

THE INSIDERS MUNICH



ULRIKE BARCATT  
PR DIRECTOR, HOTEL BAYERISCHER HOF

**STAY:** Hotel Bayerischer Hof  
Munich's most luxurious hotel has five restaurants and seven bars, all open to non-guests. Falk's Bar was the only part of the hotel undamaged during World War II and it has an impressive mix of traditional and modern features. The wellness area in a lush rooftop garden is a highlight, too; bayerischerhof.de.

**EAT:** Restaurant Tantris  
This two-Michelin-star restaurant is the best in town. Besides the fabulous dishes and funky 70s-style fitout by architect Justus Dahinden, the service is terrific. Menus from €80 (\$114) on weekdays; tantris.de.

**DRINK:** Waldwirtschaft  
The Waldwirtschaft is probably the nicest of the city's beer gardens and its regular jazz events are great entertainment. The bar snacks are definitely worth trying, particularly the sweet potato soup with chilli and prawns; waldwirtschaft.de.

**Goldene Bar**  
All ages like this place, so there's always a great mix of people. In summer the Sunday sundowner on the terrace is a must. There's a DJ, fabulous drinks and a small choice of exquisite snacks; goldenebar.de.

**EXPLORE:** Haus der Kunst  
The coolest museum in town and a world leader for contemporary art. I always leave with a lot to think about; hausderkunst.de.

**TAKE AWAY:** Dallmayr  
The most impressive delicatessen you could imagine, with a wide range of traditional and gourmet foods and wines, plus a restaurant, cafe and champagne bar. Dallmayr is famous for its coffee, too, which I like to enjoy with a homemade praline or two. dallmayr.de.

**MARKET:** Viktualienmarkt  
Once just a small gathering of farmers, this central market is now a magnet for locals, with 140 stalls selling almost everything, from fruit and vegetables to sausages, spices and wines.

**FUN:** Glockenbachviertel  
Munich's bohemian district is one of my favourite areas, with its charming and unconventional bars and restaurants.

**RELAX:** English Garden  
The city is blessed with a lot of green space and my favourite is its largest public park, the English Garden. A highlight is the Eisbach, an artificial river that features a wave you can surf on.



THE Point hotel at Brisbane's Kangaroo Point has a special of \$199 a room on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, valid to December 28; the deal covers breakfast for two, late checkout and secure parking; thepointbrisbane.com.au.



SEABOURN has a new fundraising alliance with UNESCO; the cruise company will create World Heritage Discovery Tours featuring heritage sites at selected ports and the revenue will generate UNESCO donations; seabourn.com.



SPOTTED by Locals is a series of mobile guides on about 50 cities, from Amsterdam to Zagreb, with insider tips provided by savvy locals on the best shops, dining, bars and sights to check out. Free for iOS; works offline.



TWO tourist boards in Paris have banded to produce a site with an interactive map for foreign tourists highlighting local businesses and establishments where English is spoken (plus other "touriste" languages); yesipeaktouriste.com.

HOME AND AWAY



FEW things in life better the peace of luxuriating in a cedar hot tub as it bubbles at 40C and you sip a rich Marlborough red while drinking in the beauty of Queen Charlotte Sound spread panoramically before you — unless it's in scoring added joy points from spotting a pod of seals. Hosts Susie and horse-whisperer husband Martin left their native Yorkshire for a holiday in New Zealand five years ago, found their private paradise and never went back. Their Okiwa Bay Lodge, just 30 minutes' drive from the Picton inter-islander ferry terminal on the South Island, majors in bushland tranquillity with mod-con comfort and tasteful style. Birdsong is not optional but everything else is: the lodge can be a base for exploring the hillsides and azure waters of Marlborough's sounds by foot, car or kayak, or a sanctuary from the lure of more than 40 winery cellar doors in the region. Or it can be a journey's end in itself. There is wood-fired comfort and spectacular sunsets, and chef Susie offers fine-dining Kiwi specialities (think the freshest of fish, or wild boar). And did I mention the view? More: okiwabaylodge.co.nz.

