

TravelBITS

Top 10 U.S. Museum Exhibits

Whether you're a seasoned museum-goer or just enjoy experiencing something new and interesting, these 10 exhibits are sure to be a hit.



1. Disney and Dalí: Architects of the Imagination at the Dalí Museum, St. Petersburg, FL, Jan. 23 - June 12, 2016
2. Altered State: Marijuana in California at Oakland Museum of California, April 16 - Sept. 25, 2016
3. Megacities Asia at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, April 3 - July 17, 2016
4. Grammy Museum Gallery at the Musicians Hall of Fame, Nashville, March 29, 2016 - permanent
5. Small Stories: At Home in a Dollhouse at the National Building Museum, Washington, D.C., May 21, 2016 - Jan. 16, 2017
6. The Science Behind Pixar at The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, March 12 - Sep. 5, 2016
7. The Things We Carry: Contemporary Art in the South at the Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC, May 28 - Oct. 9, 2016
8. Mini Golf at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, May 10 - Oct. 30, 2016
9. El Chapo and Breaking Bad exhibits at The Mob Museum, Las Vegas, Breaking Bad, permanent; El Chapo, March - August 2016
10. Matisse in His Time: Masterworks of Modernism from the Centre Pompidou, Paris at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, June 18 - Sept. 18, 2016

SOURCE: USA TODAY

HOORAY FOR GRANDMA (AND HER FRIENDS)

 Airbnb is growing and Americans aged 60 and older are jumping on the bandwagon. The demographic is the fastest-growing and best-reviewed on the site.

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG.COM



TOP MARKS

 Tripadvisor® announced the winners of its Travelers' Choice™ Awards for Hotels 2016. Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur, India claimed the Top Hotel in the World while New York City's Sherry Netherland received the number one slot in the U.S.

SOURCE: GLOBENEWSWIRE.COM



VIRTUAL REALITY, REALLY

 In March, Amsterdam opened the world's first virtual reality cinema. Complete with 360° chairs and immersive headphones, the cinema is sure to provide a full virtual reality experience to visitors; www.thevr.cinema.com.

SOURCE: ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

YOGA YELLING

 A United Airlines flight to Tokyo turned around and returned to Hawaii because a passenger became violent and refused to follow crewmember instructions to stay seated and not do yoga. Namaste.

SOURCE: CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER



ICELAND FOR FREE

 Visiting Iceland has never been so easy. Passengers flying over the Atlantic between the United States and Europe on Icelandair can now add a stopover in Iceland at no extra cost. Tour guides are also available to accompany you on adventures; www.icelandair.us.

SOURCE: SPRINGWISE.COM

CONSTANT COMPANION

 Are your children constantly calling you and wondering where you are? Set their minds at ease and download the Companion app. Companion connects you to friends and family through a live map and lets them know when you have arrived at your destination; www.companionapp.io.

SOURCE: BUSINESS INSIDER



CRIMINALLY CAPTIVATING

 The Fortaleza Tour in Panama City, Panama is a walking tour of the Old City guided by former gang members. Conceived by Esperanza Social Club's 10-week intervention program graduates, tour guides explain the history of the area and share their personal stories, sometimes even including a visit to their mother's home. It culminates with a street party featuring dinner and mojitos.

SOURCE: THE HUFFINGTON POST

BOTSWANA OR BUST



Botswana marks 50 years of independence this year. National parks comprise 17% of the country and in 2014 the Okavango Delta became Unesco's thousandth World Heritage Site. There is much to see and celebrate – so if a trip to Africa has always been on your bucket list, Botswana is the place to go.

SOURCE: LONELY PLANET

WASTE FOR WI-FI



Startup ThinkScream has created trashcans that provide 15 minutes of free Wi-Fi as a reward for throwing away garbage. While already in use at some music festivals, the smart bins could be used in cities to help clean up streets and curtail littering.

SOURCE: SPRINGWISE.COM

CONSCIENTIOUS CRUISING



Fathom, Carnival's newest cruise line, began service in April. The line offers volunteer trips to the Dominican Republic (starting at \$974) and people-to-people tours of Cuba. Visitors to the DR will have opportunities to farm, teach English or make water filters; www.fathom.org.

SOURCE: THE NEW YORK TIMES

MUGGLES BEWARE



The Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios Hollywood opened April 7. The attraction features two new rides, a restaurant, a pub, eight shops and much more. Leave your skepticism at the gates, grab a wand and do some magic.

SOURCE: LOS ANGELES TIMES



THROUGH THICK AND THIN



Condé Nast Traveler's 2016 Readers' Choice Awards named Chicago, IL the best city in the world for pizza. While the windy city has a reputation for deep-dish style pies, the city has top-notch options for every type of pizza aficionado.

SOURCE: CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER



Más Cerveza por Favor

Thanks to an increase in American tourists flooding the country, Cuba is running out of its favorite beers, Cristal and Bucanero. Bucanero, the nation's main brewery, is importing beer and even contemplating opening a new plant to keep the thirsty tourists sated.

SOURCE: TRAVELPULSE.COM

COMPLAIN AWAY



AirHelp is a legal service that assists passengers in receiving compensation for a cancelled or delayed flight. AirHelp recently released a survey ranking airlines they have worked with based on quality performance, delay performance and claim processing. Of the American companies Delta ranked fifteenth, United twentieth and American twenty-first; www.getairhelp.com.

SOURCE: THE WASHINGTON POST



BEST AFFORDABLE HOTELS



Woodlands Resort and Inn, Summerville, SC, grabbed first place in America's Best Affordable Hotels, as voted by *Travel + Leisure* readers in the World's Best Awards Survey. At rates less than \$250 a night, the neo-Georgian mansion, built in 1906, gives you bang for your buck; www.woodlandsmansion.com.

SOURCE: TRAVEL + LEISURE

BERMUDA, A CHILD'S PARADISE



Bermuda, known for its shorts and exclusive golf clubs, is actually quite family friendly. Bermuda Fun Golf, The Bermuda Aquarium, Museum & Zoo and The Crystal Caves provide ample activities for young vacationers, only a direct flight away from most major airports. Send your kids off and enjoy the time alone. Just kidding, please go with them.

SOURCE: THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



AIRGRUB



Afraid of wasting time in long food lines only to find out when you reach the counter that they are out of scones? No need to fret, AirGrub has your back. It lets you pre-order your meal for pickup. The service currently operates at Boston's Logan Airport, JFK and SFO; www.airgrub.com.

SOURCE: BUSINESS INSIDER