

NEW DISCOVER SOME OF THE MOST UNFORGETTABLE PLACES ON THE PLANET

101 PLACES

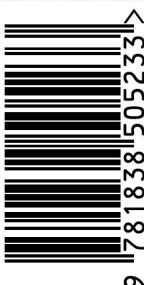
FOR THE OVER 50s TO VISIT

SEIZE THE DAY AND VISIT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
& FASCINATING DESTINATIONS ON EARTH



★ MORaine LAKE ★
BANFF NATIONAL PARK
Alberta
CANADA

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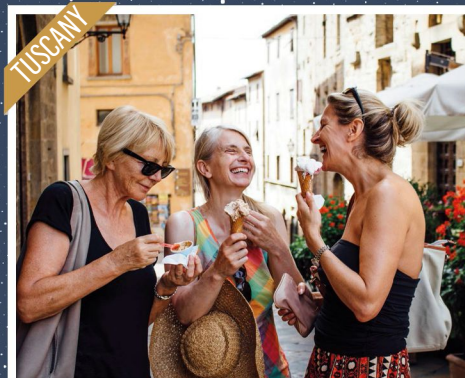


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Future PLC Richmond House, 33 Richmond Hill,
Bournemouth, Dorset, BH2 6EZ

Editorial

Editor **Alice Barnes-Brown**

Designer **Emma Wood**

Editorial Director **Jon White**

Senior Art Editor **Andy Downes**

Contributors

Hareth Al Bustani, Joanne Al-Samarai, Saffron Alexander, Mohammed Barber, Rebecca Greig, Clement MacKay, Katharine Marsh, Nina Matello-Azadeh, Adam Millward, Laurie Newman, Elizabeth Pain, Scott Reeves, Nikole Robinson, Jacqueline Snowden

Cover images

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Photography

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Advertising

Media packs are available on request

Commercial Director **Clare Dove**
clare.dove@futurenet.com

International

Head of Print Licensing **Rachel Shaw**
licensing@futurenet.com

Circulation

Head of Newstrade **Tim Mathers**

Production

Head of Production **Mark Constance**

Production Project Manager **Clare Scott**

Advertising Production Manager **Joanne Crosby**

Digital Editions Controller **Jason Hudson**

Production Managers **Keely Miller, Nola Cokely,**

Vivienne Calvert, Fran Twentyman

Management

Chief Content Officer **Aaron Asadi**

Commercial Finance Director **Dan Jotcham**

Head of Art & Design **Greg Whitaker**

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Non-executive chairman **Richard Huntingford**
Chief financial officer **Penny Larkin-Brand**

