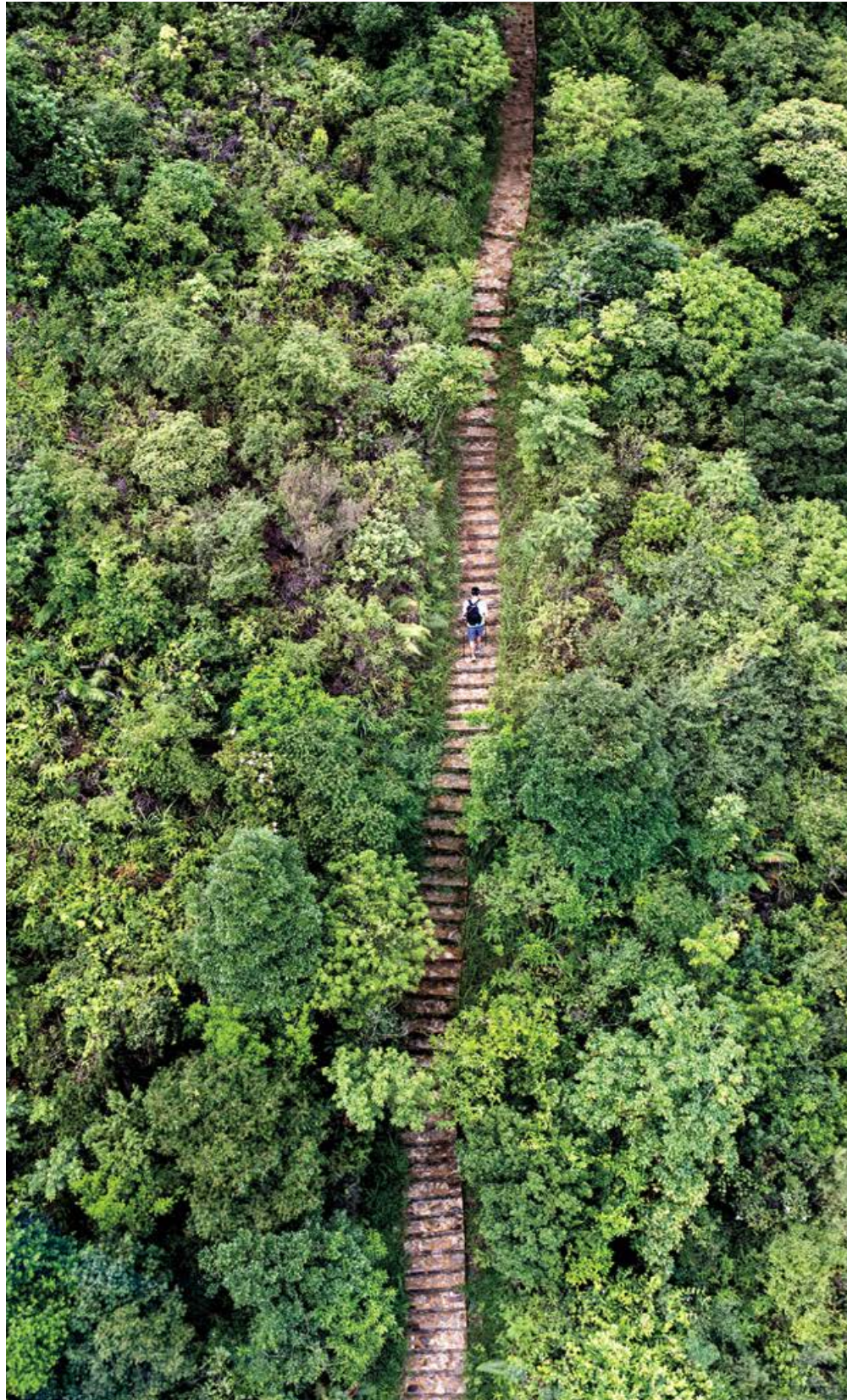


T
R
A
V
E
L
S
P
E
C
I
A
L
I
S
T
S

2016



Whether it's getting you into rarely seen pockets of Ethiopia with an anthropologist or onto out-of-bounds runs in Chile via Sno-Cat, the right "experience maker," like one of the 164 on the following pages, will likely intuit your desires before you even know what they are. Then they'll make them happen.



→ P. 82



Want to hike Hong Kong's Lantau Island? Call Gerald Hatherly.

Photograph by Sharon Radfisch

If you're reading this magazine, chances are you want to go somewhere and do something most people haven't. And to turn a vacation into an I'll-tell-my-grandkids-about-this lifetime high point, you need an experience maker, as we refer to them here at *Condé Nast Traveler*. These on-the-ground fixers don't dole out canned itineraries. They can get you a meeting with the Dalai Lama in a Buddhist temple, rustle up a private 737 for your wedding party when their scheduled flight is canceled, and make it snow in Bethlehem. (Just kidding about that last one—or are we?)

AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST



CENTRAL, EAST, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Cherri Briggs

Explore, Inc.
She plans elephant viewing in the Okavango Delta, walks with Singita's anti-poaching team, and tours with the co-founder of Gabon's national parks system.

Michael Lorentz

Passage to Africa
His specialty is "off the grid": charter flights over Ethiopia's Danakil Depression or journeys to Chad's game-rich Zakouma National Park.

Henrietta Loyd

Cazenove & Loyd
Gets you up close to meerkats in the Kalahari Desert or watching sea turtles on the coast of South Africa.

EAST AFRICA

Linda Friedman

Custom Safaris
Friedman has planned safari weddings and multi-generational family trips through Kenya and Tanzania.

