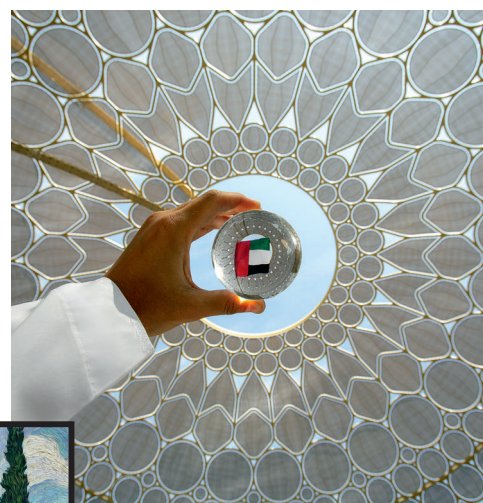




Clockwise from left:
Strolling the streets
of Valletta, Malta;
inside Al Wasl Dome
at Dubai's Expo
2020; the work of
Qatari digital artist
Nasser Al Kubaisi



Traveller worldwide. Together, we've interviewed 100 people from 100 places about why their hometown should be at the top of our travel lists. Our intel encompasses baker Francisco Seubert's favourite ramen spot in Buenos Aires, the open-mic nights where Malaysian singer Yuna got her start, emerging Moroccan designers that beauty entrepreneur Hind Sebti is excited about these days, and why a Windhoek car wash is the place to be, according to Namibian musician Taylor Jaye.

When I think back to my whirlwind trip for this month's feature on Malta, I'll never forget my morning with designer Luke Azzopardi at his chic atelier, or the late-night chat with architect David Mallia in an alfresco café in Valletta. While reporting "Art and Soul," features editor Isabella Sullivan loved looking beyond Doha's iconic skyline to spend time with the creatives who are redefining Doha's cultural landscape; elsewhere in the issue, we chat with a Palestinian culinary artist reviving nearly forgotten dishes, a molecular biologist turned ice cream maker in Cape Town, and a few of the dynamic personalities bringing Dubai's long-awaited Expo 2020 to life.

I hope some of these engaging people serve as the muse for your next trips. And when you're back out in the world, be sure to strike up conversations with your barista, your seatmate on the train, the person vying for the same vintage find you've got your eye on at the antiques shop – you never know what wonderful discoveries they'll lead you to, and what long-lasting friendships might blossom.

SARAH KHAN Editor in Chief

📧 @BySarahKhan

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

This is our promise to the reader to be an essential source of honest opinion and must-have information. You can trust *Condé Nast Traveller* to give you the unbiased inside track, with integrity and authority.

My trip to India's Andaman Islands will forever be defined by Prakash, a coconut seller who belted out classic Bollywood songs as he led me on a jungle hike to an untrammelled beach. A highlight of my week in Tunis was the local lablabi shop in La Marsa that Sofiane Ben Chaabane, co-founder of fashion label Lyoum, insisted on taking me to. The best meal I had in Zanzibar was iftar at the home of Nassra Nassour, where her lovely family put me to work grating coconut for vipopo, a sweet pudding with dumplings. My wallet and I are indebted to Bosnian actor Reshad Strik for introducing me to his friend Zana Karkin, of Sarajevo's hip boutique Bazerdzan – I must have bought half the store. It was Enas Khuderi, a chef in Makkah, who opened my eyes to the Holy City's astonishing culinary diversity on a whirlwind tour of sweet shops, biryani joints and restaurants specialising in staples like saliq and kuzi. And while I may not have encountered a tiger at Panna National Park in central India, I did encounter something far more elusive: the legendary author Vikram Seth, who joined my table after dinner and regaled us all night with uproarious tales.

It's the people who make the places we love so special, and they're who we've missed the most in this unexpectedly sedentary time. These are the people we're celebrating in "The World Made Local," the first global collaboration across all seven editions of *Condé Nast*