Tel +44 (0)1225 442 244



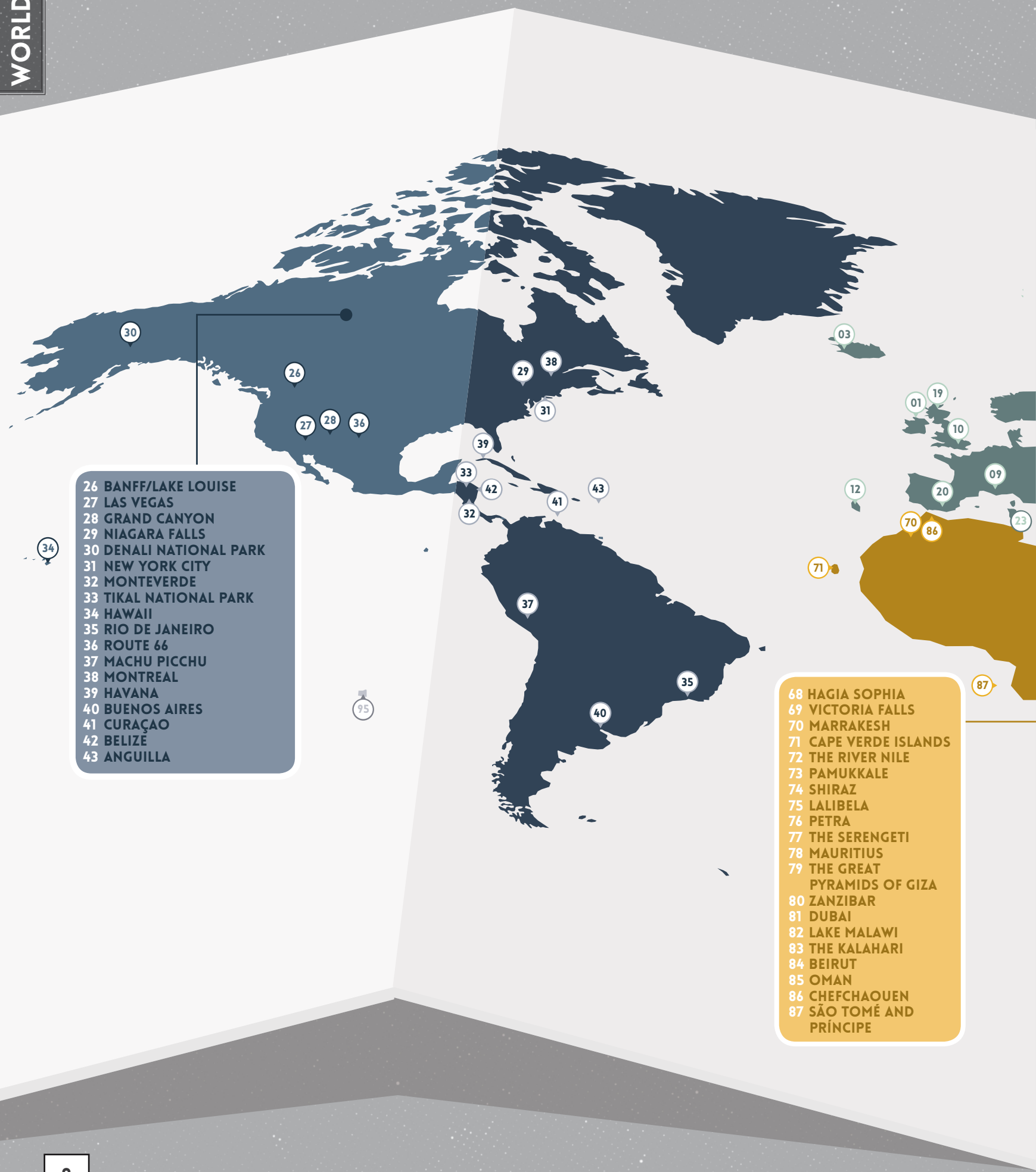
WELCOME TO 101 PLACES FOR THE OVER 50^s TO VISIT

You've watched countless documentaries, read more travelogues than you can count, and heard of the amazing adventures your family and friends have had. Now it's time for you to see the world for yourself, and take that trip you've always dreamed of taking.

Perhaps you've idly imagined sipping a cocktail in Venice on a humid summer evening, or wanted to visit Cuba ever since that Che Guevara poster hung on your teenage bedroom wall. Maybe hiking Canada's wilderness has always appealed, or you simply want to escape to some of the world's most relaxing islands.

But with so many wonderful places to go, where should you start? That's where this helpful bookazine comes in. Whether you're looking to plan a long weekend somewhere close by, or go on a trans-continental rail journey, we've got all the information you need to get started on building your epic itinerary.

Covering all of Earth's continents, this carefully curated selection of destinations showcases the very best of each place. Filled with maps, top tips and accessibility information, this guide makes travelling the world seem like a walk in the park. So, what are you waiting for?



