

# TO THE FIVE BOROUGHES

THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN NEW YORK CITY — AND NOT JUST IN MANHATTAN



DECEMBER 15, 2013

# AMERICAN WAY

AMERICAN AIRLINES + AMERICAN EAGLE

## LEAVING A LEGACY

### MICHAEL BLOOMBERG

looks to the future  
as his tenure as mayor  
of New York City  
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(pg. 12)

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Glenveagh Castle and Gardens

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Trinity College Dublin

## CITY STYLE

Cities in Ireland are where past and present make a perfect whole. In Dublin the Georgian section of the city is an architectural jewel where Oscar Wilde's childhood home, the National Gallery and Natural History museum are historic neighbors. Along Grafton Street's amber cobbles the music of street entertainers is a welcome soundtrack as you soak in Dublin's unique atmosphere. Up on the north coast, Belfast is home to eccentric finds like the marble majesty of City Hall and time travel at the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum.

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EVENTS

52

## Features

### 52 MICHAEL BLOOMBERG WANTS TO SAVE THE WORLD

It really doesn't matter whether you agree or disagree with the policies of **New York City's outgoing mayor**, because he's not here to debate you — he's here to get things done. BY ETHAN ROUEN

### 66 THE MAN BEHIND THE WINDOW

It's Christmastime all the time for **Paul Olszewski**, and he wouldn't have it any other way. Neither would awestruck **Macy's** shoppers during the holidays. BY MICHAEL VENTRE

### 72 NEW YORK CITY: IT'S BIGGER THAN MANHATTAN

Its most famous tourist attractions are in Manhattan, but each of **New York's five boroughs** is home to diverse entertainment. BY MIKE DUNPHY



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38

CONTENTS

**Itinerary**

- 15 Translating Ron Burgundy, *Scarface* turns 25, Mary J. Blige's first Christmas album, The Rascals on Broadway, **PLUS** much more.

**Briefs**

- 34 Q&A: Motocross champion Travis Pastrana
- 36 Go: A Weekend in ... Bentonville, Ark.

**Departments**

NEW YORK SUPER BOWL

**38 NEITHER SNOW NOR RAIN NOR HEAT ...**

The Super Bowl will be outdoors in a cold-weather location for the first time, and the New York/New Jersey area is the perfect place for that. BY JOE LAPOINTE

BALLOON ART

**44 TWIST AND SHOUT**

Professional balloon artists weigh in on their quirky — and rewarding — profession. BY MARYGRACE TAYLOR

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 6 Staff
- 8 Vantage Point
- 10 Editor's Note
- 12 Air Mail
- 82 Crossword
- 84 Sudoku
- 89 Mensa
- 116 Americana

NAVIGATE: PASSENGER INFORMATION

- 92 American Insight
- 95 Customer Focus
- 96 Stay Healthy
- 97 Stay Connected
- 98 Inflight Entertainment
- 100 Our Fleet
- 102 oneworld
- 104 Terminal Maps
- 107 Customs Form
- 108 Destinations
- 114 Point of View

44



ON THE COVER

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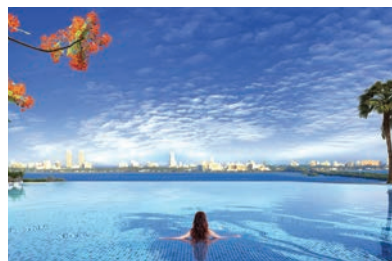
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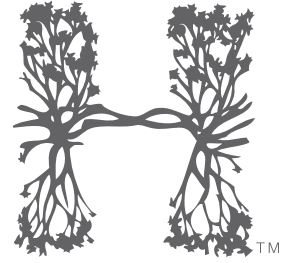
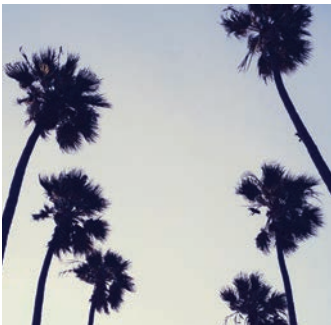
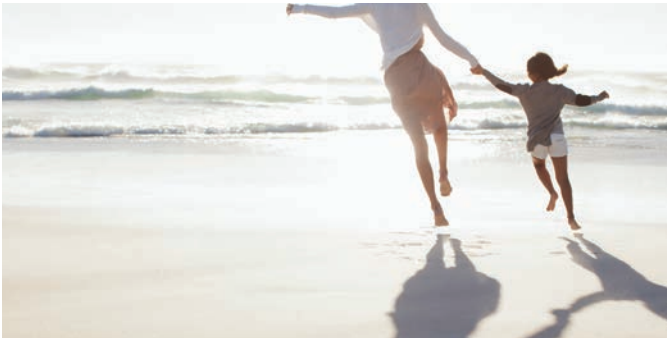
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# Lots of Change for Good

**NO DISRESPECT TO** Santa Claus, but here at American Airlines, we believe you ought to visit the people you care about more than once a year. OK, we're a little biased, since bringing people together is our business. With the holiday season in full swing, that business is booming!

I'd like to take a moment to thank all my colleagues who are working on or around the holidays. Each year, thousands of American team members spend time away from their loved ones to ensure that you and your fellow travelers can spend the holidays with yours. I'd bet that you appreciate their commitment as much as I do.

The bustling holiday season is a fitting end to what has been an incredibly busy, eventful and successful year at American. You might say we rocketed out of the 2013 gates in January, when we unveiled the first major refresh of our logo and brand in 40 years. A month later, we announced our plan to merge with US Airways and create America's flag carrier, the new American Airlines. Things only picked up from there, as we moved on multiple fronts to transform the American fleet, network and customer experience throughout the year.

The strides we've made are reflected in our vastly improved financial results. We posted record profits in our last two quarters, and while the year is not yet complete, we're hopeful that early next year, we will be able to distribute the first profit-sharing payments to our people in more than a decade. That prospect is especially gratifying, since we all know that none of the positive developments I listed would be possible without the consummate skill, professionalism and passion of our team — a team that, despite more than the usual amount of distractions, kept their focus and kept running a great airline for you throughout 2013.


The American team's devotion to service is not only helping transform our company, it is also driving positive change in communities around the globe. To cite but one example, with our flight attendants in the lead, we support the U.S. Fund for UNICEF through UNICEF's Change for Good program. Since 1994, this innovative partnership has raised over \$9.5 million in donations from our generous customers. These funds provide much-needed medicine, immunizations, clean water and other lifesaving assistance to vulnerable children

in more than 150 countries and territories around the world. Change for Good gives international travelers the opportunity to donate unused currency to UNICEF, the global relief agency and past recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, via our flight attendants on selected international flights. A handful of coins or a few loose bills may seem like a small contribution, but the impact is anything but small. Just 50 cents can provide a notebook and pencil for a child to use in the classroom, and \$1.21 is enough to immunize one child against polio.

With the help of American volunteers, known as "Champions for Children," Change for Good is making a huge difference in the lives of children in need. It works — and by "works," I mean it saves children's lives — because customers like you give generously and because our flight attendants are passionate and committed to its success. I should note that if you're not flying internationally, you can always drop off a contribution of any size or currency type at one of our Admirals Clubs or Flagship Lounges.

Change for Good is one of the many worthy child-focused endeavors we support through our Kids in Need program. We are truly blessed to be able to leverage the passion of our people, the generosity of our customers and the power and allure of travel to such wonderful effect. I hope you'll visit [aa.com/kids](http://aa.com/kids) to learn more about what we're doing and how you can get involved too.

On behalf of everyone at American, I want to thank you for flying with us this year. Your support means the world to us, and you can rest assured that we'll be working hard to earn your continued support in 2014 and beyond. Have a great trip, and happy holidays to you and your families!

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# Spreading the News

trendy winter fashions make winter's cold look cool. This is all a part of my daughters' — and my own — education. New York City in the winter is an intellectual and cultural experience unlike any other they'll receive in school; in any school, anywhere in the world. And I know this for a fact; I've been around."

The staff of *American Way* shares this sentiment. Some of us are former New York residents, all of us are frequent visitors, and none of us could resist the opportunity to theme the Dec. 15, 2013, issue after one of the most magnanimous places on the planet. We tapped some of our best writers and photographers to cover NYC in a fresh and rewarding way. Frequent contributor Michael Ventre introduces us to the man responsible for those stimulating and storied Macy's holiday-window displays (page 66). Joe Lapointe, a former sportswriter for *The New York Times*, takes a look at the stadium boom in New York, highlighted by Super Bowl XLVIII at MetLife Stadium (page 38), the first Super Bowl to be held at an outdoor stadium in a cold-weather area. New York-based Mike Dunphy shows visitors and residents alike that there's much more to New York City than Manhattan (page 72). And how does a balloon artist living in NYC ply his trade? Writer Marygrace Taylor puts some air in that story on page 44.

Yet the most interesting — and, presumably, controversial — article in this issue is our cover story on outgoing New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg (page 52). It's admittedly a bit of a departure for this magazine to feature a politico on the cover, even one who's a registered Independent. In fact, as I've been told, we've published only two politically affiliated covers in recent decades, and they both appeared within a month of each other. Bill Maher was the cover model for the Aug. 15, 2004, issue, followed by Bill O'Reilly a month later. Both covers received so many strongly worded letters from the left and the right (can you guess which side wrote in for which subject?) that the editorial staff at that time decided that perhaps we should steer clear of politics; as an airline, we literally bring people together, and we certainly don't want to create more divisiveness.

But the reason we are doing so now is pretty simple: In short, New York is one of the most important travel markets in the world and a critical part of our business as a global airline. What

happens in New York is of great interest to our customers. And arguably, nobody has more greatly influenced the evolution of New York City over the past decade than Mayor Michael Bloomberg, resulting in many triumphs and much progress but also controversy. And now he is leaving office. So, we have chosen to write about him. *American Way* contributor Ethan Rouen, a grizzled former *New York Daily News* crime reporter, spent some time with the mayor and shows you the mentality of the man and the legacy he hopes to leave behind. Rouen dutifully explores the points of view of fans and detractors alike, thereby making this a balanced report.

"Perhaps the only sight prettier than New York City in the winter is New York City in the winter by air," I concluded in that Dec. 15, 2010, issue, going on, as I did, to plug our cover story on New York written by Donald Trump himself (before he had overtly political aspirations). "A fresh snowfall takes the anxiety of encountering all that concrete and steel out of the Big Apple." I adhere to my maxim on Dec. 15, 2013, and I sincerely hope you enjoy the first New York-focused issue of *American Way*.



ADAM PITLUK  
Editor

**"IT'S BEAUTIFUL UP HERE.** Beautiful and peaceful. In all my life, I've come to find that these moments are when I'm at my happiest. When it's one of those cloudless days; when the entire country has a sky that's unblemished and the jet stream is smooth. Where blue is the color and X is the number, since how many hours to go before you land just doesn't matter. And it all starts with one of aviation's most peculiar ironies: From 35,000 feet, the Earth below looks heavenly, rather than the other way around. And it's because I'm right where I want to be, sitting on the aisle in row 11 with my daughter in the seat next to me; my wife, Kimberly, in 11F; our other daughter sitting on Kimberly's lap and giggling at her own faint reflection in the window."

So began my Dec. 15, 2010, column, which I penned a few months prior to the publication date. We were en route to New York City because, quite frankly, I think New York City is one of the most spectacular places on the planet come autumn. I think the same thing in winter. And during the other two seasons. I'm not alone, mind you. In 2012, a record-setting 52 million people from all over the world visited New York City regardless of (or in many cases, because of) the season. That was an increase of more than 2 percent from the year before. The Big Apple is on target to beat that number in 2013.

"New York City around the holidays is, bar none, the most magical place on the planet," I wrote in that same 2010 issue. "The sky's a romantic blue-gray, which accents the warm glow of the yellow streetlights and the decorated storefronts. Blankets of snow make Central Park look celestial, and the folks strolling the avenues in their

@ Want to talk to Adam? Reach him at [editor@americanwaymag.com](mailto:editor@americanwaymag.com)

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in New York; it would be the last time I would see him. Working alongside his experienced sound engineer as well as Parrot Zik's acoustic designers, Lou Reed used his personal mastering studio to program the Zik as if he were adjusting the balance for one of his own performances. You can now experience the extraordinary results by using a special control on the Parrot Audio Suite app for iPhone® or Android™. Thank you Lou.

Henri Seydoux, CEO of Parrot.



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We enjoy hearing what you think about the magazine — so much so that **if your letter to the editor is published in a 2014 issue, you'll be entered into a drawing to win 100,000 AAdvantage miles.** Want a chance at the miles? Simply email your thoughts to us at [editor@americanwaymag.com](mailto:editor@americanwaymag.com)

## WELL DONE

I would like to congratulate you on the philosophical and pedagogical value of your publication. I teach at a nationally recognized public liberal arts institution known for its broad educational focus and a curriculum that develops real-world skills. Browsing the Oct. 15 issue of *American Way*, I was struck by the array of topics: culture, the arts, gender studies, economics, global studies, medicine, geography, physical fitness and even mental-flexibility exercises. I applaud the service you provide through this publication, which encourages a well-rounded and informed world view. It also informs in areas perhaps outside people's primary interests and invites connections across disciplines. In an era of specialization in higher education and the job market, your publication extends people outside their primary foci and informs them broadly. The article that sums up your perspective — oddly enough, a book summary — was Stephen J. Lyons' review in "Itinerary" of *Some Nerve: Lessons Learned While Becoming Brave* by author Patty Chang Anker, who encourages us to go beyond, to extend our comfort zone and to be enriched by an array of experiences. Thanks for providing a valuable experience through your publication.

*Dr. Stephen Weber, Professor of Music, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha, Okla.*

**MANAGING EDITOR TRAVIS KINSEY RESPONDS:** It makes us feel good when someone recognizes — like you have, Dr. Weber — what we're trying to do at *American Way*: offer content that benefits our customers not only during their travels but in their lives after their flight is complete.

## NOT WELL DONE

Many employees who work for our company are AAdvantage Executive Platinum

members and are appalled at the selection of candidates for this year's Road Warrior contest. To be a finalist, must you be a top-level executive, be on some board, stand for some philanthropic cause or work in tourism like these finalists? There are many of us who are not top-level executives, are not involved in philanthropic causes or don't work in tourism like the finalists selected. Many of us "other" Road Warriors are entrepreneurs and mothers who travel the world without the same beauty-pageant contestant image as these boring candidates chosen by you. Can't you be more original? We are very disappointed in your elitist selections. Is there hope for selecting more unique candidates from all the entries for the next Road Warrior contest in 2014?

*Alice Olson, Las Vegas*

**SENIOR MARKETING MANAGER GWEN BALDWIN RESPONDS:** Our Road Warrior finalists come from a variety of backgrounds, Alice. You are entitled to your opinion, but we are pleased with this group, including working parents, who are all very deserving.

## DRIVEL-FREE

I typically read the first few words of "Editor's Notes" and smirk at the self-serving drivel of desperation trying to convince the reader of the merits of a publication. I honestly didn't understand what the purpose of this column was until I read Adam Pitluk's column in the Nov. 1 issue of *American Way* ("Wise Bird"). It must be challenging to edit the magazine given your rather nebulous audience of people who fly, and I'll admit that not every article resonates with me. But Adam's note did. I thought it was a masterful piece of storytelling mixed with genuinely useful information followed by a soft sales pitch that I wholeheartedly accepted. Later,

I even found myself touting my knowledge of Jimmy Russell with co-workers. Thank you for the wonderful writing.

*Donny Epp, Fayetteville, Ark.*

**EDITOR ADAM PITLUK RESPONDS:** Thank you, Donny, for the compliment. It was nice to know that unlike some editors, I avoided a self-serving drivel of desperation for at least one issue. But I'm confident I can create it again in the future.

## A ROYAL DINNER

In the last 30 years, my new husband has flown more than 8 million miles on American Airlines. We have found extremely good tips in *American Way*, one recently when we were on our honeymoon trip to the United Kingdom. In the Oct. 15 issue, we read "British Food Power" by Jan Hubbard. My stepdaughter lives in London, and we decided to invite her to dine with us at The Fat Duck, which was one of the restaurants featured in the article. We enjoyed eating as we never had before, and we all agreed at dinner that *American Way* was the best magazine ever. We love you guys.

*Karla Jimenez, Caracas, Venezuela*

**ASSOCIATE EDITOR JAN HUBBARD RESPONDS:** I'm very jealous, Karla. I was able to write about The Fat Duck and interview head chef Jonny Lake, but I did not eat there. It's definitely on my bucket list.

## ADVANTAGE: BARRACHINA

On a recent flight, my husband stumbled upon "The Piña Colada Battle" in the Oct. 1 issue of *American Way*, and we happened to be on our way to San Juan, Puerto Rico. While there, we decided to do our part in deciding who won the battle. We headed to Barrachina and had the most amazing piña colada! So good. But we never made it to the Caribe Hilton. I guess the decision on who wins the battle for us will have to wait until next time we are in San Juan.

*Jennifer Lynn Friesz, Pearland, Texas*

**COLUMNIST GUS GARCIA-ROBERTS RESPONDS:** Delicious, right? The Barrachina piña colada is like the holy grail of booze, Jennifer. Don't feel bad about not making it to the Hilton. Just be proud that you made it home — there's a lot of rum in that drink.

 Missed it in the magazine? All *American Way* articles are available on [aa.com/americanway](http://aa.com/americanway)

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# ITINERARY

{ MUSIC }

## A Very Mary Christmas

With her new album, **MARY J. BLIGE** celebrates her favorite holiday. 





When Mary J. Blige released her debut album in 1992, she was dubbed “the Queen of Hip-Hop Soul.” Her gritty, urban sound stood in stark contrast to the slick pop of Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston. Now, having won nine Grammys, sold more than 50 million albums and made *Rolling Stone’s* list of the “100 Greatest Singers of All Time,” the Bronx-bred vocalist is showing fans a softer side on her first Christmas album, *A Mary Christmas*. The R&B legend talks with *American Way* about this most wonderful time of year.

**AMERICAN WAY:** Is it safe to assume Christmas is your favorite holiday?

**MARY J. BLIGE:** I love it! It makes you feel so happy and joyful. As a kid, I wanted to love everybody all the time. When Christmas came, there was something in the air that just made you want to give, hug, eat and be around family. It’s my favorite time of year.

**AW:** Do you have a favorite Christmas memory?

**MJB:** When I was about 7, there was this commercial for a doll called Dancerella. My sister and I would go crazy over it. We really wanted that doll and we told our mother, but we didn’t think we were going to get it because she was a single mom. She got us that doll for Christmas, and we were so happy when we opened our box for Christmas and saw Dancerella inside.

**AW:** What was the biggest challenge in making *A Mary Christmas*?

**MJB:** Making something classic that people will listen to every year and love, the way we loved Nat King Cole when we were kids. They played “The Christmas Song” so much on the radio, and it means so much to us to this day.

When I hear it, it brings tears to my eyes. I wanted to make something that people would feel in their gut like that.

**AW:** Were there particular songs you couldn’t wait to tackle?

**MJB:** I couldn’t wait to wrap my hands around “The Christmas Song” and “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” which I did a jazzy-soul version of. But you’ve got to hear my fun version of “Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer,” which is a little different from what fans might expect from me. With Christmas music, as long as you nail it, your fans are like, “I didn’t know she could do that!”

**AW:** You seem to enjoy giving back by working with young artists, on reality shows like *American Idol* and through your Matriarch Records label. What do you get out of the mentoring process?

**MJB:** These kids really want to be successful and have people respect and love them for what they do. It makes me feel good to pass on information that can help them, as well as tell them what not to do. I love to tell them the truth because they can’t grow without it. I feel good about passing on the things I’ve learned. —BRET LOVE

## And the Award Goes To ...

A number of new albums came out in 2013, and no two of them are exactly alike. Here are some of our favorites, plucked from an array of genres.



Most intoxicating CD by a singer not old enough to imbibe:  
**Pure Heroine, LORDE**



Funkiest jazz disc inspired by body functions:  
**Functional Arrhythmias, STEVE COLEMAN AND FIVE ELEMENTS**



Best alt-country album with a maxilength title:  
**The Worse Things Get, The Harder I Fight, The Harder I Fight, The More I Love You, NEKO CASE**



Most soulful LP Otis Redding never made:  
**Victim of Love, CHARLES BRADLEY**



Best R&B album with annoying spoken-word interludes:  
**The Electric Lady, JANELLE MONÁE**



Longest overdue reggae disc by a pied piper of sorts:  
**Reincarnated, SNOOP LION**



Most ironically titled debut by an all-female noise-punk band:  
**Silence Yourself, SAVAGES**



Best psychedelic jazz album by a group of aging headbangers:  
**13, BLACK SABBATH**



Most graceful return to Earth by a former space alien:  
**The Next Day, DAVID BOWIE**



Best EDM album for people who don’t know what EDM is:  
**Random Access Memories, DAFT PUNK**



Greatest proof the blues will never die:  
**Get Up!, BEN HARPER WITH CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE**



Best argument that Icelandic is the official language spoken in heaven:  
**Kveikur, SIGUR RÓS**



Best gospel album without fire or brimstone:  
**One True Vine, MAVIS STAPLES**



Most cliché-free country record by a Nashville Star singer:  
**Same Trailer, Different Park, KACEY MUSGRAVES**



Best folk album that bears absolutely no resemblance to Mumford & Sons:  
**American Kid, PATTY GRIFFIN**



Most stripped-down album by an artist who used to dress up like Liberace:  
**The Diving Board, ELTON JOHN**

—THOR CHRISTENSEN

{ HOME }

## Cleaning Up

Dust mites, mold spores and pollen, beware! The new **SONICLEAN VT PLUS S-200 VACUUM** not only whisks away surface dirt, it dislodges and removes microscopic particles such as allergens embedded deep within carpets. Along with its sleek and stylish upright design (including the ability to lie flat to reach beneath



furniture), the Soniclean stands out from other top-tier vacuums for its use of a sonic bar that produces 200 vibrations per second, digging out things like ground-in dirt and difficult-to-get pet hair. The Soniclean is lightweight, energy-efficient (it uses less than half the energy of traditional vacuum motors) and even includes a fragrance-dispensing system so that it remains smelling fresh. Last but not least, it boasts sophisticated jam-sensor technology that prevents it from sucking up stray socks and the like. So, instead of becoming clogged, the Soniclean simply turns off, keeping its drive belt — and your wardrobe — intact. \$200, [www.mysoniclean.com](http://www.mysoniclean.com)

—LAURA KINIRY



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—JOSH SENS

TURKS AND CAICOS



{ HOTEL }

## Aging Gracefully

**C**ELEBRATING ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY this month, **GRACE BAY CLUB** in Turks and Caicos proves it knows the recipe for success.

The club is equal parts pampering and sublime relaxation mixed with exquisite food, attentive staff and endless amenities (hello, pop-up restaurant, free Wi-Fi anywhere on property and free local and long-distance phone calls), all topped off with an ever-evolving number of property additions, including the recently acquired West Bay Club, as well as The Residences, a stand-alone residential luxury microresort currently under construction. With such a creative mix, it's no wonder that since opening in 1993, Grace Bay Club — the flagship property of boutique-hotel company Grace Bay Resorts — has remained one of the most renowned properties on Providenciales. Centrally located along the famous Grace Bay Beach, which features 12 miles of pristine white sand and the calmest, clearest turquoise-blue surf imaginable, the resort caters to a certain type of traveler: i.e., the one who wants to enjoy the trip of a lifetime. Whether embarking on an Island Vibes boat trip to snorkel one of the best coral reefs in the world (then lunching on fresh conch), unwinding with a relaxing spa treatment (we favor the Elemis Herbal Lavender Repair Facial) or dining under the stars at the resort's beachfront Anacaona restaurant (save room for the Chocolate Gourmandize) after a leisurely day at the beach, all your expectations — and then some — will be met.

*From \$620, [www.gracebayresorts.com](http://www.gracebayresorts.com) —ANNA FIALHO*



( MOVIES )

# Anchor Away

Calling all **RON BURGUNDY** fans: Want to sound like you're a long-lost member of the Channel 4 News Team? Now you can.

**When a friend** tells someone he's "like a miniature Buddha, covered in hair," do you think he's just issued an insult? Or if she declares that she's in a glass case of emotion, do you wonder how she got in there?

This month's release of *Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues* has *Anchorman* fans seeing Burgundy — Ron Burgundy, that is — and spouting lines from the 2004 original even more than usual. This may have you feeling a little lost. Not to worry. While the new film undoubtedly will inspire a new lexicon, allow us to get you up to speed with some of the most popular quotes from the first film and suggestions for how to expertly incorporate those lines into your daily life.

