

Condé Nast Traveler

JULY/AUGUST 2021

DIVE
INTO
SUMMER

**AMERICA,
THE BEAUTIFUL**

**OUR NEW TRAVEL
DREAMS + DESIRES**

✦ Italy, Tasmania,
China, South Africa,
Uruguay, and more

what travel means to us now

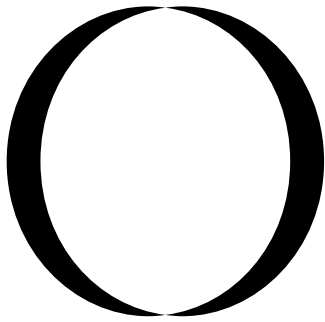
**THE POST-PANDEMIC
PLACES WE MOST
WANT TO VISIT,
WHO WE'LL GO WITH,
AND HOW WE PLAN
TO GET THERE**



PHOTOGRAPH: JAMES WESTMAN

A water taxi headed to the village of Loutro on Crete

what travel means to us now



Over these past 15 months, we've all had our own pandemic experiences, but one thing has been the same everywhere: Travel—at least the kind we're used to—has been on hold. For the editors at *Condé Nast Traveler's* seven global offices, in New York, London, Madrid, Milan, Dubai, Mumbai, and Shanghai, being deprived of this shared passion provided some new common ground. Like so many people, we did our best to approximate some of what we most love about travel by cooking, reading, watching TV, exploring our home cities, and uploading Zoom backgrounds depicting where we wished we could be. We also reconsidered what we most yearned for in travel, and thought about the ways the pandemic made us reevaluate our priorities as travelers.

Here in the summer of 2021, the circumstances remain markedly different in each place *Traveler* is published. But a return to a more normal style of travel is tantalizingly close for all of us. As we book flights, buy new luggage, make plans to meet up with aunts and uncles we've been seeing only through screens, it's worth taking a moment to reflect on how this year has changed us as travelers. Our editors have been doing just that, on periodic group video calls over the last few months, and we thought we'd share some of that conversation here. Think of these next several pages as a window into our future travel plans. May they inspire your own next trip.

THE GLOBAL EDITORS OF *CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER*



The storied Bemelmans Bar at The Carlyle in Manhattan

Just Get Me to a Hotel!

After a year in my apartment in Milan with my husband and our two boys, with time spent cooking and cleaning in between Zoom meetings, I'm longing to go someplace where I will be taken care of. I know that there's a growing trend of renting a house while on vacation, but meal prep and tidying up in some other home is the last thing I want right now. I'd much rather go to a classic hotel like **The Carlyle** in **New York City** and have someone else fix me a strong drink at its moodily lit **Bemelmans Bar**. Or visit the charming **Hotel Amour** in Paris where I'd drink Champagne and sleep late. But my first priority is to return to **Sicily** with my family and check into the new **Villa Igiea** in **Palermo**, one of the island's historic palaces, which Rocco Forte has turned into a luxury hotel and where Fulvio Pierangelini, one of the best Italian chefs of all time, heads up the restaurant. I dream of waking early and driving along the top of the island to visit the seaside village of **Scopello**. Of ducking into one of the bakeries where the old woman behind the counter slips your children cannoli, at no charge, just because they are lovely bambini. And then heading to the lido for a dip in the deep-blue Tyrrhenian Sea. **MADDALENA FOSSATI, ITALY**

PHOTOGRAPHS: PAUL QUITORIANO, RICH STAPLETON, ANA SANTIL



Seoul's bustling Myeongdong shopping district

Netflix Inspired My Next Trip

Just before lockdown, I bought my first TV; within a month, it became a more reliable ticket to far-flung adventures than my passport. My goal was to use my sudden surfeit of downtime to make my way through 448 episodes of the Turkish blockbuster *Ertuğrul*, but I soon tired of swashbuckling period exploits and longed to wax nostalgic over a more 21st-century trip to **Istanbul**. The series *Black Money Love* and *Ethos* did the trick, transporting me to that alluring city that was, for now, out of reach. Then, in the fall, Netflix introduced me to a world I was considerably less familiar with: The Korean romance *Crash Landing On You* whisked me between the high-tech tableau of **Seoul** and the pastoral countryside near **Pyongyang**. I was hooked; I blazed through it in a week, then gorged on 10 more K-dramas, keeping Google close at hand to annotate my newfound learnings about Korean culture. K-dramas became my guide to Korean food, slang, nightlife, pop culture, and etiquette. This three-month crash course moved Seoul to the top of my post-pandemic travel wish list. Chapaguri and bungeoppang await. SARAH KHAN, MIDDLE EAST

“After seeing how the pandemic provided a pause for over-touristed destinations, allowing them to rethink how they open up, I’ve had a travel reset of my own; carbon offsetting my flights and booking properties that prioritize sustainability will be on my trip checklist.” —R.M.

THE GRASS IS GREENER

I sprouted a green thumb during the past year, growing cherry tomatoes and salad greens as a welcome distraction from the outside world. But this made me realize how much I missed picnicking in gardens with farm-fresh produce. Here are a few experiences I’ve bookmarked for once things open up:

→ The two-week course on permaculture at **Peter Fernandes and Rosie Harding’s farm** located in Assagao in Goa.

→ The organic certified **Titi Eco Farm** in Malaysia, with founder Mr. Lim, an organic-farming pioneer.



↑ **Picking porcinis at Ebbio, a 13th-century farm in the middle of an evergreen forest in Tuscany.**

→ A visit to **La Donaira**, a biodynamic farm near Serranía de Ronda in Spain, for feasts full of fresh produce and wine from the cellar.

—SMITHA MENON, INDIA