



Now You See

It's a fact of life that's especially true now: Everything changes.

Out of nowhere, an art scene blooms.

Or a culinary hero retires.

Or the environment—well, you've seen the weather lately.

As a traveler, you must seize the moment.

It

THESE 13 UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES WON'T WAIT.

Now You See It

GLACIER JAUNTS GET SMARTER

Visiting the planet's troubled glaciers has often meant hopping on a gas-guzzling tour bus—talk about an ethical conundrum. But Alaska Coach Tours has begun testing electric-powered coaches for trips to the mighty 13-mile-long Mendenhall Glacier near Juneau, Alaska, and by 2017 it plans to roll them out to the public. Hey, when it comes to glaciers, we'll take any good news we can get.

Chunks that calve off Jakobshavn glacier account for 10 percent of the ice lost by Greenland's sheet.

TAKE IN THE FEARSOME BEAUTY OF A MELTING GLACIER

What's the rush? Greenland's Jakobshavn is the world's fastest-melting glacier.

By now you've likely read about Greenland. That it's melting twice as fast as we had originally thought. That an iceberg the size of Manhattan recently vanished. But visiting and seeing the Earth evolve in real time is infinitely more powerful than words on a page.

Every day, 170 feet of one particular glacier, Jakobshavn, melt away. This majestic block of ice is both ground zero for climate scientists and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Likewise, a trip there is a mix of shock and awe.

There's no better way to appreciate it than by touring with a scientist, which outfitter Cox & Kings can arrange on tours of the country. While it's too dangerous to walk on the glacier's surface, you can hike on mountains near the site, sail past it, or fly above it in a helicopter to get a fuller perspective on our present—and future. *From \$8,460/person.*

—SARAH PURKRABEK



YES, VENICE REALLY IS SINKING

What's the rush? By 2100, the city will lower at least another six feet.

Scientists have spoken: Venice is sinking. It has dropped a foot in the last century (four inches of that in one swoop, back in the 1950s). And absent a miracle, it will drop six more feet during this century.

What will that look like? Picture St. Mark's Square. The piazza would become the grandest outdoor pool ever. And the colonnade of the Doge's Palace could host docked gondolas.

Venice faces many threats—the limestone stilts on which it was built are buckling under the stress of the city's heavy buildings—but the most urgent is rising sea levels. So far, seasonal flooding has struck only sporadically. Soon, it could arrive annually and stay half the year. Satellites are still gathering data, but the prognosis, says geologist Luigi Tosi, is "definitely bad."

Already, on winter nights, water oozes into ground floors. When the briny smell hits, café workers know the drill: Move electronics up. Halt service. And when the tide recedes, pull on rubber boots and resume serving cappuccinos.

Venice needs a savior, which is where MOSE (named after Moses) comes in. The \$6-billion project aims to hold back the sea at the city's three inlets using huge metal flaps. If it sounds wildly ambitious, that's because it is. Picture an 18-wheeler. Now stack up five of them. That's about the size of one flap. Line up 78 of those, and you've got a mile's worth of floodgates that can rise 10 feet above the water. "MOSE is like a musical instrument that we'll be able to play how we want," says local architect Ettore Vio.

Let's cross our fingers that the instrument is in tune. —ANGELICA MARIN

HELP RESCUE THE BIGGEST LIVING THING ON EARTH

What's the rush? In the next 30 years, reefs could die off faster than they can grow.

At Australia's most pristine dive spots, the truth of the constant headlines—MORE THAN HALF OF AUSTRALIA'S GREAT BARRIER REEF DAMAGED—can be hard to believe. For example, at Opal Reef off Queensland, you'll still find a kaleidoscope of angelfish, anemones, and giant clams. "Everyone's holding their breath and hoping the warning signs are wrong," says John Rumney, owner of Eye to Eye Marine Encounters, which charts boats in the area. But the effects of warming water and polluted runoff are undeniable. In other parts of Queensland, you'll find huge patches of lifeless bleached coral, boneyards on the ocean floor that cover 620 miles. Rumney, for one, isn't just sitting around. After 30-plus years of seeing the changes up close, he's launched the Great Barrier Reef Legacy project, and starting next year you can be a part of it. He'll be gathering marine experts and travelers to explore the reef and conduct conservation research. It's a hell of a lot better than just shaking your head and looking the other way.