**Line:** "I have many leather-bound books."

**How Ron uses it:** To impress a woman

**How you can use it:** When the snooty Barnes & Noble checkout guy gives you a judgmental look for purchasing the complete *Twilight* series — in hardcover

**Line:** "Baxter, you know I don't speak Spanish."

**How Ron uses it:** Explaining to his dog, Baxter, why Ron can't understand him

**How you can use it:** Explaining to your fast-talking teenage daughter why you can't understand her

**Line:** "I don't know if you heard me counting, but I did over 1,000."

**How Ron uses it:** Bragging to co-worker and love interest



Veronica Corningstone about how many curls he did

**How you can use it:** When your boss comes by to check on the progress of your TPS reports

**Line:** "Milk was a bad choice."

**How Ron uses it:** Amid a downward spiral, an unkempt Ron regrets his choice of beverage on a hot day.

**How you can use it:** When offering an apology after a culinary experiment goes sour

**Line:** "Bark twice if you're in Milwaukee."

**How Ron uses it:** Giving instructions to his missing dog, who he believes called him on the telephone

**How you can use it:** Texting your loved one to see when his or her flight has landed

**Line:** "I'm Ron Burgundy?"

**How Ron uses it:** Following his reputation, Ron reads exactly what's on the teleprompter, even when someone includes an errant question mark.

**How you can use it:** Introducing yourself to strangers at an awkward holiday party — JESSICA JONES



**EXCLUSIVE!**

To celebrate the Blu-ray Disc/DVD release of **The Smurfs 2** (Sony Pictures Home Entertainment, \$41), we're giving copies of the Blu-ray Disc/DVD combo pack to five lucky winners. To enter, go to [aa.com/americanway](http://aa.com/americanway) and click on "Deals and Steals."

## LOOKING BACK

### Scarface

AS TOLD TO J. RENTILLY

When it was released 30 years ago this month, Brian De Palma's *Scarface* was a commercial success at \$65 million but was critically reviled as the poster child for moral depravity and violence. Three decades later, the saga of a Cuban drug lord in Miami is an iconic piece of cinema widely influential in pop culture. It was the feature-film debut of **STEVEN BAUER**, now 57, who left an indelible impression as Manny Ribera, the lion-hearted but doomed right-hand man of Al Pacino's Tony Montana. Bauer reflects on what it was like to work with Pacino.



Steven Bauer (right) with Al Pacino in *Scarface*

"I was living in this shack in Malibu, and Al had a place down the beach, and we'd hang out together every day for a month before shooting started. I was the only Cuban actually cast in this movie about Cuban immigrants and gangsters, so this was a chance for Al and me to talk and hang out and get close and for him to work on his accent with a real Cuban guy. It was important for the movie for us to be tight so the movie really had that tragic punch at the ending. I mean, this is the movie where everyone dies in the end. But when Al shoots me at the end of the movie, we wanted that to be really brutal, sad, devastating, and the way Al and I got close before

shooting, then hanging out in his trailer every day on the set — I think that made a big difference. We were like brothers. This was my first film, so I was kind of anxious, and I'm surrounded by all of these great actors and trying to figure out how it would play with audiences and what it would mean for my career. I'd ask Al, like, every day, 'What do you think?' And he told me, 'Kid, half of them are going to love this movie and half of them are going to hate it. There's no middle ground on a piece like this.' And he was right. When the movie came out, audiences loved it, but the critics despised it. Thirty years later, I think *Scarface* has stood the test of time."

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{ FOOD }

# L.A.'s Noodle Genius

**D**OWNTOWN LOS ANGELES HAS A NEW PERFORMANCE ARTIST. With the opening of **PEKING TAVERN**, Danny Yip, the long-time executive pasta chef from Mr. Chow, was convinced to come out of retirement just so he could perform his “art” of hand-pulled noodles. The deal-clincher? An open window to the kitchen, where guests can watch the noodle genius as he throws, twists, turns and stretches the dough into perfect noodles — it’s like watching an explosive version of the string game Cat’s Cradle. The new Chinese gastropub is the only place in L.A. (outside of the San Gabriel Valley) where you can find these traditional Chinese noodles, known as zha jiang, as well as authentic handmade dumplings by executive chef Yumei Liu and killer cocktails made with baijiu, a pungent, 115-proof Chinese spirit. To make sure Yip is in the house, check Peking Tavern’s Facebook page. “He’s an artist,” co-owner Andrew Wong says. “He creates his own schedule.” 806 S. Spring St., (213) 988-8308, [www.facebook.com/pekingtavern](http://www.facebook.com/pekingtavern) —LINDSAY TAUB

los angeles



HOW TO

## Open a Bottle of Champagne

Champagne, cava, prosecco, sekt, espumante, sparkling wine: There are as many effervescent names for bubbly as there are methods of opening it, most of which we don't recommend unless you just won the Stanley Cup. Here's how to **UNCORK THAT HOLIDAY BOTTLE** without risking puddles, bruised bubbles, ocular damage or turning the night into an unplanned Diet-Coke-and-Mentos experiment.



### Step 1: Chill.

To minimize the spurt factor, start with a bottle that's been sufficiently chilled in the fridge or in an ice bucket. Also, handle carefully. No shaking!



### Step 2: Gently undress.

The cork, not you. Remove the foil wrap to reveal the wire cage and little handle securing this lovely package. Pull out the handle and slowly, carefully twist the metal loop counterclockwise while supporting the top of the cork to prevent an early exit. Six half-twists, and it's off.



### Step 3: Cradle firmly — but lovingly. And safely.

Drape a kitchen towel over the top of the bottle. Using your dominant hand, hold the body of the bottle against your hip at 45 degrees while supporting its neck and covering the cork with your other hand. Ophthalmologists have clocked champagne-cork missiles at 50 mph, so make sure you're pointing away from everyone.



### Step 4: Do the twist.

On the bottle — not the cork. Keep the cork steady and covered with your fingers and towel while rotating the body of the bottle with your dominant hand. Feel the cork turn and emerge from the neck, pushing against your firm palm.



### Step 5: “Pffff” not “POP!”

You want a gentle whisper as the cork pushes its way out, not a loud, momentous pop, which can lead to a flying cork, champagne puddles and something that oenophiles call “bruised” bubbles. Wait a few seconds to let the gas escape and to prevent unwanted foaming when pouring it into your best champagne flutes. Salud!

—JORDAN RANE

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{ SKI }



### Helmet Head

Like word of fresh powder, here's some sweet news for skiers and snowboarders alike: **OSBE USA** has developed a safe, comfortable helmet that doesn't stint on style. The new "Majic Snow" line has a plush inner lining, a sliding visor that disappears inside the helmet and a ventilation system to keep temperatures just right. All that and a high-impact-resistant, carbon-composite shell for unparalleled protection at any speed.

From \$509, [www.osbeusa.com](http://www.osbeusa.com) —J.S.

**EXCLUSIVE!**

Between Dec. 15, 2013, and Jan. 15, 2014, AA readers will receive 10 percent off all Osbe USA helmets with the code **FLYAA**. Twenty percent of the sales will be donated to cystic fibrosis research.

## Snow Deal

**S**KI OR SNOWBOARD 186 LIFTS, 1,281 TRAILS AND more than 30,000 acres of some of the best terrain in North America for roughly \$60 a day using the **MOUNTAIN COLLECTIVE PASS**, which unites a dozen top independent — and legendary — mountains for two days of skiing at each, plus half-price lift tickets and hotel discounts if you want to play in the snow longer. Can't decide where to downhill this season? Grab your goggles and head for, in no particular order: **Alta/Snowbird in Utah; Aspen/Snowmass, Colo.; Jackson Hole, Wyo.; Mammoth, Squaw Valley/Alpine Meadows in California; and Whistler Blackcomb in Canada.** With daily lift



tickets bumping the \$100 mark at a growing number of resorts, the Mountain Collective pass is an affordable excuse to return to a favorite mountain or to try a new one. Passes are on sale while quantities last, with the bonus of no holiday blackout dates. \$379 for adult passes and \$239 for passes for kids 12 and under, [www.mountaincollective.com](http://www.mountaincollective.com) —EVELYN KANTER

{ FASHION }

### Support Your Team In Style

Just in time for bowl season, there's a new way to wear your college colors: **DOCKERS GAME DAY KHAKIS**. The brand's first collection of college-themed apparel helps you demonstrate your sporting allegiance without sacrificing comfort or fashion. Designed for faithful fans who have a

State. The khakis come in two cuts: the Game Day Alpha, with a tapered fit, and the Game Day Classic, for a more traditional silhouette. Each style is available in throwback British Khaki or the school's official color, and both feature an embroidered school logo on the back-right pocket. Printed inside the waistband:



sense of style, Game Days (tastefully) incorporate the colors, logos and mottoes from 10 major schools, including Texas A&M, the University of Georgia, Louisiana State University, the University of Missouri and Washington

the team's rallying cry. At once versatile and personal, Game Days are perfect for a night out — or a long afternoon spent on the couch. \$78 for *Game Day Alpha* and \$68 for *Game Day Classic*, [www.dockers.com](http://www.dockers.com) —JOSH SENS

# COME “PLAY. HIDE. SEEK.” IN NEWPORT BEACH



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If you're finding it tough to have some together time with the special people in your life, how about a “play date” in Newport Beach? Whether you're renewing the romance of your first attraction as a couple or just want to share some family fun, Newport Beach is the ideal playground.



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## “SEEKING” UNIQUE HOLIDAY GIFTS

As the holiday lights twinkle throughout Fashion Island, unique gift ideas abound in designer boutiques or allow Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom or Bloomingdales to satisfy your shopping desires. Stroll the charming streets of Corona del Mar, Balboa Island and Mariner's Mile. Explore the shops at Crystal Cove Promenade, Corona del Mar Plaza, the Bluffs and more. For holiday shopping inspiration, [VisitNewportBeach.com/shop](http://VisitNewportBeach.com/shop)

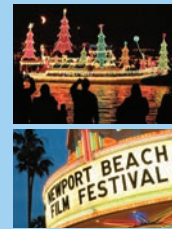


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## WHAT'S “PLAYING” IN NEWPORT BEACH?



DECEMBER 18-22, 2013  
105th Annual Christmas Boat Parade

JANUARY 17-26, 2014  
8th Annual Restaurant Week

APRIL 24-MAY 1, 2014  
15th Annual Newport Beach Film Festival

APRIL 25-27, 2014

67th Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race



MAY 30 - JUNE 1, 2014  
20th Annual Newport Beach Jazz Festival at Hyatt Regency



JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2014  
Sunset Jazz Summer Series at Newport

JUNE-OCTOBER, 2014

Hyatt Regency Summer Concert Series

JUNE 2014

Russo and Steele Collector Automobile Auction



JULY 4, 2014  
Independence Day on the Bay

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{ MUSIC }

# Man on the Moon

**JAMES BLUNT** opens up about his recent album, social media and life in the public eye.

**M**OOON LANDING, THE FOURTH EDITION OF what are often emotion-filled melodies from singer-songwriter James Blunt, is unapologetically unapologetic.

“I wasn’t singing to an audience or writing songs for an audience — even trying to entertain an audience,” Blunt says of the album’s stripped-down, heart-on-his-sleeve recording process. “Instead, I was writing songs about my life’s experiences for myself, to understand what’s going on in the world and my admittance of my own failings and insecurities along the way. When you accept those, it allows you to relax a little bit, doesn’t it?”

From the time “You’re Beautiful” was released nearly 10 years ago until now, Blunt has been no stranger to sharing openly through song. Although he’s sold nearly 17 million records since his 2004 debut, *Back to Bedlam*, lodging “You’re Beautiful” forever into our collective pop consciousness, he may be admittedly less immune than most to the abuse so often afforded pop stars who might just be a little too good at writing a memorable hook. It’s a good thing he takes self-deprecation seriously. If you follow his Twitter account (@JamesBlunt), you’ll find that firing back facetiously has become one of his clever hobbies.

“I think there is an issue with humanity in that people in the privacy of their own rooms feel somehow brave enough with Internet



anonymity to be pretty rude,” Blunt says. “I think that might be tough for people who are more delicate than myself. I question why humans feel the need to be quite so horrid to each other, but in my case, it’s something I positively enjoy.”

Blunt addresses social-media addictions on the bouncy “Satellites,” *Moon Landing*’s second single behind the barnstorming pop number “Bonfire Heart.” Perhaps more poignant is Blunt’s dissection of the Whitney Houston tragedy on “Miss America.” “It’s happened to Michael Jackson, Amy Winehouse and even perhaps Princess Diana,” he says.

It’s an idea that Blunt undoubtedly has considered, processed and resolved on *Moon Landing*, which, in all its rawness, is Blunt’s best work since *Bedlam*. The album is an exercise in back-to-basics introspection. —KEVIN RAUB



New York city



## Broadway’s Good Lovin’

The blue-eyed soul music of **THE RASCALS** is back — in Broadway form.

**For people** of a certain age, The Rascals epitomized 1960s idealism, exemplified in addictive feel-good tunes like “Groovin’,” “Good Lovin’ ” and “A Beautiful Morning.” The band’s innovative sound brought rhythm and blues to wider audiences, and now — with a 2012 test run in Port Chester, N.Y., under its belt — *The Rascals: Once Upon a Dream* is set to return to Broadway from Dec. 16 through Jan. 5, 2014, at the Marquis Theatre.

The show is the brainchild of none other than Steven Van Zandt, the guitarist from Bruce Springsteen’s E Street Band who also played the role of Silvio Dante on *The Sopranos* for eight seasons. Van Zandt, who shares directing duties with Marc Brickman, was moved to mount the production because The Rascals “introduced a lot of us young white kids to soul music and R&B, and they were much closer to the source than The Beatles. They were fantastic songwriters, and they invented their own genre: blue-eyed soul.”

Because the band was so short-lived — together from the mid-’60s to the early ’70s — Van Zandt says that the group’s original fans “never thought they’d see them live. This is the lost band of the ’60s, and what’s exciting is that they’re bringing their children and grandchildren.”

Van Zandt allows that his own name may draw some people to the musical, “but they’re leaving as The Rascals’ fans — and they’re coming out of the show with this glow of the ’60s, this optimism and hope. It’s a revelation.” —DREW LIMSKY



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{ EAT }

# Mangia Italiana!

WHILE A TRIP TO Lo Stivale isn't always convenient, visitors to the Dallas/Fort Worth area now have the next best thing: **APOLLONIA'S ITALIAN KITCHEN**, an Italian eatery inspired by the old-school culinary traditions of both Abruzzo and Sicily. Apollonia's specializes in the kinds of classic, hearty recipes your nonna used to make — dishes like spaghetti and meatballs, homemade gnocchi with pesto sauce and crispy eggplant parmigiano made with San Marzano tomatoes, fresh basil and mozzarella. The family-run restaurant is also known for its pizzas, a selection of thin-crust pies ranging from a capicola-, pancetta- and sausage-topped Carne Amore to the Pollo Quattro Formaggio — a white pizza sporting a mix of mushrooms, as well as spinach, chicken and ricotta cheese. Thirsty? Customers rave about Apollonia's housemade limoncello and its selection of hand-picked Italian wines. Owners Bruce Marco; his sister, Rosalia; and her husband, Giacomo, are often on hand to greet customers, and



EDITOR'S PICK



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—LAURA KINIRY



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—RENEE BRINCKS

{ HOLIDAYS }

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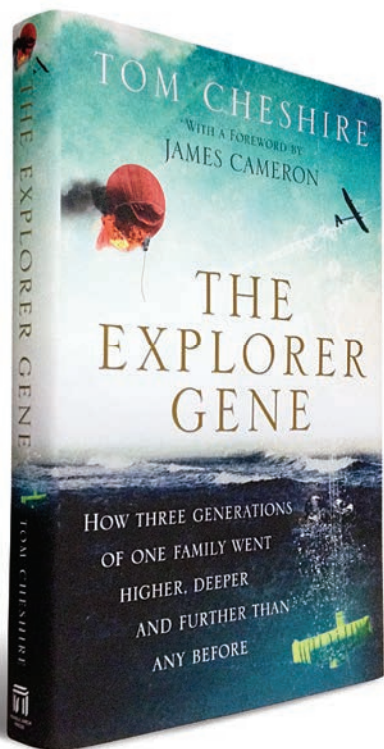
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{ BOOKS }

## All In the Family

**TOM CHESHIRE**'s new book, *The Explorer Gene*, chronicles how great explorations are merely a Piccard family tradition.

**S**AY THE NAME "PICCARD," AND MOST FOLKS will think of Jean-Luc Picard from the TV show *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. The captain of the *USS Enterprise* actually was named after the real-life Piccard family: Swiss explorers who truly did boldly go where no man had gone before. British writer Tom Cheshire chronicles the family's incredible journeys in his new book, *The Explorer Gene: How Three Generations of One Family Went Higher, Deeper and Further Than Any Before* (Atria Books/Marble Arch Press, \$25).

"The Piccards had a unique way of looking at the world," Cheshire tells *American Way*. "They were incredibly curious individuals. They wanted to explore and to test everything and had the ability to come up with a means to do it."

First up was Auguste Piccard. In 1931, he piloted his own balloon 51,775 feet into the stratosphere, paving the way for today's commercial air travel. Three years later, his twin brother, Jean-Felix, and sister-in-law, Jeannette, bested Auguste's record in their own balloon. In 1960, Auguste's son Jacques piloted the bathyscaphe *Trieste* to Challenger Deep, 35,814 feet below sea level. In 1991, Jacques' son Bertrand became the

first to circumnavigate the world in a balloon. This summer, he co-piloted the Solar Impulse, a solar-powered plane, across the United States.

While the Piccards have written about their adventures, Cheshire's book is the first to explore the interaction among the generations: the rivalries, the idol worship, the inevitable rebellion. One of the strongest chapters examines Jacques' upbringing, surrounded by the great minds of the time. "When your parents know Einstein and Curie and Heisenberg, the sense of what is achievable changes," Cheshire says. "You naturally become more ambitious."

Ambitious, yes. But in sharp contrast to today's thrill-seekers and reality-show wannabes, the Piccards were never in it for the fame. "Auguste was a scientist," Cheshire says. "He was not there to break records. He was only trying to study science and not to entertain."

Cheshire's deep study is an entertaining book that encourages readers to discover their inner explorer. "Exploration is a matter of attitude," Cheshire says. "Once you start to wonder, 'Why is that? How do I find that out?,' then you are exploring." —KRISTIN BAIRD RATTINI

### In Short:



**Learning to Breathe: One Woman's Heroic Journey to Save Her Child's Life, and Yours**  
By Sue Fries

with Todd Aaron Jensen  
(Xulon Press, \$15)

Shaken by the near death of her 4-year-old son, Tyson, when he suffered his first asthma attack, author Sue Fries journeys into understanding the breathing condition that affects tens of millions of Americans annually. Her research on asthma has yielded little-known causes and cures as well as tips for staying healthy. Also known as the Termite Lady, Fries is the Southern California-based owner of Ecola Services, an organic termite- and pest-control business, and is also a former director and chairwoman of the Pest Control Operators of California. She has a passion for educating the public on how to eliminate life-threatening allergens. —JACLYN TROP



**Our Picnics In the Sun: A Novel**  
By Morag Joss  
(Delacorte Press, \$25)  
Deborah and Howard Morgan have lived

impecuniously and undisturbed in the English countryside for three decades when a young man takes a room at their makeshift bed-and-breakfast. Though the misanthropic couple is loathe to welcome outsiders into their world, Deborah adopts Theo as a constant companion as she avoids the home repairs that have left the Morgans' property in shambles; she begrudgingly washes, dresses and walks Howard, who suffered a stroke years earlier. But the mysterious interloper's motives are less than crystal clear in this tale as chilling as the dilapidated farmhouse Deborah and Howard call home.

—J.T.



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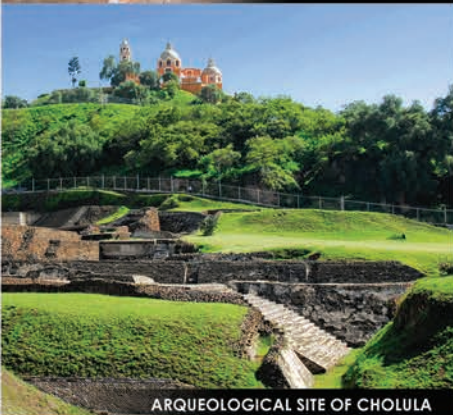
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# Wheels Up

For more than 10 years, motocross champ **TRAVIS PASTRANA** and his crew have entertained viewers around the world with crazy and wild stunts via the megahit Nitro Circus TV show and film franchise. Now, he's giving audiences the chance to see him perform in person.

**S**UPERSTAR motocross performer, NASCAR favorite and new father Travis Pastrana made his name at the age of 14 when he became a freestyle motocross world champ. His achievements on two wheels and four have only multiplied, and in 2014, as the co-creator of the Nitro Circus Live tour, he'll bring stunts to bigger crowds than ever before across the U.S. *American Way* asked Pastrana about taking over the world, one crazy stunt at a time.

**AMERICAN WAY: What was the origin of Nitro Circus Live? Did it really start as a DVD series in your backyard in Maryland?**

**TRAVIS PASTRANA:** It started even before that. I had the first foam pit for motorcycles — you can land upside down and not break your neck. All the top guys would come and learn tricks, and there would be a lot of trial and error. Then we started filming everything, and it became a DVD series. We developed a core following, and Johnny Knoxville saw it and asked me for ideas, and I gave him about 10 pages [of stuff]. We tried them all, and it got picked up on MTV.

**AW: What were the most extreme ideas?**

**TP:** We were trying to do stuff that never had been done before — bigger, crazier. We thought of things that people had done but on a smaller level, like with Big Wheels or a Slip'N Slide or a blob, a big air bag. We set a blob on top of a skyscraper in Panama, and we BASE jumped from the blob. Knoxville really showed us the importance of using things that the audience can relate to, and that really helped us with the live show.

**AW: What are some unusual tricks people will see on the U.S. tour?**

**TP:** The beauty of Nitro is it's not a scripted show, per se. At every show, each performer is encouraged to try something they've never done before, and we never know what's going to work and what won't. One time, we put wheels on a Boogie board, and this great athlete Dusty Wylge jumped on it with flippers on. He was on this 40-foot ramp, and

the Boogie board had no steering. He literally had to hop the front tires when it was going 50 miles per hour. It goes up in the air, he does a 360, grabs it out in front of him, then does a rock-solid, which is a motorcycle trick: throws it under his feet and lands with his flippers on the Boogie board, 45 or 50 feet from where he took off. If he failed at any one of these steps, he basically had no skin on him.

**AW: We hear you're adding new venues, including New York City's Madison Square Garden.**

**TP:** That will be so cool for us. You have some guys at the top of their sports making millions of dollars, and you have guys like Pogo Fred — he's just got a pogo stick! And for all of them to show up and perform at a place like Madison Square Garden, it's going to be nuts. They're going to push themselves so far.

**AW: Tell us about the grand finale.**

**TP:** We try to get everyone in the air at the same time, and there's not a lot of give on that ramp. I love coordinating with everybody because action sports are all about a bunch of racers having fun. As much of an individual sport as it is, Nitro Live is a very big team sport, and it's cool to have that camaraderie.

**AW: So between Nitro and having a new baby, is this the best year of your life?**

**TP:** It's been a wild ride. With NASCAR pretty much full time, it's been busy. My wife, Lyn-Z [pro skateboarder Lyn-Z Adams Hawkins Pastrana], just had the baby and she's already started skating again!



For more information on Nitro Circus Live, including tickets and tour dates, visit [www.nitrocircus.com](http://www.nitrocircus.com)

TRAVIS PASTRANA'S

## Greatest Trick

**“IF** I had to name one trick, it would be the **DOUBLE BACKFLIP**. All my heroes were watching at the Staples Center. It was the one moment where everyone understood the exact emotion I was going through.”

That double backflip set the world record in 2006 for being the first double backflip performed on a motorcycle. Since then, Pastrana has set the world record for the fastest ascent of Mount Washington in a car (2010) and broken the Rally Car jump record by nearly 100 feet by soaring 269 feet from Long Beach Pier to a floating barge (2009).