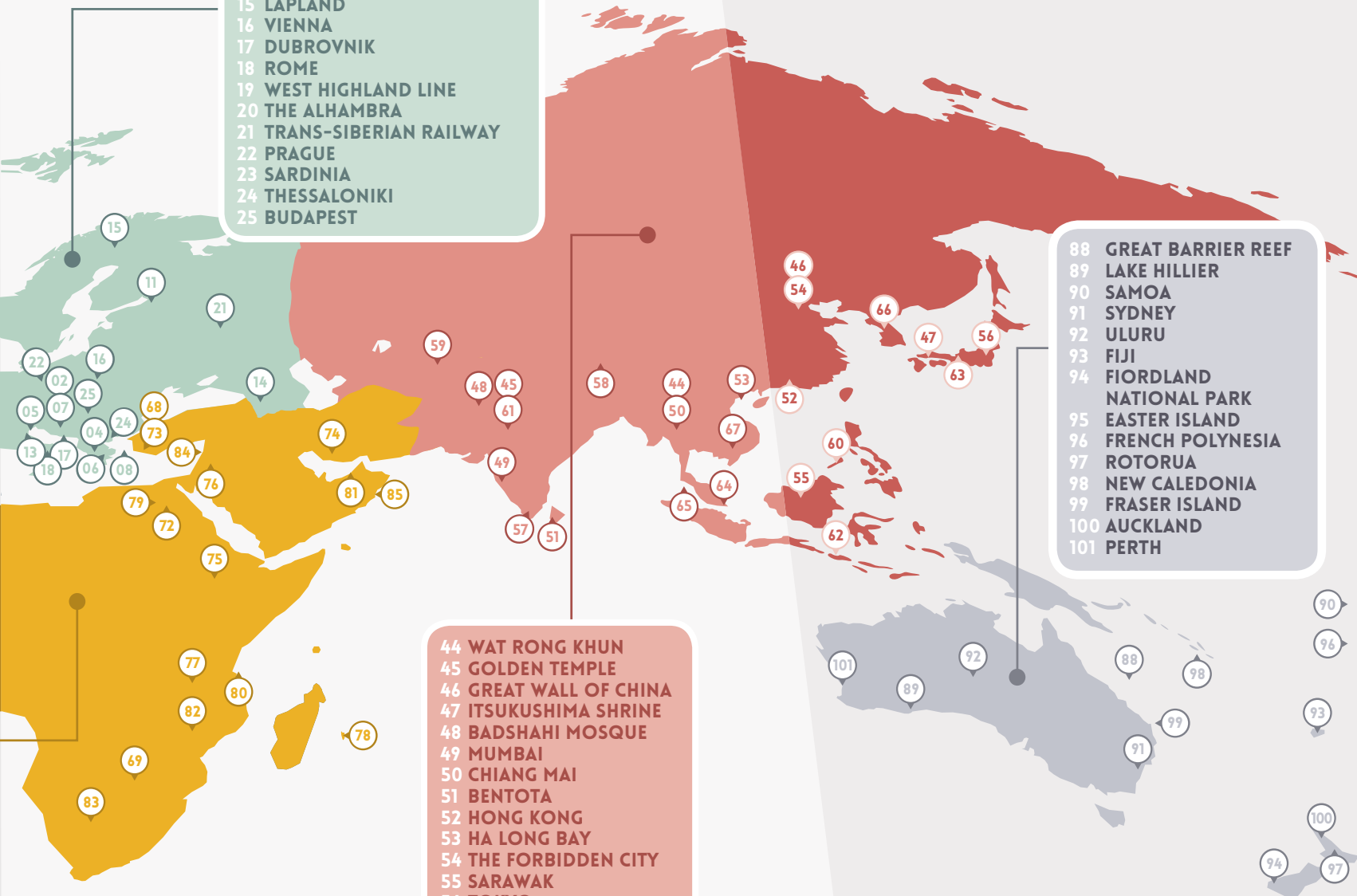
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Tumbling towards the Aegean, the Greek port city of Thessaloniki is studded with remnants of its storied past



ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

To save money, combined tickets to the Byzantine Museum, Archaeological Museum, White Tower, Roman Agora and Galerian Complex-Arched Hall remain valid for three days.

BEST TIME TO VISIT

April to June (for warm weather), or September to October (for good weather and cultural happenings)

TIME ZONE

UTC+3

USEFUL SITES

visitgreece.gr
amth.gr/en
greeka.com



ACCESSIBILITY

Steps - While the oceanfront districts are relatively flat, much of the city is lined with cobbles, slippery marble, narrow alleyways and steep steps.

Public transport - Reliable buses link most major sites, and announce stops in Greek and English. Blue-and-white taxis carry multiple passengers heading in the same direction.

FIND OUT MORE

accessibletravel.gr

24 THESSALONIKI

Past and present collide as ancient edifices rub shoulders with art deco piles

A treasure trove of crumbling churches, ancient ruins and Islamic monuments, Greece's second city, Thessaloniki, is a living, breathing monument to its colourful past and the empires that ruled it – the Romans, the Byzantines and the Ottomans.

Known as the upper town, Ano Poli is a melange of traditional coffee shops (kafeneios) and ramshackle houses, which line the labyrinthine streets. Close by, the ascetic Vlatodon Monastery contains jewel-hued frescoes in glittering gold, green and blue.

