't sell out your idealism for a 30-year career that paid the bills but fatigued the spirit.

The exact words Aiken heard were a bit different, but the import was the same. During Aiken's last year in college, the family gathered around the dinner table and, as families of soon-to-graduate students will, started debating his future. What should he do? Everyone had a different idea. Finally, dear old Dad cut to the chase. "Just find something you're passionate about," said the elder Aiken, a retired accountant. "I worked for 30 years, and I have yet to find something I'm passionate about besides your mother."

That comment played as an endless loop in Aiken's brain. It was a kick in the pants — I'm not going to settle, he immediately decided — but an albatross too. Though he had the family support to make a search for passion possible, that very support was like an investment expected to pay dividends. Passion became a prerequisite. A get-the-job-done, collect-your-paycheck career could never be an option.

"We've been coddled a bit," Aiken says about his generation. "And that adds to the angst, that we have all this support, we can take the time to search, we can have those higher expectations."

It's a curious sort of inner conflict that's difficult to resolve in the reality-based community. For every save-the-world nonprofit

job, there are hundreds of positions for selling blue jeans and T-shirts or toting up profits for a global conglomerate so sprawling, even its executives can't count the links in its supply chain.

Aiken's a smart guy; he graduated from college with a 4.0 GPA and was valedictorian. But even as he took a year and a half off to travel around the world, deep down he knew how difficult it would be to escape his father's fate. Hence, the flight from his future. But as even the longest flights do, his came to an end. He had to get a job.

BY DECEMBER 2006, his parents were talking less about passion and more about paychecks. "Just get a job," his dad said. But the earlier lesson had stuck, and Aiken wasn't about to settle for an entry-level position that would lead to an entry-level career that would eventually progress into a midlevel management job. When his initial search turned up nothing inspiring,



Week 47: Firefighter



Week 51: Air Force Recruit

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though, Aiken had his second brainstorm. After 16-plus years in school, he had no idea what the working world would demand of him. Job titles meant nothing to him. Why not try a few jobs out on a volunteer basis?

That, of course, led to his destiny. Plans for a few weeks of dabbling became the outline of a yearlong quest, complete with its own website, sponsors, and charity campaign. He started out by sending a mass e-mail to friends and family, and then those people passed the message along, and so on, until the offers started coming in. He used a mix of hard sell ("I'm energetic, a hard worker, a quick learner") and soft soap ("You'll be doing good for my generation by helping us figure out what to do with our lives; you'll be donating money to a good cause, alleviating child poverty"). It didn't hurt that he got media exposure from the very first week, when the Vancouver newspaper picked up his story; after that, he used the probability of publicity as a selling point to potential employers.

By the time Aiken showed up on the first day of week one at a bungee-jump operator in Whistler, British Columbia, he was ready for his close-up. Prince Valiant in blond dreadlocks, he'd take the symbolic leap of faith into the void. On behalf of himself and his entire generation, he'd find out what made the so-called real world tick. And along the way, he'd find the job that fit him precisely, the Aiken-shaped hole for his own unique peg.

On February 28, 2007, he strapped himself in, literally, counted down from five, and spread-eagled into the Cheakamus River gorge, mouth wide open and fingers splayed in surprise. Hollering. "You don't realize the fun you just had until you are back safe and sound on the bridge," he mused at the time.

AIKEN TOOK ON roles that spanned the Bureau of Labor Statistics gamut: high-paying to low-end, highly skilled to not so much, glamorous to downright stinky. But though Aiken had a few shaky weeks at first, leaving every job as soon as he got comfortable with it, he



Week 37: Pizza Maker

quickly adapted, accepting uncertainty as — well, as corny as it sounds — a growth opportunity. Being able to enter the unknown every week, he came to recognize, was a skill in itself.

So he went from bungee-jump operator to talk-show intern to snowshoe guide to florist to yoga instructor to dairy farmer (the stinky job). Marketer, caregiver, framer, talent broker, storekeeper, brewmaster, cancer fund-raiser, bartender, exterminator. He hasn't been a butcher, but he's been a baker and a pizza maker. Stock trader. Hollywood producer. Advertising exec. Fashion buyer. Firefighter, Air Force recruit, and cowboy.

Some jobs gave him plenty of fodder for future conversations around the company watercooler. He lost \$1,000 as a stock trader but then made it back by day's end, just as he and his travel buddy/videographer Ian MacKenzie were about to leave for the airport. As a real estate agent, he learned the importance of kissing up to a potential client's family pet. At the martial arts studio where Aiken worked as an instructor, a nine-year-old girl had him circling the room, backing away from her high kicks toward his face. He left the job with a pot of Chinese ointment to relieve the soreness in his legs.

Other endeavors were leaps of faith in miniature. He started at the yoga studio Monday without much practice to speak of and ended up teaching a class on camera that Friday. Less than a week into his crash course as a fashion buyer, he had to take a meeting with a designer alone and decide which clients' retail stores should carry the designer's goods.

Before long, Aiken realized he probably wouldn't experience a "magic moment" when, like Harry Potter grasping his wand for the first time, he would light up like a video saint and hear an angelic choir singing "This Job's for You, Sean." At best, he'd

Week 46: Park Ranger



discover the things he wanted most in a job — camaraderie among coworkers, the feeling of making a difference — as well as the strengths and weaknesses he brought to work like the pack and suitcase he carried from one job to the next.

Then, his aims changed again. MacKenzie shot video footage and still photos each week to illustrate Aiken's blog-o-jobs. Often, local newspapers and television stations came to call. The national media started taking note, too, and soon Aiken had more job offers than he could take in three years of one job a week.

Clearly, he'd hit a nerve. Letters were rolling into the website. Aiken's e-mail inbox was full of messages from people confessing their dissatisfaction. Some happier messages arrived from folks who had found their purpose in life. Fans answered Aiken's call to "take the pledge" to find their life's passion:

What you do is inspiring! I promise to get myself a job I'm truly passionate about. ...

Thanks for the wake-up call!

I think that you are hitting the nail on the head! In a world where people love not to question anything and prefer to march along silently, our generation needs some positive examples of people who are not afraid to commit to what we are all thinking! I hope that this project explodes, inspiring the masses to look a little deeper.

Sean, I am where I am, and I no longer fear the future because of you!

I just left a cushy corporate job in February to follow my passion. It's wonderful — blood pressure is down, taking fewer pills, sleeping through the night.

Sean, I am twice your age, and your words nearly made me cry. ... I am ... now trying



Week 6: Florist

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to figure out what my real "life's work" is.

Your ... project is out of control ... it's even starting to make me rethink my choices in life.

GRADUALLY, AIKEN'S JOB search had become emblematic, a living metaphor for the restlessness and dissatisfac-

tion many people feel at work. The change wasn't lost on him. What had begun as his own personal quest for fulfillment was now collective, communal. "It's a funny thing, how it's grown and evolved," Aiken said last March. "At first, it was just about me. Then, it was about inspiring other people. Now, it's almost a career in itself."

A lasting career at that. A few days later,

Aiken and MacKenzie traveled to Los Angeles to meet up with the Hollywood producer who'd hosted One Week Job back during week 42. Randall Emmett, cofounder of Emmett/Furla Films, took them on the rounds with a highlights reel from the One Week Job video trove. The aim: Sign up MTV, VH1, TBS, ABC Family, or one of their ilk for a reality show starring Aiken.

Even if that doesn't pan out, Aiken and MacKenzie are determined to bring the One Week Job story to a video screen near you. They're collaborating on an educational documentary aimed at high school and college students that uses Aiken's experiences to address the question: What should I do with my life?

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Week 3: Snowshoe Guide

When he wasn't pitching ideas to TV execs, Aiken spent a good portion of 2008 writing a book about his experiences. It's scheduled for publication by Random House and Penguin Books in September 2009.

The next year will be a whirlwind of activity for Aiken — the kind that doesn't lend itself to big-picture thinking or even to planning more than a few months ahead. Where might he be five years hence? "I can think about September or October at the most," he admits. "All I can say is that I think if I get into a situation where I'm unhappy, I'll have the guts to get out of it."

Looking back now, after his 52nd job — mayor of his hometown — it's hard for Aiken to deny that, yes, the end of his journey may in fact be the beginning. That uncertainty probably will be his way of life. "I say it's almost finished, but is it?" he muses. "It may be just starting." **AW**

TRACY STATON is a contributing editor to *American Way*.



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Last season saw record amounts of white gold on the slopes of America's most accessible high-end luxury mountain resorts. This season will likely see more of the same at Vail and Beaver Creek, which are a mere 10 miles apart in the heart of Colorado's Central Rockies. Both mountains average around 30 feet of snow per year.

Game Creek Restaurant is accessed by the Eagle Bahn Gondola and a short heated snowcat ride for a gourmet dinner featuring the valley's best sunsets.



*1 BEATING HEART,
5 HUNGRY SENSES,
AND 5289 ACRES
OF BLANK CANVAS.*





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*“Vail is the
largest single-
mountain ski
area in the
United States”*

Rasputin's Revenge,
Arrabelle at Vail
Square, and Après
ski at Beaver Creek
Chophouse



velopment boom that has seen numerous luxury hotel and condo projects, including the Vail Plaza Hotel and its new spa, plus One Willow Bridge Road. Additional projects in recent years include the Tivoli Lodge, the revamped Antlers at Vail and the Sonnenalp expansion. A Four Seasons, Ritz-Carlton Residences and Solaris at Vail, with nightclubs, bowling, movie theaters and ice skating, are currently in the works.

Arrabelle has dramatically transformed the aging Lions-Head Mall area on Vail's western edge, built in a hurry in the 1960s but now being upgraded at a startling pace. Besides revitalizing the retail scene, Arrabelle has helped to breathe new life into LionsHead's dining scene with restaurants such as the French-brasserie-inspired Centre V, the hearty surf-and-turf-style Vail Chophouse and the traditional Italian gelateria and high-end chocolate shop, Rimini.

“Thinking back to three years ago about what was there and what's there now, it's unbelievably different and better,” said Chris Jarnot, who's entering his first full season as Chief Operating Officer at Vail but grew up in the Vail Valley. “There is a light at the

And with more than 7,000 acres of ski terrain between the two (Vail is the largest single-mountain ski area in the United States at 5,289 acres), snow sports lovers can explore the lift-served terrain season after season and continue to make new and exhilarating discoveries. None of that has changed for the coming 2008-09 ski season, beginning in mid-November.

What's different about



America's perennially top-rated ski destinations this season is the experience at the base of the mountains. Vail, in particular, has added a slew of

new high-end lodging choices. Enjoying its first full season is Vail Valley's most luxurious ski-in, ski-out property, Arrabelle at Vail Square, a Rock-Resorts hotel and spa just steps from the Eagle Bahn Gondola.

With a new outdoor skating rink, plaza and dynamic new shops such as the largest ski-base Burton store in the world, Arrabelle is the centerpiece of Vail's billion-dollar-plus “New Dawn” rede-

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“On the hill, Beaver Creek pleasantly surprises anyone expecting to be bored by an overabundance of on-mountain pampering.”



Ripsaw, a black diamond trail in Rose Bowl at Beaver Creek, features powdered moguls.

© JACK AFFLECK

end of the tunnel, and when we get there it's going to be absolutely, mind-blowingly cool to have the village that we have and the mountain that we have.”

On the spa front, the redevelopment is just as impressive with the Arrabelle's new 10,000-square-foot RockResorts Spa™ providing slope-side pampering with 11 treatment rooms, a state-of-the-art fitness room, saunas, Whirlpools and full-service nail salon. Also new this season is an 11,600-square-foot, 11-treatment-room RockRe-

sorts Spa at the Lodge at Vail, an ultra-luxe property in the heart of Vail Village that anchors the resort's inspiring new “Front Door” project.

Up and running last season but perfectly fine-tuned for the coming season, the Front Door is Vail Mountain's main entryway where the Tyrolean charm of Vail Village meets the high-speed, four-person Vista Bahn chairlift. The Front Door raises the bar throughout the Vail base area by offering seamless skier services in the new Mountain Plaza, which includes an adult

ski school, a full-service Vail Sports rental shop and the Express Lift Coffee House, with a great room and fireplace ideal for meeting friends for a quick cup of java before heading up the hill.

New this season in Mountain Plaza, snow riders will notice a statue called “The Edge” paying tribute to Vail's illustrious list of Winter Olympians, including 2006 bronze medal mogul skier Toby Dawson and defending overall World Cup Champion Lindsey Vonn, a two-time Olympian. Vonn, now the fourth-best Ameri-

can ski racer of all time behind only Bode Miller, Phil Mahre and Tamara McKinney -- grew up training with Ski Club Vail and credits free skiing Vail Mountain with a great deal of her success.

“There are so many places to ski at Vail, with the Back Bowls and everything,” Vonn said. “I had great training at Golden Peak and then when we were done training we could free ski anywhere on the mountain. That gave me a lot of terrain that you can't get anywhere else, and it brought a lot of versatility to my ski-

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The coming 2008-09 ski season is no different. American will offer nonstop Boeing 757 service from six major U.S. cities to state-of-the-art Eagle County, one of the state's busiest airports during the peak ski-season months.

American will fly twice a day from Dallas-Ft. Worth to Eagle, with two ad-

ditional weekend flights; daily from Chicago's O'Hare airport, with an additional Saturday flight; daily from Los Angeles with new midday times in both directions; daily from New York's Kennedy airport, with its hundreds of international connections; Saturdays from New York's LaGuardia; and Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Miami.

American will also again feature a Kids Fly Free program to Eagle County Airport. Valid December 2-12 and January 4-February 13, the offer includes one free child's airfare (ages 2-12) with the

purchase of a regular adult fare. Vail and Beaver Creek will match that deal with a free kid's lift ticket and lodging.

Vail and Beaver Creek also offer a Fly In, Ski Free program, whereby skiers who fly direct into Eagle County Airport get a free same-day lift ticket. Passengers arriving on the Chicago, Miami or early Dallas flights will have the best chance to hit the slopes and work out the kinks before the lifts shut down for the day.

For all the details of these offers and any of the other information mentioned in this article, please visit www.snow.com.

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ing. Vail has some of the best free skiing in the world."

And that terrain is all the more readily accessed through the Golden Peak base area after the installation last season of two new high-speed quad chairlifts above Chair 6. Chairs 10 and 14 have opened up the eastern side of the vast mountain to a much quicker jaunt into Vail's legendary Back Bowls, the sprawling, treeless expanses of powder that plunge 3,000 vertical feet off of Vail's backside.

Also helping to increase access this season is the price point of Vail's new "Epic Pass," an incredible deal at \$579 for an unlimited season pass to all five of the compa-



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ny's mountains (Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Vail in Colorado and Heavenly Resort in California), as well as Colorado's Arapahoe Basin, with which Vail has a marketing arrangement.

Beaver Creek, the high-

tech, luxury-boutique resort just 10 miles to the west of Vail, also boasts a dazzling array of new amenities for the coming season, most of them centered on vastly upgraded lift access. The new \$500 million Westin Riverfront Resort and Spa will celebrate its grand opening this season along the scenic banks of the Eagle River in Avon. The 210-room resort's new Riverfront Express Gondola now connects the bustling shops and restaurants of Avon to the vibrant ski village and mountain of Beaver Creek.

Beaver Creek, with its modern people-movers and escalators, outdoor ice rink and shopping plaza and acoustically acclaimed Vilar Performing

Arts Center situated beneath it, has long been lauded as the height of luxury mountain recreation and relaxation. Its diverse collection of resort hotels and spas and interconnecting ski villages stretching from Bachelor Gulch and its Ritz-Carlton Hotel and spa to Arrowhead has earned Beaver Creek a global reputation for slope-side pampering.

That reputation has been well-earned (and recognized) with three straight National Ski Areas Association Best Customer Service awards, bolstered in part by more than 150 mountain hosts who greet snow riders, hand out warm chocolate chip cookies at the end of the day and pro-

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vide answers to virtually any question – from how to find immaculately groomed trails to where to go for an après-ski cocktail and a fine-dining experience.

And that menu of options, already spectacular with restaurants such as Beano's Cabin, Splendido, Spago and the Grouse Mountain Grill, will be even more extensive this season with the addition of a new signature Thomas Salamunovich (Vail's Larkspur) restaurant at the Westin and a hot new gathering spot at the revamped Inn at Beaver Creek, which saw \$7 million in improvements over the summer and will reopen as a 41-room luxury retreat known as The Osprey at Beaver Creek. The closest hotel to a chairlift in North America, The Osprey will feature a new tapas bar, outdoor pool and après-ski deck.