MURRAY WALDREN

ACCESSORY

MERE LEATHER PHONE WALLET, \$69

THIS stylish mobile phone cover is from Sydney-based Mere, which produces a range of shoes, boots, bags and accessories, hand-made from quality leather. The case features a hand-burnished finish, two card slips and a cash pocket, and will fit all iPhone models. More: (02) 8021 1318; mere.com.au.

SHARON FOWLER



T&I LOVES



SUNDAY is the new Saturday in New York and with big savings to be had on hotel stays, restaurant meals, Broadway shows and other attractions, it's easy to understand why. NYC & Company, the city's marketing authority, has reintroduced its successful NY Sunday Stays program, which highlighted excellent discounts on Sunday night accommodation — 15 to 20 per cent off usual rates at some of the city's most exclusive boltholes. The initiative has been expanded to include special dining deals and discounts on theatre shows and events including festivals and parades. At the time of writing, T&I discovered a range of excellent Sunday specials, including a stay in a suite at The London NYC (pictured), discounted from \$A551 to \$307, and a similarly luxe overnight escape at the Waldorf Astoria in Park Avenue, reduced from \$526 to \$307. Special Sunday supper deals included half-price champagne at TV chef Anthony Bourdain's Les Halles Downtown French bistro and a \$38 three-course dinner at Nobu New York. More: nycgo.com/sundaynightstays.

MICHELLE ROWE

ON THE BENCH

LE CREUSET MATTE COLLECTION, FROM \$149

I'VE spent years adding to my collection of Le Creuset cookware in a lovely shade of green, and now the French firm has gone and introduced a whole new colour spectrum. Its Matte Cotton cast iron range (with a slightly off-white hue) includes round casseroles in four sizes (from 20cm to 28cm), a 29cm oval casserole and 30cm shallow casserole. A separate Matte Mineral Blue collection, with additional 26cm square grillit and 20cm omelet pan, is guaranteed to look equally stylish on any cooktop. Complete the picture with matching stoneware pieces, including ramekins and mugs. Start collecting now. More: lecreuset.com.au.



MICHELLE ROWE

ON THE ROAD

L'OCCITANE FRAGRANCE BEAUTIFYING CREAM, 125ML, \$60

NEROLI and Orchidee is the new eau-de-toilette in L'Occitane's La Collection de Grasse; the neroli essence from the Mediterranean, with notes of orange blossom, has been blended with delicate white orchid from Madagascar, and the result is fruity, fresh and floral. There's shower gel, body milk, soap and a candle in the pink-packaged range but a lovely additional option is the complementary Fragrance Beautifying Cream, a richly textured body satin designed to be applied to skin before the perfume. Such layering is said to enhance the potency of the fragrance. More: au.loccitane.com.



SUSAN KUROSAWA



Case studies in Istanbul

SNAP DECISIONS

SUSAN KUROSAWA

WHAT stories do these travel-weary trunks have to tell? We can only imagine the complicated journeys, their cargoes of prized possessions, perhaps the few treasures of a family in flight hastily packed in newspaper or folded between hurriedly grabbed clothing and linens.

The luggage stands on a pavement in Istanbul's Cukurcuma district, haphazardly arranged but somehow perfect in its composition. I stare for ages as pedestrians squeeze past me along a cobblestoned defile.

Then, next door, another pile of suitcases, circa 1960s, and these are so familiar as to make me gasp. Surely that's my foreign correspondent father's

favourite port, the one with the tarnished brass locks and the peeling leather handle, plastered with airline stickers and hotel decals that spoke of impossibly glamorous travels.

Of course it isn't, really. There is no decoupage of labels, no grandly stamped initials, just a few torn strips of paper stuck to a battered corner. But for a moment I convinced myself it is Dad's and I think of the man who taught me how to travel bravely and to observe keenly and I smile with teary eyes as I hurry back into the expansive summer sunshine of beguiling Istanbul.

Susan Kurosawa's Instagram column appears weekly in Travel & Indulgence. Follow at: susankurosawa.