From the Byzantine walls of Eptapyrgio, known as the Fortress of Seven Towers, the city unfurls below until it kisses the shore. From here, the crenellated White Tower can be spotted, dominating the seafront. Standing 34 metres high, the former prison has a harrowing

history, marred by executions and massacre. Constructed by the Ottomans, legend suggests it was known as the Tower of Blood until a prisoner offered to paint it white in exchange for his freedom.

Nearby, the Museum of Byzantine Culture protects over 3,000 Byzantine artefacts within its walls, including crowns, jewellery and glassware. Across the road, the Archaeological Museum displays many of the region's most important Hellenistic and Roman discoveries. Highlights include items from tomb of Philip II, father of Alexander the Great, and Europe's oldest book.

To the north, the dome and minaret of the Rotunda of Galerius rise in harmony, symbols of the multitude of faiths it has served. Constructed as a pagan temple, it became a

church before being converted into a mosque by the Ottomans. Today, mosaics and frescoes decorate the 30-metre-high dome. Just south, the Arch of Galerius stands proud, celebrating the eponymous Roman emperor's victories, immortalised in marble.

**THE ASCETIC
VLATODON
MONASTERY
CONTAINS JEWEL-
HUED FREScoes**

40 BUENOS AIRES

A city so vibrant that you can feel the ebb and flow of its cultural landscape

A match made in heaven, the skyline of Buenos Aires is a sprawling dance between magnificent colonial architecture and the scale and passion of Latin America. Everywhere the city stretches, it wrestles with stunning overgrowth, sprouting to-die-for waterfront steakhouses, stunning parks and quirky independent shopping areas, all amid a rich cultural heritage.

As traffic hurls itself down enormous motorways, past hole-in-the-wall pizzerias, an enormous portrait of Evita clings to the side of a rationalist skyscraper, smiling out over the city below. Further afield, giant Parisian-style buildings overflow with greenery, dangling over quiet streets, filled with Argentina's finest upscale brands and bistros. In the distance, passions flare over a tango-filled evening, fluttering over champagne-stained white linen.

The beating heart of the city, the looming Pirámide de Mayo obelisk juts upwards,

defiantly celebrating Argentine independence. The surrounding Plaza del Mayo is buffeted alongside the iconic pink Casa Rosada, where Evita famously boomed out over a bustling crowd of supporters.

It is kept in good company, with the Catedral Metropolitana, the city's largest Catholic church, a curious architectural marvel housing the mausoleum of the hero of Argentinian independence, General José de San Martín. The city's most magnificent mausoleum, however, is Cementerio de la Recoleta, an immense graveyard brimming with elaborate stone and marble graves, statues, tombs and crypts.

Like the momentous River Plate it sits alongside, Buenos Aires stretches as far as the eye can see. However, with plazas dotted all around the city, one is never far from an artisanal coffee, sprinkled with cinnamon, with a delicious alfajor (a traditional dulce de leche confection) to keep it company.



There's no shortage of fantastic food options in Buenos Aires

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

While Buenos Aires is a safe and welcoming city, as in all major tourist destinations you should be wary of your possessions and always take stock of your surroundings.

BEST TIME TO VISIT

March to June or September to November for cooler weather and smaller crowds

TIME ZONE

UTC-3

USEFUL SITES

argentina.travel/en
bafreetour.com
buenostours.com



ACCESSIBILITY

Steps - While much of Buenos Aires can be enjoyed on foot, the city is enormous, and visitors should select their accommodation and plan their itineraries carefully.

Public transport - Colectivo buses provide a cheap, albeit confusing, way of getting around the city. Though limited in scale, the metro can provide relief during rush hour.

FIND OUT MORE

turismo.buenosaires.gob.ar/en/article/accessible-tourism



Stretching across the horizon, Buenos Aires is an adventure across a dynamic Latin tapestry of high culture, passion and pure indulgence

Oman offers a sleepier alternative to the decadence of the United Arab Emirates

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

While Oman is accommodating of all cultures, it is a Muslim country and special consideration should be paid to its nuances – for example, only wearing swimwear at the beach.

BEST TIME TO VISIT

Although Salalah remains cool during the summer months, October to March boasts the best weather countrywide.