On the hill, Beaver Creek pleasantly surprises anyone expecting to be bored by an overabundance of on-mountain pampering. While cer-



© CODY DOWNARD

tainly possessed of a glassy smooth side enhanced by stellar trail grooming, Beaver Creek also packs a punch for snow riders looking for steep mogul runs, backcountry chutes and steep, or powder-choked glades of aspens or evergreens.

To learn new skills or sharpen old ones required to take on such terrain, both Vail and Beaver Creek ski schools are internationally renowned. The Vail Snowsports School, recognized as the largest and one of the best in the North American ski industry, offers the intensive SKImmersion program – five days of training, analysis and consultation

with equipment specialists, video sessions and more, leave participants mentally and physically stronger, tactically smarter, and better equipped to ski longer through life.

At Beaver Creek this season, the big instructional news is the new 4,000-square-foot Ranch beginner facility at the top terminus of the three-minute Buckaroo Express Gondola, which quickly accesses the Haymeadow beginner area, an expanse of novice terrain perfectly situated to the side of the main mountain and away from the general skiing population.

The new gondola rises right out of the luxurious Park

Vilar Performing Arts Center, Beaver Creek, at Trapper's Cabin in Beaver Creek a personal chef delivers the ultimate in gourmet dining, and the Buckaroo Gondola at Beaver Creek drops beginner skiers and snowboarders at the Ranch, a new 4,000-square-foot facility designed to facilitate learning.

Hyatt Hotel, with its critically acclaimed Allegría Spa (a perfect spot for parents to launch the youngsters and return for a quick massage) and takes snow riders to a beautiful new building with views of the beginner area below and the ski mountain above.

"The Ranch is a bit of a refuge at the top of the gondola that we didn't have last year," said Pete Sonntag, director of the Beaver Creek Ski and Snowboard School. "It's a place to give kids a break, hydrate them, get them some hot chocolate, and that's very advantageous. With kids, things happen more slowly, so if they're up there skiing and doing well, the last thing you want to do is slow the momentum by taking them to another place to eat lunch or take a break. The Ranch is the new Grand Central Station for our beginner's program."

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PATRICK'S DAY

[dl]

downlow

✿ **A note to the fellas out there:** We women dig men who dig the theater, which may explain why we love Broadway veteran Patrick Wilson so much. (His turn as the handsome hero in the 2004 movie version of *The Phantom of the Opera* certainly didn't hurt either.) Soon, you'll have two reasons of your own to love him: this month's *Lakeview Terrace* and the highly anticipated *Watchmen* movie, coming in 2009. With any luck, you'll be so enraptured by him that you'll hardly even wince when we buy tickets to his new play.

Bright Lights, Two Cities

New York or L.A.? Stage or screen? Multi-talented actor Patrick Wilson's heart lies somewhere in between. By Joseph Guinto

You know the robber who brandishes a shotgun and storms into the McDowell's (not McDonald's) restaurant in *Coming to America*? The guy Eddie Murphy beats up using a mop handle turned quarterstaff? Remember?

Well, that's Samuel L. Jackson.

You know who knew that? Patrick Wilson.

This month, Wilson costars with the very same, but now much more famous, Samuel L. Jackson in the psychological thriller *Lakeview Terrace*. While they were on set together, Wilson discovered he wasn't the only one who remembered that Arsenio Hall got better billing than Jackson in the 1988 hit film.

"Neil LaBute, the director of *Lakeview*, and I tried to play a trivia game with Sam about his own movies," Wilson says. "We thought he'd been in so many movies that he'd never remember them all. But he actually stumped us. He hasn't forgotten anything."

It may come as a surprise to anyone who's followed Wilson's career that the Broadway veteran is also a well-learned student of cinema. In his 14 years of acting, the 35-year-old Tony-nominated actor has been known primarily for his roles in major stage productions like *Carousel* and *Oklahoma!*

But when he decided to take the leap to film acting, he eased the transition by choosing roles that had been adapted from Broadway productions. First, he played Joe Pitt on HBO's critically acclaimed series *Angels in America*, based on the Tony Kushner play; following that, he starred as Raoul in the 2004 film version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*.

"I never really wanted to give up these great roles I was getting in theater just to go out to L.A. and do film or TV shows," says Wilson. "The reason I started doing film was because Mike Nichols gave me a shot with *Angels in America*."

Then came small-budget indie hits *Hard Candy* (costarring *Juno*'s Ellen Page) and *Little Children* (with Kate Winslet), the latter of which earned him critical praise as an adulterous husband.

This month, in *Lakeview Terrace*, Wilson plays one half of an



interracial couple (Kerry Washington plays his wife) whom the cop living next door (Jackson) wants out of his suburban California neighborhood. Wilson also recently finished work on an independent comedy called *Barry Munday*, in which he plays the title character. And next year, he's due to share the screen with Billy Crudup and Jeffrey Dean Morgan in *Watchmen*, a big-budget DC Comics production.

Though it's not all CGI explosions and billion-dollar price tags for the Virginia native these days, he's not exactly keeping a low profile. As *Lakeview* hits theaters, he'll be busy onstage in New York, doing Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. The play is sure to attract a great deal of attention; it costars Katie Holmes.

His mixed workload keeps him bicoastal — and sometimes away from his Brooklyn-based wife, stage actress Dagmara Dominczyk, and their two-year-old son, Kal — but he's grateful for the chance to do both film and theater, especially given the intensity of a Broadway schedule.

"The time commitment to theater is more involved and takes a lot more planning," he says. "For theater, you have to say, 'Okay, don't send me any scripts or auditions or meetings for the next six months because I'm going to do a play until the end of the year.'"

"Theater is the greatest experience for an actor, I think. But I love movies, too," he adds. "Getting to do both is a pretty nice position to be in."

GETTING TO KNOW ... PATRICK WILSON

He's a Wilson of the Appalachian Wilsons:

"My dad's side of the family is originally from Vickstown Gap in Appalachia," Patrick Wilson says. "To get there, you cross the Wilson Bridge and turn down Wilson Road, and you'll find a lot of Wilsons."

The part that got away:

"I wish Tony hadn't passed me by in *West Side Story*," Wilson says. "I'm a little long in the tooth for that now."

And unfortunately, I don't think I could have played it at 20 either."

He could have been an anchorman:

Wilson must have taken after his mother's side. His mom, Mary, has worked as a voice teacher. His father, John, is a longtime TV anchor at WTVT in Tampa, Florida. Mark Wilson, one of his two elder brothers, is also an anchor at the same station.

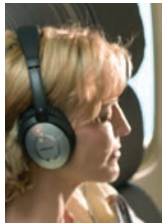
The force is with his son. Twice:

"I'm a huge, huge, huge *Star Wars* fan," Wilson says. "My son, Kal, doesn't know *Star Wars* yet. But he will."

"My business manager gave me a Darth Vader mask signed by James Earl Jones. It says, 'To Kal: May the Force be with you.' Well, I'm telling that to Kerry Washington on set one day, and I guess Sam Jackson overhears us. The next day, Sam comes in with a Mace Windu doll, and it says, 'To Kal, May the Force be with you.' And he says to me, 'Well, since your son has one Jedi, he's got to have another.' That's the kind of guy Sam is."

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Deconstructing Diora

Diora Baird is out to prove that hot girls can be smart and funny. It's a tough job, but someone's got to do it. **By Rhonda Reinhart**

DON'T CALL DIORA BAIRD A MODEL. Yes, she was a Guess girl. (And — gulp — she even posed for *Playboy*.) In fact, her mom was a model, and she was named after designer Christian Dior. But despite her pedigree, Baird shuns the label. "If anyone calls me a model," she says, "I become *Exorcist*. Like, my head starts spinning around and I'm spitting up pea soup."

That's because the 25-year-old (pictured above, left) is working hard to prove herself as a serious actress. But those modeling gigs, coupled with her racy appearances in films such as *Wedding Crashers* and *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning*, have earned her a less-than-wholesome image. She (very happily) reports, though, that the preppy character she plays in *My Best Friend's Girl*, which opens September 19 and stars Kate Hudson and Dane Cook, is a major departure from her previous roles.

What was it like working with Dane Cook? It's just ridiculous how funny he is. I was not a fan of him beforehand. I never really took to his comedy. I thought he was a little obnoxious. But it's not the case at all. He's really a very talented guy, and I hope people see that when they see this movie.

How is this character different from roles you've had in the past? This character is different in the sense that she is not sexual ... or stupid. It was nice to not have to worry about shaving my legs.

Do you feel like you're breaking away from that stereotype? Yeah, I totally feel like I am. It's still a struggle because that's how people see me due to the projects I've been attached to and how I've presented myself. The producer [of *My Best Friend's Girl*] even told me, "You weren't supposed to be funny. When you walked in the room, everyone had these expectations that you would not be funny." But in a way, I kind of don't mind that, because that means I can just prove people wrong. And I did. I completely proved them wrong.

Are there any actresses you would like to model your career after? I think Naomi Watts is one. I like her pattern as far as choices because they're always a little offbeat. And she started out kind of similar to me in that she was modeling, doing commercials, and doing tons of independent films. Of course, none of them really got any attention, but she just kept working and was very diligent about it. And all it took was one movie, *Mulholland Drive*, and all of a sudden, she was everywhere. I like that it was an offbeat movie like that and not a blockbuster.

What's on tap for 2009? *Star Trek* is coming out in January, I believe. That'll be interesting. I signed my first *Star Trek* poster this past weekend, and it was just so weird. People are fanatics about it. I've never seen the show. And I was on set, and I kept calling it *Star Wars*. I just knew there was *Star* in it somewhere.

Humor Me

We asked three famous funny-men to share their thoughts on comedy.

By J. Rentilly

MIKE MYERS,
STAR OF *THE LOVE GURU*:

I like silly, you know what I mean? I like it a lot, and I don't apologize for it. It could be a smart laugh or a dumb laugh — if it makes me laugh, it's good enough for me.



SETH ROGEN, STAR OF *KNOCKED UP* AND *PINEAPPLE EXPRESS*:

I'm not one of those comedy guys who's snobbish and doesn't laugh at the rest of the world. I laugh at everything.

Comedy is everywhere — it's in the poop jokes and in the funeral. It all makes me laugh. My job is to convey what I think is funny to people who may not see the world the way I do.



SETH MACFARLANE,
CREATOR OF *FAMILY GUY*:

Honestly, I *still* don't know if I'm funny. I operate, as a lot of comedy writers do, on insecurity in what I'm doing.

Don't get me wrong: I'm confident in [*Family Guy*] and in the show as a comedy entity. But I'm still in the writer's room every day, pitching jokes that I don't know have any merit to them. I'm always going for the kill without knowing if my gun is loaded.



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For years we have seen the appearance of practically every fathomable method of pairing individuals and individuals pairing themselves; from well-meaning friends and family, to singles parties and the internet superhighway. Undoubtedly however, if you are an attractive, successful, relatively private and selective individual, you have found that the more you have to offer the more difficult it seems to find the person who is right for you.

Discerning people today want more out of their lives and relationships. There is clearly a special focus when it comes to

the selection process for finding a potential romantic companion. Most people recognize the value of engaging an expert to assist them in their personal search. The question is, "How do you find an expert you can trust?"

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The Glory of Guinness

Author Larry Olmsted examines the history of the world's most famous record book as well as why getting into *Guinness* is so alluring and gratifying. By Steve Weinberg

EVER SINCE childhood, frequent *American Way* contributor Larry Olmsted has found *Guinness World Records* fascinating. He's not the only

one. Since its initial publication in 1955, the book, regularly revised, has sold more than 100 million copies in dozens of languages. A writing assignment to document his own record-setting attempt only fueled Olmsted's curiosity, and in 2003, he set out to examine the book's history, the fascination surrounding it, and the people who risk life and limb to get into its pages. What resulted is his new work, *Getting into Guinness: One Man's Longest, Fastest, Highest Journey inside the World's Most Famous Record Book* (HarperCollins, \$25).

What led you to write *Getting into Guinness*?

I was astonished to discover that *Guinness World Records* is the best-selling copyrighted book of all time, that it started as a fluke, and that it was published by Guinness Brewery. I thought if I was surprised, other people would be as well.

What did you discover about the book's origins?

Sir Hugh Beaver, born in South Africa in 1890, helped engineer a brewery on the outskirts of London for Arthur Guinness & Sons, the world's largest brewer during the 1930s. While on a hunting trip in 1951, he posed the question, Which bird is faster: the golden plover or the grouse? When Beaver couldn't find the answer in encyclopedias, he

announced that it was about time somebody produced a book full of records to settle this kind of dispute. He also saw it as a branding opportunity for the brewery. Beaver hired twin brothers Ross and Norris McWhirter, who were reputed researchers, to turn the idea into reality.

Did the venture catch on quickly?

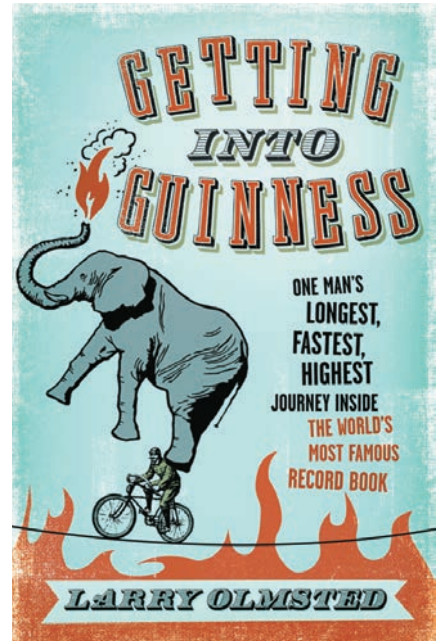
Within a few months, it had turned into a serious business, and the unexpected success quickly led the Guinness executives to expand into the larger and more lucrative U.S. market.

Tell us about Ashrita Furman, the man with the most Guinness World Records (200 and counting), whom you've spent some time with.

He exemplifies the adage "Truth is stranger than fiction." If Ashrita did not exist, the marketing folks at Guinness would have had to invent him. Many of his feats are beyond astonishing. Ashrita has structured his entire life around breaking and setting Guinness World Records, and this enthusiasm has taken him to all corners of the globe.

You open the book talking about your quest to gain entry into Guinness as a marathon poker player. What did you take away from that experience?

After 70 hours without sleep, with eight hours remaining to set the record, I was experiencing hallucinations of the mirage-in-the-desert variety. I opened with that because it begs the questions, What drove

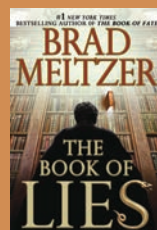


me to that point? What madness compelled me to risk my health?

What possessed you to try setting records yourself?

It was a gimmick at first, and at that time, I had never considered a book. My first assignment, for *Golf Magazine*, was to see if I could golf my way into Guinness alongside Tiger Woods. What I learned afterward is that the book has a glorifying effect on its record holders. My record got me on TV and into the newspapers. It offers otherwise unknowns like me the opportunity to achieve a glimmer of so-called greatness and join the ranks of elite athletes, scientists, world leaders, explorers, and adventurers.

We Can't Put Down *The Book of Lies* by Brad Meltzer

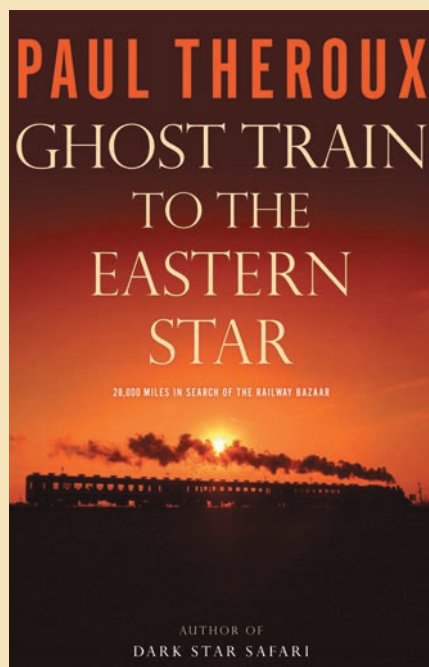


AS A BEST-SELLING AUTHOR of graphic novels (*Identity Crisis*) and popcorn thrillers (*The Book of Fate*), Brad Meltzer knows a thing or two about superheroes and crackerjack mysteries. He's a master practitioner on both fronts. Still, nothing prepares readers for Meltzer's

TRAIN OF THOUGHT

Famed travel writer **Paul Theroux** examines the effect that the passing of 30 years has had on Eurasia — and on himself.
By Kristin Baird Rattini

"THE DECISION TO RETURN TO ANY EARLY SCENE in your life is dangerous but irresistible," writes celebrated travel writer Paul Theroux in his newest book, *Ghost Train to the Eastern Star* (Houghton Mifflin, \$28). In 1973, Theroux chronicled his epic rail journey through Asia in the best-selling travelogue *The Railway Bazaar*. Half a lifetime later, his curiosity about how those lands had changed over time compelled him to return to the rails and retrace his Eurasian steps, a trip he documented in *Ghost Train*.