—SERENA RENNER



FROM LEFT: DAVIDE ANNIBALE; ©CYNOCUB/MAXX IMAGES

RAISE A GLASS TO OLD SAN FRANCISCO

What's the rush? With the city's surging rents, let's just say that if you want to drink at these bars, it's a good idea to call ahead.

It seems as though every other week, a San Francisco neighborhood bar that's catered to passionate regulars for decades suddenly goes under to make way for a glitzy condo. It's become the new norm in the rapidly gentrifying city where average rent for a one-bedroom has crept up to more than \$3,000 a month. So hurry up and visit these classic watering holes while you can. —SARAH BAIRD

- 1. ZAM ZAM**
Moorish archways welcome you to this dive bar, built 75 years ago by Assyrian immigrants. Inside, you'll find a mural of a Persian fairy tale.
- 2. AUNT CHARLIE'S**
House rule #1 at this cozy, mirror-lined gay bar from the '80s: no phones out—especially during the over-the-top drag shows on the weekends.
- 3. LONE PALM**
Candlelight, white tablecloths, *Miami Vice*-like neon signage: The beloved Lone Palm, blocks from Dolores Park, is sexy and cheesy at once. Roll with it.
- 4. LUCKY 13**
Rumors often fly that developers will bulldoze this rock 'n' roll shrine soon. Go now, drink beer, and flip through the punk records on the jukebox.
- 5. MARTINI'S**
Have a favorite show tune? The kind sir behind the piano probably knows it and can play it while you sing. Do it properly, martini in hand.
- 6. TRAD'R SAM**
Opened in 1937, Trad'r Sam is the city's oldest tiki bar that is still in operation. Enjoy a mai tai, a cocktail that was born in the Bay Area.

Drag queen Rahni Nevermore performs at San Francisco's legendary Aunt Charlie's.

JAMES HOSKING

Now You See It

DINE ON HONG KONG'S LAST GREAT DIM SUM

The dirty secret of Hong Kong's dim sum scene is that most places use the frozen stuff. Not so at **Lin Heung**, a celebrated classic. Its obsessive chefs have worked together for four long decades. Soon, master head chef Wong Kam Shing and his crew, now in their late 60s, will all retire together. When the next generation steps in, these refined creations just won't taste the same.

—GEORGIA FREEDMAN

What's the rush?

Master chefs from a Hong Kong institution are on the verge of retirement.

The Cantonese have enjoyed dim sum since 221 BCE.

Chef Wong's expert touch ensures dumplings are tender and flavorful but not too sticky.

TINY BITES, LABORS OF LOVE



1. HAR GOW

Done right, preparing shrimp dumplings requires razor focus. The shrimp is soaked and flavored so it's plump to the touch and pops on the tongue. Chef Wong's team actually calibrates the dough according to the day's weather forecast.

3. DAN TAT

Chefs fold, flatten, and repeatedly freeze dough, then roll it out and cut it into crusts much like puff pastry. They strain the custard filling until it's 100 percent smooth and take care to bake it just right so it emerges without cracks.



2. CHEUNG FUN

Fun to say and eat, less fun to make. Chefs smooth a layer of rice noodle batter onto a thin cloth, then steam it over boiling water. Their careful hands separate the cloth from the noodle, then roll it gently around shrimp, beef, or pork.

4. SIU MAI WITH QUAIL EGG

To assemble this pork dumpling, rarely seen outside Hong Kong, the chefs enclose the meat in a hand-made wrapper, top it with a hard-boiled quail egg, cover it with another wrapper, and then steam it.

FLOAT IN THE (NEARLY) DEAD SEA

What's the rush? Scientists have predicted it will shrink to the size of a pond by 2050.

Wedged between the banks of Jordan and Israel, the famously salty Dead Sea is drying up. Why? For decades, industry has plundered the water—ten times saltier than the oceans—for its bounty of minerals. Unless a contentious \$1 billion-replenishment plan is approved (and works), the

sea will continue to vanish at a rate of 3.3 feet of depth per year. In the meantime, travelers have a small window to experience the greatest outdoor spa on Earth, to float in its fizzy hot waters and slather on mud loaded with these three (plus many more) restorative ingredients. —HILARY ELKINS

WHAT'S IN THE PLANET'S MOST MAGICAL SEA?

