

FINDINGS FROM AFAR

We've travelled far and wide over the last 10 years, making fascinating and often surprising discoveries. From some of the most bizarre to the most beautiful, check out our hidden gems



1 FIRST FUSION Combining the rich flavours of Malay cooking with delicate Chinese preparation, Peranakan cuisine is one of the world's oldest fusion cuisines. Sample delicacies such as *bakwan kepitng* or *otak otak* at The Blue Ginger in Singapore. www.theblueginger.com



2 GLADIATOR TRAINING For a chance of all the glory and none of the bloodshed, it's possible to train as a gladiator in Rome, Italy. Starting with wooden swords before moving on to alarmingly heavy, historically-accurate metal versions, it doesn't take long to build up a real sweat. www.romecavalieri.com/gladiator.php

3 BANGED UP ABROAD For anyone who has seen *Midnight Express*, the idea of ending up in a Turkish prison on holiday is probably a waking nightmare. Not so at the Four Seasons' spectacular Sultanahmet property in Istanbul, which has been converted from an Ottoman jailhouse into a luxury hotel – what was the exercise yard is now a beautifully landscaped garden. www.fourseasons.com/istanbul



5 CELESTIAL SUMMIT Lording over the Himalayas at 8,848 metres high, Mt. Everest is a conquest written into the destiny of every serious mountaineer. Book a ticket with Buddha Air. The small aircraft takes off from Kathmandu Airport, Nepal and the great Himalayan summits reel off in regal procession. Finally, there's Everest – lofty, enigmatic, the highest of them all. www.mountainflights.com

8 ANGAMPORA In a suburb of Colombo, Sri Lanka it's possible to experience one of the world's most endangered martial arts. *Angampora* has been around for centuries, but today just a few select masters keep it alive. Given how close it is to extinction, they're happy to demonstrate, or train visitors in their deadly art. www.angampora.org

10 THE GREATEST GATSBY In 1974, South African Rashaad Pandy invented a sandwich know as the Gatsby, which stuffed huge amounts of chips, meat, salad and chutney into an impossibly large bread roll. It's become a Cape Town institution, and can still be sampled at its original home, Super Fisheries in Athlone. www.cosycornertakeaway.co.za



4 MR ROBOTO The Asimo robot built by Honda was the first in the world to exhibit predicted movement control. Asimo can be visited at Miraikan, the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation in Tokyo, Japan. www.miraikan.jst.go.jp

6 PRESIDENTIAL HAIRCUT A kind of presidential tourism sprung up as soon as Barack Obama was elected. His favourite barber in Chicago, USA has encased his chair in plastic – and is happy to talk to tourists about what it's like to shave the great man's head. www.hydeparkhairsalon.net



7 TIGER TIGER BURNING BRIGHT Although Bangladesh is home to the world's fourth biggest Bengal tiger population, tiger sightings are rare. Try your luck and head deep into the Sundarban mangrove forests – the adventure is a story worth telling your grandchildren. www.bengaltours.com

9 NINJA MUSEUM Did ninjas really exist? Certainly not as Hollywood would have us believe. But it's that dream that drives tourists to Iga in Mie prefecture, Japan, the self-proclaimed home of the ninja. There's a chance to dress up, as well as an excellent museum – and don't be surprised to see legions of little ninjas visiting on school trips. www.iganinja.jp/en

11 PUERTO PRINCESA RIVER One of the so-called seven natural wonders of the world, the Puerto Princesa underground river is found on the wild, remote Philippine island of Palawan. It might take a long time to get there, but kayaking around the mangroves and subterranean cave networks is an unforgettable experience. www.puerto-undergroundriver.com

12 IT'S ELEMENTARY It seems only right that 221b Baker Street, London, UK – Sherlock Holmes' precise address – is now a museum dedicated to celebrating the adventures of Holmes and his sidekick Dr Watson. Tread these beloved halls and retrace the stories of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *A Study in Scarlet* and more. www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk

13 GANGSTER JAZZ AL CAPONE'S FAVOURITE HAUNT IS STILL THE BEST PLACE FOR JAZZ IN CHICAGO, USA HOSTING GREATS SUCH AS VON FREEMAN AND WILBUR CAMPBELL WITHIN ITS ART NOUVEAU WALLS. www.greenmilljazz.com



15 THE MONASTERY Past Jordan's most famous icon in Petra, the Treasury, atop a mountain stands another breathtaking relic. Massive and exquisitely carved, the Monastery – probably a Nabatean temple – features a beautiful upper façade with engaged pediments and a central urn. Rich reward for those who make the hour-long climb from the valley below. www.visitjordan.com

17 CAMEL CONTEST Visit Al Charbia, Abu Dhabi in December for the Al Dhafra Camel Festival which includes the world's only camel beauty competition. They're judged on whiskers, nose shape, toe parting lengths, ear firmness, head size and hair shininess amongst other criteria. And be wooed by their wonderfully luscious lashes. www.abudhabievents.ae

19 FREE TO SEE For a peek at The White House in Washington DC, USA, the 360-degree view from the 315-foot clock tower in the Old Post Office Pavilion on Pennsylvania Avenue is free. www.oldpostofficedc.com

22 ARABIAN STALLIONS The Arabian horse is revered across the Gulf, but it has a special role in Qatar's history. Rumour has it that in 1893, Bedouin tribesmen atop Arabian horses won a battle against the Ottomans that would eventually lead to Qatar's independence. Should you be in Qatar, head to the races to see these magnificent steeds. www.qrec.gov.qa

25 PIZZA CAPITAL OF THE WORLD Not many people know this, but while Brazil's renowned as the birthplace of Samba, it's also a foodie paradise. Forget Rome or Naples, take a detour in São Paulo for the best pizza of your life. www.cidadedesaopaulo.com



14 MAASAI MORNINGS There can scarcely be a better garnish to a safari in Kenya's Maasai Mara National Reserve than a pre-dawn hot air balloon ride. Beneath you, spot fleets of giraffe, herds of impala, parliaments of elephant, and much more, before touching down ahead of a champagne breakfast. www.maasaimara.com

16 CARS GONE WILD The Lamborghini Pavilion is one of six pavilions, one theatre and one epic museum that make up Volkswagen's Autostadt – offering the most exciting day out in Lower Saxony, Germany. www.autostadt.de

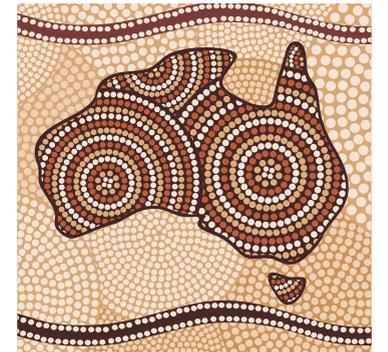
18 SOME TRUFFLE WITH THAT? In the glamorous French ski resort of Courchevel, there are no less than seven Michelin-starred restaurants. LVMH-owned Cheval Blanc offers one of the most extraordinary dining experiences in a city full of them, at their two Michelin-starred restaurant Le 1947. www.chevalblanc.com



20 ITALIAN SWEET If you're in Milan, Italy take a wander up to Pasticceria Cova in via Montenapoleone – the city's most stylish street. Forget the fashions, you're here to try the *panettone*, an utterly delicious sweet. www.pasticceriaacova.it

23 VENICE OF THE EAST Head to the water in Bangkok, Thailand, as barges, river taxis and long-tail boats live an entirely different life on the city's waterways. It's an experience you'll never forget. www.tourismthailand.org

26 BARGE THROUGH FRANCE The barge *Rosa* chugs down the canals in Bordeaux and Gascony, France. It is the perfect slow-paced idyll for foodies. www.gobarging.com



21 ABORIGINAL ENCOUNTERS Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory is one of Australia's largest Aboriginal reserves, famous for its isolation, art, and strong culture and traditions. For a special experience of this landscape of billagongs, paperbark swamps, floodplains and rainforests, book a stay at Davidson's Camp. www.arnhemland-safaris.com