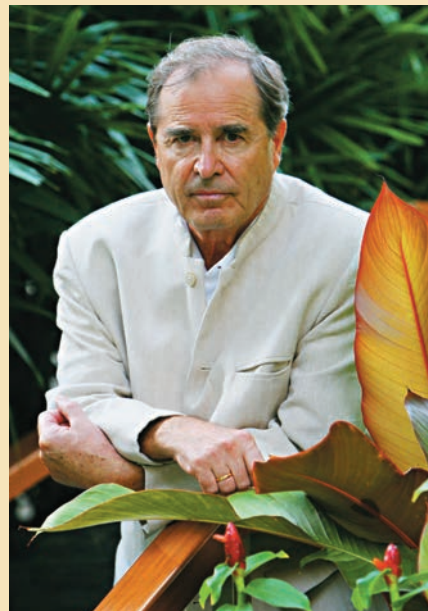


The story of Theroux's four-month, 28,000-mile trek from London to Japan takes a few new twists this time. Rather than barhop till dawn, Theroux, now 67, opts to tour gardens and turn in early. He also alters his path slightly to avoid some of the countries experiencing political unrest.

Despite the changes in route, Theroux's goal is the same: to capture the spirit of each place through the people he encounters. He does so masterfully, whether he's introducing us to a wealthy prince in Jodhpur, India, or to a poor pedicab driver struggling for survival in Myanmar. "I wasn't chasing a news story, so I could get acquainted with people in a much simpler way," he says, now comfortably back at his home in Hawaii. "It's a truer picture of a place than if you were there during a crisis."

Along the way, Theroux finds that he feels a greater affinity for the places that haven't changed much since his previous visit than for those that have. In fact, "India's miracle" of Bangalore, a major technology hub, and the modern marvel of Singapore not only fail to impress Theroux but also raise the ire for which he's known. "The poorer a country, the more it preserves what it has," he says. "They mend the sights; they don't mow and tear them down."

Yet by journey's end, Theroux realizes the greatest changes haven't occurred in the landscape or in the culture, but in himself. "I had more patience," he says of his demeanor on his return trip. "If someone said, 'There won't be a train for a week,' that was okay. Or if they said, 'I have a long story to tell you,' I'd say, 'Fine. Put up your feet and tell me the story.'" In *Ghost Train*, Theroux takes time to tell us his own story, and the tale is an irresistible one.



The Inside Track

Which locales would top **Paul Theroux's** edition of *Places to See before You Die*? The veteran traveler shares his favorite picks. — K.B.R.

ITALY: "Italy is, to me, a treasure house. I find the people congenial. I love the food. Although it's not a large country, it's packed with things to see."

INDIA: "There's classical India: Rajasthan, Jaipur, Udaipur, Jodhpur ... The people are very traditional in their food, their dress, their beliefs. So just to see the adoring nature of the Indian culture is quite different from the 'Indian miracle.'"

HANOI, VIETNAM: "Hanoi is one of the most beautiful cities in Asia. [America] bombed it quite heavily during the war, but it has been rebuilt. So we have a personal interest. ... To see it being rebuilt is a wonderful thing."

The Book of Lies (Grand Central Publishing, \$26), a whip-smart valentine to comic-book culture, a heartfelt father-son saga, a meditation on the power of storytelling, and the best darned code-cracking-on-the-run book we've read.

The turbocharged narrative, which finds an orphaned and disgraced government agent thrust into an epic but deeply personal quest to find the world's first murder

weapon, links — wait for it — Cain (as in, and Abel), the world's first villain, and Superman, the world's greatest superhero. Meltzer's writing is brisk, witty, and full of more corkscrews than a wine-tasting seminar. If Dan Brown and Michael Chabon were to collaborate, they'd still have nothing on Meltzer's dazzling *Lies*. — J.R.



GREAT SCOT

UK sensation Amy Macdonald is diving headfirst into international waters, attempting to win over American audiences with her debut release. By Bob Mehr



Scottish singer-songwriter Amy Macdonald is what her countrymen might refer to as a wee bairn, or little child. Though she's baby-faced and not quite 21, Macdonald has become one of the brightest lights on the UK music scene. Inspired by London buzz band the Libertines and fellow Scots Travis, Macdonald began writing and performing as a teen. Her compositions quickly won her notice, and she was given first a production deal and then a recording contract. Her 2007 debut album, *This Is the Life*, was a revelation, seamlessly mixing a Celtic folk feel with undeniable pop hooks and sophisticated lyrical touches. The public immediately took

notice, and the album shot to number one — knocking rock titans Radiohead off the top of the UK charts. A self-effacing charmer with a thick Glasgow brogue, Macdonald talks to us on the eve of her record's stateside release through Decca.

What are your first memories of music and writing songs? My first concert was Michael Jackson at Wembley Stadium. That's the first thing I can really remember of loving music. My sister and I were massive fans. Later, my sister used to play the keyboard and muck about on that, and I used to come up with little lines but

nothing ever really serious. It wasn't until I taught myself to play guitar that I actually thought about writing proper songs. The first couple of songs I did write weren't all that great — in fact, I would go so far as to say they were absolutely terrible [laughs]. But I just completely enjoyed the process and getting my feelings down and putting them to music, so I continued with it.

Now that you're actually living the life of a musician, is it different than you expected? I think a lot of people look at musicians and think they must have the most wonderful life. But actually, it isn't all that glamorous. When I'm on tour, I'm sharing a bus with 15 men, which isn't exciting at all [laughs]. You know, just the [grind] of touring and having to use horrible showers at venues and that kind of thing. But I still absolutely love it; I love what I'm doing and wouldn't trade that for anything.

You've already had a number one album and a lot of success. Is it hard to stay grounded? No, because I still live in my little town outside Glasgow and we don't really have the paparazzi camped outside our house. And I've never really been interested in going to clubs and having my photo taken at three o'clock in the morning when I'm drunk. There has to be a part of you that kind of wants to be the paparazzi darling to actually have it happen. I'm just too normal! I don't care about celebrity or fame. I'm just concentrating on the music. That's what makes me happy.



Second Time Around

Glen Campbell borrows hit songs from contemporary artists to reintroduce himself on *Meet Glen Campbell*, his first studio album in more than a decade.



Most 72-year-olds would be daunted by the prospect of having to cover songs by contemporary bands like the Foo Fighters and Green Day. But country-pop legend Glen Campbell is a hard man to faze. "After I was on the road with the Beach Boys [in the mid '60s], I never gave singing another thought," Campbell says, laughing. "I figured, if I can get through those songs, I can sing *anything*."

Certainly, few musicians can boast the experience and résumé that Campbell can. In addition to filling in briefly for Beach Boy Brian Wilson, the Arkansas-born guitarist and singer was a legendary session hand, recording with everyone from Frank Sinatra to the Monkees before launching a two-decade run as a solo superstar. Although Campbell's catalog experienced a revival with the release of a career-spanning 2003 box set, it's been some 15 years since his last studio album. The wait is finally over with the arrival of *Meet Glen Campbell* (Capitol, \$19).

The brainchild of producer Julian Raymond (Fastball, the Wallflowers), the 10-song collection finds Campbell putting his distinctive stamp on a mostly modern set of songs by the likes of Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, U2, Travis, and the Replacements. And although he was initially unfamiliar with the tunes Raymond had picked out, his instincts drew him to the material. "When he played me the songs, I said, 'Oh yeah. My word, these *are* some great songs,'" Campbell says. "A good song is a good song no matter what; you just know right away."

Campbell is certainly no stranger to finding and reinterpreting material. In fact, he's made something of a career out of it, generating massive hits with the work of writers like John Hartford ("Gentle on My Mind"), Allen Toussaint ("Southern Nights"), and, most famously, Jimmy Webb ("Wichita Lineman," "By the Time I Get to Phoenix").

"For me, a great song starts with a good chord progression and a strong melodic line, although I always tinkered with every song I did," Campbell says. "I always tried adding a little something here and there to make the song mine."

While the new album and a high-profile appearance at the Stagecoach country-music festival last spring have raised Campbell's profile once again, the septuagenarian says he plans on scaling back his workload. "I'm slowing down; I'll put it that way," he says. "I'd like to retire. But when you've been playing music your whole life, it's really hard to stop." — B.M.

UNDER COVER Glen Campbell's new record features some unexpected yet masterful reworks of contemporary tunes. We wish other veteran artists would put down their pens and take to recycling songs too. Here are six dream covers we'd love to hear.



Rod Stewart setting aside the great American songbook and getting back into some loose, gritty country-rock with Wilco's "Dremer in My Dreams."



Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band doing a version of the epic Vietnam flashback narrative "Round Eye Blues" by Philly roots outfit Marah.



Brian Wilson putting some sun-kissed harmonies to singer-songwriter Kelley Stoltz's Beach Boys homage "Ever Thought of Coming Back."



Paul McCartney reaching back for some Beatles-esque magic with a redux of Raconteurs member Brendan Benson's solo chestnut "Eventually."



The Rolling Stones painting it black again with the dark Southern soul blues of the Reigning Sound's "Drowning."



Bob Dylan recapturing some of his adolescent energy with a ramble through Ryan Adams's plucky "To Be Young (is to be sad, is to be high)." — B.M.

Sudoku

To complete a Sudoku puzzle, fill in the grid so that every row, column, and box contains the digits 1 through 9. However, no row, column, or box can contain more than one of the same number. It's easy to learn but takes a lifetime to master. The answers are on page 110. Good luck!

GENTLE

								2
9				3				5 8
3			1		4			
	9			2			4	
1	3			6			8	5
	5			4			6	
			9		6			4
2	4			5				6
7								

MODERATE

	6		8					
3	7				6		4	8
8			7					1
	2		1					
5		9				2		6
					3		9	
6					2			7
9	1		5				6	2
					7		8	

DIABOLICAL

				9			8	
							4	9
	9	3		1		7	2	
		8	4			2	3	
				6				
	7	4			9	1		
	1	7		8		6	9	
6	3							
	8			3				



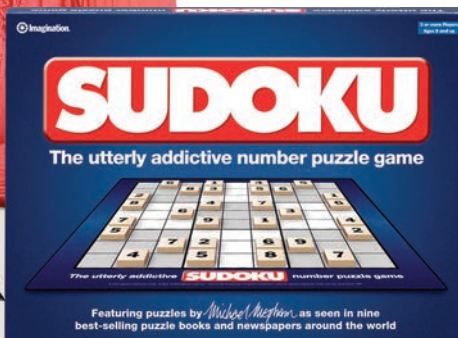
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Mensa Quiz

The following questions are provided by the folks at American Mensa, the High IQ Society. Can you provide the answers? If you find that you do need some help, the answers are on page 110.
By Dr. Abbie F. Salny

1. First unscramble the letters in each word below, and then unscramble the order of the words to create a Tom Swifty sentence.

SYLAWA I OT ISENTGAITEV
HET DETAWN SNUAPTEURRLA
DIAS MOT ELYERI

2. When Jerry counted all his spare change, he found that he had \$9.60 in nickels and quarters only. He also had the same number of nickels and quarters. How many of each coin did Jerry have?

3. A simple substitution code has been used to conceal a "quote." Work out the code to decipher the original words.

Robin Hood:

J'N SFBMMZ B CJH-DJUZ HVZ,
OPU B DPVOUSZ CPZ.

4. Make your way from SICK to WELL in only seven steps, changing one letter at a time to make a good English word at each step.

SICK

WELL

5. Start with the number of stars on the American flag and double it. Now subtract the number of legs on a quadruped, and then divide by the number of winds. What number do you have?

6. If seven trick-or-treaters can eat 14 candy bars

in 30 minutes, how many candy bars can four trick-or-treaters eat in an hour?

7. A palindrome is a word, sentence, or group of words that reads the same backward and forward. Where is Tessa and what language is helpful there?

T _ _ _ _ ' _ _ _ _ _ ;
_ _ _ _ _ _ S _ _ _ _ T

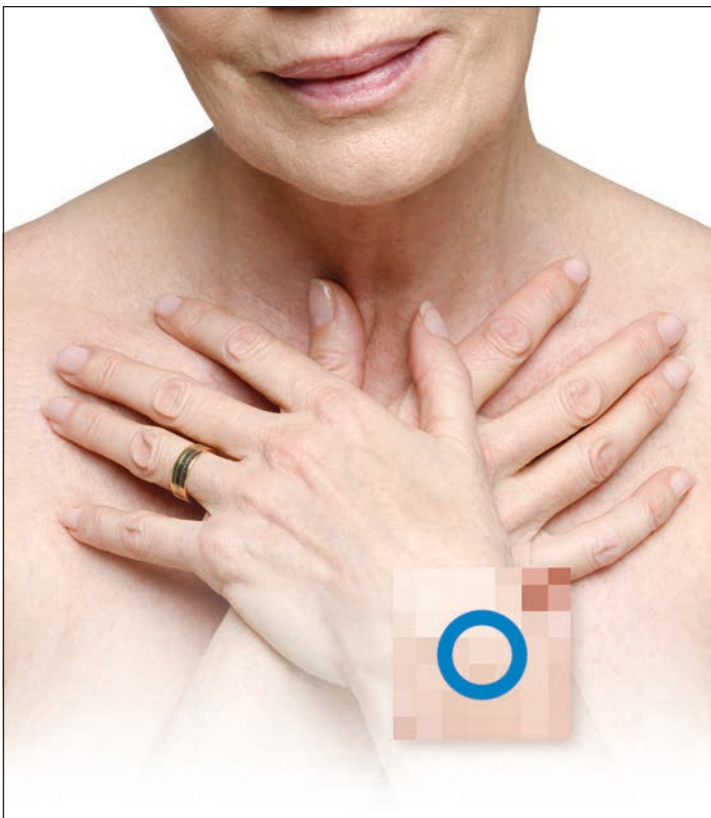
8. Susan is now two-thirds Pam's age. Three years ago, she was half Pam's age. Six years from now, she'll be four-fifths Pam's age. How old are Susan and Pam now? (Hint: Neither one is a teenager.)

9. Find a word that means "additional," and then change one letter to get a kind of snake.

Bonus Question: Who wrote *The Devils of Loudun*?

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Dr. Abbie F. Salny was the supervisory psychologist for American Mensa and Mensa International for more than 25 years. She is a coauthor of the *Mensa Think Smart Book*. Quiz © 2008 by Dr. Abbie F. Salny and American Mensa Limited from the *Mensa Page-A-Day Calendar* (Workman Publishing). The 2008 edition of the calendar is available for sale now.



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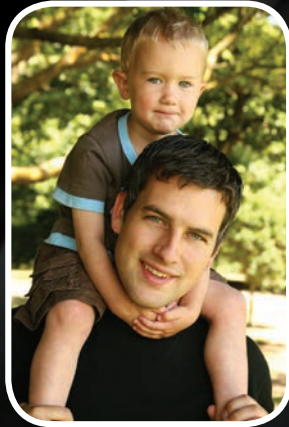
Geralyn Lucas, author of "Why I Wore Lipstick to My Mastectomy"

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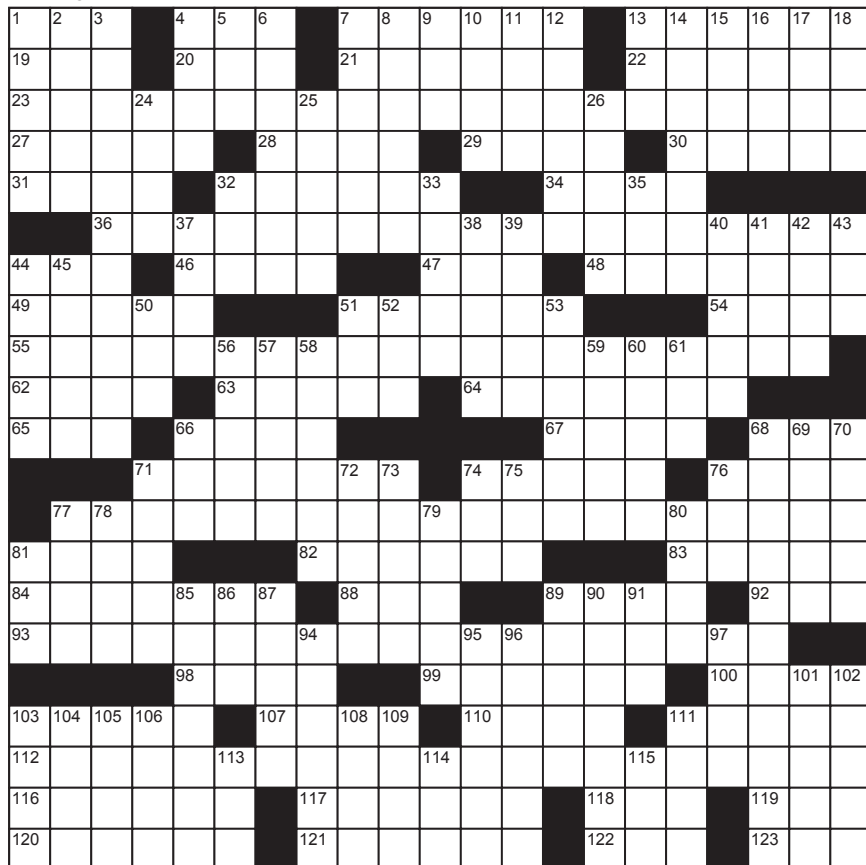
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Lunar Eclipse

BY ERIC BERLIN



Stumped? Find the solution on page 110.