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BRIEF: GO



**THE ART OF MAKING AN IMPRESSION:** Bentonville's unique draws include (clockwise from top) the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, tasty tacos from the Big Rub BBQ food truck, one-of-a-kind boutiques like The Paisley Place, the chic 21C Museum Bentonville hotel and the original Walton's 5-10 (circa 1950), now a visitors center and museum.

Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe and George Bellows in its permanent collection, the **Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art** wouldn't be out of place in New York. The building and grounds — designed by architect Moshe Safdie — alone are worth the trip. Why is this cultural heavyweight located here? Stroll over to the **Walmart Visitor Center** on the downtown square for the answer to that question. Crystal Bridges is backed by Walton family money, and the Walmart Visitor Center documents the rise of Sam Walton's empire, from a single Walton's 5-10 variety store (now the Visitor Center) to a global retail colossus.

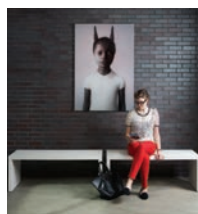
**STAY:** Speaking of art, Bentonville boasts one of the country's three **21c Museum Hotels**. The sleek, contemporary structure near downtown houses 104 guest rooms and a modern-art gallery open to the public 24/7. For a more nostalgic feel, try the

Find contact information for all of the places mentioned in this story on [aa.com/americanway](http://aa.com/americanway); search keyword **Bentonville**.

**Laughlin House Bed & Breakfast**, built just before the turn of the century and updated to reflect the tastes of modern travelers.

**SHOP:** You can't leave The Natural State without something emblazoned with a Razorbacks logo, be it a T-shirt, necklace, tie, etc. **The Mustache Goods & Wears**, a locally owned boutique, has you covered. You never know exactly what you'll find at **The Paisley Place**, but whatever you do come across will probably involve refurbished furniture, photography, art and clothing, and it will be creative. If you have any room left in your bag, a trip to **Black Crow Antiques & Curiosities** will fill it. Its employees comb estate sales so you don't have to.

**EAT:** The sabroso tacos at the **Big Rub BBQ food truck** will spoil you for street tacos the rest of your days; cooks smoke their brisket for several hours before stuffing it in a soft shell and covering it with lime, cilantro and brisket sauce. **The Flying Fish** puts a delicate scald on meaty catfish fillets and loads its bowls with spicy gumbo. And in 2011, **Tusk & Trotter American Brasserie** brought more than a hint of sophistication to the square when it opened, emphasizing local food and craft beer in an upscale — but not stuffy — atmosphere. Dare you to try the Crispy Pig Ear Salad.



A WEEKEND IN ...

## Bentonville, Ark.

From a world-renowned museum with works by Edward Hopper (not to mention an art gallery and a hotel all in one) to miles of bike trails and **ONE DARN-GOOD BARBECUE TACO TRUCK**, there's more than meets the eye in this quaint little town.

**I**N BENTONVILLE, ARK., the 800-pound gorilla is — of course — Walmart. And a city of 38,000 can't be the headquarters of the world's largest retailer without some of its characteristics rubbing off. What's surprising, then, is how un-Walmart-like Bentonville is. From its bustling downtown filled with small shops and eateries to world-class art, this small town doesn't feel like a big-box store.

**DO:** Start with a walk around Bentonville's **historic downtown square**, where you'll find beautifully restored buildings dating from the late 1800s and

a statue honoring former Arkansas Gov. James H. Berry and Confederate soldiers. If you're in town on a Saturday between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. April 27 through Oct. 26, you'll find the square filled with vendors selling locally grown veggies, fresh bread, handmade wooden furniture and the like at the weekly farmers market. Rent a bike at **Phat Tire Bike Shop** and explore the 36 miles of trails — from paved and smooth to gnarly single-track — that stretch from Bella Vista in the north to Fayetteville in the south.

**SEE:** When it comes to art, Bentonville punches far above its weight. With works by Edward



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## NEW YORK SUPER BOWL



# Neither Snow Nor Rain Nor Heat ...

The **SUPER BOWL** will be outdoors in a cold-weather location for the first time, and the New York/New Jersey area is the perfect place for that.

**F**OR MORE THAN A CENTURY, BROADWAY HAS been called “The Great White Way” because of the glistening lights of its theater district. People visit Broadway to see the brightest stars and, as TV legend Ed Sullivan was fond of saying, “a really big show.”

But what if Broadway, along with the rest of the greater New York area, turns into a literal “great, white way” in February under a foot or so of snow? What if the area is blasted with howling winds, freezing rain and power outages during the biggest show in American sports, the Super Bowl?

The answer: The National Football League will adjust. “Our overall philosophy,” says NFL Senior Vice President of Events Frank Supovitz, “is to embrace the

weather. We have a highly coordinated weather plan in case of inclement weather.”

In scheduling the Super Bowl to be played outdoors in a cold-weather area for the first time, the league obviously was aware of potential weather complications. NFL offices are on Park Avenue in New York. When league officials go to work in February, it’s cold. The average high temperature on Feb. 2, the day the Super Bowl will be played in 2014, is 39 degrees, according to The Weather Channel. The average low is 20.

Cold weather, however, is secondary because this is New York, a magical city of power and prestige. Or, as New York Giants co-owner Jonathan Tisch said on the NFL Network when New York was announced as host of Super Bowl XLVIII: “The greatest game in the world will



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## NEW YORK SUPER BOWL

be played on the greatest stage in the world.”

Actually, the game will be played across the Hudson River in East Rutherford, N.J., where the Giants and the New York Jets play home games in the 3-year-old MetLife Stadium. But the exclusive private parties and an inclusive public carnival will occur a few miles to the east in Manhattan and, in typical New York style, all will be grand.

For four days, Broadway will close to traffic for 10 blocks, from Herald Square to Times Square. Replacing the usual combination of gridlock and cantankerous cab drivers will be, among other things, an eight-lane toboggan run 58 feet tall and 180 feet long. Nearby, stages will feature local bands playing music and NFL players signing free autographs.

A video about football will be projected on the outside wall of Macy's. The Lombardi Trophy, which goes to the NFL champions, will be on display. Mary Pat Augenthaler, vice president of events for the NFL, says “Super Bowl

In many ways, it is logical for the game — **A CORPORATE WOODSTOCK** — to come to the heart of corporate America.

Boulevard” will be “very Broadway-esque.”

In many ways, it is logical for the game — a corporate Woodstock — to come to the heart of corporate America. Randy Levine, president of the New York Yankees, says it's about time. “New York is the greatest city in the world,” he emphatically states. “It puts on a big event like no other city in the world.”

The venue is in part a reward to the Giants and the Jets, who built the \$1.6 billion stadium without using public money. Putting a retractable roof on the stadium would have been an additional \$400 million, so the decision not to have one was, in part, economic. But playing in the elements is part of the storied history of the NFL, and that includes championship games. Some of those have been in New York.

In 1934, the night before the Giants were to play the Chicago Bears for the NFL title, a freezing rain left a sheet of ice on the field at the Polo Grounds. The Giants responded the next day by wearing gym shoes instead of cleats. They defeated the Bears for the championship in a contest famously called “The Sneaker Game.” So, if there is a little bad weather, it will

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**NOW YOU KNOW:** The New York/New Jersey area has more teams combined (nine) in the NBA, the NFL, the NHL and MLB than any other region in North America.



**GAME ON!** Yankee Stadium (left) and the Barclays Center, two of New York City's crown jewels for citywide sporting events

be a test for both teams and will represent a throwback to the pre-Super Bowl era.

"I'm not wishing for a 4-foot blizzard," Al Kelly, president and CEO of the NY/NJ Super Bowl Host Committee, told *The New York Times*, "but a couple of inches of white stuff and a lower temperature would be a great way for the game to be played."

The game will have a super impact throughout the area. It is a treat for the locally based television networks and advertising agencies who support the NFL with ever-increasing rights fees and produce the expensive commercials. Fox reportedly is charging \$4 million for a 30-second TV spot.

While MetLife Stadium will be the center

of attention on Feb. 2, in the week leading up to the game, the recent sports building boom will also be on display. Since 2007, six stadiums or arenas have been renovated or built in the greater New York area. In the week before the Super Bowl, Yankee Stadium in the Bronx (opened in 2009) will host two outdoor NHL hockey games — the New York Rangers against the New Jersey Devils on Jan. 26 and the Rangers against the New York Islanders on Jan. 29. Conversely, an event usually held outdoors in a football stadium — Media Day — will take place indoors at Newark, N.J.'s Prudential Center, which opened in 2007 and is the home of the Devils.

The young sports facilities have been attractive to all leagues. Major League Baseball's All-Star Game last summer graced Citi Field in Queens, the home of the New

FROM LEFT: ICON SM/CORBIS; STAN HONDA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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York Mets that opened in 2009. Next season, the NBA All-Star Game will be played in Madison Square Garden, which underwent a thorough, three-year renovation that was completed this year.

The facilities are first-rate — and ticket prices reflect that. For the Super Bowl, high-end customers will pay \$2,600 per ticket for about 9,000 premium seats — more than twice the price of a premium seat at last year's Super Bowl in New Orleans. But Tisch points out that until the recent sports building boom, "New York was woefully underserved in terms of state-of-the-art facilities." The increased prices simply reflect the economics of the area. "Many corporations, hedge funds, private-equity companies and families that can support the economics of private suites and clubs are in the tri-state region," he says, referring to New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

His market analysis mirrors that of Brett Yormark, the CEO of the Brooklyn Nets and the Barclays Center, the Nets' home court, which opened in 2012 and will be the Islanders' new home beginning in 2015. "In this market, there really isn't a resistance to price if value meets price," Yormark says.

Even if the Super Bowl were to be postponed by a raging blizzard, it won't be all bad, says Kelly, the head of the host committee. "In some kind of perverse, ironic way, if it actually snows and the game is delayed on Sunday and has to be played on Monday, that means another night of people staying in town eating and drinking," Kelly said at a recent public appearance. "So, from an economic-value perspective, it's not a bad thing."

If weather does not cooperate, the contingency plans range from delaying the kickoff to postponing the game until the next day. Whatever happens, the organizers say they are prepared. They are optimistic that the glamour and magnificence of the event will overshadow any potential problem.

And who knows? A successful cold-weather Super Bowl could mean it would be played in northern outdoor stadiums in the future, which would mean it would be the fulfillment of Frank Sinatra's prophecy.

If the Super Bowl can make it in New York (and New Jersey), it can make it anywhere.

**JOE LAPOINTE**, a New York-based journalist, spent 20 years as a sports reporter for *The New York Times*. Lapointe has covered five Super Bowls and currently teaches journalism at New York University, Rutgers and Long Island University-Brooklyn.

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BALLOON ART



# Twist and Shout

Professional **BALLOON ARTISTS** weigh in on their quirky — and rewarding — profession.

I WATCHED AS THE WOMAN TWISTED A BROWN balloon into the sausagelike links that would form the center of my balloon sunflower, impressed with her dexterity and slightly terrified of hearing a piercing “POP!” She’d approached my husband and me while we were eating brunch at The Frisco, one of our favorite greasy spoons in Austin, Texas, and where we often had noticed a balloon artist blowing and folding balloons into things like poodles, swords, aliens in spaceships and, yes, sunflowers, for customers, free of charge. “The secret’s in not filling them so much that they’ll burst,” she says.

I’d always thought balloon art seemed like a nice way to keep kids entertained while they waited for their pancakes. But this week, there weren’t many little ones around, and I was feeling the cheerful effects of an especially warm, sunny Sunday morning — so I said yes when she asked if I wanted a balloon. Her name was Cathy, she revealed, and she suggested making the sunflower, which turned out to be a pretty complex piece. In fact, it took her a solid 10 minutes to put it together while standing

at our table. Not engaging her in conversation for all that time as we ate eggs and home fries seemed not only rude but totally awkward too. So I started asking questions.

“How long have you been doing this?” I query.

“Eight months,” she replies.

“What’s your most complicated piece?”

“A sunflower.”

“Is there a book or something that taught you how to do this?”

“I work for a children’s-party company, and they send us to different classes to learn different skills.”

It was about this time that Cathy put the final twist on the leaves of her 3-foot-tall sunflower and handed me the floaty masterpiece. Impressed with the final result, I thanked and then tipped her. And while she was the only balloon artist I’d ever had a conversation with, I couldn’t help but wonder how others like her got involved in the profession — and what kept them twisting.

**Some balloon artists** choose the profession for fun, others to earn money. But they all have one thing in

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common: their desire to spread good cheer and to make people laugh. “Balloon-twisters are close to clowns, and many often do clown too. So they tend to be funny,” says Lanna Lee Maheux, a balloon artist in Westbrook, Maine, who got her start in 1989 as a clown at a local Ground Round Grill & Bar restaurant, where twisting was part of the job. “Maybe it’s because of doing so many kids’ parties, so there’s always lots of silly jokes. Kids would usually ask for basic things, like dogs, but it was always fun to make the moment special when you’d hand them your creation.” In the early 1990s, Maheux even ran into author Stephen King and his son. (King asked Maheux to make something cool, so Maheux made a cat. “I was very nervous, and his preteen son wasn’t impressed!” she says.) Though she eventually tired of clowning, Maheux loved performing and struck out as an independent balloon artist, continuing to work at restaurants, corporate events and parties to make extra money.

Others, like Josh Routh, start twisting as a hobby. At 12 years old, he was a troubled kid

# TWISTING 101

**A dog is one of the simplest balloon sculptures, says St. Louis-based balloon artist Thad James, and anyone can learn to make one. Try these simple instructions from BalloonHQ.com — it’s where all the pros go — and find plenty more tips on twisting and sculpting.**



**STEP ONE:**

Inflate your balloon (a hand pump makes it easy), leaving the last four inches of the tail end uninflated, and tie it. As you twist the balloon, air will move into the tail.

**STEP TWO:**

Fold the balloon about six inches from the tied end so part of the balloon is sitting alongside itself.

**STEP THREE:**

To make the ears, gently squeeze both portions of the balloon about two inches from the fold and twist. Rotate the twist two to three times to secure it.

**STEP FOUR:**

Fold your balloon about an inch below the twist that formed the ears, and twist in a circular motion to form the front legs.

**STEP FIVE:**

To make the back legs, make another fold two inches away from the twist that formed the front legs, then twist. Your dog is complete!

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who also struggled with learning disabilities, and his mother was attending school to become a social worker. One of her electives was a class on clowning and, lacking child care, she brought Routh along. “The teacher started teaching me balloons, and I got obsessed. I started going to nursing homes and hospitals, and as I got into my later teens, I began doing events around the country,” he says. Now 35, he owns and operates Circus Kaput, a St. Louis-based entertainment/party company offering balloon artists, magicians, jugglers, face painters and more.

As the balloon artist at The Frisco told me, not overinflating balloons is key to successful twisting, but there’s more to being a great balloon artist than sharp technical skills. Almost as important is managing a line of customers at a party or event — and knowing how to keep those customers happy while they wait. “Often, while I’m making a balloon for one person, I’ll ask the next person in line what they want,” Routh says. “They won’t always know right away, but they know that they need to start thinking about it.”

# Ballooning in the Big Apple

**S**INCE ARRIVING in New York City in 2003, Brooklyn-based balloon artist **Todd Neufeld** has built balloon hats and sculptures at corporate parties, crafted balloon wedding dresses, worked with a Parisian photographer on an Americana-themed balloon photo shoot (complete with a balloon American flag, hot dog and rocket ship) and even formed a local balloon-artist organization called **NY Twisters**.

“This is for sure one of the greatest cities in the world, and there are constantly cool things happening. And there’s always room for another balloon person, whether for a window display or a grand opening or something on stage,” he says. The only constraint? In a city where everyone travels by foot, subway or taxi, hauling a kit filled with 85 types of balloons plus a giant air pump to events simply isn’t possible. “If I lived in a different city, I could keep everything in a car and roll out a giant display. But here, I have to be picky about what I bring, because



Two models in front of one of Neufeld’s inflated creations

I always have to pack it up and carry it,” Neufeld explains.

But in a way, those limitations are actually a plus, since they always force Neufeld to think creatively. And that’s something that’s symbolic of life as a whole for an artist in New York City, where everyone thinks they’ve seen it all. “When you live in New York, you can’t believe your own hype. It’s impossible to become arrogant in a city where so many talented people live, so there’s always that balance of feeling humbled — and also feeling encouraged to do better,” Neufeld says. “If I don’t constantly push the envelope, I’ll become irrelevant.”

His latest endeavor? If you’re headed to the Big Apple (and have the kids in tow), we suggest checking it out for yourself: Neufeld’s new monthly variety show, **Little Laffs**, mixes juggling, balloon art, music, comedy and more on the first Sunday of each month at the **Jalopy Theatre in Brooklyn**. Learn more at [www.littlelaffsny.com](http://www.littlelaffsny.com).

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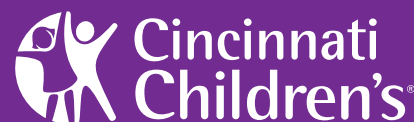
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And whether it's a child asking for a sea horse or a corporate client requesting large, decorative balloon sculptures, managing expectations is key. "I always say to under-promise and overdeliver," Routh explains. That's something Thad James, another St. Louis artist who's been twisting for 14 years, has plenty of experience with — like the

time he built a balloon installation for an insurance company's national convention gala. The event had a Beatles theme, and instead of making just one sculpture, James (with a little help from his friends, of course) built four 18-foot balloon structures, including a yellow submarine, an octopus' garden and replicas of the Fab Four's instruments — all in

less than three days. "The client was worried we wouldn't finish on time, and the best part was seeing how amazed they looked by how quickly we put everything together," he says.

It doesn't end with parties, though. Todd Neufeld, a Brooklyn, N.Y.-based balloon artist and founder of Twisted Balloon Company, was once commissioned by Jerry Seinfeld's TV show *The Marriage Ref* to build a life-size balloon woman for people to throw knives at. And when the *Maury* show came calling for an episode all about unusual phobias, Neufeld was asked to make sculptures for a woman who was deathly afraid of balloons. "At the beginning of the show, she was scared. But by the end, her phobia was cured and she was wearing balloon hats," Neufeld says. Both James and Maheux have also helped put together haunted-mansion balloon exhibits large enough for people to actually walk through, and James has built balloon gardens complete with flowers, waterfalls, fountains and ponds for home-and-garden shows. Surprisingly, though, no matter how much work James puts into a project, he doesn't feel that attached to it once it's complete. "People always ask, 'What will you do with this once it's over?' We're going to pop the balloons. That's what balloons do — they're a temporary art form that aren't built to last forever," he says. It's the creative process — rather than admiring the final product after the fact — that many balloon artists find the most meaningful.

Despite the fact their sculptures fall flat after just a few days, balloon artists can still build things with long-lasting impact. Since 2008, Neufeld has been twisting balloons at the White House for military members and their families during an annual United Service Organizations event. And after receiving a fellowship from the Regional Arts Commission, which pairs artists with social workers to create art for social change, Routh began working with inner-city youths at local juvenile-detention centers. He also regularly helps with charity events for animal rescues, military families and literacy programs. He has even performed at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, D.C. "I don't peddle in balloons, I peddle in good feelings. And if I can make a moment of magic, that's what people will remember," he says. 

**MARYGRACE TAYLOR** is an Austin, Texas-based writer whose work has appeared in *Redbook* and *Prevention*. As a child, she thought helium-filled balloons that were released into the sky would float to Balloon Heaven.

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valuable time and energy. "After we select your match, we'll describe the person to you and confirm a convenient time and place for you to meet. All you have to do is show up and have fun meeting someone new," Herington says. Less time searching equals more time dating.

## 4 Date Smarter

Herington reminds singles that they can have a career and a relationship. They just have to "date smarter." IJL helps you make time for the things that matter. Since It's Just Lunch matchmakers take care of all the dating details, you can focus on finding that elusive chemistry that many feel escapes them. Herington says that her clients often wished they had contacted her sooner. "Most of them didn't realize how easy and enjoyable It's Just Lunch dating can be," she says. All it takes is a simple phone call and conversation with an IJL dating specialist to jump start your dating life. Give them a call today and meet your match!

Believe it or not, your computer screen may be getting in the way of your dating life. While we may use technology to stay "connected" to friends and family, when it comes to meeting potential partners, the digital world obscures the thing that matters most: **chemistry**.

To get a pulse on today's dating scene, we talked to Cindy Herington, one of the many dating experts at It's Just Lunch, the world's largest personalized matchmaking service. Here she explains why you should **ditch the laptop for the tabletop**.

## 1 Ditch the Laptop

The premise of It's Just Lunch is simple: a lunch date or drink after work is the ideal first date. It's a no pressure, relaxed setting where you can talk face-to-face. "Real chemistry happens in person," Herington says. "You may be having a great online relationship, but when you finally meet, you discover that the person you've spent so much time with in cyberspace is nothing like what you imagined." Replace those digital emoticons with a casual lunch date and you'll know immediately if you should take it to the next level.

## 2 Get a Wingman (or Wingwoman)

It's Just Lunch clients often refer to their matchmakers as their "dating wingwomen" because they handle all of the dating logistics. Herington describes her role, saying, "We're genuinely interested in understanding our clients. We get to know you and what you're looking for." Every IJL match is hand-selected.

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BY **ETHAN ROUEN**



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**ECADES FROM NOW**, New York City will still be Michael Bloomberg's city. Technology will change the way business is conducted. Shifting pop-

ulations will alter commuting, entertainment and industry. Fashion will have changed a dozen times. But Bloomberg, who has served as mayor of the most populated city in the United States since 2002, has altered its character so deeply that his legacy will be aggressively visible to the next several generations of city dwellers.

Part of the reason for his far-reaching influence is that Bloomberg, 71, is not just a politician — Wall Street titans around the world coo his name every time they lovingly refer to his company's software platform, which provides them vital financial information at the push of a button. Bloomberg, who started the business 30 years ago with impressive prescience, still owns the money tree of a company. The many billions of dollars Bloomberg L.P. has generated in profits — Bloomberg came from a middle-class background and is now the 13th-richest person in the world — have allowed him to become a powerful philanthropist as well. From off-Broadway shows to museums to outdoor concerts, it is rare to go to a cultural event in New York that doesn't thank him or his charitable organization for its support.

His money also has allowed him a level of freedom that no other politician has been able to mold into such an advantage.

Bloomberg is beholden only to the voters who elect him. He takes \$1 as his salary and refuses money from special-interest groups. He doesn't need the headaches of a life in politics, and his public demeanor seems to make it clear that being mayor is more of an obligation than an ego boost.

At press conferences, he answers questions with the

role of a big-city mayor. He has placed a keen focus on public health and the impact of climate change, two issues often bogged down in bureaucracy and political yammering. In just one decade, he has made great strides in improving the quality of life for New Yorkers and has ensured that, after he leaves office, these policies will continue and grow.

seeming mix of annoyance and urgency that he has so much to accomplish and so little time to complete all his goals. He throws himself into the causes he believes in like a bungee jumper. Even on the long-shot policies — and there have been several long shots — his rhetoric reveals unflinching certainty that what he is proposing is best for the city and to stand against it is, simply, dumb. This freedom and confidence led to groundbreaking policies like a smoking ban, which was met with much resistance and has since been championed around the world. It also led to some frustrating public defeats, like his attempt to introduce traffic-congestion pricing in Manhattan and the recent court battle over his ban of large, sugary drinks.

Most importantly, though, Bloomberg has been able to think more grandly and reshape

**LAY OF THE LAND:**  
Since 2002, Bloomberg has ruled New York City from his infamous bullpen at City Hall.





“Mayor Bloomberg has what it takes to be a leader on a global scale, and his vision is one that truly showcases his leadership skills,” says Eduardo Paes, the mayor of Rio de Janeiro. “That kind of vision, both ambitious and realistic, is certainly the result of his experience as a businessman and as mayor of New York.”

With his time in office waning but his ambition growing, Bloomberg has done what any passionate, philanthropic billionaire would do: He moved from trying to save his city to trying to save the world.

Since 2010, he has served as chairman of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, a collection of mayors of megacities around the world working to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and address climate risks. Using his philanthropy, leadership and vision, he has turned the C40 into an environmental powerhouse, an on-the-ground think tank that works with cities to improve quality of life and shares best practices to speed international development of tools that reduce environmental damage. As he looks to a future away from public office, it is likely his role in the C40 will solidify his legacy as a

**INITIATING CHANGE:** When a quiet moment is needed, Bloomberg escapes City Hall’s bullpen for a private meeting room (top). Pedestrians (right) enjoy a car-free Times Square, one of Bloomberg’s successful environmental initiatives.

pragmatic environmentalist who developed real solutions while the rest of the world bickered and watched the planet get warmer.