TIME ZONE

UTC+4

USEFUL SITES

experienceoman.om
mwasalat.om
nfc.om



ACCESSIBILITY

Steps - While Muscat's mountains and coves offer plenty of opportunities for rambling, its increasingly pedestrianised cities like Muscat offer more leisurely coastal routes.

Public transport - Although it has no rail service, Mwasalat operates intercity buses across the country, as well as Baiza buses within Muscat, and ferries run to the Musandam peninsula.

FIND OUT MORE

omantourism.gov.om/wps/portal/mot/tourism/oman/home/accessibility/

85 OMAN

Visit Oman for stunning beaches, historic towns and subtropical valleys

Although Muscat's Mutrah Corniche is aflutter with cars, hawkers and seagulls, there is something deeply calming about it. Even within the deepest recesses of the bazaar, where frankincense hovers past hand-woven rugs and spices are piled high alongside dazzling jewellery, the hospitable Omani spirit never seems to subside. In a region throttling headfirst into the future, this is a city with a deep appreciation for the old world.

Elsewhere, Khasab is a mountainous land, one of winding roads where dolphins swim alongside rickety wooden boats and turtles lay their eggs

along the shore. Set at the tip of the Musandam peninsula, the coast is marked by the Arab world's answer to fjords, known as khors. Its resident fishermen and goat herders occupy a unique cultural position, with their own language called Kumzari – a cross between Arabic, Farsi, Hindi, English and Portuguese.

Deeper inland – set within the mighty Al-Hajar mountains – is an oasis town framed by magnificent peaks and bursting with date palms. Despite having once famously turned explorer Wilfred Thesiger away, the town today welcomes guests to explore its historic forts,

souq and mosque. On the opposite side of the country, on the southeastern coast and overlooking the Arabian Sea is Salalah. This subtropical city strikes a stunning contrast against the deserts of the north, oozing pearlescent waterfalls from luscious cliffs. The country's second-largest city, it serves as an idyllic diving board for kayak trips across valleys overflowing with greenery.

Though the country packs an incredible amount of diversity into a relatively small region, there is one constant – not a single corner of this country is unspectacular.

100 AUCKLAND

New Zealand's biggest city is ready to welcome you with open arms

Start your New Zealand journey with Auckland, and take a trip to the unmissable item on every itinerary: the Sky Tower. It's New Zealand's tallest building and offers unparalleled aerial views of the entire city. Thrill-seekers can bungee jump off the top of the tower, but for those who prefer to keep their feet firmly on the ground, you can relax with a coffee or glass of wine at one of the Sky Tower's restaurants.

Also in downtown Auckland, and just a stone's throw away from the Sky Tower, is The Civic. It's one of a few late-1920s 'atmospheric' theatres left in the world, and it's a great place to catch some musical theatre, a concert, and even comedy shows.

If you're looking for a day trip, visiting Waiheke Island is a must. Hop on a ferry from the central city wharf and 40 minutes later you'll find yourself in a different, more tranquil world. Hire a bike and cycle around the island, or lace up your boots and explore one of the walking tracks. Waiheke Island is also home to over 20 vineyards, so you can book a wine tour and find out for yourself why New Zealanders love their wine.

When you're back on the mainland, head to the Viaduct. Here you can find some of Auckland's finest dining, with stunning views looking towards the harbour.

If you prefer a more casual setting, don't be afraid to go off the beaten track – some of the best cafes and restaurants in town can be found in side streets and alleys. Always order a flat white coffee, and you'll never go wrong.

New Zealand has no shortage of beaches, and you'll find lots of seaside spots around Auckland



The Sky Tower is the tallest building in New Zealand, and a must-see for anyone visiting



ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Auckland is on North Island, and it's just a three-hour flight from Sydney.

BEST TIME TO VISIT

October to April

TIME ZONE

UTC+12

USEFUL SITES

aucklandnz.com/visit

newzealand.com/int/auckland

aucklandlive.co.nz



ACCESSIBILITY

Steps - Many of Auckland's top sites are within walking distance of one another. If you've done enough walking, there are hop-on hop-off buses running regularly.

Public transport - It's easy getting into downtown Auckland from the airport, with direct buses running at all hours of the day.

FIND OUT MORE

at.govt.nz