For more crosswords, visit www.crosswordclub.com.

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ACROSS

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Sound from a pound | 32 Coal or pine product | 66 ___ Cooper | 100 Apple product |
| 4 Start for day or night | 34 Give off | 67 Gobs | 103 False alarm |
| 7 Tales of derring-do | 36 SHINE | 68 "Wanna ___?" | 107 PCs' brains |
| 13 "___ make it there ..." | 44 Food-additive initials | 71 Abilities | 110 Big movie company? |
| 19 However, briefly | 46 Wee | 74 Attacked | 111 Neutral shade |
| 20 Blood-type letters | 47 Carnival city | 76 Stead | 112 ROOF |
| 21 Upstage onstage | 48 Not sacred | 77 STONE | 116 On the same side |
| 22 Gap | 49 Plant pest | 81 Really dislike | 117 Involve |
| 23 LIGHTING | 51 Soap actress Hall | 82 Foul-smelling | 118 Common food fish |
| 27 Paid to play | 54 Corn units | 83 PC character system | 119 Fitting |
| 28 Party dress? | 55 SHADOW | 84 Keyed in | 120 Many gourmet coffees |
| 29 Protein source | 62 Perry's creator | 88 Orch. section | 121 Tenant |
| 30 Just about forever | 63 Law & Order: Criminal Intent detective | 89 Part of CD | 122 Remote targets |
| 31 Actress Russo | 64 Audited, as a college class | 92 "For ___ a jolly ..." | 123 Arles article |
| | 65 Curious George's creator | 93 STRUCK | |
| | | 98 Ward with awards | |
| | | 99 Exemption | |

DOWN

- 1 Fighting

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 River to Lake Geneva | 60 Brief online message |
| 3 Every two weeks | 61 Max ____ Sydow |
| 4 Domestic help | 66 Astronaut Jemison |
| 5 Son of, in Arabic | 68 Kind of engineer |
| 6 Private IDs | 69 More than odd |
| 7 Number with 100 zeros | 70 North African capital |
| 8 Overseas train network | 71 Coarse cloth |
| 9 Fr. holy woman | 72 Junk |
| 10 Skin designs, for short | 73 "A votre ____!" |
| 11 Linger | 74 Designer Anna |
| 12 Lingered | 75 Abolish |
| 13 Worldwide workers' agcy. | 76 Barbell abbr. |
| 14 Zealot | 77 Burroughs girl |
| 15 Slurpee alternative | 78 R&B singer James |
| 16 Canine of horror | 79 Eddie Bauer rival |
| 17 By and by, poetically | 80 Texas city, or one of its radio stations |
| 18 Grabs hold of | 81 Sneaky laugh |
| 24 Ship's backbone | 85 Snow White's sister |
| 25 Sharp-toothed eel | 86 Anticipatory time |
| 26 Appoints | 87 Car-battery brand |
| 32 Hanoi holiday | 89 Place for lounging |
| 33 Sung words | 90 Approximate |
| 35 Martinique, <i>par exemple</i> | 91 Camera type |
| 37 Venice beach resort | 94 Climb (down) by rope |
| 38 Fabled king | 95 Actress Kazan |
| 39 Blood line | 96 Hard as a rock, say |
| 40 Freddie Mercury's band | 97 Mountaintop offering |
| 41 ____ Bator | 101 Open-mouthed |
| 42 Crew's control | 102 "Two, two, two mints in one" |
| 43 B&O et al. | 103 Sculptor's starting point |
| 44 Pugilist named Peter | 104 Select |
| 45 Point up in the air? | 105 Hot rod rod |
| 50 British verb ending | 106 Spoil |
| 51 Forest female | 108 ____ <i>Reader</i> (magazine) |
| 52 Hosp. areas | 109 Goes unused |
| 53 Real ____ | 111 They often get turned down |
| 56 Sam of <i>The Tudors</i> | 113 NFL units |
| 57 Thief, in slang | 114 Western treaty grp. |
| 58 Key of Chopin's Piano Concerto no. 2 | 115 Penultimate mo. |
| 59 Atlas, for one | |



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Sudoku Answers

Puzzles on page 96

GENTLE

4	7	8	6	9	5	1	3	2
9	6	1	2	3	7	4	5	8
3	2	5	1	8	4	6	7	9
6	9	7	5	2	8	3	4	1
1	3	4	7	6	9	2	8	5
8	5	2	3	4	1	9	6	7
5	1	3	9	7	6	8	2	4
2	4	9	8	5	3	7	1	6
7	8	6	4	1	2	5	9	3

MODERATE

2	6	5	8	4	1	9	7	3
3	7	1	2	9	6	5	4	8
8	9	4	7	3	5	6	2	1
7	2	6	1	5	9	8	3	4
5	3	9	4	7	8	2	1	6
1	4	8	6	2	3	7	9	5
6	8	3	9	1	2	4	5	7
9	1	7	5	8	4	3	6	2
4	5	2	3	6	7	1	8	9

DIABOLICAL

7	4	2	6	9	3	5	8	1
1	5	6	8	7	2	3	4	9
8	9	3	5	1	4	7	2	6
9	6	8	4	5	1	2	3	7
3	2	1	7	6	8	9	5	4
5	7	4	3	2	9	1	6	8
4	1	7	2	8	5	6	9	3
6	3	5	9	4	7	8	1	2
2	8	9	1	3	6	4	7	5

Mensa Answers

Quiz on page 98

1. "I always wanted to investigate the supernatural," said Tom eerily.
2. Jerry had 32 of each coin.
3. "I'm really a big-city guy, not a country boy." (Code: B=A, C=B, D=C, etc.)
4. Sick, Rick, Rice, Rile, Rill, Till, Tell, Well. (There may be other ways.)
5. 24 (50X2=100; 100-4=96; 96/4=24)
6. 16 (Each trick-or-treater eats two candy bars in 30 minutes, so four per hour.)
7. Tessa's in Italy; Latin is asset.
8. Susan is six, and Pam is nine.
9. Added, adder

For the answer to the Bonus Question, please visit our website, www.americanwaymag.com.

Crossword Answers

Puzzle on page 108

ARE	MID	BEST	EST	IFICAN
THO	BO	ONTACT	LAC	UN
WORKING	MORE	THAN	ONE	JOB
ANTED	TOGA	SOYA	AEONS	
RENE	BAROIL	EMIT		
ILL	BEATLY	MAD	LOUR	
MSO	ITSY	RIO	SECULAR	
APHID	DEIDRE	FEARS		
HITS	ONG	FOR	GAST	WENS
FINE	GAMES	SATION		
REV	MINI	ATON	BET	
TALENTS	SETAT	LIEU		
DEWE	FOR	UNE	MA	ORN
HATE	RANCID	ASCIL		
ENTERED	STR	DISC	HES	
HEAD	OVER	HEEL	ST	NOVE
SELA	WAIIVER	TMAG		
SCARE	CPUS	IMAX	BEIGE	
LUXURY	OPTION	IN	ANEW	GAR
ALLIED	ENTAIL	COD	APT	
BENDS	LESSIE	TWS	LES	

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A. I am: 1. ☐ Male 2. ☐ Female

B. My age is: 3. ☐ Under 21 4. ☐ 21-35 5. ☐ 36-49
6. ☐ 50-59 7. ☐ 60+

C. My annual household income is: 8. ☐ Under \$75,000
9. ☐ \$75,000-\$99,999 10. ☐ \$100,000-\$149,999
11. ☐ \$150,000-\$199,999 12. ☐ \$200,000+

D. I am: 13. ☐ An AAdvantage Member
14. ☐ AAdvantage Gold
15. ☐ AAdvantage Platinum
16. ☐ AAdvantage Executive Platinum
17. ☐ Not an AAdvantage Member

E. I am: 18. ☐ An Admirals Club Member
19. ☐ Not an Admirals Club Member

F. I speak Spanish:

20. ☐ Yes 21. ☐ No

G. How many times have you visited Los Cabos?

22. ☐ Never 23. ☐ 1-3 times
24. ☐ 4-6 times 25. ☐ More than 6 times

H. If you have not been to Los Cabos, what is keeping you from visiting?

26. ☐ Don't have time 27. ☐ Don't have money
28. ☐ No flights from where I live 29. ☐ Don't know enough
30. ☐ Don't have a desire to go

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34. ☐ E-mail 35. ☐ Posted mail 36. ☐ Do not notify



Please mail your completed survey to: *American Way* Survey, P.O. Box 413050, Naples, Florida 34101-3050, or clip form and fax to (888) 847-6035.

Surveys must be received by October 15, 2008, to be eligible for the drawing.



OFFICIAL RULES: 1. Employees and families of AMR Corporation, American Airlines, American Airlines Publishing, Pueblo Bonito Oceanfront Resorts and Spas, and their affiliates, subsidiaries, and agencies are not eligible to win. 2. Entrants must be 21 years old or older and be a resident of the United States to win. 3. No purchase necessary. 4. You need not be present to win. 5. To enter, simply write your name, address, and phone number in the completed survey and return by fax or mail. One random drawing will be held at the offices of *American Way* on or around November 1, 2008. 6. **One entry per person.** 7. Retail value of the prize is approximately \$3,800. For the name of the sweepstakes winner, available after November 1, 2008, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: *American Way* September Reader Sweepstakes Winner, P.O. Box 619640, MD 5374, DFW Airport, TX 75261-9640. 9. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. 10. For a complete set of rules, write to: *American Way* Reader Sweepstakes Rules, P.O. Box 619640, MD 5374, DFW Airport, TX 75261-9640. 11. Tickets are domestic coach.

AA Insider

Your Guide to American Airlines

Visit Peru with oneworld

Peru is a country steeped in tradition and culture that date back to more than 10,000 years ago. It lies just south of the equator, on the Pacific coast of South America, and is nestled between Ecuador, Brazil, Bolivia, and Chile. Peru's legendary Andean highlands were once the heartland of the flourishing Inca empire, which was destroyed by the Spanish conquistadors in the 1530s.

Peru is home to almost 30 million people from more than 50 different ethnic groups, and some 3,000 festivals highlighting the country's rich culture, music, and cuisine are celebrated there each year.

Explore Everything Peru Has to Offer

As a vacation destination, Peru has something for everyone. Choose from a host of activities, including:

- Hiking to Machu Picchu (pictured), the fabled lost city in the Andes
- Trekking in Cañón de Cotahuasi, one of the world's deepest canyons
- Exploring an ancient Incan citadel in Choquequirao Archaeological Park
- Shopping the markets of the Sacred Valley
- Strolling the colonial city of Arequipa



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BRITISH AIRWAYS

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LAN

MALEV

QANTAS

ROYAL JORDANIAN



- Discovering the Moche pyramids
- Cruising the Amazon River
- Exploring the lush rain forest of Manu

Peru offers some of South America's most spectacular scenery and is home to more than 400 species of mammals, 300 types of reptiles, and 1,700 varieties of birds, making it one of the most wildlife-rich and biodiverse countries in the world.

Let oneworld Take You There

Join the world's leading airline alliance, **oneworld**, on your next vacation to Peru, and earn or redeem AAdvantage miles on all **oneworld** airlines when you travel. Ours is the only alliance with members in South America that provides you access to 34 cities in 10 countries in the region. The Visit South America Pass is ideal for traveling to Peru and the surrounding region.

Fly American from Miami to Peru's capital city, Lima — a flight offered daily — and connect to many exciting destinations, including Cuzco and Arequipa, through our codeshare partner LAN Peru, an affiliate member of **oneworld**. You can also fly to Peru on Iberia, LAN Ecuador, LAN Argentina, or any other **oneworld** airline.

The **oneworld** alliance carries 320 million passengers on approximately 9,000 departures per day, serving almost 700 destinations in nearly 150 countries. What better time to experience the alliance? For details, go to www.oneworld.com/promo/peru.

Experience the Captivating Country of Peru

The most visited attraction in Peru is also one of the New Seven Wonders of the World: the lost city of Machu Picchu. Every year, thousands of people walk the 20.5-mile Inca Trail that leads to this ancient city, trekking over three high Andes mountain passes to see the best-known archaeological site on the continent.

Other top attractions you'll want to experience in Peru include:

Chan Chan Citadel. The largest pre-Columbian city in South America, this World Heritage Site was built during the Chimú kingdom and is decorated with impressive friezes and carvings of maritime motifs.

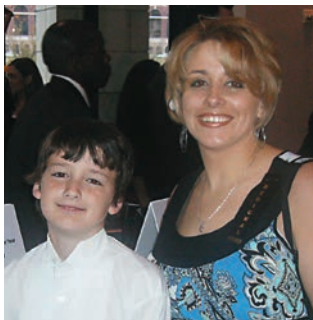
Kuélap Fortress. Located in the cloud forest of the Amazonas region, Kuélap is evidence of the amazing engineering skills of the Chachapoya, an ancient tribe that once inhabited the region.

Colca Valley. World-renowned for its vast, deep canyons, the rising road of this valley winds through plains where wild alpacas and viscachas roam freely.

Choquequirao Archaeological Park. Archaeologists believe Choquequirao is one of the many lost citadels in the Vilcabamba area, where the Incas sought refuge from the Spanish conquistadors centuries ago.

Huacas del Sol and de La Luna Archaeological Complex. See the beautiful adobe temples of pre-Columbian culture. Year after year, new levels and walls are discovered, revealing the vision and culture of the Moche civilization.

Ready to pack your bags? American and **oneworld** make it easy to get there. For more information, visit www.aa.com/oneworld.



Being There

Our Employees Go the Extra Mile

in American Airlines' reservations department (job number one), has been a volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters, which helps young children achieve a brighter future. Jochum has been so dedicated, in fact, that she was recently named Big Sister of the Year for all of North Texas. "I joined the program because I wanted to do something extra in my community," says Jochum. "Plus, I like kids. It has made me grow, too, to be looked up to as a Big Sister."

Brent with Cyndi Jochum

Jochum started in Big Brothers Big Sisters as a mentor to 12-year-old Calli. Today, Calli is 24. "We're still friends," says Jochum. "She has even followed in my footsteps and become a massage therapist" (job number two for Jochum). For the past six years, Jochum has been a valued Big Sister to Brent, 12, taking him to outings, helping him with schoolwork, and just spending time with him. Brent has even been to see Major League Baseball at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, where Jochum operates the manual scoreboard in left field (job number three).

"People ask me, 'You have three jobs. How do you have time to be a Big Sister?' I say, 'You make time,'" says Jochum. "It's a great program. Try it. They need all kinds of volunteers."

Perhaps the most ringing endorsement of Jochum's and the program's impact on lives comes from Brent: "Cyndi should get the Big Sister of the Year award because she is loving, funny, and a caring person. She has earned it." For more information, visit www.bigbrothersbigsisters.org.

News You Can Use

A Fresh Face for AA.com/women

In 2007, American Airlines took the first steps toward supporting the travel and lifestyle needs of women with the launch of AA.com/women. With educating, entertaining, and informing our female customers as our mission, American proved that establishing a connection with this growing customer base was a priority. Today, we are taking that commitment to the next level.

AA.com/women is getting a fresh new look and feel. A few of the things you'll now find every month on the site include:

- Fabulous destination spots! With our monthly themed vacation guides, it's easier than ever to select a destination and find out what to do there. Whether you're looking for a major resort or a diamond in the rough, you'll find it on

AA.com/women.