24 RACING FROM BEHIND For a different perspective of the Abu Dhabi track used for the FORMULA 1 ETIHAD AIRWAYS ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX, book a behind-the-scenes tour at Yas Marina Circuit. www.yasmarinacircuit.com



27 SYDNEY'S SUPERSTAR Looking at Australia's Sydney harbour-front, it's impossible to imagine any other focal point than the iconic ridges of the Opera House. The chief executive confirmed that 233 designs were submitted to the Opera House international design competition when it was held in 1956. www.sydneyoperahouse.com



28 UNDERGROUND PALACES Moscow had the first underground railway system in the Soviet Union and the stations were built to be the "palaces of the people", with an Art-Deco design that includes glittering marble walls, high ceilings and chandeliers. www.moscow.ru/en/guideentertainment/attractions/metro

29 GANGNAM STYLE Join throngs of K-pop fans and sign up to a dance class at DEF Dance School in Seoul, Korea. You may feel like the only person with two left feet, but it's a great way to experience pop culture. www.DEFdance.com



30 PARK LIFE VISIT PEOPLE'S PARK IN SHANGHAI, CHINA AT AROUND 7AM AND MINGLE WITH CHENGDU'S FAN DANCERS, BADMINGTON PLAYERS AND TA'I CHI AFICIONADOS – THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE IT. WWW.SHANGHAICHINA.CA

31 SUPERB STREET FARE Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam has a vibrant street food scene. For delectable crab curry head to 63 Nguyen Truong To in District 4. www.vietnamtourism.com

33 UNDER THE SEA Take your party six metres below the sea at NIYAMA Maldives' Subsix – the world's first underwater club. It's the type of setting you'd expect James Bond to turn up to. www.niyama.peraquum.com

35 BRANCHING OUT *Shajarat-al-Hayat* [the Tree of Life] in Bahrain is a 400 year-old mesquite on top of a sandy knoll that stretches nearly 10 metres high. As the only major tree growing out of the sands in the area around 2 kilometres from Jebel Dukhan, the tree is a local tourist attraction – for those who can find it. www.bahrain.com



36 UP THE WALL The tourist buses all tootle from Beijing to the Badaling site of the Great Wall of China. For a less crowded experience, try the Mutianyu section in Huairou County about 45 miles from Beijing. There are still buses, but far fewer. www.mutianyugreatwall.net

37 TWO WHEELING For a different way to travel in Jakarta, Indonesia, try a bicycle taxi. You get the seat, while the driver stands as he pedals. Given the traffic conditions, it's often the fastest way to go. www.jakarta-tourism.go.id

38 HATS AND HOTELS The G Hotel and Spa in Galway, Ireland, was designed by renowned milliner, Philip Treacy. Like his hat-creations, the hotel features bright hues and dramatic colour contrasts. www.theghotel.ie

39 MOORED CUISINE Al Boom restaurant in Kuwait is located on a traditional Arabic *dhow*. The beautifully-restored boat restaurant is part of the Radisson Blu Hotel, moored behind the building. www.radissonblu.com

40 HAUTE HIDEAWAY For a rural getaway in the UK, try Belle Grove Barns in Suffolk. The family-owned barns have been lovingly converted into luxurious yet comfortable self-catering apartments, sleeping up to eight people. www.bellegrovebarns.com

41 PERKS IN THE PARK Free Shakespeare in the Park is held at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, New York – USA, with two productions presented over the course of the summer. Attendance is free, but you'd better reserve a place in the line stretching through the park from the early hours of the morning, or you may miss out. www.centralpark.com

43 AMAZING ALEXANDRIA Cleopatra's Palace sank beneath the harbour in Alexandria, Egypt, however, there's still plenty of it intact so strap on your diving gear and have a look. www.scuba-dive.org

45 GRILLED GOODNESS For great gyros in Athens, Greece, served with a friendly grin, try the aptly named Smile Restaurant and order one of their giant *souvlaki pita kebabs*. www.smilerestaurant.gr