“We’re not elected to debate; we’re elected to get things done,” Bloomberg says of the mayors in the C40. “As chair of the C40, I’ve worked to bring cities together to share resources and to collaborate where we can. We all have the same goal: acting locally on climate-change efforts that will have a significant impact globally.”

**Bloomberg took the** oath of office less than four months after the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. Following a controversial election season in which he ended his lifelong affiliation with the Democratic Party to run as a Republican and spent \$73 million out of pocket on his campaign, Bloomberg faced a city that had been physically and

economically scarred like never before.

When Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy in 2008, and one of New York’s most important industries — as a job creator and a tax generator — seemed to be on life support, he again faced one of the toughest crises the city had ever seen. Nothing he did seemed right. Abandoning the banks would have caused unknown financial damage to the city. Offering assistance led to claims that Bloomberg was in bed with his former colleagues. He ignored his critics and followed what he believed would be the best path for the city: focusing on strengthening the economy while creating jobs and improving the environment.

New York’s economy is now thriving, and Bloomberg is leaving office with high approval ratings. But the mayor argues that his greatest accomplishments aren’t the economic renaissance or the record-low crime rate.

“There are many things we have achieved that I am proud of, but one of the most important to me is that life expectancy in New York City has grown three years since I took office in 2002 and is now 2.2 years greater

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**A DAY IN THE LIFE:** A proponent of public transportation, Bloomberg is occasionally spotted riding the subway (above). The mayor speaks out on the health impacts of sugar at Lucky's Café (below), which voluntarily adopted the mayor's ban on large sugary drinks even after it was struck down.

than the national average," he says.

He attributes this dramatic increase in part to the smoking ban he instituted as one of his first acts as mayor. This ban served as a preview of what was to come for Bloomberg's next decade in office. When he first ordered cigarettes out of all bars and restaurants, many said it would economically damage these establishments. More importantly, some said, it was an egregious example of the government telling adults what they should do.

Bloomberg pushed the ban through and has expanded it to public parks. He has also committed more than \$600 million since 2007 to combat tobacco use worldwide. And, in a city where the vocal few seem to be everywhere, he went head to head with them for what he believed was the good of the silent majority.

"Mike's smoking ban was originally derided but has since been imitated around the world," London mayor Boris Johnson says.

This pattern emerged many times during his tenure, with varying degrees of success. Fast-food chain restaurants now have to prominently display calorie information

on their menus, another of his public-health victories, and traffic lanes and parking spots have been taken over by bicycles. But he also faced very public defeats on a variety of policies that were vehemently opposed by people across the political spectrum.

Perhaps none has been as controversial as the New York Police Department's Stop-and-Frisk policy, an initiative of Mayor Nelson Rockefeller that has been used by New York State law enforcement since 1964. The debate over the constitutionality of the law has existed for decades and came to a head in 2011 when David Floyd, as well as several others, filed a federal class-action lawsuit against the NYPD and the city of New York for unlawful stop-and-frisk practices. Bloomberg, an outspoken advocate of the program, vowed to uphold the policy, but this past summer, presiding judge Shira A.

Scheidlin ruled that the policy violated civil rights through racial profiling. In October, due to a misapplied ruling and a lack of impartiality, Scheindlin was removed from the case, and Bloomberg is now attempting to have the ruling thrown out.

"It is a shame that the mayor refuses to address or even acknowledge the toll that the NYPD's discriminatory and abusive policing practices exact on the rights and dignity of the people — especially young men of color,



FROM TOP: PARIDUKOVIC/TRUNK ARCHIVE; ALLISON JOYCE/GETTY IMAGES

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**GREEN THUMB:** Bloomberg, chair of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, participates in a C40 tree-planting ceremony in São Paulo's Ibirapuera Park.

who are the prime targets," says Donna Lieberman, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

He has equally outraged the political right with policies such as his soda ban, an attempt to bar large, sugary drinks from being sold in New York City that also was

defeated in court. A week after the judge's decision, Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant signed into law an "anti-Bloomberg" rule that gives the Mississippi Legislature full authority on food sales and marketing, such as controlling portion sizes and posting nutrition information. "It is simply not the role of government to micro-regulate citizens' dietary decisions," Bryant said at the time. "The responsibility for one's personal health depends on individual choices about a proper diet and appropriate exercise."

Still, Bloomberg has continued fighting undaunted, arguing in favor of his policies even during his last days in office. "When I came into office, I was interested in policy changes that would help people live longer, healthier lives; I believe that's a fundamental responsibility of government," he explains. "Over time, I came to see environmental issues in the same vein, especially around air quality. Clean air is an environmental issue as well as a public-health issue."

In 2007, Bloomberg released PlaNYC, a sweeping collection of goals spread out over

decades to prepare the city for a growing population, to strengthen the economy and enhance the quality of life for all New Yorkers. The policies looked not only to improve infrastructure but to take into account climate change and to reduce the city's carbon footprint. Change has been rapid and dramatic, as New York has reduced emissions by 16 percent, more than halfway to its goal of 30 percent by 2030. Bike lanes snake through every borough. Trees have sprouted in concrete jungles. Major thoroughfares have become pedestrian oases.

Bloomberg, a titan of industry, took one of the major arguments against environmental initiatives — that they damage the economy — and showed not only that it wasn't true but that when policies are thoughtfully implemented, they could increase economic activity. One example is the closing of Times Square to cars, says Rohit Aggarwala, C40 special adviser to Bloomberg and former director of long-term planning and sustainability for New York City. Despite initial outrage, the decision has led to improved

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traffic flow, better air quality and increased retail sales because of the thousands of pedestrians who roam through the pedestrian corridors every day.

“People said that New York could not be made green,” Aggarwala muses. “He demonstrated that it is doable and has significant economic gains.”

**As chair of the C40**, Bloomberg wields an outsized amount of power in the climate-change battle. Cities account for 70 percent of the world’s greenhouse gases and contain half the world’s population.

“The federal government has largely failed to act on any of these issues,” Bloomberg says. “Whether tackling the environment

or crime or education or transportation, mayors are problem-solvers. We’re not interested in national party politics. Residents hold us accountable for improving conditions in their communities. That’s why cities have become laboratories of change.”

Since becoming C40’s chairman, Bloomberg has shaped an underfunded, informal organization into one doing more than almost any other group to improve the environment. He has provided significant funding through Bloomberg Philanthropies but has developed a secession plan that includes setting up C40 as a 501c3 so it can solicit donations from individuals and philanthropic organizations and engage corporate partners where appropriate.

“We always knew he wouldn’t fund it forever,” Aggarwala says. “The next chair will find the C40 with a diversified set of funders.”

In addition, Bloomberg worked with former President Bill Clinton to fully merge the Clinton Climate Initiative Cities Program into the C40. The C40 now has a staff of more than 30 around the world and 63 member cities representing 8 percent of the population and 21 percent of gross domestic product.

“The ultimate decision to integrate the two organizations was no doubt driven by the existing relationship between Mayor Bloomberg and [former] President Clinton,” says Bruce Lindsey, former CEO of the William J. Clinton Foundation. “They shared a conviction and a vision that cities can lead the way to protect our environment.”

To date, C40 cities have taken on more than 5,000 initiatives that could reduce greenhouse-gas emissions by more than 1 billion tons by 2030 (the equivalent of making both Canada and Mexico carbon neutral). Los Angeles has replaced its outdoor lighting with LEDs, reducing energy use by more than 60 percent. The Empire State Building’s environmental retrofit will save it \$4.4 million a year in energy costs. And Chicago is on track to reduce its greenhouse-gas emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

These successes will be passed on to the next cities.

“C40 provides a good forum to exchange ideas and work with other municipalities to gain wider audience for our efforts,” says Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

One stark example of how this information sharing can improve environmental conditions rapidly is in the move to hybrid

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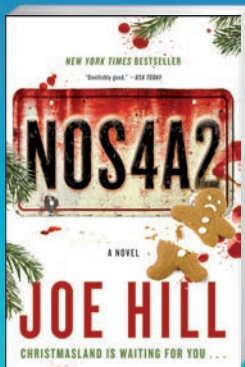
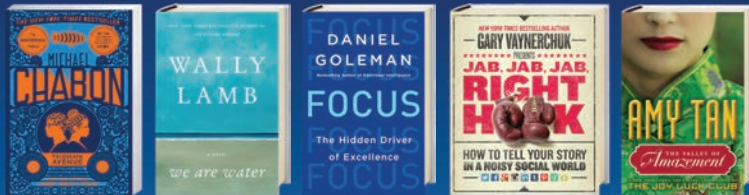
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## MICHAEL BLOOMBERG

and electric buses in Latin America. São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, along with Bogotá, Colombia, and Santiago, Chile, all were considering purchasing electric buses. Time spent testing in each city would have been as long as two years before purchasing decisions would have been made. By coordinating through C40, the four cities cut their testing times by 75 percent, speeding the delivery of clean public transit.

“Cities are pioneering new solutions in large part because mayors are pragmatists who are directly responsible for delivering results,” Bloomberg explains. “Cities understand the importance of immediate action, and that’s why I got involved in C40.”

**Although Bloomberg has** been quiet about his plans for after he leaves office, he has been very vocal about what still needs to be done. Hurricane Sandy seemed to wash away any chance that Bloomberg would obtain lame-duck status. Instead, the storm seemed to fill him with even more energy. All of a sudden, climate change wasn’t something affecting far-off places. It was a storm surge that flooded Wall Street and left some of the wealthiest neighborhoods in the world without power for days.

“What Hurricane Sandy did was show that everything we demonstrated as a risk in 2007 was true,” Aggarwala says. “You’d be hard-pressed now to find anyone in New York who doesn’t think that climate change is a risk.”

Bloomberg has used the storm to garner further support for his causes. In addition, it has allowed him to remain active as mayor up until his successor takes office on Jan. 1, 2014. Since the storm, and with less than a year left in office, he launched the largest bike-share program in the world, proposed a plan to get New Yorkers to compost food scraps and outlined a \$20 billion storm-protection plan that would build seawalls, dunes and levees around the city.

“It’s been said that ‘New York will be a great place — if they ever finish it,’” Bloomberg says. “The work here is never done — that’s what makes it such a dynamic and exciting place. But we’ve built a foundation that will serve the city for years to come.”

**ETHAN ROUEN** is a Ph.D. student at Columbia Business School and a columnist for Fortune.com. As a former crime reporter for the *New York Daily News*, he has traveled to every neighborhood in the city.



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# The Man Behind the Window

It's Christmastime all the time for **PAUL OLSZEWSKI**, and he wouldn't have it any other way. Neither would awestruck **Macy's** shoppers during the holidays.

BY **MICHAEL VENTRE**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **PETER MURPHY**

THE  
NEW  
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**D**ON'T YOU JUST WISH it was the holiday season year-round? Not the parts that send you rushing to the medicine cabinet for a headache remedy, mind you. Or finding a parking spot at the mall, securing that impossible-to-get toy of the moment for little Johnny or receiving a sweater that no human should be forced to wear. Rather, the wondrous elements that get eyes dancing and hearts leaping.

Paul Olszewski has a job like that. For him, this year's holiday season began just after last year's, and next year's will follow suit, and so on. Of course, as director of windows and interior flagship marketing for Macy's, he has other duties, too, that involve the latest fashions and window displays for stores throughout the chain. But when it comes to creating masterpieces for Macy's store windows during the holidays — in particular, the famous Herald Square displays in New York City — he is St. Nick, your favorite uncle and Leonardo da Vinci rolled into one.

"All things lead to the Christmas windows," says Olszewski, who came to Macy's about eight years ago after similar gigs at Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman. "They are the most-talked-about, and people come

from all over the world to New York City and go window-shopping, and seeing the Christmas windows — it's something high on their list of things to do during the holidays. They

are probably the most important windows we do all year — not to take anything away from all the fashion windows we do all year."

A Christmas tree covered in tinsel. A

Santa mannequin. Maybe an elf or two and a cute dog with a yuletide hat. A smiling reindeer. While that scene might be pleasant to some, it is probably Olszewski's failure nightmare.

His bailiwick involves state-of-the-art technology, animation, puppetry and interactive displays; the kind of wizardry and gadgetry that knows no bounds other than the end of a generous budget and which comes about with the assistance of production companies, artists, costume designers — even wig and makeup people for the characters. His are not the windows of a store in Bedford Falls or even the Macy's windows depicted in the 1947 heartwarmer *Miracle on 34th Street*, one of the windows' many Hollywood cameos. He's a showoff, basically, but in a good way. It's hard not to like him, given the number of smiles he puts on amazed faces.

"Christmas windows are like theater and being on Broadway: We know we must put on a good show," explains Martine Reardon, chief marketing officer for Macy's. "Each window is a chance for us to entertain our



“It was a great opportunity,” he says, “because Macy’s is the world’s largest and probably the most famous store in the world. When I first started, it was a little nerve-racking. It became such a fun job. Being recognized as having some of the most famous windows in the world — especially for Christmas — it’s a lot of pressure, but a lot of fun pressure because it’s creative and it allows so much creative freedom that it’s not so much of a job thing but a fun thing I get to do. I’m lucky.”

When he began at Macy’s, he made a few simple changes here and there to upgrade the displays. Then Macy’s began giving him more and more freedom and allowed him to push his imagination. Mission accomplished.

“What’s important to me is that I really have to keep some tradition to it because it’s America’s department store, and people have a certain expectation that there will be some kind of traditional Christmas,” he explains. “But it’s also important for me to take it out of that realm as well. Every year, I try to keep surprising people by putting Santa in outer space or building a roller coaster in the window.”

To achieve those visions, Olszewski contracts out much of the Christmas windows work to companies that fit the particular needs of a project. Standard Transmission, which is working on this year’s displays, is one. Manu Sawkar, owner of the company, says Olszewski’s love of craft is key to creating astonishment.

“Over the past several years working on

**MAKING A MASTERPIECE:** “Beauty” (opposite page) is one of Olszewski’s creations from a previous year. The designer and his window team (above) work to install the graphics after he figures out how all of the windows will look once they’re up.

## Spoiler Alert!

**Haven’t seen Macy’s 2013 holiday windows yet? We’ve got you covered.**

**T**HE WINDOW WIZARD himself tells it best: “This year is called ‘Dream ... and Believe.’ It tells the story of a Christmas dream a boy has of a mysterious and beautiful crystal-and-ice forest full of magic. He learns about giving and sharing, beauty, joy, magic and believing. When he wakes up, he finds his dream has come true on Christmas morning. His tree is decorated with all the elements he just dreamed of.”

Now go see it for yourself, but hurry — you only have until **Jan. 2, 2014**.

smaller-scale projects with him, I’ve had the opportunity to watch and learn how his creative vision is expressed, and this has given me a tremendous amount of respect for Paul’s process,” Sawkar says.

Right around the time the current year’s displays are unveiled — usually the week before Thanksgiving — Olszewski says he starts thinking about the next year’s windows. “The process takes about a full year,”





he says. “I start getting inspired as we install our Christmas windows, because I think the best time to get inspired is as you’re doing it. But it starts as a seed in the back of my head, and then come January and February we’re already sketching out ideas. Once we flesh something out in the spring, we have full-color renderings and models and we’re starting to build in the summer — all the way up until we unveil them the week before Thanksgiving. I get to live with Christmas all year round.”

During those rare few moments of the year when he isn’t completely absorbed with the holiday and other windows, Olszewski likes to ... look at holiday windows. Seriously. Of course, the man has other interests. But when the job is done and the Herald Square window displays are presented to the public, Olszewski likes to be there to savor the reactions.

“I will go out and stand with the crowds or stand in line with them and listen to their reactions and watch the children,” he says. “That’s the biggest payoff for me. Hopefully we’ve done a good job, and they’re all in awe

and just really getting involved in the windows. That’s how I measure the success of them.”

He’ll also take a walk around the city and check out the competition. He’s a windows guy.

And then there is his own personal Christmas, inside his apartment. Olszewski says he decorates his pad for the holidays with inspiration from that year’s Herald Square windows. “The apartment is very different from the windows because it’s very clean and modern,” he says. “But my tree itself is usually something to see because I’m not the type to just throw some balls and tinsel on it. It’s well thought out, and I buy new stuff every year, and it’s the showcase of my apartment. People expect that when they come over. I hate to disappoint them.”

There probably isn’t much chance of

**MERRY AND BRIGHT:** Past years’ windows have included “Harmony” (left) and “Santa’s Big Night” (top right). When creating the windows, it’s never hard for Olszewski to get into the holiday spirit.

that. If Olszewski can live up to a cherished Macy’s legacy of wowing shoppers and window-shoppers alike while reinventing his profession on a yearly basis, he surely can bedazzle a few holiday dinner guests at home.

Says Reardon: “We are still the keeper of the tradition we started back in 1868 when we introduced Christmas-window displays as a way to celebrate the season with our customers and Christmas shoppers.”

Of course back then, they didn’t have Santa on a working roller coaster, the 2008 display that remains Olszewski’s personal favorite. “Santa Claus on a sleigh going through a snowstorm as he was flying,” he remembers. “We figured it out that from the time the windows opened to the time the windows shut, the little Santa sleigh could have gone from New York and barely made it to Los Angeles. It was just amazing.”

And this from a man who knows amazing, having specialized in it. 

**MICHAEL VENTRE** is a freelance writer based in Los Angeles. He has written for *Variety*, *Los Angeles Confidential* magazine, *NBCSports.com* and many other publications.

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# NEW YORK CITY: IT'S BIGGER THAN MANHATTAN





Its most famous tourist attractions are in Manhattan, but each of New York's

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is home to diverse entertainment.

BY MIKE DUNPHY

**LEFT TO RIGHT:** The DUMBO neighborhood in Brooklyn offers a view of the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges. Trombonist Willie Colon performs at the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts in the Bronx.

## FOR THE TRAVELER HEADED TO NEW YORK

City — and it doesn't matter if you're a veteran or a neophyte — several famous attractions guarantee an enjoyable visit: Broadway shows, Times Square, the Empire State Building, Central Park, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, Rockefeller Center, the Statue of Liberty and FAO Schwarz. Dining options also feature famous destinations: Katz's Delicatessen and Carnegie Deli, Delmonico's and 21 Club, Le Cirque and Le Bernardin, and what seems like a couple of thousand charming corner trattorias in Little Italy.

All of those deserve fame but, contrary to conventional tourist theory, there is so much more to see and experience in New York City and each of its five boroughs than only the staples of Manhattan. Consider:

### ► THE BRONX

On Aug. 11, 1973, Clive Campbell, better known as DJ Kool Herc (for his herculean physique), threw a party in the recreation room at 1520 Sedgwick Ave. in the Morris Heights neighborhood of the Bronx. The party was a fundraiser for his sister, Cindy, to buy some new clothes for the upcoming school term — 25 cents for the “ladies” to get in, 50 cents for the “fellas.” Announcements were drawn up on index cards and handed out around the neighborhood. About 300 people showed up, but it was the Bronx's creative spirit that came through that day with the birth of a new form of music: hip-hop.

Happily these days, Bronx artists have many more platforms than rented rec rooms for artistic expression. The fires that ravaged the borough in the 1970s now light a more creative spirit.

Go and check out the new accordion-shaped wing at The Bronx Museum of the Arts, which houses a permanent

collection of contemporary works by African, Asian and Latin artists, as well as works by artists who have found their inspiration in the Bronx.

The most successful native artists may earn a commemorative plaque on the Grand Concourse as part of the Bronx's version of the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Along the promenade, hip-hop stars like Afrika Bambaataa, KRS-One and Grandmaster Flash rub edges with Stanley Kubrick, Regis Philbin and Jake LaMotta.

The Grand Concourse is a regular stop for the Bronx Culture Trolley, sponsored by the Bronx Council on the Arts the first Wednesday of every month and select Saturdays. Created in 2002, the free service transports visitors to and from the borough's hottest exhibitions and entertainment establishments in an early-20th-century trolley replica.

If the trolley doesn't stop at the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture, make sure you do before leaving the Bronx. The centerpiece of the new campus at Hostos Community College, the center includes an art gallery, a 367-seat theater and a 907-seat concert hall, which often host performances and exhibitions with the edge and attitude that the Bronx is known for.

At night, Bronx spirit reaches perhaps its fullest expression at the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, a state-of-the-art, 2,300-seat concert hall on the campus of Lehman College. The schedule is pure energy, with everything from Brazilian dance troupes and salsa bands to golden-age hip-hop artists.

### ► QUEENS

When it comes to New York dining, many visitors imagine clinking cosmos at glitzy Manhattan gin joints or slicing into a Park Avenue special that takes longer to say than to eat. But for pure, visceral flavor like Mom used to make, Queens takes the cake.

Known for its ethnic diversity, the borough can cook up a feast in any language and almost always prefers traditional dress over the suited, slicked-up recipes across the East River.

To begin your tasting, catch the N or the G train to Astoria, where Queens' highest concentration of tempting cuisine is rooted strongly in the neighborhood's Greek, Middle Eastern and Slavic heritages.

When it comes to finding Greek dishes, most locals will direct you to join the line at Taverna Kyclades,



In Queens, the Unisphere fountain (top) is spectacular at sunrise, and the mezza luna ravioli (bottom) tastes spectacular all the time at Trattoria L'incontro.

PREVIOUS SPREAD, FROM LEFT: ATLANTIDE PHOTOTRAVEL/CORBIS; LEHMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS. THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: MICHAEL ORSO/GETTY IMAGES; TRATTORIA L'INCONTRO



**CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:** The Moscow Classical Ballet performing *The Nutcracker* at the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts; a Bronx Museum of the Arts exhibit and the museum's exterior; Smokey Robinson at the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts

Before leaving Astoria, wash down dinner at the 103-year-old Bohemian Hall & Beer Garden. With lots of Czech beer on tap and room for up to 800 people, the high-walled garden quickly becomes its own universe, especially when the folk dancers and brass bands start up.

The rest of Queens has plenty of gems. In Rego Park, Ben's Best Gourmet Delicatessen serves the sort of pastrami sandwiches that make customers sweat with anticipation. The sandwiches may not have the size and presentation of Katz's or the Carnegie Deli's, but on taste and authenticity, they're a winner — especially with the coleslaw and half-sour pickle.

Farther out in Forest Hills, chef Danny Brown displays the unique blend of Old World training and New York savvy that won his restaurant, Danny Brown Wine Bar & Kitchen, the borough's first Michelin star. Try the Creekstone Farms' Grilled Hanger Steak and see why.

popular for the quality of fish and seafood personally selected by chef Ardian Skenderi before dawn. Don't leave without trying the grilled octopus.

Little Italy may belong to Manhattan, but the biggest Italian flavors can be found at Trattoria L'incontro — especially in its signature mascarpone cheese-and-pesto-stuffed mezza luna ravioli covered in an asparagus, brandy and walnut sauce.