- Take our columnists' words for it. With three monthly columnists, there is enough expert advice to go around. In "Conway Confidential," Paula Conway suggests secret hot spots in major cities across the world; Julie Washington offers her "Rules from the Road"; and Jenna Schnuer proves why she is (and how you can also be) an "Adventure Girl."
- Everyone loves a good deal, and AA.com/women offers some great packages, giveaways, and discounts through exclusive partnerships and promotions.
- Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Through our employee survival stories each month, see how breast can-

cer has touched the lives of many people. You can also find information on upcoming races and fund-raising promotions.

- Most importantly, find a community. The world is full of women looking to experience new adventures and destinations. Through our message boards, women have the opportunity to share their experiences and gain knowledge from others. Visit www.aa.com/women and then give us your feedback at editor@aa.com.



Contact Us Anytime

Names and Numbers You Need to Know

- Want to make a reservation? Just log on to www.aa.com or call Reservations at (800) 433-7300. *En español, llame al (800) 633-3711 o www.aa.com/espanol.*
- For automated flight information in English, call (800) 223-5436. *En español, llame al (800) 228-8356.*
- For information about Cargo and Priority Parcel service within the United States (except Alaska), call (800) 227-4622.
- Contact American Airlines AAdvantage Reservations at (800) 882-8880.
- Contact American Airlines Group & Meeting Travel at (800) 221-2255.
- Contact American Airlines Vacations at (800) 321-2121.
- Contact Admirals Club Member Services at (800) 237-7971.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. For the quickest response, e-mail us via the Contact AA link on the AA.com homepage. (Complete contact information is below.) Please include your daytime phone number, the flight number of the flight you traveled on, and the date on which you traveled. For immediate help, see an AA agent or contact our Reservations office.

Customer Relations

E-mail: Visit AA.com and click on Contact AA, or go to www.aa.com/customerrelations.
Fax: (817) 967-4162
PO Box 619612, MD 2400
DFW Airport, TX 75261-9612

Tips for Assistance When Your Flight Has Been Delayed or Canceled

We expect, as you do, that American Airlines and American Eagle will operate flights on time. On occasion, the weather or other challenges can make it difficult, if not impossible, to stay on schedule. When a delay or cancellation does occur, our goal is to get you to your destination safely and as quickly as possible.

GETTING ON ANOTHER FLIGHT

In some cases, when a flight cancels, our system may confirm you on another flight a short time after the disruption. You can check to see whether you're confirmed on another flight and access the details in the following ways:

- If you booked on AA.com and are able to access the Internet, visit www.aa.com and select My Reservations.
- If you booked your flight through a travel agency, call their office directly.
- Call AA Reservations.
- See an agent at the airport.

During busy travel times, there may be more customers waiting to be accommodated than there are open seats on the next flight. We manage these situations by creating a standby list. (Tip: You can do this on a Self-Service Check-In machine at some airports, or a customer service agent can place your name on a flight's standby list.) Here's what to expect at the gate if you are standing by for a flight:

- Customer service agents will board passengers who have previously confirmed reservations and reserved seats.
- About 15 minutes before departure, if seats are available, agents will begin to call standby passengers.
- After the last standby passenger boards and the door at the gate is closed, agents need five to 10 minutes to finish up their work for the flight. Afterward, they will move all unaccommodated passengers, in order, to the standby list of the next flight. They will make an announcement about that flight's gate and scheduled departure time.

POSTPONING OR CANCELING YOUR TRIP

If your trip can be rescheduled, postponing or canceling may be an attractive alternative to waiting for an indeterminate length of time.

- If you decide to travel at a later date, call your travel agent or call AA Reservations as soon as possible for details on how to reuse your ticket. Generally, tickets must be used no later than one year from the date of purchase. Some changes may require a fee and/or an additional fare payment.
- If your originally scheduled flight was canceled and you decide not to travel, you can receive a full refund. To arrange for a refund, visit AA.com, call your travel agent, or call AA Reservations.

SPENDING THE NIGHT AWAY FROM HOME

When bad weather causes a flight cancellation or a delay stretches overnight, we may be able to help defray some unexpected expenses. A "distressed-passenger rate" voucher — good for a discounted rate at an approved local hotel — may be available through customer service agents to help you with overnight accommodations. The discounted room charge and incidental charges (such as meals, telephone calls, transportation, etc.) are not covered by the airline and are at the traveler's expense.

Other options available to you:

- Check AA.com for overnight options in the area.
- See whether the airport you are

in has a phone bank for local hotel and transportation options. (Tip: Some hotels provide a free shuttle service to and from the airport.)

RETRIEVING CHECKED LUGGAGE

When you have to spend a night somewhere other than where you had planned, having your bags with you can make the situation a bit more tolerable. In some cases, however, circumstances can make it impossible for us to retrieve your luggage.

- If our airport personnel cannot retrieve your luggage, it will continue on to your scheduled destination and will be held there.
- If we can retrieve your luggage, it will be made available in the baggage-claim area of the airport.
- If you are spending the night in a local hotel, ask for an Overnight Amenity Kit.

TRIP INSURANCE

Many travelers find trip insurance to be an affordable way to offset expenses associated with delayed or canceled flights. If you have purchased such coverage for this trip, please contact your insurance provider. If you are not familiar with trip insurance, please visit AA.com by accessing www.aa.com/tripinsurance to learn more or to purchase coverage.

American Airlines' website: www.aa.com

AA.com isn't just for planning your trip in advance; it's also a valuable resource during travel, especially when plans have to be changed. Visit www.aa.com/airporthelp for helpful information about the airports and cities we serve as well as additional tips and insight about travel on American and American Eagle. Here's what you'll find:

- Flight schedules and Flight Status Notifications
- Self-Service Check-In availability
- Airport terminal maps and hours
- Official airport websites (to learn about specific amenities at certain airports)
- Weather information

ABOUT SAFETY

If it concerns your safety, American Airlines and American Eagle will delay, reroute, divert, or cancel a flight, even if it means some inconvenience. We ask for, and very much appreciate, your understanding of our ultimate responsibility to you.

3 GREAT REASONS TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKET ON AA.COM:

- »Lowest Fare Guarantee*
- »Flexibility — shop by price and schedule
- »No online booking fees



AA.com Is Mobile

We've just begun service to a brand-new destination: your mobile phone! You can now access up-to-the-minute travel information wherever you are. View your travel itinerary, check in for your flight, confirm your departure gate, and more! Plus, you can book flights and check your AAdvantage account all in the palm of your hand. Simply type www.aa.com into your mobile phone or other web-enabled mobile device and get connected. At AA.com, we're making travel planning easy.

Give the Gift of Travel



American Airlines Gift Cards are always a welcome gift, no matter what the occasion might be. Gift Cards are available in any denomination between \$50 and \$1,500 and are easy to purchase and redeem online at AA.com. You can even customize a message and e-mail a virtual Gift Card directly to that special someone. American Airlines Gift Cards never expire and are good toward the purchase of a ticket from the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to 250 cities in more than 40 countries all over the world on American Airlines, American Eagle, and AmericanConnection flights. For more details or to make a purchase, go to www.aa.com/giftcard.

New Trip-Insurance Products Available at AA.com



Purchase your airline ticket and travel in confidence when you buy Access America Trip Insurance at AA.com. We have enhanced the trip-insurance product offerings, allowing you to choose the type of coverage that's right for you. Should your trip be canceled or interrupted for a covered reason, Trip Insurance allows you to receive a reimbursement for nonrefundable payments on airline tickets, hotels, and other prepaid expenses. For details, visit www.aa.com/tripinsurance.

Don't Miss a Thing with DealFinder

Let us bring you the lowest fares on AA.com. Whether you want to take a relaxing vacation or just get down to business, travel planning is a snap with DealFinder, our new downloadable desktop tool. Give us a destination, dates of travel, and the fare you're looking for, and we will continually look for our lowest fares and send an alert directly to your desktop when that fare is available. Go to www.aa.com/dealfinder to download DealFinder.

Cruise Away with Miles, Free Upgrades, and More

American Airlines Cruiseses Book your dream cruise aboard a top-rated ship and earn one AAdvantage mile for every dollar you spend. Choose from hundreds of voyages aboard the world's best fleets. Plus, you could save up to 75 percent and cast off with bonus offers like free onboard savings booklets and free upgrades. Our professional cruise experts are available 24 hours a day to assist you in choosing the sailing that's just right for you. And with our 110 percent Best Price Guarantee, you'll get the best deal available. Earn miles on your cruise by visiting www.aa.com/cruise today or by calling (800) 259-5642.

Greater Options, Lowest Prices

We're introducing an even better way to search for your next flight. The Price and Schedule booking tool already gives you a wide range of schedule options for your departing flights, but now you can also see the lowest available fare for three days before and after your original return date. Make sure to check out the Price and Schedule booking demo or choose the Price and Schedule search option when you're searching for flights!

Visit AA.com/hotel and Rest Easy

You know AA.com specializes in finding the flights that you need. You can also trust AA.com to find you the ideal hotel at the best rate while you earn AAdvantage miles. You'll rest easy knowing you're protected by our Price-Match Guarantee (found at www.aa.com/hotelguarantee). And should your travel plans change, you won't have to pay any AA.com change or cancellation fees (with the exception of any change and cancellation fees that certain hotels may require American to collect on their behalf). Whether you need a hotel to go with your flight or a place to spend the night on a road trip, check out the enhanced selection of hotels at www.aa.com/hotelguarantee.

AA.com Offers You More Payment Options



You're ready to book that holiday trip you've been planning but need alternatives to paying with traditional credit or debit cards? At AA.com, you've got choices. Customers can defer payments for six months with our Fly Now, Pay Later option or use electronic checks to pay directly from their checking accounts. We accept AA Gift Cards, and you can also make cash payments at Western Union locations. Visit www.aa.com/paymentoptions to learn more.

*If a lower airfare (by \$5 or more) is found on another travel website for the exact same AA flight(s), itinerary, date(s), cabin, class of service, and fare rules and restrictions, the full difference in the fares will be refunded to the credit card used for the original purchase on AA.com. Visit www.aa.com/guarantee for more details.
American Airlines, American Eagle, AmericanConnection, AAdvantage, Net SAAver & Special Offers, Net SAAver Alerts, and AA.com are marks of American Airlines, Inc. American Eagle and AmericanConnection are American's regional airline associates. American Airlines reserves the right to change the AAdvantage program at any time without notice and to end the AAdvantage program with six months' notice. American Airlines is not responsible for products or services offered by other participating companies. For complete details about the AAdvantage program, visit www.aa.com.

Meet the Family



Check Out Rio in the Latest Edition of Milestones



Looking for the inside scoop on the best hotels and out-of-the-way restaurants? Do you want to know where the locals hang out on the beach? Then check out AAdvantage Milestones, a place where AAdvantage members just like you can ask questions, share their travel experiences, and more. For example, if you're looking for tips on the best time to visit the Christ the Redeemer statue, just post the question on the message board and let other members share their insights. Plus, enjoy informative travel videos, a local-events calendar, and much more. For more information, visit www.aa.com/milestones today.

Earn Miles for Everyday Shopping

AAdvantage eShopping Find all your favorite electronics, fashions, and more at the AAdvantage eShopping mall! Shop at more than 250 of your favorite retailers. Why fight crowds when you can get all your shopping done from the comfort of home? When you shop at the AAdvantage eShopping mall, earn up to 10 miles for every dollar spent, which could have you on your way to your favorite destination. It's the perfect solution for back-to-school shopping. Simply visit www.aadvantageeshopping.com to get started!

American Airlines Offers Food for Sale Onboard

You may purchase a variety of food onboard American Airlines to satisfy your appetite. On transcontinental and Hawaii flights, you can buy a meal consisting of a fresh premium sandwich and chips for \$10. On all other flights that are three hours or longer, sandwiches are \$6 each. On flights that are two hours or longer, we offer sweet and salty snacks (such as chips, trail mix, and cookies) for \$3 each and a cheese-and-cracker tray for \$4. American offers you the flexibility of paying for food onboard with cash, your American Express card, or other debit or credit cards. We will continue to review our offerings to ensure that you have a variety of choices.



Is Your Company Earning Rewards?

American Airlines' Business ExtrAA program offers companies of any size the opportunity to earn points for free travel every time their employees fly on American Airlines, American Eagle, or AmericanConnection. There is no cost to join, and the company earns points while its employees continue to earn AAdvantage miles. What can you earn? Points toward a variety of travel options, including First Class and Business Class tickets, upgrades, Admirals Club awards, and more. For program details and to enroll, visit www.businessextraa.com.



Where Can We Take You?

Often when someone mentions American Eagle, the vast domestic network linking hometowns to big-city hubs comes to mind. But did you know that some of these hometowns that make up our network are found in places you may not associate with American Eagle?

With more than 75 daily international flights connecting you to destinations in Mexico, Canada, and the Caribbean, American Eagle offers the same convenient service no matter where your plans may take you. When you combine that with the entire AA network, the possibilities are limitless!



The oneworld Alliance

You can now save 20 additional minutes when connecting between Japan Airlines' domestic flights and international departures on oneworld partners at JAL's Tokyo Narita Terminal 2 hub. An already minimal connection time has been reduced from 80 to 60 minutes through the

opening of an exclusive passport-control area and security checkpoint, which enables passengers to proceed straight from the domestic-arrival lobby to the international-departure concourse. JAL connects Tokyo Narita domestically to Sapporo, Nagoya Chubu, Osaka Itami, and Fukuoka. Flying alongside JAL from Terminal 2 are oneworld partners American Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Finnair, and Qantas.





American Airlines VacationsSM

AAVacations.com

Use Your AAdvantage Miles to Book a Vacation at AAVacations.com!

Need a vacation? Visit AAVacations.com and use our perfect-vacation equation. Here's how it works: Get a low rate on airfare — maybe fly to Paris or to a tropical island. Add a specially negotiated hotel deal — maybe an ocean-view room. Add a rental car for a side trip to see the rest of the island's scenery or a day tour to explore the rain forest. Now subtract your yard work, and you've got the perfect escape!

Additionally, earn 1,000 AAdvantage bonus miles for booking at AAVacations.com. Use your miles to pay for your vacation or to give others the gift of travel with American Airlines Vacations gift certificates! Consider giving a gift certificate, available in any denomination, for a special occasion such as a wedding, an anniversary, or a birthday. To book now, go to www.aavacations.com or call (800) 321-2121.

CorporateAAccess.comSM

American Airlines' CorporateAAccess.com booking portal is leading the way in providing practical, cost-efficient solutions for managing corporate travel. At the request of many customers, we have designed a functional, easy-to-use online booking product that brings the best features of business-travel planning together on one website. CorporateAAccess.com offers searching and booking capabilities for widely available air, car, and hotel suppliers, and there is no transaction fee for American Airlines bookings. The portal also offers a suite of travel-management tools to help companies of any size control their travel-related costs. Visit www.corporateaaccess.com for more details and company registration.

AAirpass[®] The Smart Choice for Air Travel



Looking to take control of your personal or corporate travel plans? The American Airlines AAirpass program protects you against fare changes and helps you manage your travel by providing prepaid unrestricted air travel at a fixed rate — all while you enjoy VIP privileges and benefits. You can travel anytime, even at a moment's notice, to any of the more than 250 worldwide destinations served by American Airlines, American Eagle, and AmericanConnection, including the United States, Canada, Europe, India, Japan, China, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Mexico.

No matter where you're headed, your AAirpass membership can get you (and a companion) there. Special VIP privileges include Admirals Club membership,* First Class Check-In, and priority wait-list for upgrades. For the most up-to-date program details, visit www.aairpass.com or call one of our specially trained AAirpass representatives at (800) 433-6355, and we'll get you started today on your world of travel.

*Eligibility for corporate-contracted AAirpass members is dictated by corporate contract terms with American Airlines. See your corporate travel manager for details and to verify that your company is eligible for this benefit.



Admirals Club[®]

Join Us in the Admirals Club Lounges

Admirals Club lounges have launched an enhanced food-and-beverage product, Amora, which will be rolled out to all domestic lounges by the end of October. Select from our new Amora fresh-food menu, which offers a variety of sandwiches, salads, small-bite samplers, and speciality drinks for purchase.

We're committed to giving our members an excellent club network, professional services, and outstanding amenities. Whether you need to check e-mail, grab a bite to eat, make a few calls, or just relax, Admirals Club lounges help you make the most of your time in the airport.

To join the Admirals Club program or get more information, please visit www.aa.com/admiralsclub or call (800) 237-7971 (in the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico) or (817) 963-6100.



Onboard Our Flights

SafeTravel

SAFETY TIPS FOR TRAVELERS
HTTP://SAFETRAVEL.DOT.GOV

What's in Your Baggage?