48 BETWEEN THE BUNS For a peculiarly Canadian hamburger in Toronto, head to The WORKS and opt for the domestic elk patty. Rest assured while you eat the wildlife, that the meat is classified lean. www.worksburger.com

50 FLIGHT OF FANCY There are very few resorts that give you the option to arrive by hanglider, but Six Senses Zighy Bay on Oman's Musandam Peninsula prides itself on its combined focus on adventure, luxury, and eco-friendliness. www.sixsenses.com

53 WHAT'S ON THE WALLS? Meander through Azemmour's *medina* for a creative fix. This Moroccan old city's walls are decorated by local artists and their works are a visual feast for passers-by. www.visitmorocco.com

51 LOCAL PHILOSOPHY There's nothing like an audience with Mr Black and White at Ubud's Cinta Grill in Bali, Indonesia. If you're lucky, this wise man will sidle up next to you and share his profound views on life. Who needs Ketut from *Eat, Pray, Love* when this chap is around? www.cintagrill.com



46 LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE For a peek at some innovative lighting design in Munich, Germany, drop into the showrooms of Ingo Maurer. The lighting options on display range from whimsical-yet-practical home lighting solutions to artistic installations. www.ingo-maurer.com

49 CABBAGE PATCH The Kimchi Field Museum in Seoul, South Korea specialises in everything to do with the country's spicy national side dish. Don't leave South Korea without sampling this scrumptious snack. www.kimchimuseum.co.kr

52 DESERT ISLAND DREAM Abu Dhabi's Sir Bani Yas Island – once the retreat of the UAE's founding father – is teeming with wildlife, ancient archaeological sites, beautiful beaches and breath-taking scenery. Book into one of Anantara Al Yamm's exclusive villas flanking its east coast. www.desertislands.anantara.com



42 THE SWEETEST THING Available on every street corner in Vietnam, *caphe sua da* is made with bitter, locally-grown, dark roast coffee and a whole lot of sweetened condensed milk, stirred and poured over ice. For an unexpectedly sweet treat, try an avocado shake – *sinh to bo*. www.vietnamtourism.com

44 TOP CHOC For superb, locally-produced gourmet chocolate, drop into Selfridge's in London, UK, and pick up a block of Amelia Rope's pale lime and sea salt concoction. www.ameliarope.com

47 WATER VIEWS There are plenty of boat tours of Brisbane, Australia, but the alternative is the free Cityhopper ferry which links Brisbane's hotspots including Eagle Street and the South Bank. www.brisbane.qld.gov.au



54 FIT FOR A KING Hungry? Head to The Dwarika's Hotel in Kathmandu, Nepal, for a 22-course feast at Krishnarpan restaurant. From buffalo meat *momos* [dumplings] to pumpkin soup that is like eating a hug in a bowl – this is the best place to experience authentic Nepali cuisine. www.dwarikas.com

55 A STITCH IN TIME For an ethical souvenir from Vietnam, drop into Mekong Quilts in Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. This not-for-profit trains rural women in quilt-making as part of a larger community development project. www.mekong-quilts.org



57 IT'S ALL HUSH HUSH For a secret tittle, duck into Crif Dogs in New York, USA, slip into the vintage phone box, call the number, and see the entire back wall open up into the speakeasy-styled Please Don't Tell. www.pdtnyc.com

61 INDULGE IN INDONESIA For an atmospheric spa in Bali, Indonesia, head to the new Regent Hotel in Sanur. The spa sits under an edifice that resembles a temple. www.regenthotels.com

65 IS IT A BIRD? Fruit bat is a delicacy in the Seychelles. Yes, you read that correctly. It's served best in a curry and Chez Batista restaurant at Takamaka is the place to get it. www.chezbatista.com