Street food is no less tasty in Astoria. In fact, the city's best falafel is served at the King of Falafel & Shawarma food cart just outside the Broadway subway stop. One bite of the falafel sandwich — only \$4 — and you'll understand why it won the 2010 Vandy Award for best street food.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEHMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS; THE BRONX MUSEUM OF THE ARTS (2); JOE CONZO PHOTOGRAPHY

# If You Go

## THE BRONX

### The Bronx Museum of the Arts

1040 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, N.Y.  
(718) 681-6000  
[www.bronxmuseum.org](http://www.bronxmuseum.org)

### Bronx Walk of Fame

161st Street and Grand Concourse  
Bronx, N.Y.  
(718) 590-2502  
[www.ilovethebronx.com](http://www.ilovethebronx.com)

### Bronx Culture Trolley

450 Grand Concourse near 149th Street  
Bronx, N.Y.  
(718) 931-9500, Ext. 33  
[www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org)

### Lehman Center for the Performing Arts

250 Bedford Park Blvd. W.  
Bronx, N.Y.  
(718) 960-8833  
[www.lehmancenter.org](http://www.lehmancenter.org)

## QUEENS

### Taverna Kyclades

33-07 Ditmars Blvd.  
Astoria, N.Y.  
(718) 545-8666  
[www.tavernakyclades.com](http://www.tavernakyclades.com)

### Trattoria L'incontro

21-76 31st St.  
Astoria, N.Y.  
(718) 721-3532  
[www.trattorialincontro.com](http://www.trattorialincontro.com)

### King of Falafel & Shawarma

30th Street and Broadway  
Astoria, N.Y.  
(718) 838-8029  
[www.thekingfalafel.com](http://www.thekingfalafel.com)

### Bohemian Hall & Beer Garden

29-19 24th Ave.  
Astoria, N.Y.  
(718) 274-4925  
[www.bohemianhall.com](http://www.bohemianhall.com)

### Ben's Best Gourmet Delicatessen

96-40 Queens Blvd.  
Rego Park, N.Y.  
(718) 897-1700  
[www.bensbest.com](http://www.bensbest.com)

### Danny Brown Wine Bar & Kitchen

104-02 Metropolitan Ave.  
Forest Hills, N.Y.  
(718) 261-2144  
[www.dannybrownwbbk.com](http://www.dannybrownwbbk.com)

## MANHATTAN

### Highbridge Park

West 155 Street and Dyckman Street  
Edgecombe Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, N.Y.  
[www.nycgovparks.org/parks/highbridgepark](http://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/highbridgepark)

### Bike and Roll

Multiple locations in Manhattan  
(212) 260-0400  
[www.bikeneewyorkcity.com](http://www.bikeneewyorkcity.com)

## BROOKLYN

### Tomcats

**Barbershop**  
135 India St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(718) 349-9666  
[www.tomcatsbarbershop.com](http://www.tomcatsbarbershop.com)

### Beacon's Closet

88 N. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(718) 486-0816  
[www.beaconscloset.com](http://www.beaconscloset.com)

### Three Kings Tattoo

572 Manhattan Ave.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(718) 349-7755  
[www.threekings tattoo.com](http://www.threekings tattoo.com)

### Creatively Wild Art Studio

33 Washington St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(646) 469-7498  
[www.creativelywildartstudio.com](http://www.creativelywildartstudio.com)

### Boat Bar

175 Smith St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(718) 254-0607

### Van Horn Sandwich Shop

231 Court St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(718) 596-9707  
[www.vanhornbrooklyn.com](http://www.vanhornbrooklyn.com)

### Jalopy Theatre and School of Music

315 Columbia St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(718) 395-3214  
[www.jalopy.biz](http://www.jalopy.biz)

## STATEN ISLAND

### Fort Wadsworth

East end of Bay Street, near Verrazano-Narrows Bridge  
Staten Island, N.Y.  
(718) 354-4606

### Franklin D. Roosevelt Boardwalk and Beach

Fort Wadsworth to Miller Field, Father Capodanno Boulevard  
Staten Island, N.Y.  
[www.nycgovparks.org/parks/fdrboardwalkbeach](http://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/fdrboardwalkbeach)

### Ocean Breeze Fishing Pier

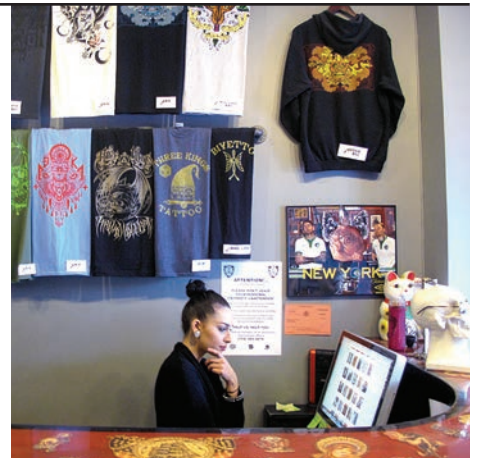
656 Father Capodanno Blvd.  
Staten Island, N.Y.

### Mount Loretto Unique Area nature preserve

6450 Hylan Blvd.  
Staten Island, N.Y.  
[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)

### High Rock Park Wildlife Refuge

200 Nevada Ave.  
Staten Island, N.Y.  
(718) 667-2165



## BROOKLYN, TOP TO BOTTOM:

Tattoo artistry is on display at Three Kings Tattoo. Van Horn Sandwich Shop welcomes big eaters. Creatively Wild Art Studio lives up to its name.

## ► BROOKLYN

Today's Brooklyn is not your parents' Brooklyn—or even your older brother's. Detective Frank Serpico's

former beat in Williamsburg now teems with yoga studios, artisanal food trucks, tattoo parlors, record stores and underage mustaches.

But before tucking into any of Brooklyn's hipster hangouts, you need the look. Start with a haircut at Tomcats Barbershop in Greenpoint. It's not just the Pabst cooler or the interesting selection of magazines scattered about the waiting nook that make it cool; the spunky, rockabilly-flaired staff apply the pomade and get your hair looking on point.

Follow up with new threads from Beacon's Closet, which recycles the pick of vintage and cast-off clothes from all parts of the city. Open seven days a week and adding inventory daily, its collection is in constant flux.

Polish off your look with a more-permanent souvenir, courtesy of Three Kings Tattoo. With 14 regular artists and rotating guest artists, walk-ins are no problem. They also love doing such New York-inspired tattoos as torches, big apples and old subway coins.

Now that you're suitably duded, spend the afternoon





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877-443-9070  
[www.MiamiHair.com](http://www.MiamiHair.com)

### CHICAGO, IL

Gregory A. Turowski, MD  
847-674-4646  
[www.Robotic-Hair-Transplant.com](http://www.Robotic-Hair-Transplant.com)

### LOS ANGELES, CA

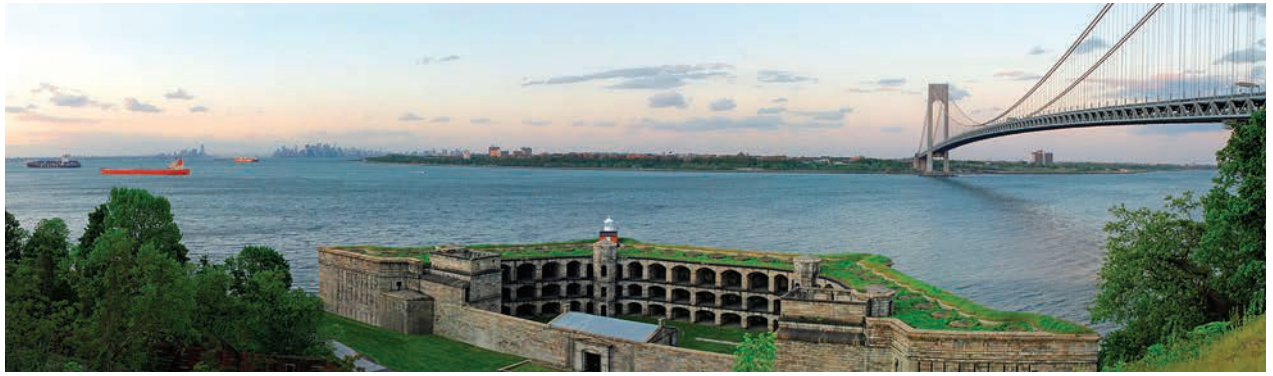
Craig L. Ziering, DO  
800-642-9942  
[www.ZieringMedical.com](http://www.ZieringMedical.com)

### NEW YORK, NY

Robert M. Bernstein, MD  
212-826-2400  
[www.BernsteinMedical.com](http://www.BernsteinMedical.com)

### ATLANTA, GA

Ken Anderson, MD  
404-256-4247  
[www.AtlantaHairSurgeon.com](http://www.AtlantaHairSurgeon.com)



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Yes, Mother Nature is part of NYC, at Staten Island's Fort Wadsworth near the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge. You can even enjoy hiking at the Greenbelt or go for a walk at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Boardwalk and Beach.

IT'S NOT THE WELL-MANICURED, HEMMED-IN PATCHES OF GREEN SQUEEZED BETWEEN BUILDINGS AND BOULEVARDS, BUT SCRAGGLY, SPRAWLING, EVEN WILD WOODS AND FIELDS.

dodging fashion shoots and bouncing between art galleries in DUMBO, the riverside neighborhood between the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges. If the spirit takes hold, sign up for a class at Creatively Wild Art Studio, which hosts daily workshops in graffiti, mixed media and sculpture.

Because artistic inspiration often goes hand in hand with spirits, it's time for a drink. In Brooklyn, craft beer rules, and one particular line of taps stretches down Carroll Gardens' main strip. Boat Bar offers a hipster-heaven mix of well-appointed grunge, an old-school jukebox full of Cat Power, Mogwai and Sonic Youth and an inviting selection of beers. And after a few — please drink responsibly, of course — you can pad your stomach with a smoked-pork sandwich at the bacon-heavy, southern-style Van Horn Sandwich Shop a block away.

Keep the evening entertainment just as quirky at the Jalopy Theatre and School of Music in nearby Red Hook, where the vaudeville-style stage comes to life most nights with eclectic music performances ranging from Bulgarian folk to urban bluegrass, all with a Brooklyn twist.

### ▶ STATEN ISLAND

When most tourists embark on the Staten Island Ferry, it's usually for the free round-trip tour of the harbor and photo op with Lady Liberty. But get off the boat, and you'll soon find something Staten Island has that all the other boroughs don't: access to Mother Nature.

It's not the well-manicured, hemmed-in patches of green squeezed between buildings and boulevards, but scraggly, sprawling, even wild woods and fields.

Start exploring the overgrowth at Fort Wadsworth, which occupies 226 acres on the northeastern shore of

Staten Island, just under the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge. Built immediately before the Civil War, the fort and surrounding parkland offer not just a history lesson but plenty of solitary, wistful gazes out to sea.

If it's warm enough, slip on a pair of sandals (or remove them altogether) and head south along the water via the 2.5-mile Franklin D. Roosevelt Boardwalk and Beach — just be prepared to dodge multiple Frisbees and frisky dogs. If you want to get in the water, dive in or rent a kayak at one of the launch stations.

If you'd like to get a more intimate view of life below the water, Staten Island's Ocean Breeze Fishing Pier juts 835 feet into the water from Midland Beach. There, local fishermen regularly pull in striped bass, weakfish and bluefish. For bluefish, flounder, porgy and blackfish, drop your line off St. George's fishing pier, just outside the ferry terminal.

Botanists and bird watchers should head to the 194-acre Mount Loretto Unique Area nature preserve, near the south end of the island, where dozens of bird species like Orchard Orioles, Willow Flycatchers, Eastern Kingbirds and Great Horned Owls flit among the wetlands.

The crown jewel of Staten Island, however, is the Greenbelt, which takes up 2,800 acres of woodlands, wetlands, open fields and hiking trails at the island's center. For residents, it's also the premier spot for jogging, hiking, picnicking and many other outdoor activities. Highlights include the William T. Davis Wildlife Refuge, Moses' Mountain and High Rock Park, a designated National Environmental Education Landmark.

But perhaps the greatest thing about the Greenbelt is that it is the only place in all of New York City where

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: BEN COOPER/SUPERSTOCK; DOROTHY REILLY; BARRY M. WINIKER/GETTY IMAGES

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Jacob Rosenstein, M.D., Neurosurgeon

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## Clients Describe Their Experiences on the Executive Health Program at Southwest Age Intervention Institute



Johann Van Beest,  
D.C., M.B.A.  
Chiropractor

I started the  
Executive

Health Program after I began to experience the signs and symptoms of "male menopause" (Andropause), but had no idea what was happening to me. My energy had decreased dramatically, and even when I exercised, I saw few results. I tried to eat well, but my weight kept climbing. Within weeks of starting the Southwest Age Intervention Institute program, I began to lose weight and add lean muscle mass. I was able to wear clothes I bought literally 20 years ago. Today I have boundless energy, sharper mental acuity and the confidence that I had as a young man. What's more, my wife joined me on the program, and it's been wonderful to enjoy our youthful intimacy again.



Deborah Loth,  
D.D.S., M.S., P.C.  
Endodontist

When you go  
into the average

preventative medicine groups, they do the usual heart health checkup, but nothing that's proactive in making you better for the long term. Southwest Age Intervention Institute is different. Dr. Rosenstein is one of the most passionate doctors I've ever met. He avidly follows this program, and he is very motivating. Through this program, I've learned that most of the pains that come with aging are inflammatory changes, and they can be altered. Dr. Rosenstein understands this and lives by it, and I will surely continue in this program as long as he is in practice. I want to be healthy well into my 80s and 90s and in this program, I can accomplish that.



Brad Stewart  
Business Owner

The Executive  
Health Program

at Southwest Age Intervention Institute has given me so much more mental and physical stamina to be more effective in my business. As part of the customized plan, they help me identify areas for improvement, set goals and achieve them. In fact, I went from 44% body fat down to 30%, and I'm on track to be in the lower 20s. For me, it all comes down to confidence. Once you have confidence, the world is your oyster. You command a room, and more importantly, your life. This is all rooted in confidence, and that's what Southwest Age Intervention Institute has helped me achieve. I couldn't be more thankful.

you can make the skyscrapers and metropolitan machinery disappear from sight and sound and turn back the time to when Henry Hudson's ship first entered the harbor.

► **MANHATTAN**

Even in Manhattan, there are activities off the beaten path. Consider ... biking?

Yes, biking. As Mayor Michael Bloomberg recently told New Yorkers, in an effort to encourage more pedal-powered transportation: "Skip the hike and take a bike." That would not seem to be attractive in a city more famous for its lethal ballet between automobiles and pedestrians ("I'm walkin' here!"). In the past 20 years, however, the

city has worked hard to get more cyclists on the road, threading hundreds of bike lanes through the old brick-and-mortar neighborhoods and creating more than 200 miles of greenway lanes inside parks (and not just Central Park), totally outside of car traffic.

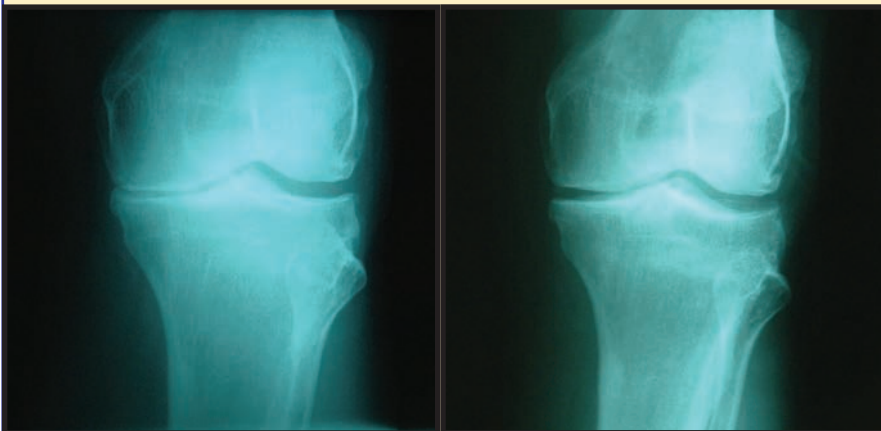
The prize, however, goes to the Hudson River greenway, which runs approximately 13 miles along the west side of the island. The southernmost section between Battery Park and 42nd Street is the busiest, especially on weekends. But after you get to Central Park, you can head north and ride the gusty wind currents that first blew Dutch sailors up the Hudson River in the early 17th century.

At Highbridge Park in Washington Heights, bikes can go off-road through several miles of mountain-bike trails. There are plenty of drops, berms, steeps and rock gardens for all



Looking to see Manhattan from a different vantage point? Try a guided tour on a rented bike.

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**The Knee Diaries:** SJ is a 60-year-old male with the chief complaint of knee pain who visited The Center for Regenerative Medicine over a year ago. He was diagnosed with bone-on-bone osteoarthritis of the left knee, causing much pain and discomfort; at that point he was told only a total knee replacement could help him. He is otherwise healthy. On exam he had point tenderness to the medial side of the left knee (medical lingo: inner side). An X-ray showed severe arthritis of the knee (X-ray on the left). Patient started receiving treatments at The Center for Regenerative Medicine. Today he is feeling better (X-ray on the right).

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For more information and to read more on "The Knee Diaries", please visit [www.arthritisusa.net](http://www.arthritisusa.net) or call (305) 866-8384.

levels, but the youngest at heart can make good use of the popular dirt-jump park co-designed by pro rider Jim Dellavalle.

Rental spots for bikes abound in Manhattan, but Bike and Roll is probably the most convenient, with several locations in Manhattan and an extensive selection of mountain bikes. Guided tours are also available. In May, the city launched a bike-share program, installing about 5,500 rentable bikes at 293 stations in Manhattan and Brooklyn, with more to come as the Hurricane Sandy cleanup continues.

The regular attractions of Manhattan are inviting and enjoyable. But for those intrigued by alternative activities, the pop culture in the Bronx, the food in Queens, the hipness of Brooklyn, the open spaces of Staten Island and the biking in Manhattan are examples of fun options in the five boroughs that make up the great City of New York. 📍

After 10 years working abroad as a Peace Corps volunteer, an English teacher and a journalist, **MIKE DUNPHY** now makes his living as a freelance writer and editor in New York City. He has written for several publications, including *Fodor's Travel*, *The Huffington Post* and *Time Out Istanbul*.

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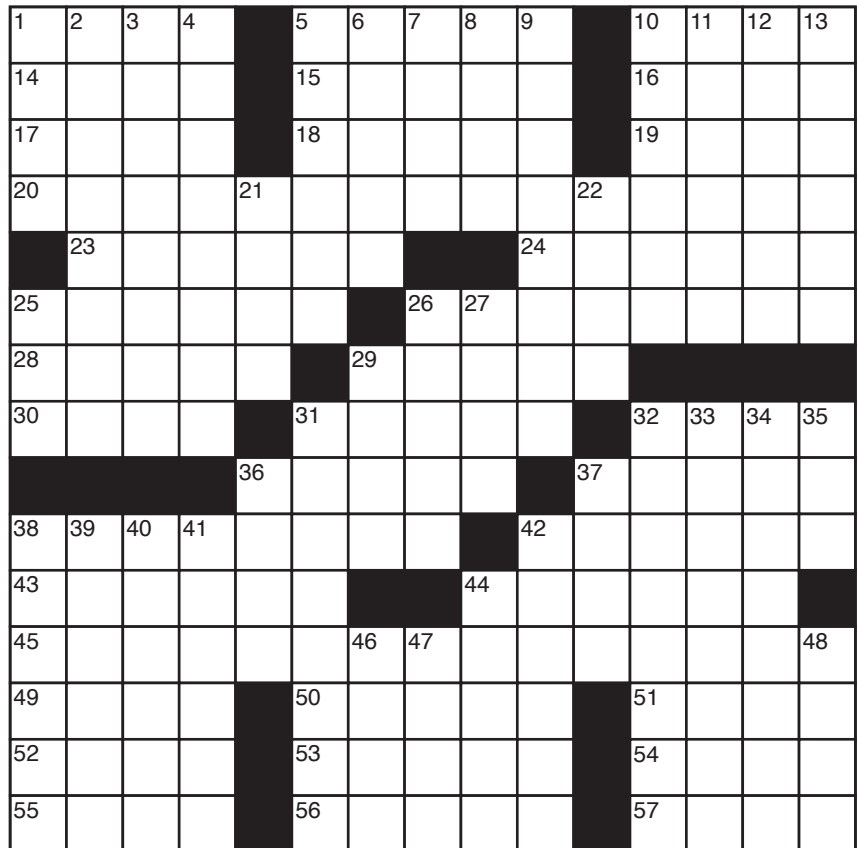
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# Crossword: Either Way



**ACROSS**

- 1. Revolution victim
- 5. Festival showings
- 10. Beef or fish
- 14. Depression Era figure
- 15. *Love Story* star Ryan
- 16. Part of a pump
- 17. Needle holders
- 18. Beyond batty
- 19. "My Friend" of '50s TV
- 20. On the agenda
- 23. Come to fruition
- 24. Split in two
- 25. Latin American wrap
- 26. Paris victim
- 28. Castle with many steps
- 29. Hypnotist's word
- 30. Secretive summons
- 31. They may be trimmed
- 32. Strikes
- 36. Rumba popularizer
- 37. Implied
- 38. Pathogenic organisms
- 42. Femme follower
- 43. Apply oil to
- 44. Spring blooms
- 45. Unlikely to rise unassisted
- 49. Club bread
- 50. Danger
- 51. N.Y. Met, for one
- 52. Literary governess
- 53. Vacuous

Stumped? Find the solution to this puzzle on page 90. Puzzle already worked? Check with a flight attendant to see if another copy is available.

- 54. It may be a lot
- 55. Famous fed
- 56. Managed
- 57. Ditch

**DOWN**

- 1. Vegan's staple
- 2. They know their craft
- 3. Flight payments
- 4. Like a ring in one's ear?
- 5. Dipper's dish
- 6. Language heard up North
- 7. "I'm game"
- 8. Like some Ger. nouns
- 9. Is in a slump?
- 10. Make a bust, maybe
- 11. Reception helper
- 12. Take off
- 13. High fliers
- 21. "Clue" weapon
- 22. It may come before the fall
- 25. Nurse at a bar
- 26. Second name
- 27. TD Garden player, for short
- 29. Pundit
- 31. Theme division
- 32. Sound
- 33. Mexican resort
- 34. Pale lagers
- 35. Sault \_ Marie
- 36. Pt. of ACC
- 37. Soft rock
- 38. Former Raiders coach
- 39. Longtime Hawaiian senator
- 40. Shrinks
- 41. Washes off
- 42. Stoked
- 44. Now it's yours
- 46. Betting setting
- 47. Lint collector
- 48. Christmas-cookie shape

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# 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 90. Good luck! Puzzle already worked? Check with a flight attendant to see if another copy is available.

## GENTLE

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

## Sudoku board game

If you like doing these Sudoku puzzles, you will love playing Imagination's Sudoku board game. It's the same great puzzle in an exciting multiplayer board game format. Buy it today.

## MODERATE

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

## DIABOLICAL

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

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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 90. Puzzle already worked? Check with a flight attendant to see if another copy is available.

1. The names of three flowers are interlettered below. Can you find the names? (The letters are in consecutive order.)

D P P A E A H O N L N S I Y Y A

2. Match each common name in the column on the left to one of the scientific names in the column on the right.

- 1. Spider a. Chiropteran
- 2. Bat b. Musca domestica
- 3. Housefly c. Proboscidean
- 4. Elephant d. Arachnid

3. A long-distance runner can run 6 mph downhill, but his speed is cut to 2 mph when he encounters a hill. If he runs six miles uphill and six miles downhill, what is his average speed?

4. An eight-letter word appears in the following box. Find it by beginning with a letter and moving clockwise or counterclockwise around the inner rim of the box, using each letter only once.

C	O	D
C	E	
U	R	R

5. The answers to these four clues are words with the same consonants in the same order, but with different vowels, such as ACCUDE and CIADA. Can you identify them?

- a) Good-bye to a Brit (7 letters)
- b) Four-handed card game (6 letters)
- c) More sore (6 letters)
- d) Stick together (6 letters)

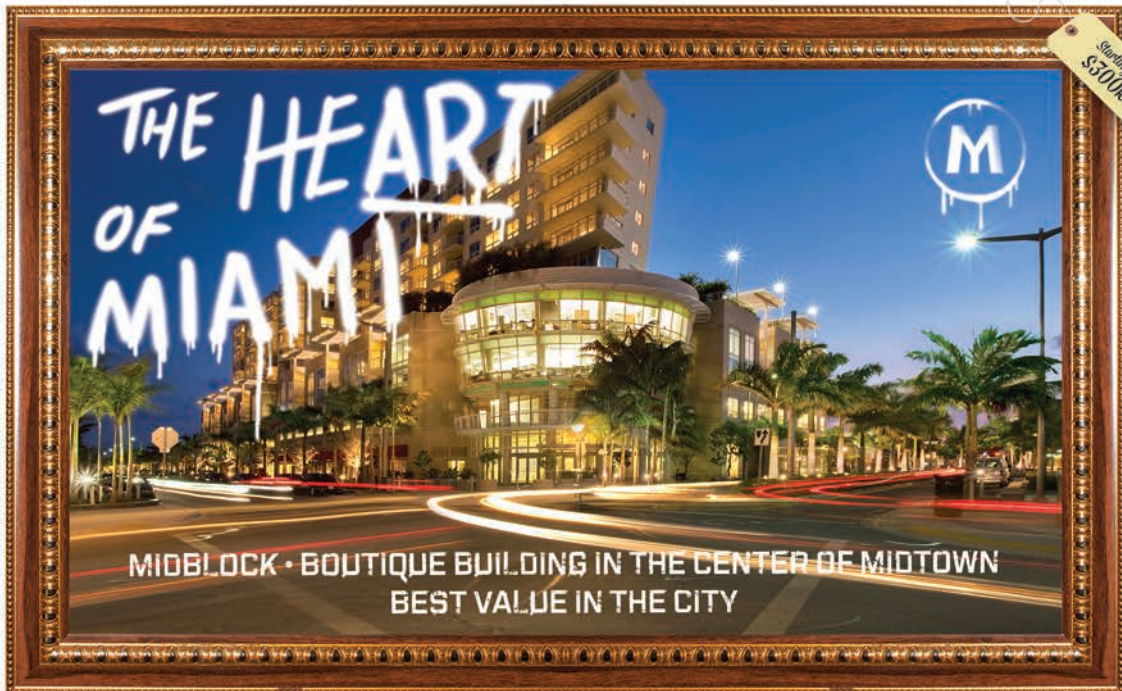
6. Find the logic used in the first three examples, then fill in the missing number in the fourth example.