1

SILICON DIOXIDE
A mineral also found within 90 percent of all rocks, silicon dioxide might help strengthen bones and pump up the body's production of collagen.

2

SELENIUM
Believed to be anticarcinogenic when taken orally, this powerful trace element is used by visitors (and local hotel workers) to soothe psoriasis.

3

MAGNESIUM
One of Mother Nature's triple threats, magnesium calms inflamed skin, kills bacteria, and is so good at moisturizing that it may take years off wrinkly skin.

Coat yourself well in the Dead Sea's soothing, moisturizing mud.



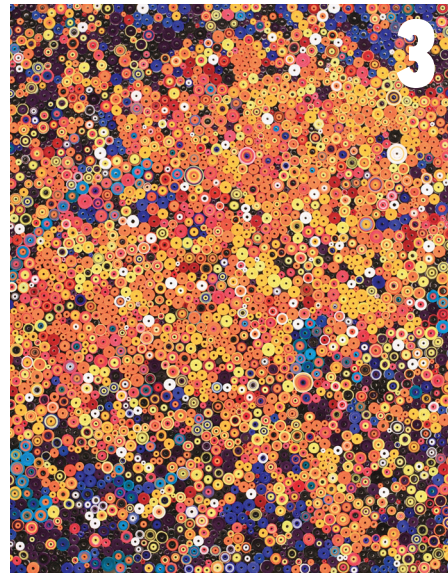
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BRAVE WOMEN ARE ROCKING IRAN'S ART WORLD—FOR NOW

What's the rush? Iran's relatively progressive regime is up for reelection next year. If it loses, everything could change.

Tehran may not be where you'd expect to find a thriving avant-garde art scene—especially not one where women reign. But

the election of a moderate leadership in 2013 opened the door for just that. Curator Faryar Javaherian, who has helped nurture this fragile movement, explains.

What's the role of women in Tehran's art scene today? Iran is not like Pakistan or Saudi Arabia; women here have been emancipated for centuries. But when the revolution happened in 1979, many female

artists left. Today, though, there are around 500 galleries in Tehran, many owned by women, most showing art by women.

How did that change begin? In August 2013, Hassan Rouhani, who is up for his last reelection next year, became president, and the atmosphere became more open. Fewer women are being arrested for "bad hijab"—dress code violations. In the past, about 50 percent of all concerts were shut down by the police. Now it's more like one in ten. I'd say there's more space these days for artistic expression.

So new boundaries are being pushed? Yes, plenty of Iranian artists living abroad have

crossed lines—even total nudity. If they came back, they'd go straight to jail. Lots of art right now, particularly by young artists, is political and provocative. Some want to see how far they can go without being caught. Some just want to get kicked out and move to Europe or America.

Whose work excites you right now? Modernist Behjat Sadr. Farah Ossouli, who paints in miniature. I recently co-curated a show on Farideh Lashai, who died in 2013. She projected video onto abstract paintings. I showed her work alongside art that inspired it: Pollocks, Rothkos, and other pieces that have been too controversial to show since the '70s. —SARAH PURKRABEK



WHO'S WHO

1. Mona Hakimi-Schüler portrays herself in various forms of hijab.

2. Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian's mirror mosaics blend Persian and modern designs.

3. Hadieh Shafie uses ink, acrylic, and many, many paper scrolls for her large-scale works.

4. Farideh Lashai repainted classic scenes—then layered video on top.

IF ANYTHING COULD MAKE YOU A BIRDER...

What's the rush? There are fewer than 2,000 of these birds left in the Amazon.