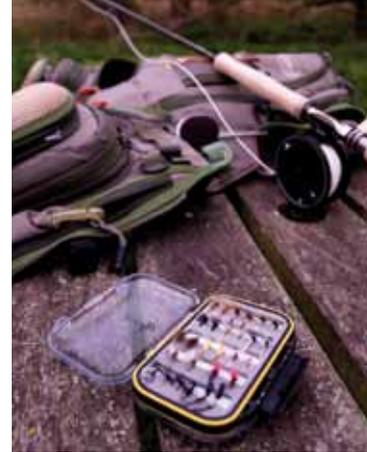


62 DUCK AND COVER If you like the foie gras and magret du canard in France, try the duck rillettes. The slow-cooked, salted meat is cooked in fat then served pate-like on bread. Grab a jar of Luissier Bordeaux Chesnel rillettes from the delicatessen to try at home. www.bordeau-chesnel.com

67 SLEEP WITH THE FAIRIES The landscape of fairy chimneys shaped by wind and rain in Goreme, Turkey, is otherworldly. Get up close and personal by staying in one of the rock-carved rooms at the Fairy Chimney Inn, originally a Byzantine cave monastery. www.fairychimney.com

68 TURKEY'S THREE MUSKETEERS Istanbul's lokantas, or tradesmen's restaurants, are where the locals go for fast, fresh, home-style cooking. Hop across to the city's Asian side and plonk yourself down at a table at one of the three Ciya Sofrazi restaurants which are all in the same street. www.ciya.com.tr

56 FISH FRENZY The River Windrush in the Cotswolds, UK, swirls through the Old Swan and Minster Mill, bringing a host of hungry fish waiting for hotel guests to lure them in. Fly fishing instruction is also on offer. www.oldswanandminstermill.com



58 DESERT WAVES World-class whitewater rafting and kayaking can be found in the desert city of Al Ain, UAE. Visit Wadi Adventure – the Middle East's first man-made whitewater facility. www.wadiadventure.ae

60 DELIGHTFUL DOORS Oman's isolated Limah village is only accessible by boat. It's a small town, but one peppered with doors adorned with motifs. Stop at the bakery near the port for some melt-in-your mouth warm flatbread with local honey. www.omantourism.gov.om

63 BARGAIN BREW The magnificent Café Florian on Piazza San Marco in Venice, Italy, is possibly one of the most expensive places to enjoy a drink – if you opt for a table. Bag one of the four stools at the bar and have a cappuccino at this historical venue at close-to-regular bar prices. www.caffeflorian.com

66 THE WAY OF THE DONKEY A novel way to get to the Valley of the Kings in Luxor, Egypt, is by donkey. Ask around after you ferry across the river to find the locals who hire out their steeds – but expect a few unplanned detours. www.egypt.travel

67 SLEEP WITH THE FAIRIES The landscape of fairy chimneys shaped by wind and rain in Goreme, Turkey, is otherworldly. Get up close and personal by staying in one of the rock-carved rooms at the Fairy Chimney Inn, originally a Byzantine cave monastery. www.fairychimney.com

69 THE LEANING TOWER Experience a one-of-a-kind setting and outlandish architecture at Abu Dhabi's Hyatt Capital Gate hotel. With an 18-degree lean, it's the world's farthest leaning, man-made tower. www.abudhabi.capitalgate.hyatt.com

59 AN ICON OF NOTE While you're in Almaty – check out Hotel Kazakhstan. This 26-floor Soviet monster is such a familiar sight for Kazakhs that its stark image has been committed to the 5000 tenge banknote. www.kazakhstanhotel.kz

64 BE TEMPTED Salamanca Market in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, held every Saturday, is a great place to pick up local arts and crafts and gourmet produce. But for a real taste of Tasmania, try the farmer's market in the city on Sunday – it's packed with mouth-watering local goodies. www.farmgatemarket.com.au



74 AUTHENTIC SILVER Exotic and timeless beads and authentic Yemeni silver are now high fashion. You can find a great collection of handmade silver jewellery at the souqs of old Sana'a, most notably Souq al Milh. www.yementourism.com