- a. 5, 5, 2=50
- b. 6, 3, 2=36
- c. 4, 7, 1=28
- d. 8, 2, 3=?

**Bonus Question:** Fill in the blanks to complete the word below.

I \_ \_ E N \_ T \_ A \_ \_ L \_ T \_

Did you enjoy this Mensa Quiz? Take the Mensa Prep Test online right now for just \$5. Go to [us.mensa.org/mht](http://us.mensa.org/mht) and enter code **AA1215**. Mensa encourages and supports knowledge-seekers like you. Discover how to join at [us.mensa.org/join](http://us.mensa.org/join) or call (800) 66-MENSA.



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PROPRIETORS: Brian McCarty & Bruce Drake

### Metropolitan Grill

themetropolitangrill.com  
SEATTLE, WA  
206.624.3287  
PROPRIETOR: Ron Cohn

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

# Crossword

Puzzle on page 82



# Sudoku

Puzzles on page 84

### GENTLE

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

### MODERATE

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

### DIABOLICAL

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

# Mensa Quiz

Quiz on page 89

1. *Dahlia, peony, pansy*
2. 1=d, 2=a, 3=b, 4=c
3. 3 mph. (It takes him four hours to cover 12 miles.)
4. *Occurred*
5. The consonants are "CHR" — a) cheerio, b) euchre, c) achier, d) cohere.
6. The number is 48 (multiply the three numbers).

For the answer to the **Bonus Question**, please visit our website, [aa.com/americanway](http://aa.com/americanway)

Did you find an alternate answer? Send it to [americanway@americanmensa.org](mailto:americanway@americanmensa.org)

### AA TRIVIA

**Q:** In 1968, American Airlines was the first airline to order the McDonnell Douglas DC-10. When did it make its first scheduled flight?

For the answer, go to [aa.com/americanway](http://aa.com/americanway)

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# American Insight



**Above:** Boeing 737 Fleet Capt. Kathi Durst takes her place in the cockpit. **Below:** Capt. Durst describes the history of the "Challenge Coin" while inspecting a display case holding the military coins.

## Flight plan for a fulfilling career

When you grow up traveling the world with a father who serves as an Air Force fighter pilot, flying for a career becomes part of your dreams, and it's what I always thought I'd want to do if I ever had the opportunity.

Now, after 25 years of flying with American, I'm thankful for the incredible opportunity to see the world from a cockpit and experience high-flying adventures on the ground.

Upon graduating from high school, I entered the U.S. Air Force Academy with the second class that admitted women for what I thought would be a medical career. But, female pilot training became available when I was a junior, and I jumped at the chance to be at the controls. I completed pilot undergraduate training at Williams Air Force Base near Phoenix and graduated in the top 10 percent of my class. This qualified me for fighter pilot training, but it wasn't an option for women at the time. So, I went back to being a Northrop T-38 Talon instructor for another six years at Williams, and upon

separating from the military, I was blessed to be able to go straight to American Airlines in 1988.

When I started my career at American, the hiring process was very different than what the incoming group of 1,500 pilots will experience over the next five years. For one, computers weren't widely available, so my application was submitted through the mail. Then, there was the travel back and forth for interviews, medical checks and simulator training. It took almost a year to go from applicant to pilot. These days, applications are filtered online, everything is computerized and it takes only a few months to join our team.

American was my first choice because the company has always been supportive of diversity and different cultures, and it's a company that supports

its people. I also had confidence that American would one day grant me the seniority to fly the type of plane I wanted, offer the freedom to choose where I live and allow me to travel the world – which is one of my biggest hobbies in addition to flying. As a female pilot, I knew I wouldn't be held back in any way. That remains truer than ever, as I've now been in my current position as the Boeing 737 Fleet Captain for a little more than a year.

As an American pilot, I have numerous fond memories and incredible stories to tell. There was the long layover in Rio de Janeiro where I went hang gliding; squeezed in a tour of the Panama Canal during a quick trip to Panama City, Panama; and of course, early in my career when I flew an all-nighter, and despite being so tired, our crew stayed up to visit Disney's Epcot Center together.

I also find it fulfilling that American provides a lot of opportunities to give back to the community. In particular, I love that American is very supportive of military and veterans. Each fall, we work with the Airpower Foundation to host Sky Ball, a fundraiser and gala that supports military families and organizations. We also fly wounded warriors up to Dallas/Fort Worth from San Antonio to sit courtside at a Dallas Mavericks game for the annual Seats for Soldiers event, and our flight crews always volunteer their time. And, I can't forget the hundreds of volunteers each December who make new memories possible for families of fallen military with Snowball Express.

It's exciting to be part of a company that has such a big heart, and that is one commitment I pray American will never change.



Growing up as an "Air Force brat" of a fighter pilot, Capt. Kathi Durst was exposed to aviation and traveling at a young age. Following a seven-year Air Force career, she joined American in 1988 and has held various positions, including flight engineer on the Boeing 727 and DC-10, first officer on the MD-80 and Boeing 757/767, and captain on the 727, 737, 757/767 and Airbus A300 based at Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami and Dallas-Ft. Worth. She moved into her current role as American's Boeing 737 fleet captain in 2012. Durst lives in Las Colinas, Texas, with her spouse, Sheri, a retired American flight attendant.

## New Routes to Latin America

American offers more flights between the United States and both Latin America and the Caribbean than any other carrier, with more than 1,000 weekly flights to more than 70 destinations. And now, several new routes make flying south even more convenient.



### Beginning Nov. 21

- Dallas/Fort Worth and Bogotá, Colombia
- Miami and Cozumel, Mexico
- Miami and Curitiba and Porto Alegre, Brazil

### Beginning Nov. 23

- Dallas/Fort Worth and Roatán, Honduras

### Beginning Dec. 16

- Los Angeles and São Paulo, Brazil

With these additions, American will have the only nonstop service between Dallas/Fort Worth and both Bogotá and Roatán; the only direct flights between North America and Curitiba and Porto Alegre; the only nonstop service between Cozumel and Miami; and the only daily nonstop service between Los Angeles and São Paulo. For more information, visit [aa.com/morelatinamerica](http://aa.com/morelatinamerica).

## New App Features

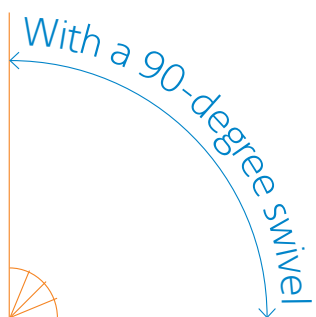
Newly redesigned for iOS7 and Android, the American Airlines app puts you in touch with a variety of tools to help you manage and plan your travels. You can use it to:

- Check in for your flight
- Select your seat
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Passengers flying in American's new 777-300ER First Class fully-lie flat seats can sleep comfortable or take a seat at the dining table, office desk or movie theater.

## 1 Million Miles for Kids in Need



As The Points Guy, I live my life accruing as many miles and points as possible, partly by flying all over the world, but also by racking up bonus miles through online shopping portals

like the American Airlines AAdvantage eShopping Mall.

So when American was offering frequent flyers the opportunity to earn 35 bonus miles per dollar spent with eBags back in October, I had to take advantage of this deal to the fullest. Although I may have gone a little overboard (what can I say, I like accessories), I did it with charitable intentions in mind.

As well as donating the purchased goods to Housing Works, an organization that helps people in New York City who are living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, I gave the 1 million miles I earned on my purchases to a very worthy cause — American Airlines' Miles For Kids In Need. Kids In Need is a fantastic program that provides worldwide support for children in need and their families. The help ranges from educational and social services to medical aid for critically ill children, such as flying a child to a hospital for a life-saving surgery.

While I love using my miles to explore far-flung places across the globe, knowing that I have helped children in need and have been part of a life-changing program is better than any First Class seat.

Better known as The Points Guy, **Brian Kelly** is the CEO and founder of ThePointsGuy.com, a website dedicated to sharing his travel-points knowledge and passion for maximizing miles with readers around the world. After working on Wall Street and traveling up to six months a year, Kelly created the site in 2010. Now he dedicates his time to giving tips and advice to eager consumers. Today, the site attracts more than 600,000 unique monthly visitors.

# American Insight

## A Holiday Treat: Main Cabin Extra



With all the chaos that comes with traveling during the holiday season, now is the time you could use the chance to stretch out and relax. Gift yourself a Main Cabin Extra seat, which will provide you with up to six inches of additional legroom, Group 1 boarding and a seat in the front of the main cabin.

Upgrade prices start at just \$8. Reserve your seat using [aa.com](http://aa.com), at the airport, on your mobile device, with American Reservations or through travel agencies that use American's Direct Connect. For more information, visit [aa.com/maincabinextra](http://aa.com/maincabinextra).

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Ready to renew or learn more? Visit [aa.com/admiralsclub](http://aa.com/admiralsclub).

## Perfect Gift for the Holidays

Looking a great gift this holiday season? You can buy the extra AAdvantage® miles you need or gift miles for the perfect vacation your friends and family deserve. It's a great way to reach the milestone for your next flight, upgrade, car rental or hotel stay. Plus, through Dec. 31, earn up to 18,000 bonus miles when you buy miles. And if you're gifting miles, add to the celebration and they'll receive an additional 18,000 bonus miles. For more details on this month's holiday offer, visit [aa.com/buygift](http://aa.com/buygift).



## AMERICAN SERVICE

### Team Leader



Senior Planner Carolyn Barnes

Whether it's running a marathon or raising funds for a cause, American Airlines employee Carolyn Barnes commits to going the distance. Barnes began her career in Human Resources 28 years ago. She eventually landed a job in the ramp control tower at Miami International Airport, where she's worked for 22 years.

Barnes is Senior Planner of Tower Operations, which involves talking to American pilots on a radio frequency about flight issue resolution and ramp control traffic, as well as assisting the ramp manager with operational issues. She enjoys the excitement and the teamwork the job allows. "I am very fortunate to have this unique job," she says. "I love working in the tower."

After participating in a race organized by corporate in 1994, Barnes was inspired to create a running team for American employees. "I distributed flyers to employees and the response was great," she says. "At our first event, we had 22 runners raising funds for the Make-A-Wish® Foundation. Now we have 198 members."

Barnes' vision, which ultimately qualified her as a finalist in the 2012 American Airlines Spirit of Giving Award, was to bring together employees from all work groups and encourage teamwork and engagement in community events. The running team works to benefit the community and promote good health and fitness in the workplace.

For 19 years, the American Miami Running Team, which includes Barnes' husband and Miami firefighter Bob Barnes, has worked to fulfill the vision, raising countless dollars at events for organizations such as the American Red Cross, United Way, Komen Race for the Cure and ING Miami Marathon.

The running team and many other coworkers also raise funds with bake sales, raffles and airport walkathons that encourage passenger participation. "Our participation fosters friendships and brings awareness to people who may not know about needs in our community," Barnes says.

# Customer Focus

## Shop Keep

### A fashion startup gives African artisans access to a global market

We can sell anything online. And if you're tempted to dismiss that as hyperbole, consider the following. The original Hollywood sign went for \$450,400 on eBay. Justin Timberlake's half-eaten toast? Also sold on eBay (for \$3,000). And if it's a Ouija board lunch box you seek, someone is selling those at Etsy online, too.

But having all of this at your fingertips assumes that you have both a computer and a bank account. So for talented artisans in developing nations without either, the promise of the Internet isn't so helpful.

A startup called SOKO ([www.shopsoko.com](http://www.shopsoko.com)) has built a solution — Africa's first mobile phone-based marketplace for goods. The company's technology allows jewelry and accessories makers to set up their online stores, upload photos and even set pricing directly from their mobile phones. The products are then curated and promoted on SOKO's website.

When a transaction goes through, the artisan receives mobile money on their phone, which can then be spent like cash on goods in stores, due to Kenya's famously advanced mobile-money market.

The products themselves are stunning, from brass earrings to moon stone rings and beaded necklaces. The SOKO team curates them into collections — and you can also simply browse by artisan.



American supports entrepreneurialism and small-business growth through its Innovators Initiatives, which focus on working with startups and small-business customers to empower their success. Visit [aa.com/innovators](http://aa.com/innovators) to learn more about Innovators Initiatives and SOKO.



SOKO gives African jewelry and accessory makers a global audience.

"SOKO was started to connect beautiful products from developing countries with fashionable buyers on the web," said Diana Biggs, SOKO's New York-based chief strategy officer. "Many of our artisans used to have to [rely almost solely] on the local markets, which are dependent on tourist traffic," she told us.

SOKO bridges a significant tech gulf with each transaction. Imagine a Kenyan necklace creator in Nairobi uploading images

on their shop, offering insight into which items are selling best, which are the most profitable and therefore which they should make more of.

SOKO's development focus shouldn't surprise: The four founders (Biggs, Ella Peinovich, Gwendolyn Floyd and Catherine Mahugu) have significant social enterprise experience between them.

As for the other side of the transaction, the buyers get access to handmade items

Visit [ShopSOKO.com](http://ShopSOKO.com) and use promo code "SokoLovesAA" for 20 percent off your purchase through the end of December.

and managing pricing via text message on one side and a woman in New York, browsing the accessory collections on a shiny tablet on the other side.

"What's interesting is that every item is unique. For the artisans, [it's entirely natural] to make each one a bit different," Biggs said.

The result is far greater distribution, and because there are fewer go-betweens than in traditional offline transactions, the product creators (most of whom are women) earn far more. This is critical in a region of the world where 85 percent of women are self-employed in the informal economy. The platform also gives them business guidance

that they couldn't otherwise get, curated into fashionable collections by the SOKO team — and get to feel good about the purchase, knowing its supporting a self-employed maker.

The SOKO team (totaling 14) is a distributed one, with offices in Nairobi, Kenya, San Francisco and New York. And while Kenya is the first market, the team intends to add products, artisans and collections from countries around the world.

Content written by Chris Johnson, Co-founder of Wakefield Media. Wakefield Media is one of American's many small business partners.

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## Tips for a Fit Flight

While maintaining good health in the air is much the same as when on the ground, there are some special considerations when it comes to air travel. Here, Herbert DuPont, MD, director of the Center for Infectious Diseases at The University of Texas School of Public Health and a specialist in travel medicine, answers your questions about staying healthy while in flight.

**Q:** Is there anything you can do before you get on the plane to stay as healthy as possible?

**A:** Wear comfortable clothes — if you have clothes that constrict, you might compress some of the blood vessels. Get a bottle of water after you get through security so you have plenty of fluid to keep hydrated.

If you're someone with heart disease or lung disease, you should check with your doctor about taking a long-distance flight — the altitude can have effects on circulation and breathing.

I also recommend that all long-haul travelers, those flying six hours or more, take compression stockings and wear those to help prevent blood-clotting.

**Q:** The lack of humidity in a plane can make the air feel dry. What effects on the body does this have, and how can you combat them?

**A:** The dryness makes your blood more viscous, more concentrated, and it can promote a deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and its complications. You tend to get a little dehydrated, so drink a beverage every chance you can. The air dries everything out — like your nose and eyes. People prone to dry eyes might want to have eye drops to take with them.

**Q:** When the flight attendants come by with the cart, what's a good choice?

**A:** Take a drink of water or a nonalcoholic beverage every time you're offered it, for two reasons: It keeps you hydrated, which can help prevent a DVT, and it will keep you moving down the aisle (for those bathroom breaks), which is another way to prevent a DVT.

**Q:** Are there any special considerations for women who are flying while pregnant?

**A:** Certainly no travel toward the end of pregnancy; there are airline requirements that prevent that. Walking around is a good idea, as pregnant women are much more susceptible to clotting disorders. Keeping up with fluids is also very important.

**Q:** Is it possible to fly when you have a respiratory condition such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)?

**A:** The issue of flying with lung or heart disease relates to the severity of the disease. Those with mild forms of the disease (people who can do normal exercise and visit high-altitude cities like Denver) will do fine. If oxygen is required intermittently by people with lung or heart disease, this suggests that long-haul flights (more than six hours) should be avoided unless arrangements can be made with the carrier to receive oxygen during flight.

### Traveling with COPD

Before you travel, talk to your doctor about any concerns. Also, when you book your flight, let American know about any needs for services (such as a wheelchair or portable oxygen concentrator), and the airline will help coordinate assistance with your request. For more information about traveling with COPD, please visit the COPD Foundation website at [copdfoundation.org](http://copdfoundation.org).

### DID YOU KNOW?

## What is a DVT?

A deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a blood clot that develops in a deep vein, usually in a leg. Sometimes these clots can break away and travel through the bloodstream to vital organs and can cause severe injury or death. Possible risk factors include prolonged physical immobility, blood-clotting disorders, family history, cancer, obesity, heart disease, pregnancy, recent major surgery, smoking or age. Many DVTs do not produce any symptoms, but symptoms could include pain or swelling and redness of the affected area.

While preventive measures are still uncertain, passengers can wear loose clothing, regularly change leg positions, occasionally walk the cleared aisle of the plane when allowed by flight staff, avoid crossing their legs at the ankles or knees or wear graduated-compression stockings to help reduce risk. Keeping hydrated and performing the inflight exercises below can also help.

Customers should keep their personal health in mind when following any of these suggestions.

**For more health-related information and tips, please visit [aa.com/health](http://aa.com/health).**

### Nut Allergy

American recognizes that some passengers are allergic to peanuts and other tree nuts. Although we do not serve peanuts, we do serve other nut products (such as warmed nuts) and there may be trace elements of unspecified nut ingredients, including peanut oils, in meals and snacks. We do not have in place procedures that allow our flight crews not to serve these foods upon request of a customer. We do not provide nut "buffer zones." Our planes are cleaned regularly, but these cleanings are not designed to ensure the removal of nut allergens, nor are our air filtration systems designed to remove nut allergens. Additionally, other customers may bring peanuts or other tree nuts on board. Therefore, we cannot guarantee customers will not be exposed to peanuts or other tree nuts during flight, and we strongly encourage customers to take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure.

## Inflight Exercises

Being stationary for long flights can cause stiffness. Get your blood circulating with these easy exercises that you can do from your seat.

### ANKLE CIRCLES



### FOOT PUMPS



### KNEE LIFTS



### KNEE TO CHEST



# Stay Connected



## Power On

Power outlets are available:

- At each First and Business Class seat
- All Main Cabin rows on the 777-300, 737 and A319 aircraft

And, powerports are available in select rows in Main Cabin on the 757, 767, 777-200 and MD80, distinguishable by the "lightning bolt" symbol on the overhead bin. Our 737 and 757 aircraft are being converted to AC power and new 777-300, 737 and A319 aircraft feature both AC and USB ports at every seat.

To find more detailed information, visit [aa.com/powerports](http://aa.com/powerports).



## Wi-Fi in the Sky

Stay connected while you fly on nearly all of our U.S. flights as well as our new 777-300 international flights.

### Connect to Wi-Fi in 3 easy steps.

1. Enable Wi-Fi on your device.
2. For domestic Wi-Fi, connect to the "gogoinflight" signal.  
For international Wi-Fi, connect to the "AA Inflight" signal.
3. For domestic Wi-Fi, launch browser and login or create an account.  
For international Wi-Fi, launch browser and choose Sign In or Connect.

Onboard Wi-Fi also has complimentary access to [aa.com](http://aa.com)



## Streaming Video Entertainment

Available on most domestic flights not equipped with seat-back entertainment. Requires a Wi-Fi enabled laptop or tablet.

### Connect via your personal device.

1. Connect to "gogoinflight" and launch browser
2. Click on the entertainment banner ad and select a movie or TV show
3. Download plugin or tablet app (if prompted)
4. Login or create an account
5. Enjoy your program!

You can even view your rental on the ground using the same device. Available for your entire rental period in "My Library" at [gogoair.com](http://gogoair.com)

To learn more about our entertainment options, visit [aa.com/entertainment](http://aa.com/entertainment).



## Flight Mode

Your cellphone and other handheld personal electronic devices can be used from gate to gate during U.S. flights, with limited exceptions. When the aircraft doors are closed for departure, devices must be placed in airplane/flight mode. Larger items, such as laptops, must be stowed during taxi, takeoff and landing. Wi-Fi access on equipped planes will be available shortly after takeoff.

The use of still and video cameras, film or digital, is permitted only for recording of personal events. Two-way pagers, radios, TV sets, remote controls and commercial TV cameras may not be used at any time during a flight. Please refrain from using any voice or audio recording or transmission while on an American aircraft. Unauthorized photography or video recording of airline personnel, other customers, aircraft equipment or procedures is prohibited.

## Connect Anytime, Anywhere

### aa.com

Always find our lowest prices at [aa.com](http://aa.com). Guaranteed. Book flights, hotels, car rentals, vacations, cruises and activities. Book it all on [aa.com](http://aa.com).

### Mobile.aa.com

Check your flight status, view or change existing reservations, access your AAdvantage® account and more.

### Mobile app

American's travel app can help make planning and managing your trip easier.

### Mobile boarding pass and notifications

Have your boarding pass sent directly to your mobile device (on select flights) and use American's flight status notification options to request gates, times and baggage claim numbers.

## Missed a Flight? Let Us Help.

**Call** reservations at (800) 433-7300.

**Log on** to [aa.com](http://aa.com).

**Visit** a Rebooking Center, located in Los Angeles, Dallas/Fort Worth, Chicago O'Hare, Miami or New York (JFK and LGA) airports.

**See** an agent at the American ticket counter.

## Parental Control

American features a wide variety of entertainment, including music, games, TV shows and popular movies. While Main Cabin content has been edited for general viewing, parental controls can be utilized on our In-seat Audio Video On Demand systems, available on certain aircraft. The inflight entertainment system allows a crewmember to select which content is viewable at your seat by restricting titles based on their ratings. If you are interested in setting the parental controls, please ask a flight attendant.

# Inflight Entertainment



10  
RICKY  
MARTIN



07  
MIKE  
EINZIGER

## AUDIO

AVAILABLE ON SELECT FLIGHTS

<p><b>01</b> SYMPHONY HALL</p> <p>Join BBC Radio 3 host Susan Sharpe as she introduces a list of legendary classical works by composers such as Vaughn Williams, Holst and Copland.</p>	<p><b>02</b> JAZZ MIX</p> <p>Get into the swing of things with our jazz mix, featuring tracks from from Dinah Washington, John Coltrane and Nat King Cole.</p>	<p><b>03</b> CHILL</p> <p>Close your eyes and take in the emotional grooves and chilled beats of Pretz, Airstream, Troublesooter, D*Note and Cell.</p>	<p><b>04</b> THE HIT LIST</p> <p>Tune in for the hottest hits on the worldwide pop charts, with Daft Punk, Emili Sande, Lorde, Katy Perry and Coldplay.</p>
<p><b>05</b> AMERICAN JUKEBOX</p> <p>You don't need a nickel to punch up your favorite hit songs on our jukebox. Hear tunes from The Band, Gene Autry, Brenda Lee and Ritchie Valens.</p>	<p><b>06</b> COUNTRY ROADS</p> <p>Check out a playlist of current country music chart toppers and some old favorites, including tunes from Blake Shelton and Carrie Underwood.</p>	<p><b>07</b> ON THE EDGE</p> <p>Mike Einziger of Incubus hosts a channel of alternative, modern and indie bands with songs from Avicii, Nirvana and The Black Keys.</p>	<p><b>08</b> TOTALLY '80S</p> <p>Crimped hair and neon are back in style ... and so are the tubular hits of the '80s, including tracks from Culture Club and Cyndi Lauper.</p>
<p><b>09</b> SPOTLIGHT: DISNEY'S PLANES</p> <p>Tune in now to hear songs from the <i>Disney's Planes</i> soundtrack and check out the Blu-ray and HD Digital now available.</p>	<p><b>10</b> LATIN SHOWCASE</p> <p>Listen to the hottest Latin artists with this up-tempo mix of songs, featuring Ricky Martin, Gloria Trevi, and Prince Royce.</p>	<p><b>11</b> SMOOTH</p> <p>Relax to a comfortable mix of classic and contemporary songs, including tunes from George Michael and Norah Jones.</p>	<p><b>12</b> POP PIANO</p> <p>Popular tunes played on the piano make for a soothing and uplifting channel you can both hear and feel.</p>
<p><b>13*</b> JAPANESE HORIZONS</p> <p>With sounds as unique as Japan, this channel features catchy tunes from SHINee, LiSA, Girls' Generation, Ayaka and 2AM.</p>	<p><b>14*</b> TALK BUSINESS 360</p> <p>Hear one-on-one interviews with industry innovators who are making a difference in today's business world.</p>	<p><b>17</b> NERVO</p>	
<p><b>15*</b> THE VAULT</p> <p>No need to dust off the vinyl – The Vault has rock hits from the '60s and '70s, featuring popular artists like Sammy Hagar, Rush and AC/DC.</p>	<p><b>16*</b> MANDARIN MIX</p> <p>Enjoy a selection of some of the greatest music from China, including Won Fu, Rainie Yang, Kelvin Kwan and Tiger Huang.</p>		
<p><b>17*</b> METRO</p> <p>Australian DJ duo Nervo are behind the ones and twos this month for a mix of trance, dance, dub-step and electronic music.</p>	<p><b>18*</b> LONDON CALLING</p> <p>Oi! Take a musical trip to the U.K. and rock out to some great Brits, including Chvrches, Muse, Oasis and The Clash.</p>		

\* Additional channels available on select 777, 737 and A319 flights as well as Samsung Tablets. For a complete set listing, please visit aa.com/music.