Were there ever a winged beauty that could convert the blasé crowd to Audubon members, it's the "marvelous spatuletail" (that's its official name) found in northern Peru. The hummingbird, with its punky purple crest, is as small as your thumb but moves with bravado. It's all in the lengthy tail feathers. The males

raise the spatula-like discs at the feathers' tips, à la Dracula, over their head. They then frantically flap them while clicking with their beaks. Like many odd behaviors in life, it's an attempt to win over a partner, the more demure female spatuletail. YouTube does not do this mating ritual justice, but sadly, if you don't visit soon (try a 10-day tour of the region with outfitter Wings), it may be the only way to witness the spectacle. As landowners continue burning down trees to make room for cattle, the bird moves higher up the endangered-species list. From \$4,650. wingsbirds.com —AISLYN GREENE

How to spot a male: They have turquoise patches on their throats; females, white ones.

The marvelous spatuletail can flap its wings up to 200 times per second.

These feathers are more like tails: The bird can move each one individually.

SPOT THESE OTHER RARE CREATURES IN THE WILD



1. LEOPARDS
On Intrepid's four-day Chitwan tour in Nepal, you'll travel from Kathmandu to Chitwan National Park, where leopards coexist with Bengal tigers. From \$470. intrepidtravel.com



2. WHITE RHINOS
At andBeyond's Phinda lodge in South Africa, guests can work with conservationists to track, dart, and microchip white rhinos to help prevent poaching. From \$3,200. andbeyond.com



3. EMPEROR PENGUINS
Identify these ice-dependent (i.e., very endangered) penguins on INCA's Antarctica cruise. It docks at the birds' rarely seen home of Snow Hill Island. From \$14,395. inca1.com

THE COOLEST BELT OF THE YEAR

What's the rush? Go now, while the Rust Belt's hip food, drink, and shopping scenes are at their peak.

The abandoned factories of the Midwestern Rust Belt sat empty for decades until, in recent years, creatives types moved in. They've opened stylish new restaurants, shops, and art venues that have jump-started flatlining neighborhoods. You know when an area first heats up but isn't overrun yet? That moment is now. Go before it's passed. —ANDREW RICHDALÉ



1 CINCINNATI: BEER PIONEER

In its heyday, Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine neighborhood was home to 17 breweries, most of which specialized in clean, easy-drinking suds. Then, three years ago, **Rhinegeist** opened, and more offbeat stuff entered the equation. Try these two, which you can sample on one of the brewery's tours: Truth, an unconventionally fruity IPA with a lean, gritty, dry finish, and Peach Dodo, a sour ale with a twist ending—hints of peach. —WILLIAM BOSTWICK

2 PINTXOS-IN PITTSBURGH

This city has long been known for pierogis, but **Morcilla**, which opened in December and quickly snagged a James Beard nomination, has put it on the map for Spanish cuisine. Chef and butcher Justin Severino sources aged jamón ibérico from Spain, rolls maple pork cheek croquettes, and smokes coriander-caramel ribs in Lawrenceville, a happening part of town. After dinner, wander the area's countless bars for live music. —A.R.

3 BUFFALO'S MUSIC HEAVEN

So just what has singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco been up to since the '90s? For one, converting a Gothic revival church into **Asbury Hall**, a music venue, in her native Buffalo, New York. Wooed by the building's acoustics, stained glass windows, and other period details, she pulled together \$10 million to overhaul it. And the space still feels sacred, especially when it hosts angelic voices like those of Sufjan Stevens and St. Vincent. —LYNN FREEHILL-MAYE

4 THE NEW MODELS OF DETROIT

There are many shiny toys being assembled in Detroit besides automobiles. These, for starters. —A.R.

← 1. AN ACTUAL BELT

Shinola, which helped employ 372 people after the auto industry crisis, has expanded beyond watches and bicycles to handsome leather goods, including this blue, no-rust belt. \$150, shinola.com



2. HANDMADE FOR YOUR HOME

Conjoined stores **City Bird** and **Nest** feature a mix of eclectic goods: ceramic coasters, garden gnomes, and mirrored glass terrariums from local artists. citybirddetroit.com



3. MAKES SCENTS

Kerosene's fragrances have unexpected notes such as green tea, smoked vanilla, and peppered flowers. They're mixed by a mechanic who loves the smell of diesel. \$140, houseofkerosene.com



FROM LEFT, COURTESY OF: RHINEGEIST BREWERY, ADAM MILLIRON/MORCILLA, SCOT FISHER/ BABEVILLE BUFFALO, SHINOLA, XENIA TALER, KEROSENE