76 MAGIC WORLD There is no shortage of bizarre culinary experiences awaiting to delight travellers in Tokyo, Japan. Experience a world of wonder and fantasy at the Alice in Wonderland restaurant: giant tea cup booths and heart-shaped chandeliers galore. www.alice-restaurant.com

79 AROMA THAI Thai cooking school, Amita Thai Cooking Class, located within the landscape of the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok, Thailand, offers excitement in the hands-on learning of Thai cooking techniques. www.amitathaicooking.com



83 TROPICAL HEAVEN Nestled in a tropical haven of relaxation right by the seashore, the Amathus five-star hotel in Paphos, Cyprus, exceeds all preconceptions of luxury. Perfect for honeymoons, a dream wedding or a relaxing holiday. www.amathuspaphos.com

70 DIGGING DEEP IN BELARUS Minsk's entertainment scene is deliciously underground and it doesn't get deeper than pub Graffiti. www.facebook.com/graffiti.by

72 ARABIA AT ITS BEST Souq al-Alawi is the most extensive and traditional souq in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The market is abuzz with the activity of traders and pilgrims in much the same way as it has been for decades. www.scta.gov.sa

75 AL-KADHIMIYA MOSQUE Marvel at the elaborate and ancient Al-Kadhimiya Mosque in Baghdad, Iraq. This spectacular edifice has four gold-coated minarets and two domes and was built in 1515 AD. www.tourism-iraq.com

77 ALLURING SCENT Tired of wearing the same scents as everyone else? Make your own signature fragrance and score a certificate to prove it by visiting one of the Molinard branches in Nice or Grasse in France. www.molinard.com

79 AROMA THAI Thai cooking school, Amita Thai Cooking Class, located within the landscape of the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok, Thailand, offers excitement in the hands-on learning of Thai cooking techniques. www.amitathaicooking.com

84 TURKISH FASHION Istanbul, Turkey, is very much a city of contrasts and that is reflected in its fashion, with the city aiming to be the world's new fashion capital. Check out Atil Kutoglu's new collection in his flagship store in downtown Istanbul. www.atilkutoglu.com

85 PLAYING WITH THE TIGERS If you have a heart like a lion, visit the Tiger Kingdom in Thailand's Chiang Mai and Phuket where you can do everything from bottle-feeding the baby tigers to bravely posing with and patting the big cats. www.tigerkingdom.com

71 KUNAFA EXPERIENCE Kunafa has maintained its foothold as one of the most popular traditional Arabic desserts. You can enjoy the hot crunch and stretchy cheese of kunafa at any of the Habibah Sweets branches throughout Amman, Jordan. www.habibahsweets.com

73 WHITE BEIRUT Beirut, Lebanon, is known for its great food and even better nightlife. You can find both in White Beirut Bar in Dora, one of the best roof-top clubs in Lebanon, vibrant with energy and oozing with style. www.whitebeirut.com



78 PLASTIC MAGIC South Korea is known for its cosmetic surgery craze, but is also internationally recognised for its surgeons' expertise. If you're planning to come back from your holiday with a little more than a tan, visit Wonjin beauty clinic in Seoul. It's one of the best in the industry. www.wonjinbeauty.com

80 INSECTOPIA One of the few remaining traditional markets in Shanghai, China, Insectopia is the spot to go shopping for city-sized pets. There are all sorts of critters for sale, but it's the insects that are the most remarkable. www.meet-in-shanghai.net

82 SAVE THE DATE Try the seven types of Ratab [half-ripe] dates at the Date Festival in Liwa – in Abu Dhabi's Western Region. Stock up as fresh dates are high in fibre, antioxidants, vitamins A and C, iron, and potassium. www.liwadatesfestival.ae

81 GRAB A CUPPA IN SOUTH AFRICA Join Johannesburg's city slickers on a Saturday morning at hip coffee joint, Father. Sit down or take a cuppa to go. www.fathercoffee.co.za

86 SPIRITUAL JEWELLERY Exclusive jewellery pieces from Nadia Dajani in Jordan have become statements representing traditional stories and heritage in a modern way. Each piece incorporates beautiful Arabic calligraphy, with selected words and phrases chosen for their spiritual meanings. www.nadiadajani.com

87 TIME FOR TEA

Rub shoulders with London's elite in the UK at Fortnum & Mason for a fine afternoon tea with delicate sandwiches and exquisite cakes.