# VIDEO

MAIN SCREEN VIDEO AVAILABLE ON MOST 737, 757 AND 767 AIRCRAFT. FOR 777, SELECT 737 AND A319 AIRCRAFT, SEE ON-DEMAND PROGRAMMING ON YOUR SEATBACK MONITOR.



Enjoy a variety of popular NBC shows including *Parks and Recreation*, *Parenthood* and *Community*, as well as buzzed-about newcomers *The Blacklist*, *The Michael J. Fox Show* and *Sean Saves The World*. Plus, get the latest in news, comedy and sports with short segments from NBC.

### THE BLACKLIST

**James Spader** > For decades, ex-government agent Raymond "Red" Reddington has been one of the FBI's Most Wanted fugitives and has compiled a "blacklist" of politicians, mobsters, spies and international terrorists. Now, he's mysteriously surrendered to the FBI with an explosive offer: He will help catch the criminals on the "blacklist" under the condition that he speaks only to Elizabeth "Liz" Keen (Megan Boone), an FBI profiler fresh out of Quantico. | **Airs on NBC Mondays 10/9c | Action-Adventure**

### SEAN SAVES THE WORLD

**Sean Hayes** > Sean is a divorced dad who juggles a lot – his successful but demanding career, offbeat employees, pushy mom, Lorna (Linda Lavin), and now being a full-time dad to his teenage daughter, Ellie (Samantha Isler). | **Airs on NBC Thursdays 9/8c | Comedy**

### THE MICHAEL J. FOX SHOW

**Michael J. Fox** > Mike Henry, one of New York's most beloved news anchors, put his career on hold to spend more time with his family and focus on his health after he was diagnosed with Parkinson's. But five years later, with the kids' busy schedules and Mike growing restless, it just might be time for him to get back to work. | **Airs on NBC Thursdays 9:30/8:30c | Comedy**

MOVIES ARE AVAILABLE ON FLIGHTS GREATER THAN 1,350 MILES (APPROXIMATELY 2 1/2 HOURS)

FLIGHTS	FLIGHT DIRECTION	
UNITED STATES   CANADA	EASTBOUND, SOUTHBOUND	WESTBOUND, NORTHBOUND
December 1 to 15	<i>Despicable Me 2</i> [E] [LS]	<i>Austenland</i> [E] [LS]
December 16 to 31	<i>Paranoia</i> [E] [LS]	<i>Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters</i> [E] [LS]
HAWAII*   ALASKA	TO	FROM
December 1 to 15	<i>Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters</i> [E] [LS]	<i>Paranoia</i> [E] [LS]
December 16 to 31 *Second Feature (from DFW and ORD only)	<i>Austenland</i> [E] [LS] <i>Percy Jackson &amp; The Olympians: The Lightning Thief</i> [E] [LS]	<i>Despicable Me 2</i> [E] [LS]
PUERTO RICO   CARIBBEAN   MEXICO	TO	FROM
Feature	<i>The Wolverine</i> [E] [LS]	<i>Now You See Me</i> [E] [LS]
EUROPE	TO	FROM
First Feature	<i>The Wolverine</i> [E] [LS] [G] [F] [CS] [I]	<i>Now You See Me</i> [E] [LS] [G] [F] [CS] [I]
Second Feature (may not be available on all flights)	<i>Percy Jackson &amp; The Olympians: The Lightning Thief</i> [E] [LS] [G] [F] [CS] [I]	<i>Jack the Giant Slayer</i> [E] [LS] [G] [F] [CS] [I]
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA*   HAITI	TO	FROM
Feature	<i>The Wolverine</i> [E] [LS] [F]	<i>Now You See Me</i> [E] [LS] [F]
*Second Feature (to MIA from Asuncion only)		<i>Jack the Giant Slayer</i> [E] [LS]
BRAZIL	TO	FROM
Feature	<i>The Wolverine</i> [E] [P]	<i>Now You See Me</i> [E] [P]
Second Feature (to MIA from Brasilia, Recife and Salvador)		<i>Jack the Giant Slayer</i> [E] [P]

[CS] Castilian Spanish [E] English [F] French [G] German [I] Italian [LS] Latin Spanish [P] Portuguese

Enjoy shows from these contributing networks on our in-seat systems.



Streaming Video Entertainment is available on some domestic flights. See page 97 for more information.

## NOW SHOWING

### AUSTENLAND

**Keri Russell, Jane Seymour** > A woman obsessed with Jane Austen spends her savings on a trip to a themed resort to meet the perfect gentleman. **1:36 minutes | Comedy**

### DESPICABLE ME 2

**Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig** > As Gru adjusts to family life, a secret organization needs him to find out who committed some spectacular crimes. **1:38 minutes | Animation**

### JACK THE GIANT SLAYER

**Nicholas Hoult, Ewan McGregor** > An ancient war is reignited when a farmhand opens a gateway between his world and a fearsome race of giants. **1:55 minutes | Action-Adventure**

### NOW YOU SEE ME

**Jesse Eisenberg, Mark Ruffalo** > FBI agents track a team of illusionists who pull off bank heists during their shows and give audiences the money. **1:55 minutes | Drama**

### PARANOIA

**Liam Hemsworth, Gary Oldman** > An entry-level employee must spy on his boss' old mentor to secure for him a multibillion dollar advantage. **1:46 minutes | Drama**

### PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF

**Brandon T. Jackson, Logan Lerman** > Percy discovers he is the son of the Greek god Poseidon, and he's been accused of stealing Zeus' very own lightning bolt. **1:56 minutes | Action-Adventure**

### PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS

**Alexandra Daddario, Logan Lerman** > Percy teams with his demigod friends to retrieve the Golden Fleece to save their home and training ground. **1:46 minutes | Action-Adventure**

### THE WOLVERINE

**Rila Fukushima, Hugh Jackman** > In Japan, Wolverine confronts not only lethal samurai steel but also an inner struggle against his own immortality. **2:06 minutes | Action-Adventure**



AUSTENLAND

Movies are edited for content. For more information on all American Airlines inflight entertainment, visit [entertainment.aa.com](http://entertainment.aa.com).

# Our Fleet

## AMERICAN AIRCRAFT

Seat configurations may vary.

### INTRODUCING AIRBUS A319

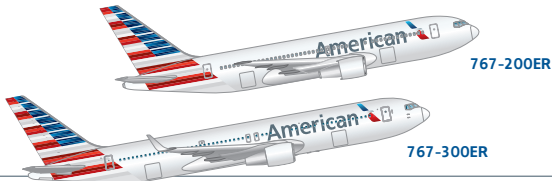
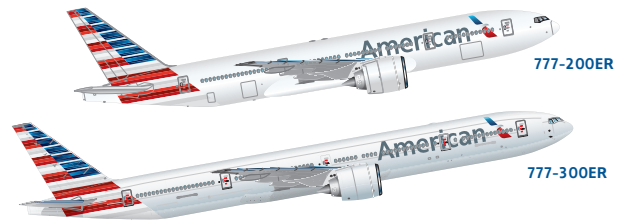
**A319**  
 F: 8 recline seats  
 MCE: 24 standard seats  
 M: 96 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 35,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 520 mph



### BOEING 777

**777-200ER**  
 F: 16 Flagship Suite seats  
 B: 37 angled lie-flat seats  
 M: 194 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 37,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 555 mph

**777-300ER**  
 F: 8 Flagship Suite seats  
 B: 52 fully lie-flat seats  
 MCE\*: 30 standard seats  
 M: 220 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 37,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 555 mph



### BOEING 767

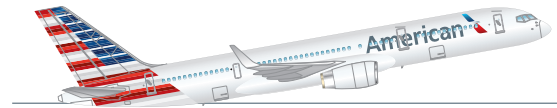
**767-200ER**  
 F: 10 recline seats  
 B: 30 recline seats  
 M: 128 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 35,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 530 mph

**767-300ER**  
 B: 30 angled lie-flat seats  
 MCE\*: 21 standard seats  
 M: 163 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 35,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 530 mph

### BOEING 757

**Version 1**  
 F: 22/24 recline seats  
 MCE\*: 52 standard seats  
 M: 108 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 35,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 530 mph

**Version 2**  
 F: 16 angled lie-flat seats  
 MCE\*: 52 standard seats  
 M: 108 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 35,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed:  
 530 mph



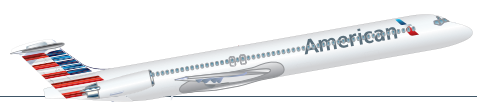
### BOEING 737-800

F: 16 recline seats  
 MCE\*: 48 standard seats  
 M: 86 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 35,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed: 530 mph

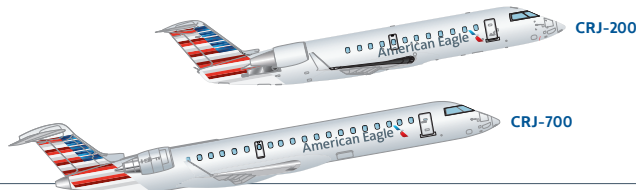


### MCDONNELL DOUGLAS MD-80

F: 16 recline seats  
 MCE\*: 40 standard seats  
 M: 79 standard seats  
 Typical Cruising Altitude:  
 33,000 feet  
 Typical Cruising Speed: 500 mph



**AMERICAN EAGLE AIRCRAFT**



**BOMBARDIER  
CRJ**

**CRJ-700**

F: 9 recline seats  
M: 54/56\*\* standard seats  
Typical Cruising Altitude:  
37,000 feet  
Typical Cruising Speed:  
515 mph

**CRJ-200**

M: 50 standard seats  
Typical Cruising Altitude:  
37,000 feet  
Typical Cruising Speed:  
515 mph

\*\*Classic vs. NextGen



**EMBRAER  
ERJ**

**ERJ-140**

M: 44 standard seats  
Typical Cruising Altitude:  
37,000 feet  
Typical Cruising Speed:  
515 mph

**ERJ-175**

F: 12 recline seats  
MCE\*: 20 standard seats  
M: 44 standard seats  
Typical Cruising Altitude:  
37,000 feet  
Typical Cruising Speed:  
515 mph

**ERJ-145**

M: 50 standard seats  
Typical Cruising Altitude:  
37,000 feet  
Typical Cruising Speed:  
515 mph

F: First Class | B: Business Class | MCE: Main Cabin Extra | M: Main Cabin

\*American offers Main Cabin Extra seating on a majority of its fleet and continues to work to retrofit all of its aircraft.

**ASK THE FLIGHT CREW**

Ever wonder what's going on behind the controls, which airport has the most scenic approach or how takeoff speed is determined? Now's your chance to get answers. Send your question for a pilot or flight attendant to [navigate@americanway.com](mailto:navigate@americanway.com).

**Q.** What cockpit technology has stayed the same since the early days of the airliners?

**A.** There are actually many things that have remained relatively the same in cockpit technology, but two very important things stand out. The first is how we determine our airspeed and altitude. We use basically the same process that has been in use for decades —the pitot-static system. The pitot-static system measures the dynamic pressure (air going into a small tube near the front of the airplane) and the static pressure (air pressure measured at small pin-size holes on the side of the airplane). These pressures are then converted into airspeed and altitude indications on gauges in the cockpit.

The second piece of technology that has gone unchanged is an instrument used since the earliest days of aviation — a magnetic, or wet, compass. Magnetic compasses exist in every aircraft cockpit and are used at some point in every flight, no matter how modern or advanced the plane is. In the early days of aviation, a magnetic compass was critical to the pilot staying on the proper course. Today, because of more advanced and precise ways to reference your headings, the magnetic compass has become a secondary reference, but could be used if your primary system failed.

**Capt. Bart Roberts**, a 27-year veteran at American, answers this month's questions. He flies the 777 and is currently serving as American's Chief Pilot Line Operations.

# oneworld



be rewarded.  
**be one.**

Earn and redeem AAdvantage miles across all **oneworld** airlines. Wherever you go, your rewards follow. Learn more at [oneworld.com](http://oneworld.com)



American Airlines 

member of



## be connected

Welcome to **oneworld**, an alliance of the world's leading airlines committed to providing the highest level of service and convenience across almost 900 destinations worldwide. Whenever American Airlines can't take you to your final destination, we encourage you to travel with our **oneworld** partner airlines.

Enjoy an array of special privileges and rewards – which include earning and redeeming AAdvantage miles on all **oneworld** airlines and, for AAdvantage Executive Platinum and Platinum members traveling on qualifying itineraries, access to more than 550 premium airport lounges\*.

## oneworld alliance members



# be recognized

As a **oneworld** traveler, satisfaction awaits you around the globe. Your AAdvantage status is recognized across all member airlines. And you are entitled to a range of benefits, which are provided according to the following **oneworld** status levels, no matter which cabin class you are flying in:



AAdvantage® Gold	AAdvantage® Platinum	AAdvantage® Executive Platinum
 <b>oneworld Ruby</b>	 <b>oneworld Sapphire</b>	 <b>oneworld Emerald</b>
Earn & redeem miles on all <b>oneworld</b> member airlines	<i>All benefits of Ruby, plus the following:</i>	<i>All benefits of Sapphire, plus the following:</i>
Travel on eligible <b>oneworld</b> flights counts toward qualification for elite status	Access to Business Class lounges	Fast Track at security lanes
Access to Business Class priority check-in	Priority boarding	Extra baggage allowance
Access to preferred or pre-reserved seating		Access to First Class priority check-in
Priority on waitlists and when on standby		Access to First Class lounges*

\*American Airlines AAdvantage® members, regardless of their status level or class of travel, cannot access American Airlines lounges when traveling solely on North American flights within or between the U.S., Canada, Mexico (except Mexico City), the Bahamas, Bermuda and the Caribbean. For more information, visit [aa.com/admiralsclub](http://aa.com/admiralsclub).

Access to preferred or prerreserved seating is in accordance with the individual policy of the **oneworld** member airline operating the flight. First and Business Class check-in desks and lounges are not available at all airports. Lounge access for Emerald and Sapphire status members only. Fast Track at security lanes and extra baggage allowance for Emerald status members only. Fast Track is not available at all airports. **oneworld** benefits are available only to passengers on scheduled flights that are both marketed and operated by a **oneworld** member airline (marketed means that there must be a **oneworld** member airline's flight number on your ticket). For information on **oneworld**, visit [oneworld.com](http://oneworld.com). Air Berlin, American Airlines, British Airways, Cathay Pacific, Finnair, Iberia, Japan Airlines, LAN, Malaysia Airlines, Qantas, Qatar Airways, Royal Jordanian, S7 Airlines and **oneworld** are trademarks of their respective companies. Some limitations may apply. For more information, visit [oneworld.com/lounges](http://oneworld.com/lounges).

## other American partners

American also has marketing agreements with select airlines outside the **oneworld** alliance, expanding the opportunities for customers. For more information, visit [aa.com/participantairlines](http://aa.com/participantairlines).

Airline	Based In	Earn Miles	Earn Elite-Qualifying Miles	Redeem Miles
Air Tahiti Nui	Pacific	X <sup>‡</sup>	X <sup>‡</sup>	X
Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air	North America	X	X	X
Cape Air	North America	X <sup>‡</sup>	X <sup>‡</sup>	X
EL AL	Middle East	X		X
Etihad Airways	Middle East	X <sup>†</sup>	X <sup>‡</sup>	X
Fiji Airways	Pacific	X		X
Gulf Air	Middle East	X		X
Hainan Airlines	Asia	X <sup>‡</sup>	X <sup>‡</sup>	
Hawaiian Airlines	North America	X	X <sup>‡</sup>	X
Jet Airways	Asia	X <sup>‡</sup>		
JetBlue	North America	X <sup>†</sup>		
Jetstar	Australia	X <sup>‡</sup>	X <sup>‡</sup>	
Seaborne	North America	X <sup>‡</sup>	X <sup>‡</sup>	
TAM Airlines	South America	X		X
WestJet	North America	X	X <sup>‡</sup>	

**Notes:**

\* When booked as an American flight number

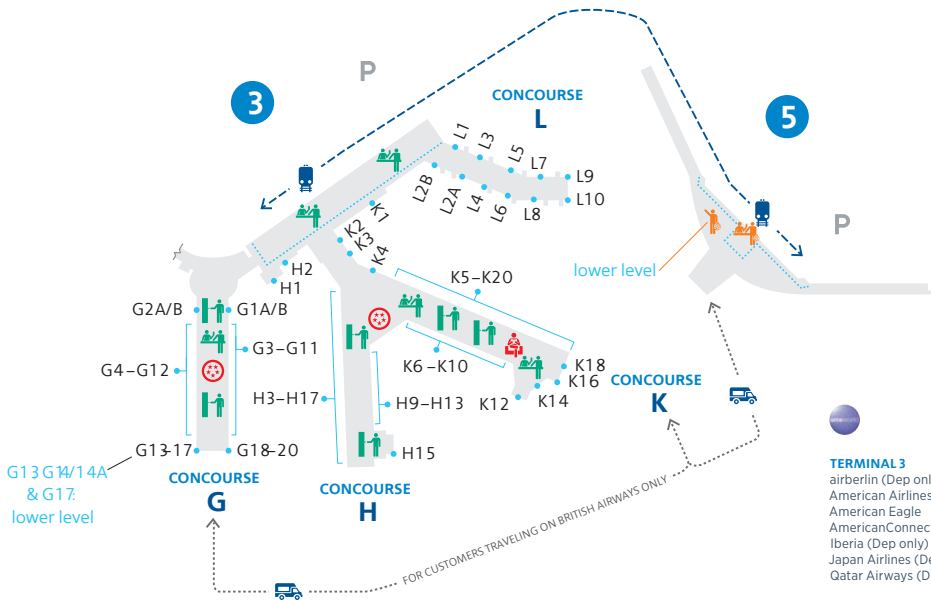
<sup>†</sup> When booked as Etihad flight number, select flights only

<sup>‡</sup> Earn miles only on select domestic markets from New York (JFK) and Boston (BOS).

\*Mileage accrual is not permitted on flights between North America and Brussels (BRU).

# U.S. Terminal Maps

## CHICAGO O'HARE (ORD)



## Legend

- TICKET COUNTER |
- SELF-SERVICE CHECK-IN
- TRANSFER DESK
- REBOOKING CENTER

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- INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS
- FLAGSHIP CHECK-IN
- IMMIGRATION | CUSTOMS

---

- SECURITY WALL

---

- UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
- FLAGSHIP LOUNGE
- ADMIRALS CLUB
- LOUNGE

---

- JFK AIRTRAIN
- DFW SKYLINK
- TRANSFER BUS
- AIRPORT TRAIN
- MIA SKYTRAIN

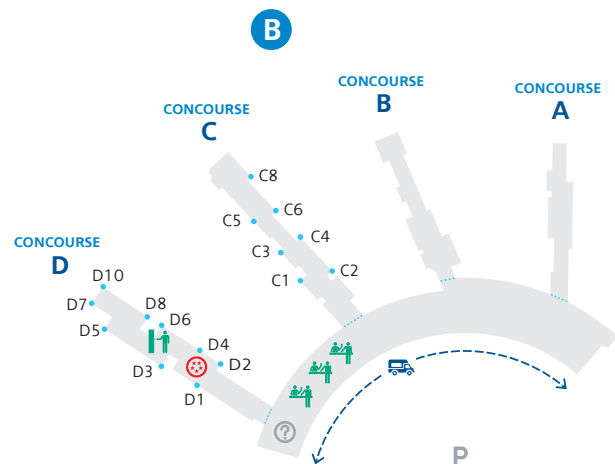
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- MOVING SIDEWALK
- PARKING
- INFORMATION

**TERMINAL 3**  
 airberlin (Dep only)  
 American Airlines  
 American Eagle  
 AmericanConnection  
 Iberia (Dep only)  
 Japan Airlines (Dep only)  
 Qatar Airways (Dep only)

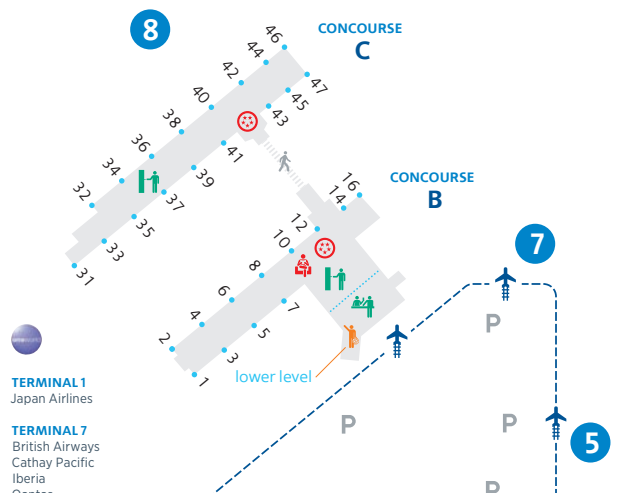
**TERMINAL 5**  
 airberlin (Arr only)  
 American Airlines (Intl Arr only)  
 British Airways  
 Cathay Pacific  
 Iberia (Arr only)  
 Japan Airlines (Arr only)  
 Qatar Airways (Arr only)  
 Royal Jordanian

## NEW YORK LAGUARDIA (LGA)



**TERMINAL B**  
 American Airlines  
 American Eagle

## NEW YORK JOHN F. KENNEDY (JFK)

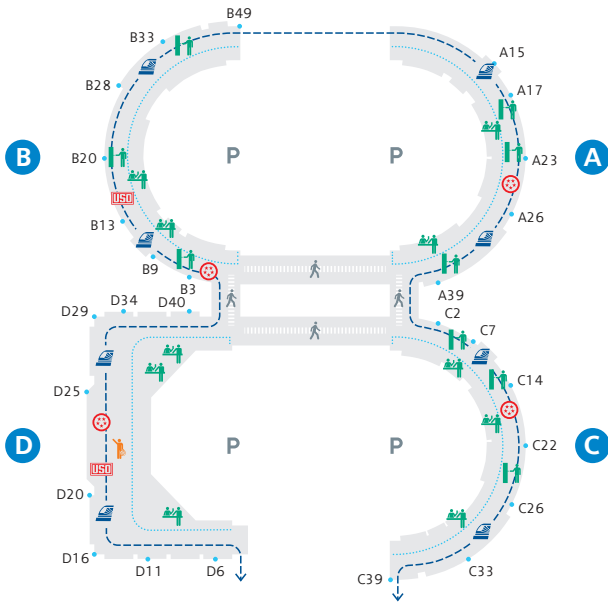


**TERMINAL 1**  
 Japan Airlines

**TERMINAL 7**  
 British Airways  
 Cathay Pacific  
 Iberia  
 Qantas

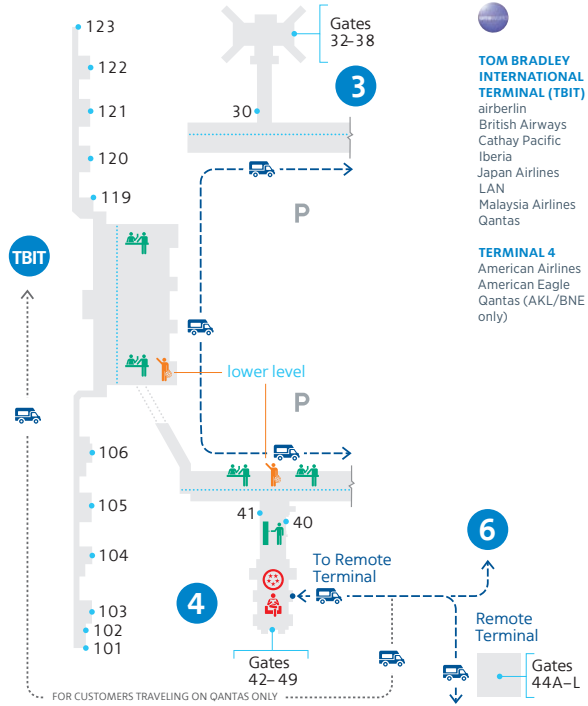
**TERMINAL 8**  
 American Airlines  
 American Eagle  
 airberlin  
 Finnair  
 LAN  
 Qatar Airways  
 Royal Jordanian