Some products used at home or at work can be dangerous when transported in an aircraft. Temperature and pressure variations can cause some items to leak, generate toxic fumes, or start a fire.

Lithium and lithium-ion batteries may catch fire when not handled properly. **Place spare lithium batteries in carry-on baggage, not in checked baggage.** See battery-size limitations at safetravel.dot.gov. It is preferable that you use the original packaging to store spares. If the original packaging is not available, store in separate plastic bags or use electrical tape on terminals to prevent batteries from making contact with metal objects. **Do not use aircraft powerports to charge lithium or lithium-ion batteries.**

Dangerous Goods Prohibited on Aircraft: Aerosols (spray cans), fuels, paints, solvents, starch, alcohols, nail polish, nail-polish remover, lighter refills, camping gas, fireworks, flares, black powder, bleaches, drain cleaners, lead-acid batteries, bottles of acid, strike-anywhere matches, gas-powered tools, self-heating meals, model-rocket motors, hydrogen peroxide 40 percent or greater, mace, and pepper spray.

Remember that this list is not all-inclusive. Carrying prohibited items onboard aircraft violates U.S. Federal law. Violators are subject to imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Consult an agent or visit: safetravel.dot.gov, tsa.gov, faa.gov, or AA.com for details.

Things You Need to Know to Make Your Trip Safe and Comfortable

■ **Check-In** We advise customers to check in 90 minutes before their scheduled departure for domestic flights when checking bags, 60 minutes with no bags, and two hours for international flights. (Please refer to the Travel Information section on AA.com for cities where earlier check-in is recommended.) This will help ensure your reservation and seat assignment. Please be onboard and in your seat with your seat belt fastened 10 minutes prior to departure time.

■ **Luggage** Effective for domestic economy-class tickets and economy-class tickets from the U.S./Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands to Canada purchased on or after June 15, 2008, a \$15 fee applies for the first bag checked. (For customers traveling from Canada to the U.S./Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands, this fee is effective for tickets purchased on or after July 7, 2008.) The existing \$25 fee for a second checked bag remains in effect for domestic and U.S.-Canada tickets in both directions purchased on or after May 12, 2008 (exceptions apply for both fees). Passengers may carry one piece of luggage and one personal item (such as purses and laptop computers) onboard. Carry-on items must be placed in the overhead bin or under the seat in front of you. Place your name, address, and a copy of your itinerary inside your bags, and put your name and address on the outside. To avoid additional fees, all luggage must meet specific size and weight requirements. International travel rules may vary. Liability for loss, delay, or damage to baggage is limited, so carry valuables onboard with you. Claim your luggage upon arrival. For more details, visit the Baggage Information page on AA.com.

■ **Beverage Service** Only alcohol served by a flight attendant to customers age 21 or older may be consumed onboard. By FAA rule, we may not serve alcohol to customers who appear intoxicated.

■ **Smoking** is not permitted.

■ **Seat Belts** Turbulence is air movement that cannot be seen and often occurs unexpectedly. While we do everything possible to avoid turbulence, it is the most likely threat to your in-flight safety. Unless you must leave your seat, keep your seat belt fastened at all times, even when the seat belt sign is off.

■ **Disability Assistance** Customers who need assistance with disabilities, including obtaining wheelchairs, should contact an AA representative. Per government regulations, service animals traveling in the cabin to assist passengers with physical or emotional needs are not required to travel in a kennel. If you are in a bulkhead seat, you may be asked to move to another seat to accommodate a service animal.

■ **Carry-on Pets** must stay in their kennels and under the seat in front of you at all times. AA assumes no liability for the well-being of carry-on pets.

■ **Powerports** On most aircraft, there is a DC cigarette-lighter-style outlet at each seat in First and Business Class and in select rows in the Main Cabin for powering approved electronic devices. DC auto/air power adapter cords are available at major electronics

stores. Splitter or Y adapter cords may not be used. Only one device per outlet is allowed.

■ **Electronic Equipment/Personal Devices** All portable electronic devices must remain off and properly stowed during taxi, takeoff, approach, and landing until the plane is at the gate and the seat belt sign is off. Noise-canceling headsets must be switched off during taxi, takeoff, approach, and landing. Devices with no power switch (e.g., PDAs) must not be used (and must remain in "sleep" mode) during this period of aircraft operation. Use is permitted during flight provided the "airplane/flight" mode is activated and the transmitter function remains off. Cell phones may be used on certain aircraft after landing in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Your flight attendant will tell you when you may use approved electronic devices in flight. Devices with transmitting capabilities may be used only if the transmit capability is turned off. During flight, never use cell phones, two-way pagers, radios, TV sets, remote controls, cordless computer mice, commercial TV cameras, or Global Positioning Systems. Radio transmission using personal communications devices is prohibited, as it may interfere with the aircraft's systems. Devices that could cause damage to equipment or that may diminish the design, function, or capability of the aircraft are prohibited. You may use audio and video devices only with a headset. Use of still and video cameras, film or digital, is permitted only for recording personal events. Recording of airline personnel, equipment, or procedures is strictly prohibited.*

Federal law prohibits any passenger from threatening or intimidating any member of the flight crew or interfering as crew members perform their duties. American Airlines appreciates your continued cooperation.

* The electronic-device policy may vary on American Eagle and American Connection. Please see a flight attendant for specifics.

Staying in Touch

Making a Call Is Easy

In-flight satellite phones are available on all 777 and 767 aircraft. To place a call, put the phone to your ear. Recorded instructions will tell you to dial 1 to place a call or 2 to select a language.

Slide your credit card through the side of the phone and then dial 00 + country code + area or city code + number, followed by the # key. For example, to reach New York City, dial 00 + 1 + 212 + 555 + 1234 + #. To reach London, dial 00 + 44 + 20 + 7123 + 4567 + #.

All calls must be dialed as international calls. When calling within or to the U.S. or Canada, dial 00 and 1 prior to the area code. Incoming calls, faxes, and data transmissions are not available.

A flashing yellow light indicates that you're waiting for a line. A flashing green light and double beep means the call is being processed. Press NEW to place another call or END to hang up.

Rates are \$5 to connect and \$10 per minute. Billing begins when a call is answered. Partial minutes are billed as a full minute. The service provider, Vizada, accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club, JCB Cards, and Discover. No calling cards are accepted.

For dialing assistance, dial **toll-free 12#**. This will connect you to the Vizada Customer Care RVA (recorded voice announcement). For assistance with any other questions you may have, contact Vizada Customer Care at (800) 685-7898 (toll-free in the U.S.) or (301) 838-7700 (worldwide), by fax at (301) 838-7701, or by e-mail at customer.care@vizada.com.

In the event of any problem making a call, American Airlines' and Vizada's liability is limited to the cost of the call.

Cell Phones

Personal electronic devices, including cell phones, may be used onboard during boarding until the flight attendant's announcement to turn them off. Cell phones may be used on certain aircraft after landing, once authorized by a flight attendant's announcement.

Due to FAA regulations, passengers must remain seated and all carry-on baggage must remain stowed after landing until the aircraft is safely stopped at the gate and the seat belt sign has been turned off.

Due to FAA regulations, unapproved personal electronic devices must remain off once the aircraft door is shut at departure and until the seat belt sign is turned off at the arrival gate.

* Does not apply to SAAB and ATR aircraft flights.



Your Personal Health: Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)

Our customers sometimes ask us about medical conditions and air travel. American Airlines appreciates its customers' interest in health topics and encourages passengers to consult with their doctors before traveling.

What Is DVT?

A deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a blood clot that develops in a deep vein, usually in a leg. This is a serious condition. Sometimes these clots can break away and travel through the bloodstream to vital organs of the body and can cause severe injury or death.

Possible Risk Factors of DVT

Prolonged physical immobility, such as sitting for an extended period, is considered in the medical community to be a risk factor associated with DVT. People with certain medical conditions or who are taking some medications may also be at higher risk of developing a DVT, including conditions or medications that affect blood flow, alter normal blood-clotting mechanisms, or cause blood-vessel damage. Some of these are:

- Blood-clotting disorders
- Cancer
- Increasing age or smoking
- Major illness with hospitalization
- Obesity or heart disease
- Oral contraceptive use or hormone therapy
- Personal or family history of a DVT
- Pregnancy
- Recent major surgery or trauma

Possible Symptoms of DVT

Many DVTs do not produce any symptoms. If symptoms occur, they may include pain, swelling, or redness in the affected area. Severe chest pain or problems breathing may indicate that a clot has traveled to the lungs. Any concern should be evaluated by a physician immediately.

Possible Ways to Reduce the Risk of DVT

American encourages all passengers to consult with their doctors about DVT and other personal health issues before flying. Because the cause of a DVT is often not known, the best methods of preventing DVTs are still uncertain. To try to reduce the risk of DVT, many passengers may be advised by their doctors to take the following measures in flight:

- Regularly change leg position, and periodically move and stretch your legs and feet while seated. Your doctor may suggest leg exercises — such as those described in the box below — at regular intervals (at least every hour or so).
- If conditions allow and the aisles are clear, you may want to occasionally get up and walk around. But remember that you must remain seated when the seat belt light is on and should remain in your seat with your seat belt fastened whenever possible, because of the possibility of turbulence. And all passengers are required to comply with crew-member and/or FAA instructions — especially those relating to remaining seated.
- Avoid crossing the legs at the ankles or knees.
- Stay hydrated; drink adequate nondiuretic fluids — such as water, juice, and milk — and minimize alcohol and caffeine intake.
- Wear loose-fitting clothing.
- Wear graduated-compression stockings.

It is possible that no measure intended to prevent DVT will be effective. It is also possible that some of the measures listed above may not be recommended for some passengers, depending on their health situations as assessed by their doctors.

There are many sources of general information about air travel and health. For more information, visit www.aa.com and type "personal health" in the search box.

Possible In-Flight Exercises

Ankle circles: Lift your foot off the floor and draw a circle in the air with your toes pointed, alternating direction. Continue for 30 seconds. Repeat with your other foot.

Foot pumps: While keeping your heels on the floor, point your feet up as high as possible

toward your head. Put both feet back flat on the floor. While keeping the balls of your feet on the floor, lift both heels high. Continue for 30 seconds.

Knee lifts: While seated, march slowly in place by contracting each thigh muscle. Continue for 30 seconds.

Knee to chest: Hold your left knee and pull up toward your chest. Hold for 10 to 15 seconds. Slowly return to floor. Alternate legs 10 times.

These exercises should not be performed if they cause pain or discomfort or if they are not recommended by your doctor.

Airline Partners

American Airlines and American Eagle have partnerships with select airlines and high-speed rail operators around the world. With our oneworld and other partners, we have integrated our services to offer you the convenience of a single ticket, pre-served seats, connecting boarding passes, reliable baggage transfers, and coordinated connections to minimize your waiting time. Please see our route maps for destinations serviced by our partners.

To support this global network, American Airlines has codeshare agreements through which we sell seats on flights operated by our partner airlines. When traveling on a codeshare flight, your ticket will show AA flight numbers, and your journey will be on one of our partner airlines. Check in at the airport with the airline operating your flight. Visit www.aa.com/code share for more details.

As a member of the AAdvantage program, earn miles when you purchase an eligible published-fare ticket and fly on American Airlines, American Eagle, or any participating partner airline. Rules and AAdvantage benefits may vary by carrier. For a complete list of specific rules, eligible routes, and fares, visit Partners and Mileage Programs in the AAdvantage section of AA.com.



oneworld™ Partners

With our oneworld partner airlines, you can **REDEEM MILES**, and the miles you **EARN** are **ELITE-QUALIFYING**. Once you earn AAdvantage elite status, enjoy benefits such as priority check-in², priority standby², priority wait-list², lounge access³, and preferred prereserved seating⁴ on oneworld flights.

American Airlines®

BRITISH AIRWAYS

CATHAY PACIFIC

FINNAIR

IBERIA

JAL JAPAN AIRLINES

LAN

MALEV

QANTAS

ROYAL JORDANIAN

oneworld also includes 20 affiliate airlines. For a full list, visit www.aa.com/oneworld.

¹ Miles may not be earned or redeemed for British Airways transatlantic flights between the U.S. and the U.K.

² Benefits available to Emerald, Sapphire, and Ruby members.

³ Lounge access available to Emerald and Sapphire members, and to First and Business class travelers, except when traveling solely on North American itineraries.

⁴ Benefits may vary by carrier.

Other Partners

Earn and Redeem Miles; Receive Elite Qualifying Miles on AA Flight Numbers

Aer Lingus

brussels airlines
flying your way

MEXICANA

طيران الخليج
GULF AIR

JET AIRWAYS

Alaska Airlines¹
Horizon Air

HAWAIIAN²
AIRLINES

Earn Miles and Receive Elite Qualifying Miles on AA Flight Numbers

China Eastern Airlines

THE WINGS OF TAIWAN
EVA AIR

Deutsche Bahn

SNCF
French Rail

Earn and Redeem Miles

AIR PACIFIC
FIJI'S INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE

Air Tahiti Nui

EL AL
HOME AWAY FROM HOME

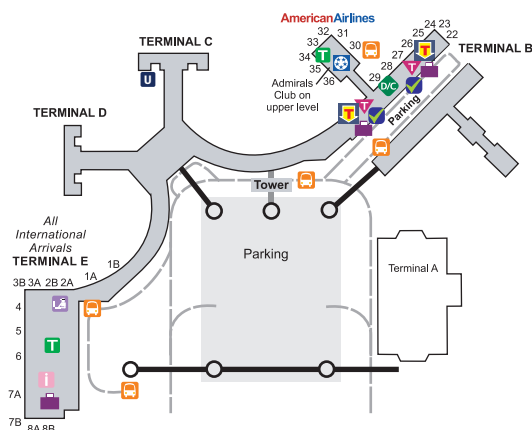
¹ Earn elite qualifying miles on all flights.

² You can only earn miles on Hawaiian Inter-island Flights.

³ Miles may not be earned for Jet Airways transatlantic flights taken solely between the United States and Brussels, Belgium. For details, please see www.aa.com/jetairways. Government restrictions prohibit earning or redeeming miles for travel to and from Cuba. Visit www.aa.com/aadvantage for details.

Terminal Maps

Boston Logan International Airport

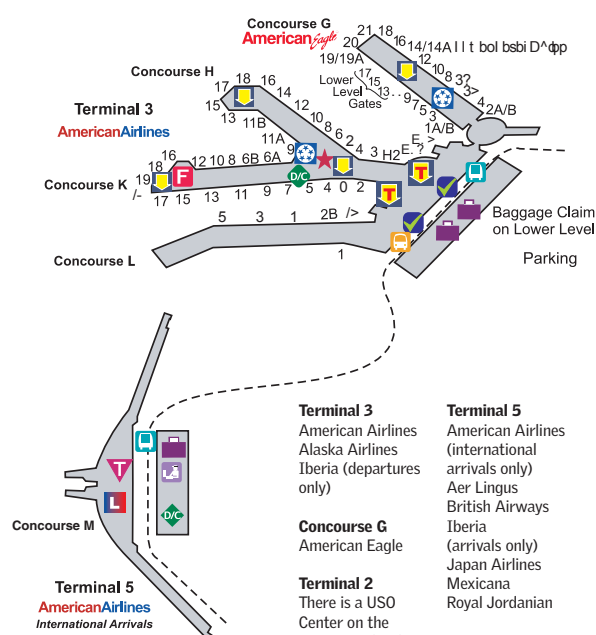


For transfers between Domestic Terminal B and International Terminal E, a bus operates continually and is located outside the lower level baggage claim areas.

Domestic Terminal B
American Airlines
American Eagle
Alaska Airlines

International Terminal E
American Airlines (arrivals only)
Aer Lingus
British Airways
Iberia

Chicago O'Hare International Airport



Terminal 3
American Airlines
Alaska Airlines
Iberia (departures only)

Terminal 5
American Airlines (international arrivals only)
Aer Lingus
British Airways
Iberia (arrivals only)
Japan Airlines
Mexicana
Royal Jordanian

Concourse G
American Eagle

Terminal 2
There is a USO Center on the mezzanine level.

Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport

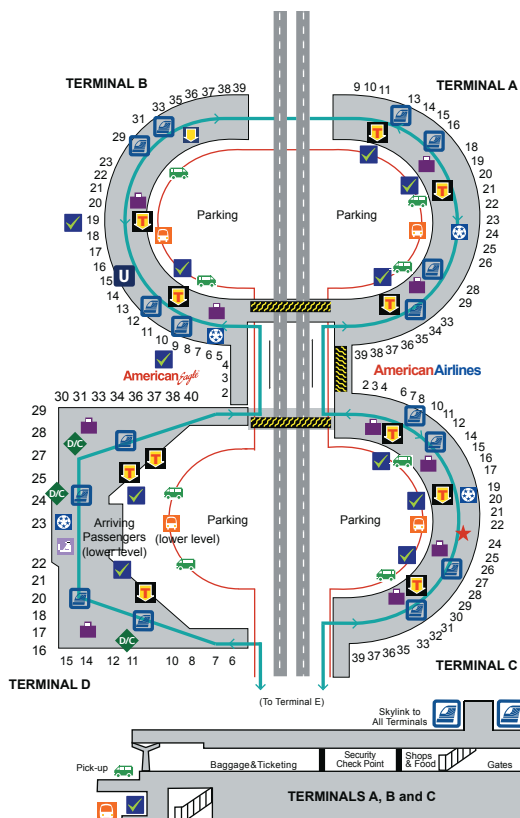
Terminal A
American Airlines

Terminal B
American Eagle

Terminal C
American Airlines

Terminal D
American Airlines
American Eagle
British Airways
Mexicana

Terminal E
(not shown)
Alaska Airlines



Now open! DFW Airport's new **Skylink** train may be the quickest way to reach the gate for your next flight, replacing the American Airlines TrAAin. The automated bidirectional rail service, located inside the security area, runs every two minutes between the following gates: A13 and A16, A29 and A34, B9 and B12, B29 and B31, C8 and C12, C27 and C32, D11 and D20, and D24 and D36. The average ride time is five minutes. When you get off the plane and enter the terminal, you will find a gate map and directions to Skylink. This map will also tell you whether it's quicker to walk or take the Skylink to your connecting flight. **If you are returning home to DFW** and arrive at a different terminal than the one you departed from, DFW Airport's **free Terminal Link shuttle** service will take you directly back to your original terminal. To use Terminal Link, just follow the signs to the green pickup areas, which are located on the upper level outside the baggage-claim areas.

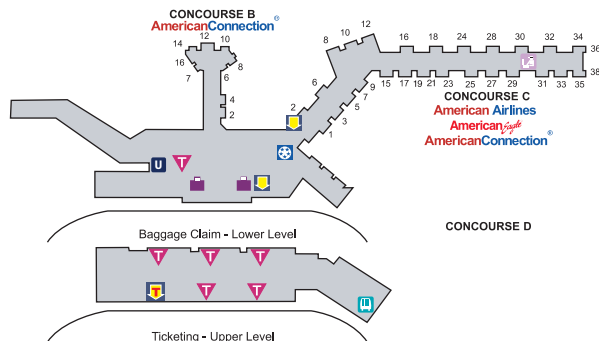
Legend

- Ticket Counter
- Ticket Counter and Self-Service Check-In
- Self-Service Check-In
- Curbside Check-In
- Baggage
- Admirals Club
- Executive Center
- USO Center
- Flagship Lounge
- Immigration/Customs
- Duty-free Currency
- Skylink Station
- Security
- Ground Transportation
- Moving Sidewalk
- Information
- Other Airport Lounge
- DFW Airport Terminal Link
- BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit)

LaGuardia Airport New York



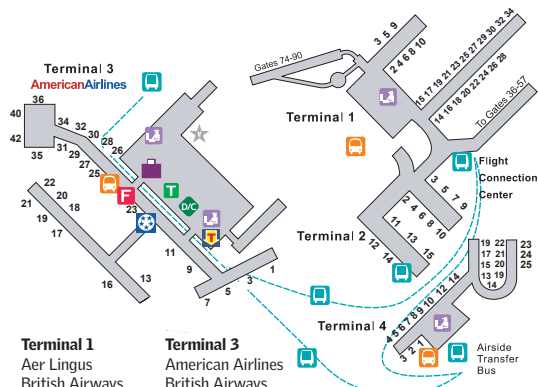
Lambert St. Louis International Airport



Concourse B
AmericanConnection

Concourse C
American Airlines
American Eagle
AmericanConnection

London Heathrow Airport



Terminal 1
Aer Lingus
British Airways
EL AL
Finnair

Terminal 2
British Airways
Iberia

Terminal 3
American Airlines
British Airways
Cathay Pacific
Gulf Air
Japan Airlines
Jet Airways
Royal Jordanian

Terminal 4
British Airways
Qantas

Terminal 5
British Airways

Los Angeles International Airport

For transfers between American Airlines and American Eagle, a transfer bus operates between Terminal 4 and the American Eagle Remote Terminal. This bus can be accessed at Terminal 4, Gate 44 (Lower Level). Passengers using this bus do not need to clear airport security in order to move between terminals.

There is a tunnel linking TBIT to Terminal 4. The tunnel allows customers to deplane at TBIT, then walk underground to clear Customs/Immigration in Terminal 4.

There is a USO Center outside between Terminals 1 and 2.

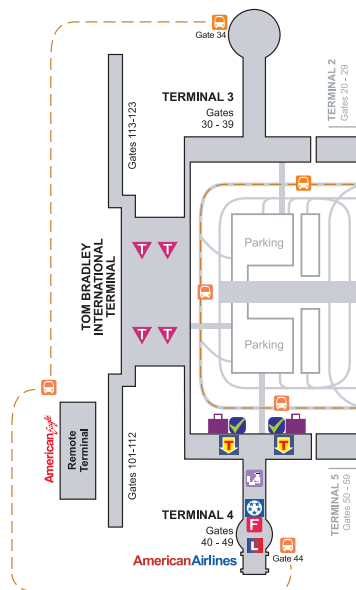
TOM BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL (TBIT)

Aer Lingus
Air Pacific
Air Tahiti Nui
British Airways
Cathay Pacific
China Eastern
EL AL
EVA AIR
Japan Airlines
LAN
Mexicana
Qantas (departures to Auckland, Brisbane, and Melbourne)

TERMINAL 2
Hawaiian Airlines

TERMINAL 3
Alaska Airlines
Horizon Air

TERMINAL 4
American Airlines
American Eagle
Qantas (departures to Sydney)



Miami International Airport

Connecting walkways are provided between Concourses A through E for the convenience of our passengers. Passengers using these walkways do not need to clear airport security in order to move between concourses. The walkway is located adjacent to Gate 3 in Concourse A, Gate 3 in Concourse C, Gate 31 in Concourse D, and

Gate 5 in Concourse E (with the exception of High E gates 30-33, which are accessible only by tram service from the main terminal).

Arrivals and departures for all American Eagle flights are through Gate D35.

Customs is located on the upper level in Concourse B and the lower level near Concourse E.

Concourse A
American Airlines (Concourse A is under construction and is not currently in use.)

Concourse C
American Airlines

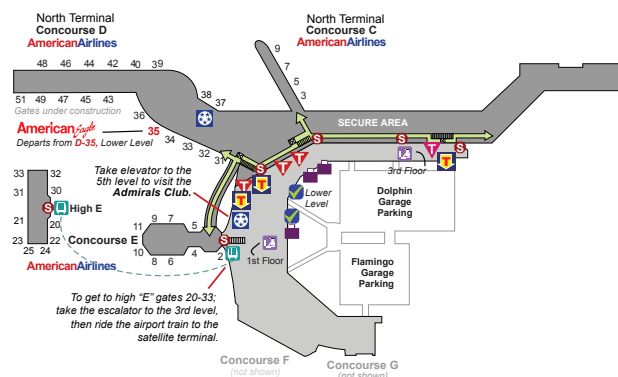
Concourse D
American Airlines

Concourse E
American Airlines
Alaska Airlines
Mexicana

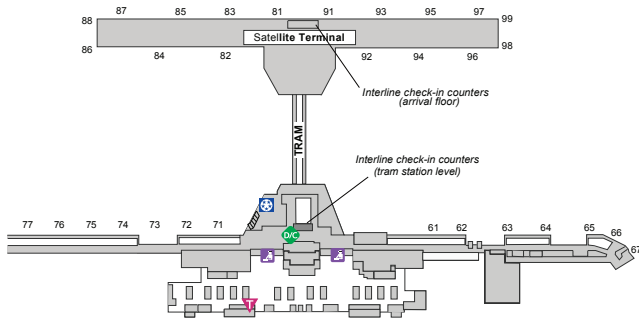
Concourse F
(not shown)
British Airways

Concourse G
(not shown)
EL AL
Iberia

Concourse J
(not shown)
LAN

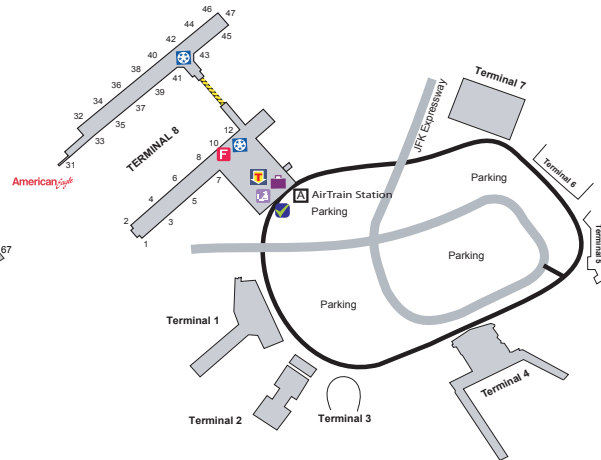


Narita (Tokyo) International Airport



- | | |
|---|--|
| Terminal 1 (not shown)
British Airways
EVA AIR | Terminal 2
American Airlines
Air Pacific
Cathay Pacific
China Eastern Airlines
Finnair
Japan Airlines/JALways
Qantas |
|---|--|

New York John F. Kennedy International Airport

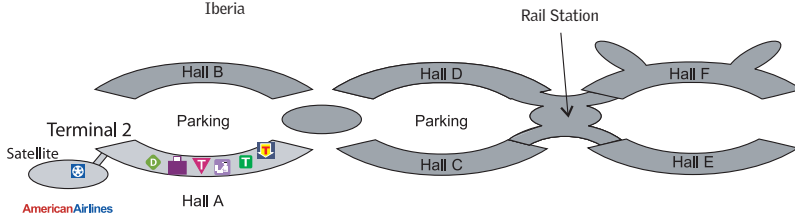


- | | |
|--|---|
| Terminal 1
Japan Airlines | Terminal 4
Aer Lingus
Air Tahiti Nui
EL AL
LAN
Royal Jordanian |
| Terminal 7
British Airways (Gates 1-6)
Cathay Pacific
Iberia
Qantas | Terminal 8
American Airlines
American Eagle
Finnair
Jet Airways
Malév Hungarian
Mexicana |

The JFK Airtrain now provides convenient connection service between all terminals at JFK, the subway, and Long Island Railroad. Just follow the Airtrain signs to the Airtrain station located at the front of the terminal. Once inside the Airtrain station, simply follow the directions to your terminal.

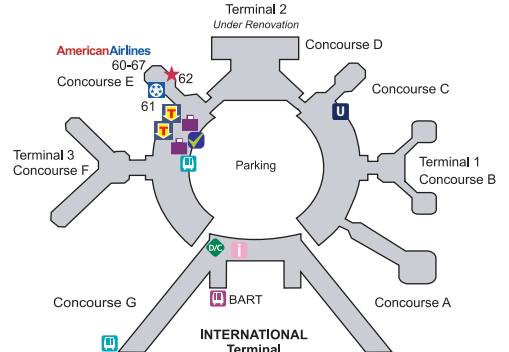
Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Terminal 1 (not shown)
Aer Lingus
Gulf Air | Terminal 2 - Hall B
British Airways
Malév Hungarian
Royal Jordanian | Terminal 2 - Hall F
Japan Airlines |
| Terminal 2 - Hall A
American Airlines
Air Tahiti Nui
Cathay Pacific
EL AL | Terminal 2 - Hall C
Qantas | Rail Station
SNCF French Rail |
| | Terminal 2 - Hall D
Finnair
Iberia | |

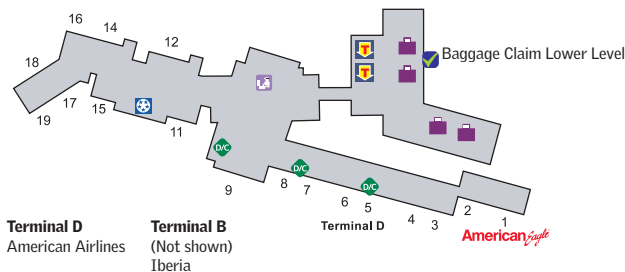


San Francisco International Airport

- | | |
|---|---|
| Terminal 1
Alaska Airlines
Hawaiian
Horizon Air | International Terminal
British Airways
Cathay Pacific
EVA AIR
Japan Airlines
Mexicana
Qantas |
| Terminal 3
American Airlines | |

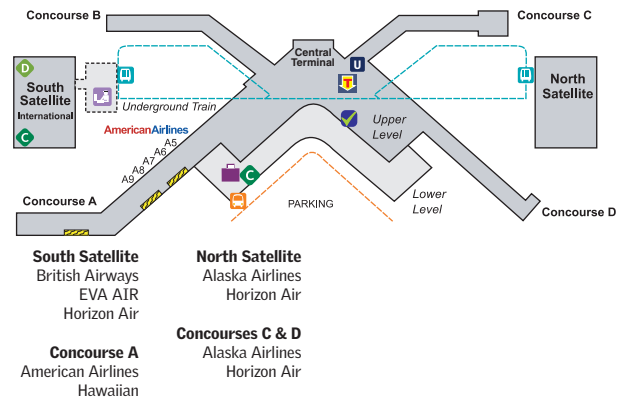


San Juan Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport



- | | |
|--|---|
| Terminal D
American Airlines | Terminal B (Not shown)
Iberia |
|--|---|

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport



- | | |
|---|---|
| South Satellite
British Airways
EVA AIR
Horizon Air | North Satellite
Alaska Airlines
Horizon Air |
| Concourse A
American Airlines
Hawaiian | Concourses C & D
Alaska Airlines
Horizon Air |



**Works around the world. And around the block
on America's most reliable wireless network.**

verizonwireless.com/global

America's most reliable wireless network claim based on fewest aggregate blocked and dropped connections. See verizonwireless.com/bestnetwork for details. © 2008 Verizon Wireless.



Motorola MOTO™ Z6c

BlackBerry® 8830

verizonwireless



- American Airlines cities
- Codeshare service with non-oneworld Alliance airline partner and/or Rail partner*
- ◆ Codeshare service with oneworld Alliance partner*
- ◆ oneworld Alliance destinations
- ★ Admirals Club
- * Seasonal cities

*For details, see American's Airline Partners within this section.

Time zones indicate Standard Time



11 A.M.

NOON



1 P.M.

11 A.M.

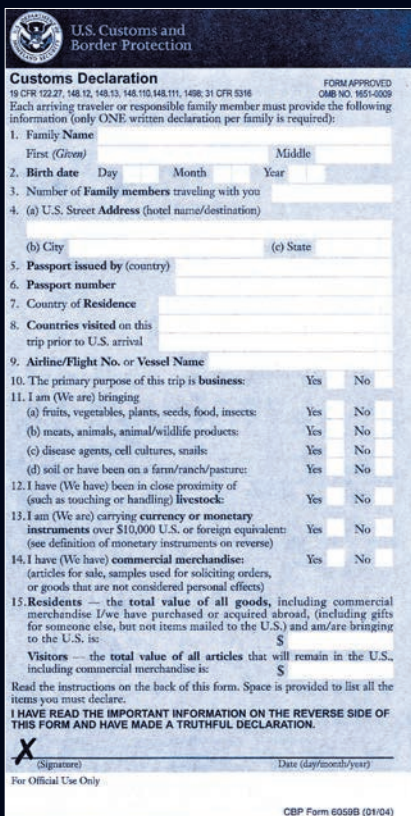
NOON

1 P.M.



Sample Form

Actual Forms Will Be Distributed Inflight



Description of Articles (List may continue on another CBP Form 6059B)	Value	CBP Use Only
Total		

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE: The Paperwork Reduction Act says we must tell you that this form is mandatory. It is not a burden on you, and it will take you less than 15 minutes. The information collected on this form is needed to carry out the Customs, Repatriation, and Financing laws of the United States. CBP requires the information on this form to ensure that trade flows are complying with these laws and to allow us to identify and collect any amounts of duty and tax. Your response is mandatory. We agree that we will not conduct an interview, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid CBP control number. The estimated average burden for persons completing this collection of information is 15 minutes per response of a record keeper depending on individual circumstances. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be directed to US Customs and Border Protection, Reports Clearance Office, Information Services Branch, Washington, DC 20535, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1056-0006), Washington, DC 20503. THIS FORM MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM THE CBP FORMS MANAGER.