In 1926, this famous grocery was transformed into a unique department store with a restaurant offering the most sophisticated afternoon tea in Britain. www.fortnumandmason.com



91 A NATURAL STEP CLASS

The Grouse

Grind is a 2.9-kilometre hike in Vancouver, Canada, considered to be "Mother Nature's Stairmaster." The trail takes in 2,830 stairs and is so steep in points that downhill travel is off-limits. That's why there's a cable car. www.grousemountain.com

94 WHEN IN AHMEDABAD

The Calico Museum in Ahmedabad, India,

is housed in a beautiful old *haveli* [mansion]. The collection of rare textiles from the 17th and 18th centuries includes brocades and silk weaves, royal tents, carpets and costumes. Don't miss the 17th-century Mughal tent with intricately hand-painted panels. www.calicomuseum.com



97 SHADES OF GRAY

Le Gray in Lebanon is a contemporary luxury hotel located in the historic heart of Beirut with impressive panoramic views of the Mediterranean and Mount Lebanon. www.legray.com

88 PARK PLANS

Everyone knows Kakadu National Park in Australia's

Northern Territory, but Litchfield National Park is just as beautiful and the sites are much closer together, perfect for those with limited time. Take a dip at the Buley Rockhole. www.litchfieldnationalpark.com



89 SWINGING SINGAPORE

Singapore has a lively swing dancing scene, with a number of classes and social dancing opportunities. The best known dance studio is Jitterbugs. www.swingapore.com

90 STREET LIFE

One of Mumbai, India's must-do tours gives visitors a

fantastic insight into the city within a city, made famous by the Oscar-winning *Slumdog Millionaire*. www.realitytoursandtravel.com

93 CAVE ART IN MALAYSIA, KUALA LUMPUR'S BATU CAVE

TEMPLES – LOCATED ABOUT A HALF-HOUR DRIVE FROM THE CITY – HOUSE ART GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS PACKED TO THE BRIM WITH STATUES AND PAINTINGS. WWW.TOURISM.GOV.MY

92 ROOT BEER RATIONS

Galena, Illinois, USA is where Chicagoans go for a long weekend. The quaint town is packed with souvenir stores, and it also has an old-fashioned root beer shop selling hundreds of varieties of the licorice-flavoured soft drink. www.rootbeerrevelry.com

95 HIGHLY QUESTIONABLE

The result of a dispute between a 19th-century tavern owner and a clergyman who was angered by the venue's original name, Cathedral Tavern, the Question-mark Tavern features only a simple "?" on its sign to demonstrate the owner's unwillingness to choose a new name. Today, it's the oldest restaurant in Belgrade, Serbia, still serving up traditional fare. www.varoskapija.rs/restoran-znak-pitanja.html



96 KOTTU ROTI IN KANDY

After a day visiting the sights of Kandy, Sri Lanka, find your way to the Kandy Muslim Hotel for some of the best *kottu roti* on offer. Sit back and enjoy the rhythmic chopping as the cooks make the delicious dish on a heated plate with two metal blades. www.tasty.lk/kandy/kandy-muslim-hotel

99 ROMAN WAYS

Take a trip across the Tiber and sample the Italian capital's best pizza at Dar Poeta in the Trastevere district, Rome, Italy. Don't leave without trying their signature dessert – a simply indescribable *ricotta* and *nutella calzone*. www.darpoeta.com

98 IT'S LEGENDARY

Go to Carmine's in NYC, USA – the classic Italian fare is delicious and the portions are huge. www.carminesny.com

100 DRIFTING DOWN THE DORDOGNE

France's Dordogne river is 483 kilometres long. Jump in a kayak and take in the fairy-tale castle-lined river banks. www.everythingdordogne.net