### DALLAS/FORT WORTH (DFW)



- TERMINAL A**  
American Airlines
- TERMINAL B**  
American Eagle
- TERMINAL C**  
American Airlines
- TERMINAL D**  
American Airlines  
American Eagle  
British Airways  
Qantas

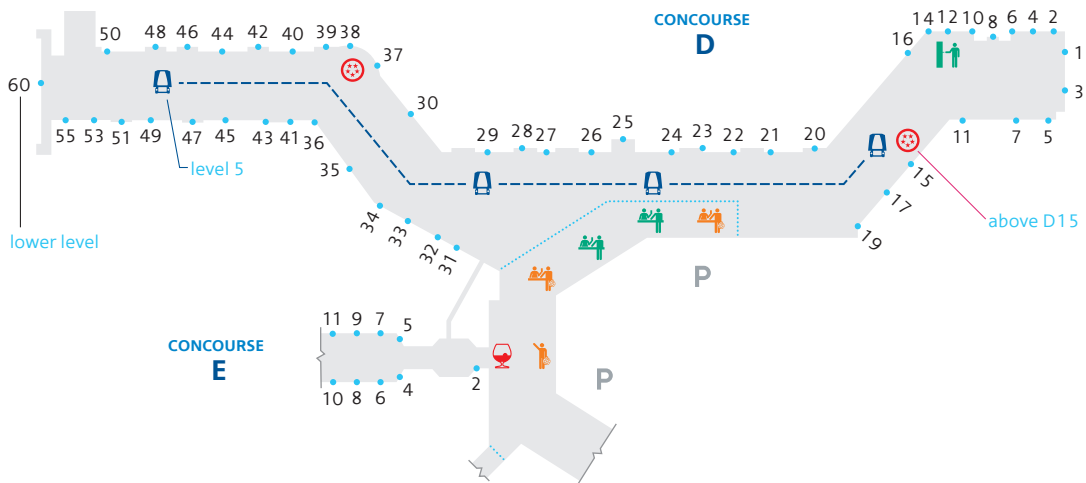
### LOS ANGELES (LAX)



- TOM BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL (TBIT)**  
airberlin  
British Airways  
Cathay Pacific  
Iberia  
Japan Airlines  
LAN  
Malaysia Airlines  
Qantas

- TERMINAL 4**  
American Airlines  
American Eagle  
Qantas (AKL/BNE only)

### MIAMI (MIA)



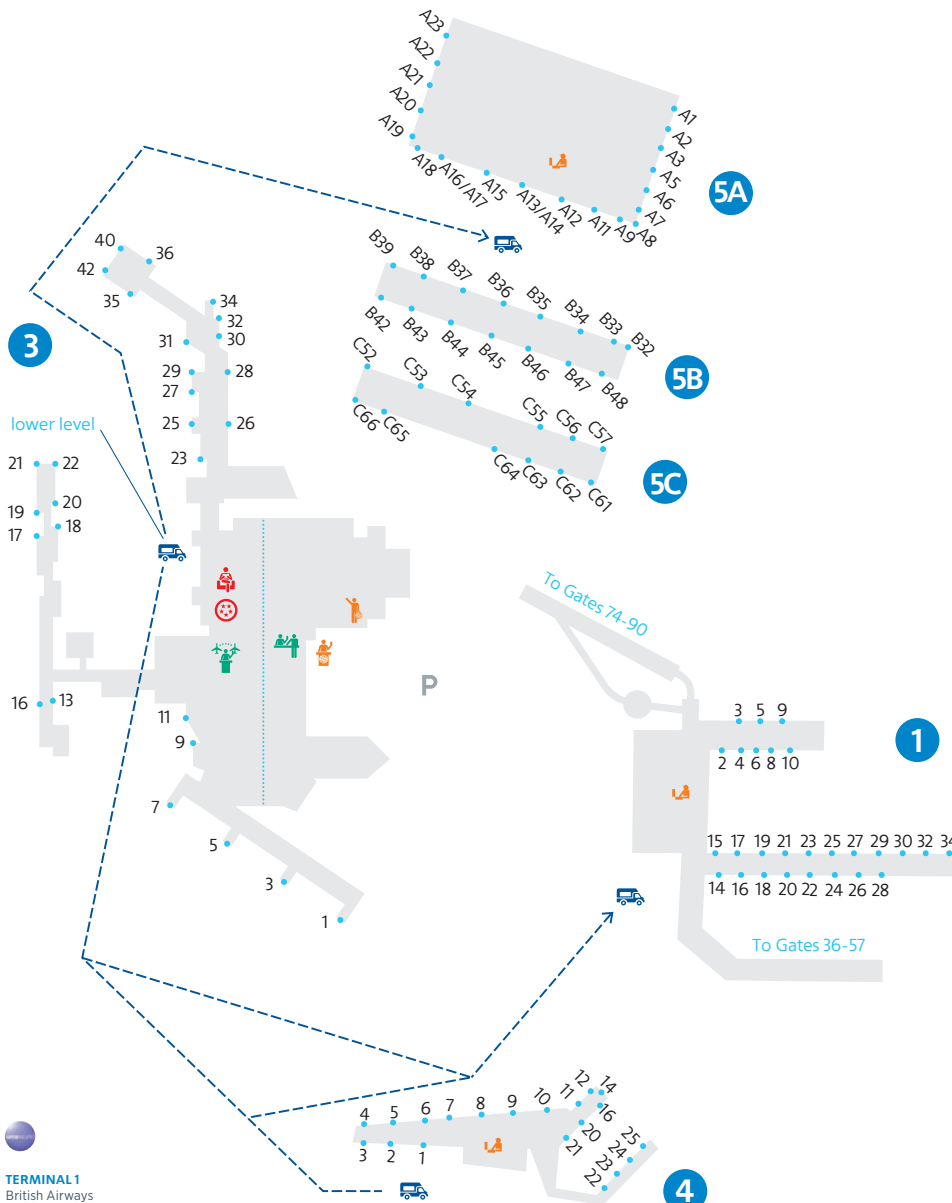
- CONCOURSE D**  
American Airlines  
American Eagle

- CONCOURSE E**  
American Airlines  
airberlin  
British Airways  
Iberia

- CONCOURSE J**  
LAN

# International Terminal Maps

## LONDON HEATHROW (LHR)



**TERMINAL 1**  
British Airways

**TERMINAL 3**  
American Airlines  
British Airways  
Cathay Pacific  
Finnair  
Japan Airlines  
Qantas  
Royal Jordanian

**TERMINAL 4**  
Malaysia Airlines  
Qatar Airways

**TERMINAL 5**  
British Airways  
Iberia

## Legend

- TICKET COUNTER |
- SELF-SERVICE CHECK-IN
- TRANSFER DESK
- REBOOKING CENTER

---

- INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS
- FLAGSHIP CHECK-IN
- IMMIGRATION | CUSTOMS

---

- SECURITY WALL

---

- UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
- FLAGSHIP LOUNGE
- ADMIRALS CLUB
- LOUNGE

---

- JFK AIRTRAIN
- DFW SKYLINK
- TRANSFER BUS
- AIRPORT TRAIN
- MIA SKYTRAIN

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- MOVING SIDEWALK
- PARKING
- INFORMATION

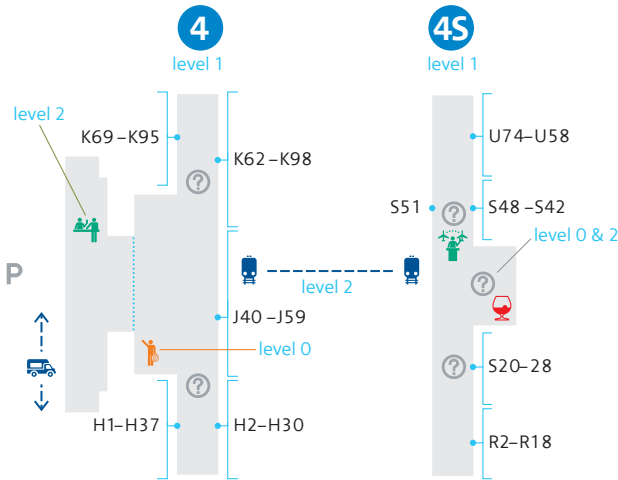
## Connection Information

If you are connecting to Helsinki on Finnair or on British Airways to Budapest, Gibraltar, Helsinki, Lisbon, Prague, Vienna, Warsaw, please stay within Terminal 3.

If you are connecting on British Airways to Amman, Baku, Beirut, Belfast City, Cairo, Dublin, Hannover, Luxembourg, Lyon, Marseille, Rotterdam or Tel Aviv please proceed to Terminal 1.

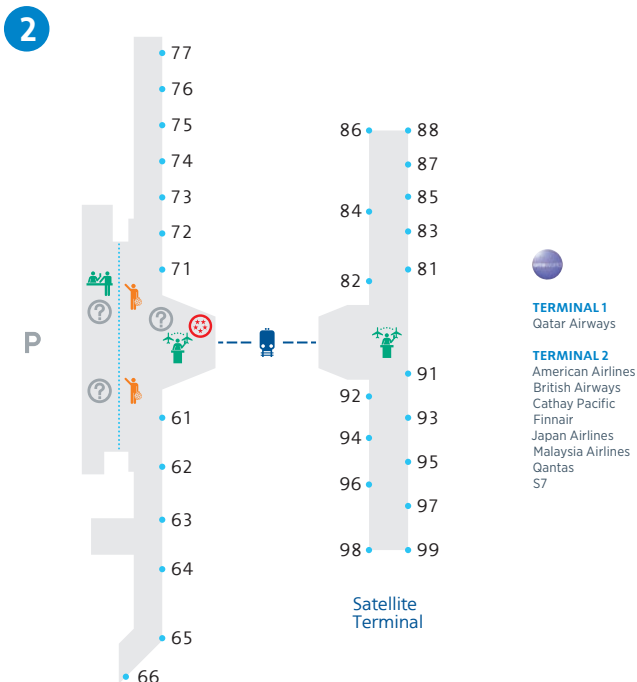
Please proceed to Terminal 5 for all other connections on British Airways and Iberia.

## MADRID-BARAJAS (MAD)



- TERMINAL 4**  
Finnair  
Iberia
- TERMINAL 4S**  
American Airlines  
British Airways  
Royal Jordanian  
Iberia
- LAN**  
Qatar Airways

## TOKYO NARITA (NRT)



- TERMINAL 1**  
Qatar Airways
- TERMINAL 2**  
American Airlines  
British Airways  
Cathay Pacific  
Finnair  
Japan Airlines  
Malaysia Airlines  
Qantas  
S7

## Convenience upon arrival

### Global Entry

Ease your entry to the United States with Global Entry, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Trusted Traveler program intended to expedite clearance. Global Entry is available for all preapproved, low-risk travelers at participating airports. Participants enjoy reduced wait times and no paperwork. For more information, please visit [globaleentry.gov](http://globaleentry.gov).

### U.S. Customs Form

Please be sure to complete the customs declaration form distributed by flight attendants. All passengers traveling to the United States must fill out a form, individually or one per family, prior to landing.

### TSA PreCheck

Experience expedited screening benefits as you ease through security without removing your shoes, belt or even your jacket. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has partnered with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and select airlines, including American, to launch a voluntary expedited screening program with a select group of known travelers. Now, in addition to domestic travel, TSA PreCheck® participants are eligible for expedited screening on select international itineraries. For more information, visit [aa.com/tsaprecheck](http://aa.com/tsaprecheck).

Learn more tips and about American's international travel policies at [aa.com](http://aa.com).

BACK





- American, American Eagle® and/or AmericanConnection® service
- ◆ Codeshare service with **oneworld** alliance partner\*
- Codeshare service with non-**oneworld** alliance partner\*
- ◆ **oneworld** alliance destinations
- ★ Admirals Club
- ★ Seasonal cities

Destinations are subject to change.  
 \*For details, see American's airline partner information in the oneworld section.

# Destinations

CARIBBEAN | SOUTH AMERICA



AFRICA | MIDDLE EAST



- American, American Eagle® and/or AmericanConnection® service
- ◆ Codeshare service with **oneworld** alliance partner\*
- Codeshare service with non-**oneworld** alliance partner\*
- ◆ **oneworld** alliance destinations
- ★ Admirals Club
- \* Seasonal cities

Destinations are subject to change. | \*For details, see American's airline partners pages within this section.



# Destinations

EUROPE

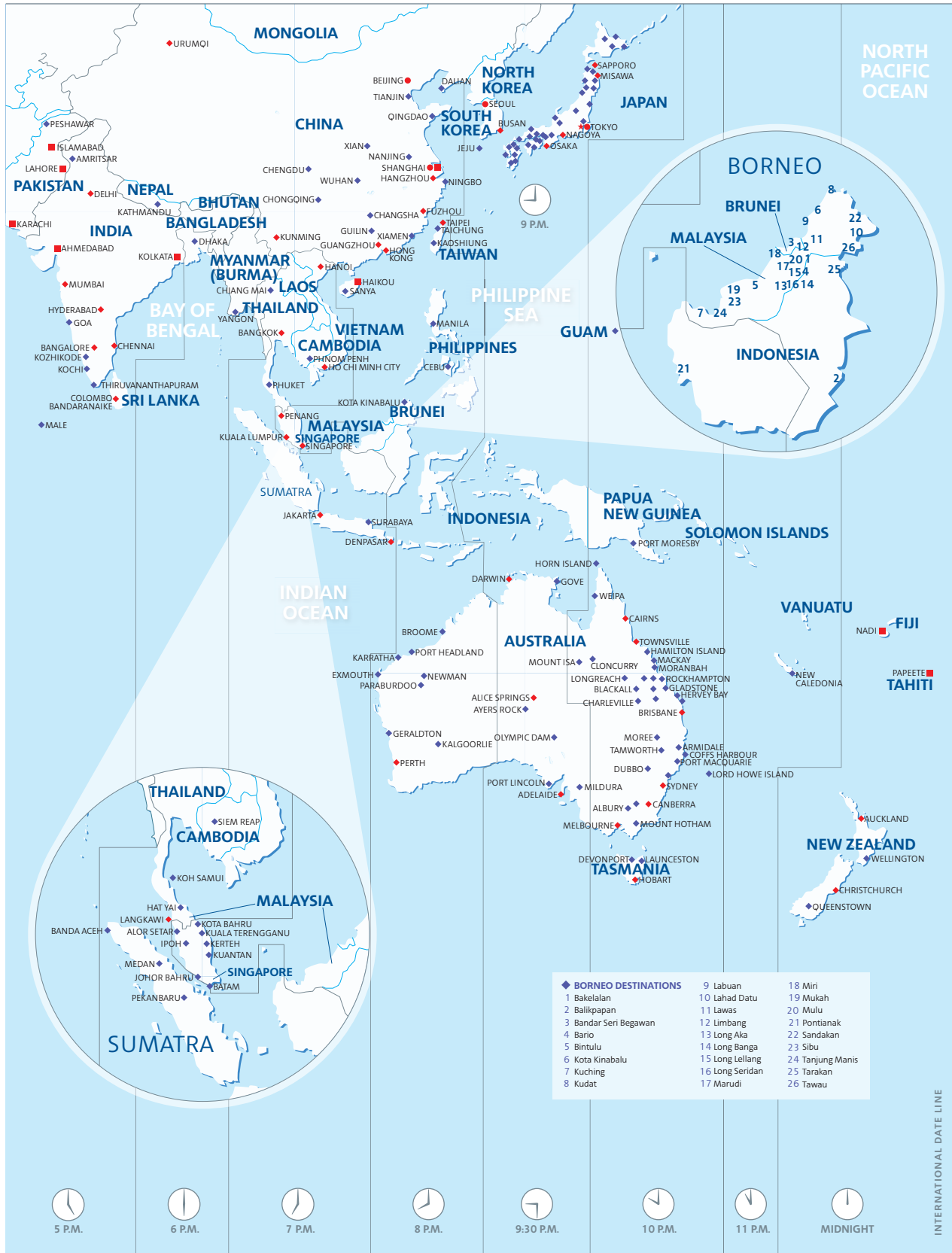


- American, American Eagle® and/or AmericanConnection® service
- ▲ American Eagle and/or AmericanConnection service
- ◆ Codeshare service with **oneworld** alliance partner\*
- Codeshare service with non-**oneworld** alliance partner\*
- ◆ **oneworld** alliance destinations
- ★ Admirals Club
- \* Seasonal cities

Destinations are subject to change. | \*For details, see American's airline partners pages within this section.



ASIA | AUSTRALIA



Insight

Onboard

Entertainment

Aircraft

oneworld

Terminals

Maps

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# Point of View

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## When you get more than you give

December, undoubtedly, is the season of giving. In fact, the Network for Good Digital Giving Index reports that 30 percent of annual giving is done in December alone. We give monetary amounts to charities, we give our time through volunteering, we even give to the person in red ringing a bell outside the grocery store. It's just that time of year.

But giving in unexpected ways can sometimes have the greatest rewards. The first time I experienced this was when I was flying home for the holidays a few years ago. I lived in a small valley town that had a one-gate airport with exactly two flights a day. On the day I was set to leave, fog settled in and stayed. After arriving at the airport and learning my flight had been canceled, I decided I would drive to a nearby airport and catch a flight that would still get me home, albeit a lot later.

While I waited to be rebooked, an elderly woman began to talk to me. She said that she had been waiting at the airport all day with her grandson, and I began to guess where her thoughts were going: chat up the safe-looking girl to get a ride. I can't express how unexcited I was by the idea of driving an hour with two people I didn't know. But when the question came around, I found myself thinking *it's Christmas* and agreed.

We retrieved their luggage and, after figuring out how to fit it all in my hatchback, we were

off. The ride was pleasant enough. She told me they were headed to Alaska to spend the holiday with family, and I said I was going to Texas to do the same. When we got to the airport, I dropped her, her grandson and their massive amount of luggage at the curb before parking. I thought that was that.

But I ran into them again at security. This time my elderly friend fiddled to find something in her purse as we waited. She said she sensed I had reservations about giving them a ride but she was grateful I had. Then, after a minute, she lifted a finger-sized wooden statue of a polar bear out of her bag and handed it to me. It was beautiful and intricate. She told me her brother had carved it, and he would want me to have it. "If it wasn't for you, we wouldn't be going home." I had just given her a ride; she gave me an amazing feeling of worth. I still have that statue. It reminds me to be charitable even when I don't want to be ... because honestly I got so much more than I gave.

---

Michelle Reneau got home in time for Christmas dinner, just in case you were wondering.

### Airline Ambassadors

There are better ways to help someone get where they're going. Volunteering for organizations like Airline Ambassadors International (AAI) is one. They escort children in need; hand-deliver aid to orphanages, clinics and remote communities and involve youth in humanitarian efforts around the world.

Founded in 1996 by American Airlines' Flight Attendant Nancy Rivard, Airline Ambassadors International (AAI) is a nongovernmental organization affiliated with the United Nations and recognized by the U.S. Congress. Last year alone, its volunteers contributed more than 89,000 hours of service and spent \$500,000 of personal income to aid clinics, schools, orphanages and relief programs in 52 countries.

And through their partnership with American, AAI's transportation relief aid programs have helped more than a half-million people in underprivileged areas around the world. For more information, visit [aa.com/joinus](http://aa.com/joinus).

# Take it easy before taking off.

Conveniently located in major airports worldwide, the Admirals Club® is the perfect escape for travelers seeking a more personal level of comfort and service. Enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi, snacks and beverages, wine and spirits, charging stations and more.

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**ADMIRALS** Club.



# Taking the Torch

**FROM OFFICE WINDOWS** high above the playing fields, each of the two sons can see a symbol of the legacy that has been handed down to them. Clark Hunt's reminder is at Arrowhead Stadium, where the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs play. Dan Hunt's is in front of Toyota Stadium in a Dallas suburb where FC Dallas, the family's Major League Soccer team, plays.

Eternally greeting football fans in Kansas City and soccer fans in Frisco, Texas, are duplicate bronze statues of one of the greatest innovators in professional sports. In each place are statues of Lamar Hunt, the man thousands of admirers still fondly remember. He was, like them, a sports fan first and foremost. His nickname as a child, in fact, was "Games." Family members still tell the story of the time the Hunt family's dog gave birth to a large litter of puppies, only half of whom were spotted. The young Lamar quickly divided them into teams and ingeniously devised a competition for them.

It was that lifetime love of competing that prompted him to pioneer the upstart American Football League that battled the NFL. It took 10 seasons, but the persistent AFL wore down the

established league and was finally welcomed into the fold. By the end of the 1969 season, Lamar's Chiefs had become Super Bowl champions and the name for the showcase event was credited to Lamar, who got the idea while watching his children play with a simple little toy called a Super Ball.

But football was only part of his contributions to professional sports. He brought European soccer into the American consciousness. Professional tennis flourished thanks to his visionary World Championship Tennis organization. Lamar was among the founders of the NBA's Chicago Bulls, and his family retained shares of the team after his death in 2006. For his energetic efforts, Lamar Hunt was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, the National Soccer Hall of Fame and the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

And it was all accomplished with a quiet, behind-the-scenes dignity that belied the wealth and fame of the son of legendary oil magnate H.L. Hunt. Before Chiefs home games, Lamar visited the parking lots and mingled with fans. His home number could be found in the phone book. He never was one to flaunt his successes.

Still, as the story goes, a journalist who noted

**FAMILY BUSINESS:** Brothers Clark (right) and Dan Hunt are proudly carrying on their father's vision of caring for their franchises and their fans.

that Lamar was losing a staggering \$1 million annually in the early days of his pro-football venture approached Lamar's billionaire dad for his thoughts on the crisis. "A million a year, huh?" the elderly Hunt was reputed to have said. "At that rate, he'll go broke in 100 or so years."

Today, according to *Forbes*, the Chiefs franchise is worth almost \$1 billion.


Now come Lamar's sons, who have stepped into large shoes. Today, Clark, 48, serves as chairman and CEO of the Chiefs, chairman of FC Dallas and chairman of Hunt Sports Group. Dan, 37, is vice president at Hunt Sports Group and currently oversees the business operations of FC Dallas. Youngsters who once enjoyed trout-fishing trips with their dad and were delighted that he was on hand to watch their peewee soccer games continue to employ his quiet strategies as their own. The apples haven't fallen far from the tree. In fact, they have inherited their dad's energy, resolve and easy nature.

Both sons see their primary responsibility to be good stewards and to continue to advance their father's dreams. "He was a great mentor, a visionary and an innovator whose first concern was always the fans," recalls Dan. "That's now our role."

Clark agrees. As he now oversees the Chiefs' operation, he is reminded daily of the magnitude of the task his dad embraced. "It was one thing to stand next to my father and see the spotlight shining on him. Being in a public role is a completely different challenge," Clark says.

Clark's goal is to build teams that consistently compete for and win championships and provide fans with the best experience in the NFL and MLS. Dan, meanwhile, has visions of the day soccer stadiums throughout the U.S. are filled to capacity and American teams are recognized as equals to the established international clubs.

In truth, they say, there was never a specific time their father announced they eventually would be given the reins to the family business. Lamar Hunt was more subtle, simply inviting them to join him at league gatherings and including them in business meetings.

Dad would be pleased to know they've learned their lessons well. 



## GUESS WHO'S COMING TO MIA?

Even the big guy knows that with more than 200 Shops and Restaurants, flying into Miami International Airport is like flying into a world-class shopping mall. Got a few things left on your holiday list? You're headed to the right place. Who knows, you might even bump into a jolly old fellow.



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it's like closing the door  
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