CBP Form 6059B (10/104)

1. Apellido Nombre Inicial del segundo nombre
2. Fecha de nacimiento Día Mes Año
3. Número de familiares que viajan con usted
4. (a) Dirección en EE.UU. (nombre del hotel/destino)
(b) Ciudad (c) Estado
5. Pasaporte emitido por (país)
6. Número de pasaporte
7. País de residencia
8. Países visitados durante este viaje antes de llegar a EE.UU.
9. Aerolínea/No. de vuelo o número de embarcación
10. Este viaje es principalmente de negocios: ☐ Sí ☐ No
11. Traigo (traemos) (a) frutas, plantas, alimentos, insectos: ☐ Sí ☐ No
(b) carnes, animales, productos de origen animal/silvestre: ☐ Sí ☐ No
(c) agentes patógenos/cultivos celulares/caracoles: ☐ Sí ☐ No
(d) tierra, o hemos estado en una finca/granja/pastizal: ☐ Sí ☐ No
12. He (hemos) estado cerca de (tocado o manipulado) ganado: ☐ Sí ☐ No
13. Traigo (traemos) mone da o instrumentos monetarios por un valor superior a US\$10.000 o su equivalente en moneda extranjera: ☐ Sí ☐ No
14. Tengo (tenemos) mercancía comercial (artículos para la venta, muestras utilizadas para solicitar pedidos, o productos no considerados efectos personales): ☐ Sí ☐ No
15. Residentes – el valor total de todos los productos, incluyendo la mercancía comercial, que he (hemos) comprado o adquirido en el extranjero (incluyendo regalos para otros, pero no productos enviados por correo a EE.UU.), y que traigo (traemos) a EE.UU. es de: US\$
Visitantes – el valor total de todos los artículos que permanecerán en EE.UU., incluyendo la mercancía comercial, es de: US\$

Sample Form Actual Forms Will Be Distributed Inflight

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. Customs and Border Protection	OMB No. 1651-0111																
Admission Number	<i>Welcome to the United States</i>																
I-94 Arrival/Departure Record - Instructions																	
This form must be completed by all persons except U.S. Citizens, returning resident aliens, aliens with immigrant visas, and Canadian Citizens visiting or in transit.																	
Type or print legibly with pen in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS. Use English. Do not write on the back of this form.																	
This form is in two parts. Please complete both the Arrival Record (Items 1 through 13) and the Departure Record (Items 14 through 17).																	
When all items are completed, present this form to the CBP Officer.																	
Item 7 - If you are entering the United States by land, enter LAND in this space. If you are entering the United States by ship, enter SEA in this space.																	
..... CBP Form I-94 (10/04)	OMB No. 1651-0111																
Admission Number																	
Arrival Record																	
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">1. Family Name</td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. First (Given) Name</td> <td>3. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Country of Citizenship</td> <td>5. Sex (Male or Female)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Passport Number</td> <td>7. Airline and Flight Number</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Country Where You Live</td> <td>9. City Where You Boarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10. City Where Visa was Issued</td> <td>11. Date Issued (Day/Mo/Yr)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">12. Address While in the United States (Number and Street)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">13. City and State</td> </tr> </table>		1. Family Name		2. First (Given) Name	3. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)	4. Country of Citizenship	5. Sex (Male or Female)	6. Passport Number	7. Airline and Flight Number	8. Country Where You Live	9. City Where You Boarded	10. City Where Visa was Issued	11. Date Issued (Day/Mo/Yr)	12. Address While in the United States (Number and Street)		13. City and State	
1. Family Name																	
2. First (Given) Name	3. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)																
4. Country of Citizenship	5. Sex (Male or Female)																
6. Passport Number	7. Airline and Flight Number																
8. Country Where You Live	9. City Where You Boarded																
10. City Where Visa was Issued	11. Date Issued (Day/Mo/Yr)																
12. Address While in the United States (Number and Street)																	
13. City and State																	
Departure Number																	
CBP Form I-94 (10/04) OMB No. 1651-0111																	
I-94 Departure Record																	
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">14. Family Name</td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>15. First (Given) Name</td> <td>16. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17. Country of Citizenship</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		14. Family Name		15. First (Given) Name	16. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)	17. Country of Citizenship											
14. Family Name																	
15. First (Given) Name	16. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)																
17. Country of Citizenship																	
See Other Side																	
STAPLE HERE																	

The I-94W Nonimmigrant Visa Waiver Arrival/Departure form must be completed by every nonimmigrant visitor not in possession of a valid visa who is a national of one of the following countries:

ANDORRA	FRANCE	LUXEMBOURG	SINGAPORE
AUSTRALIA	GERMANY	MONACO	SLOVENIA
AUSTRIA	ICELAND	NETHERLANDS	SPAIN
BELGIUM	IRELAND	NEW ZEALAND	SWEDEN
BRUNEI	ITALY	NORWAY	SWITZERLAND
DENMARK	JAPAN	PORTUGAL	UNITED KINGDOM
FINLAND	LIECHTENSTEIN	SAN MARINO	

Japanese

I-94 出入国カードには、米国民、在留外国人の帰国、移住ビザを保持する外国人、カナダ市民の滞在または通過を除くすべての方のご記入が必要となります。この用紙は合衆国への入国と出国を記録するものです。英語の大文字を使って用紙の表のみをご記入ください。これは米出国とされるときまで保持してください。ご協力ありがとうございます。

1. 姓
2. 名
3. 生年月日 (日/月/年)
4. 国籍
5. 性 (男/女)
6. 旅券番号
7. 航空会社名と便名
8. 現住所
9. 乗機地
10. ビザ発行都市
11. 発行年月日
(日/月/年)
12. 米国滞在先住所
(番地と道路)
13. 都市と州
14. 姓
15. 名
16. 生年月日 (日/月/年)
17. 国籍

Português

O formulário I-94, Registro de Chegada/Saída, deve ser preenchido por todas as pessoas, exceto cidadãos americanos, estrangeiros residentes nos Estados Unidos, estrangeiros com vistos de imigrante e cidadãos canadenses em visita ou em trânsito. Este formulário registra a chegada e saída de visitantes aos Estados Unidos. Escreva apenas na parte da frente, em inglês e em letras maiúsculas. Guarde este formulário até a sua saída dos Estados Unidos. Agradecemos a sua colaboração.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Sobrenome | 1. Nom de famille |
| 2. Nome | 2. Prénom |
| 3. Data de nascimento (dia/mês/ano) | 3. Date de naissance (jour/mois/an) |
| 4. País de cidadania | 4. Pays de nationalité |
| 5. Sexo (masculino ou feminino) | 5. Sexe (masculin ou féminin) |
| 6. Número do passaporte | 6. Numéro de passeport |
| 7. Companhia aérea e número do voo | 7. Ligne aérienne et numéro de vol |
| 8. País de residência | 8. Pays de résidence |
| 9. Cidade de embarque | 9. Ville où vous avez embarqué |
| 10. Cidade da emissão do visto | 10. Ville où le visa a été délivré |
| 11. Data da emissão (dia/mês/ano) | 11. Date de délivrance (jour/mois/an) |
| 12. Endereço enquanto estiver nos Estados Unidos (Número e rua) | 12. Adresse lors de votre séjour aux États-Unis (Numéro et rue) |
| 13. Cidade e Estado | 13. Ville et état |
| 14. Sobrenome | 14. Nom de famille |
| 15. Nome | 15. Prénom |
| 16. Data de nascimento (dia/mês/ano) | 16. Date de naissance (jour/mois/an) |
| 17. País de cidadania | 17. Pays de nationalité |

Français

Tous les ressortissants étrangers, à l'exception des ressortissants américains, des résidents permanents de retour aux États-Unis, des étrangers en possession de visa d'immigration, ainsi que des ressortissants canadiens en visite ou en transit, doivent compléter le formulaire d'Arrivée et de Départ I-94. Ce formulaire enregistre l'arrivée et le départ des visiteurs aux États-Unis. Veuillez remplir seulement la première page du formulaire en anglais et en majuscules. Veuillez garder ce formulaire jusqu'à votre départ des États-Unis. Nous vous remercions de votre collaboration.

1. Nom de famille
2. Prénom
3. Date de naissance
(jour/mois/an)
4. Pays de nationalité
5. Sexe (masculin ou féminin)
6. Numéro de passeport
7. Ligne aérienne et
numéro de vol
8. Pays de résidence
9. Ville où vous avez
embarqué
10. Ville où le visa a été
délivré
11. Date de délivrance
(jour/mois/an)
12. Adresse lors de votre
séjour aux États-Unis
(Numéro et rue)
13. Ville et état
14. Nom de famille
15. Prénom
16. Date de naissance
(jour/mois/an)
17. Pays de nationalité

Español

El formulario I-94, Registro de Llegada/Salida, debe ser llenado por toda persona (excepto ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos, extranjeros residentes en Estados Unidos que están regresando, extranjeros con visa de inmigrante, y ciudadanos de Canadá de visita o de tránsito). Este formulario registra la llegada y salida de visitantes a los Estados Unidos. Escriba en el anverso solamente, con letra mayúscula y en inglés. Guarde este formulario hasta que salga de los Estados Unidos, y gracias por su cooperación.

1. Apellido paterno
2. Primer nombre
3. Fecha de nacimiento (día/mes/año)
4. País de ciudadanía
5. Sexo (masculino o femenino)
6. Número de pasaporte
7. Línea aérea y número de vuelo
8. País donde Ud. vive
9. Ciudad donde abordó el avión
10. Ciudad donde se emitió su visa
11. Fecha emitida (día/mes/año)
12. Su dirección mientras esté en los Estados Unidos (Número y calle)
13. Ciudad y Estado
14. Apellido paterno
15. Primer nombre
16. Fecha de nacimiento (día/mes/año)
17. País de ciudadanía

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. Customs and Border Protection OMB No. 1545-0043	
Welcome to the United States	
1-5450 Nonsmigrant Visa Waiver Arrival/Departure Form Instructions:	
This form is to be completed by your nonsmigrant visa waiver not in possession of a travel document as determined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security at CBP-27. It is to be completed by the traveler and the accompanying family members. Types of grant eligible categories are ALL CAPITAL LETTERS: US, ENGLISH	
This form is in two parts. Please complete both the Arrival Record, lines 4 through 14 and the Departure Record, lines 16 through 27. The second half of this form must be retained and held. Children under the age of thirteen must have their own form. 7 - If you are entering the United States by land, enter LAND in this space. If you are entering the United States by ship, enter SEA in this space.	
Admission Number	
Arrival _____ Departure _____	
ARRIVAL 1. Country Name _____ 2. Date of Arrival ____/____/____	
3. Country of Citizenship _____ 4. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
5. Country of Residence _____ 6. Sex (M or F) _____	
7. Name (Printed Name) (Last, First, Middle) _____ 8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
9. Country of Birth _____ 10. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
11. Country of Residence _____ 12. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
13. Country of Birth _____ 14. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
15. Country of Residence _____ 16. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
17. Country of Birth _____ 18. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
19. Country of Residence _____ 20. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
21. Country of Birth _____ 22. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
23. Country of Residence _____ 24. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
25. Country of Birth _____ 26. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
27. Country of Residence _____ 28. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
29. Country of Birth _____ 30. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
31. Country of Residence _____ 32. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
33. Country of Birth _____ 34. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
35. Country of Residence _____ 36. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
37. Country of Birth _____ 38. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
39. Country of Residence _____ 40. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
41. Country of Birth _____ 42. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
43. Country of Residence _____ 44. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
45. Country of Birth _____ 46. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
47. Country of Residence _____ 48. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
49. Country of Birth _____ 50. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
51. Country of Residence _____ 52. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____	
53. Country of Birth _____ 54. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	

[illegible]



Zero Degrees of Separation

By Jim Shahin

SOMETIMES, I FEEL as though I am the missing link.

I walk upright, more or less, like a modern man. But my primitive tools place me in the Stone Age.

I do not, for example, wield an iPhone. I use but a simple (forgive the obscure reference) cell phone. Nor do I own a Blueberry (Strawberry? Raspberry? Whateverberry). Rather, I communicate in the way of the ancients, by desktop computer.

Now and again, I try to evolve.

Not long ago, I caught a glint of something I didn't recognize. It appeared like a sparkly stone amid someone else's rock pile.

I approached, scrunched up my face, and pawed it with curiosity. *Hmmm*, I thought, *This must be the new thing everyone is talking about.*

Then the tiny brain behind my sloping forehead had an idea. The idea was at once simple and confounding. I could not figure out why I would do what it seemed my brain was instructing me to do. Maybe it was to see what all the hubbub was about. Maybe it was to try to plant my feet and club, once and for all, into the clay of the twenty-first century.

Whatever the reason, I did it: I opened an account on Facebook.

DING.

My prehistoric e-mail world just received something from the au courant Facebook world. Apparently, the modern reaches out to the ancient just as a strong mountain climber offers his hand to a struggling climber.

From: Wallmaster+pr=zz=fz@facebook.com

Subject: Someone More Advanced Than You [not her real name] wrote on your wall.

Why, I wonder in my prehuman way, are they telling me this? What is my wall? And who is this Wallmaster?

I go to Facebook and type in my name and password. Up comes my page, if that is what it is called. On it, over on the lower right, I see a message from More Advanced.

Is that my wall? Why do they call it a wall? Maybe I will ask the Wallmaster.

I think about responding, but my big, bushy eyebrows are furrowing with confusion. Can everybody read what is here? If so, can everybody also read my reply?

I slink away from the wall. I go back to the safety of my cave, which is to say, my e-mail.

In my e-mail reply to More Advanced, I say that I feel like George trying to keep up with the treadmill on the old TV cartoon *The Jetsons*: "Jaaane! Stop this crazy thing."

In the subject line of my e-mail reply, I write "Off the Wall."

I feel like that in more ways than one.

DING.

From: confirm+pr=zz=fz@facebook.com
Subject: Some Other Guy [not his real name] added you as a friend on Facebook.

Oh nooo. Not that guy! I didn't like him when I knew him, briefly, two decades ago. Actually, I never knew him. We never hung out, never stepped inside each other's house, never even called each other. Now, all of a sudden, he's a friend?

Ding.

From: confirm+pr=zz=fz@facebook.com
Subject: Linda Whowhat [not her real name] added you as a friend on Facebook.

Who is this person? Is she someone with whom I shared a laugh, a drink, a night of Twister?

Whereas previous ages were marked by the discovery of fire or the invention of the wheel, the milestone for the current age is our constant availability and instant intimacy.

The past, present, and future fuse into one ever-expanding universe of friends.

Six degrees of separation? Forget it. Now, there are zero degrees of separation.

It is as if we are all living in our own, and each other's, personal memoir — except this memoir unfolds in real time and is not edited to keep out the boring parts. And there are a lot of boring parts.

Lisa Banalitano [not her real name] is clipping her toenails.

Sidney Nothigtodo [not his real name] is about to mow the lawn.

Pat Sleepinstein [not his real name] is changing the sheets.

BEING ON FACEBOOK is a little like inviting all the marauding hordes into your home. It is to walk down the driveway and unlock the gate for the barbarians.

Yet I play along. Or try to. Facebook asks me to disclose my marital status. I do: married. It also asks me to include my spouse's name. I do: Jessica [her real name].

Except I don't. It seems that, because Jessica doesn't have a Facebook account, her name will not appear in the little box.

Kind of antisocial for a social network, don't you think?

Maybe I'll take it up with the Wallmaster. But first, I have to master this fire thing. **AW**

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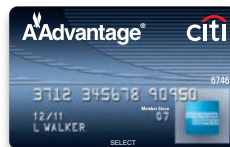
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² A total of 25,000 AAdvantage® miles may be redeemed for coach class Continental US / Canada MileSAver® awards. For more information on AAdvantage® award redemption please see Redeem Miles at www.aa.com/aadvantage

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⁴ The maximum number of AAdvantage® miles you can earn from purchases using the Citi® Platinum Select® / AAdvantage® World MasterCard® and the Citi Select® / AAdvantage® American Express® card is 100,000 AAdvantage® miles per calendar year and 150,000 AAdvantage® miles per calendar year with the CitiBusiness® / AAdvantage® MasterCard® (purchases recorded on your Jan-Dec. billing statements). AAdvantage® bonus miles are excluded from this mileage cap. AAdvantage Executive Platinum® members, AAdvantage Platinum® members and AAdvantage Gold® members are also excluded from these limits. AAdvantage® miles are earned on purchases except returned goods and services, cash advances, convenience checks, transferred balances, credits, fees and finance charges.

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