Nina Wennersten and Daniel Saperstein

Hippo Creek Safaris
They know all the spots, including ideal mobile camps, for prime wildlife viewing in the Maasai Mara.

EGYPT

Jim Berkeley

Destinations & Adventures International
Unlocks after-hours access to the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities; knows sites such as Petra, Jordan, too.

Rami Girgis

Abercrombie & Kent
A native Egyptian, Girgis takes clients to historic sites like the tomb of Amenhotep II that are otherwise closed to the public.

ETHIOPIA AND SUDAN

William Jones

Journeys by Design
Jones creates out-there adventures like helicopter safaris in some of the least-visited corners of Africa.

ISRAEL

Susan Weissberg

Wyllys Professional Travel
She can book the best rooms at hotels—even when they're sold out.

Joe Yudin

Touring Israel
Can intro travelers to Israeli MPs or researchers leading archaeological digs.

MOROCCO

Michael Diamond

Heritage Tours Private Travel
He'll walk you through Fez's spice markets and take you stargazing in the desert.

OMAN

Sean Nelson

Oman Expeditions
Nelson has exclusive access to a private, mobile tented camp for adventure trips through the dunes of the Empty Quarter.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Julian Harrison

Premier Tours
A former safari guide, he plans game drives in Chobe and Kruger national parks.

Ryan Hilton

Admiral Travel International/Authentic Escapes
He's obsessed with wildlife photography and sharing tips for taking pro shots on your safari.

Mark Nolting

The Africa Adventure Company
He'll connect you with chimp researchers in Uganda or help you climb Kilimanjaro.

Phoebe Weinberg

Greatways Travel
Sends guests gorilla trekking in Rwanda's Virunga Mountains and canoeing in the Okavango.

TUNISIA

Jerry Sorkin

Gil Travel Group
He can take you to Roman ruins or desert oases—or intro you to Arab Spring activists and human rights leaders.

ASIA



BHUTAN

Brent Olson

GeoEx
Does crowd-free tours of the dramatic, cliff-clinging Tiger's

Nest Monastery and Bhutan's largest fortress, Trongsa Dzong.

BHUTAN AND NEPAL

Antonia Neubauer

Myths and Mountains
She'll get you into ancient Hindu temples and even set up meetings with the Dalai Lama.

BURMA

Tyler Dillon

Butterfield & Robison
Runs private trips deep into the rarely seen countryside.

CAMBODIA

Andy Booth

AboutAsia
He's literally written the book on Angkor Wat and is an expert on Laos and Vietnam.

CENTRAL ASIA

Zulya Rajabova

Silk Road Treasure Tours
Decodes stunning Silk Road cities like Ashgabat, Bukhara, and Samarkand.

CHINA

David Allardice

Eastern Journeys
He'll steer you to the Great Wall's less-trafficked areas and help you skip museum lines.

Gerald Hatherly

Abercrombie & Kent
Based in Hong Kong, he'll get you a private look at the vaults of the Shanghai Museum or a meeting with the imam of Xi'an's Great Mosque.

Mei Zhang

WildChina Travel
Her food-focused trips take you to pilgrim-age-worthy restaurants like Hangzhou's Longjing Caotang.

THE HIMALAYAS

Sanjay Saxena

Destination Himalaya
His outstanding guides can take you through Bhutan, India, Nepal, Tibet—and even to Everest Base Camp.

INDIA

Lucy Davison

Banyan Tours
She's great with multi-day walking treks through lesser-visited regions like Ladakh and Sikkim.

Bertie and Victoria Dyer

India Beat
They'll craft tiger safaris in the jungles of Ranthambore National Park or textile shopping trips to Jaipur.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Jonny Bealby

Wild Frontiers
Our go-to man in Kashmir, he can arrange private cruises on Lake Dal and meals with local families.

INDONESIA

Diane Embree

Bali Barong Tours
Embree's trips go beyond Bali's high-end resorts to lesser-known dive sites off Lombok, eastern Java, and Sulawesi.

JAPAN

Nancy Craft

Esprit Travel & Tours
She'll set you up with ceramicists, weavers, and kimono tailors in Tokyo and Kyoto.

Duff Trimble

Wabi-Sabi Japan
Has close relationships with craftspeople, chefs, and ryokan owners you'd otherwise never meet.

THE PHILIPPINES

Lorenzo Urrea

Global Nomad
He knows which of the country's 7,107 islands are worth seeing—and which aren't.→ P. 84

“ONE OF OUR CLIENTS WITH HIS OWN PLANE COULDN'T GET A JET PARKING SPACE AT THE SMALL AIRPORT ON IBIZA, SO I GOT IN TOUCH WITH ONE OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY THAT OWNS THE AIRPORT. PROBLEM SOLVED.”

Cédric Reversade, villa specialist

SOUTHEAST ASIA

G. W. "Sandy" Ferguson*Asia Desk*

He'll get you into spots like the Queen Sirikit Textile Museum that most visitors can't access on their own.

Catherine Heald*Remote Lands*

An expert on yachts in Indonesia's Raja Ampat, she's also planned private tours of Burma's pagodas.

Andrea Ross*Journeys Within Tour Company*

Ross has peerless guides in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

TIBET

Vassi Koutsaftis*GeoEx*

He's guided Himalayas trips since the '80s and knows the best trekking routes depending on your experience.

▼

"The Little Ruckomechi bush camp, near Zimbabwe's Mana Pools, is a great base for game drives and canoeing on the Zambezi River. It's the sort of pioneering camp we used 25 years ago, when we first started operating safaris in the country."

Henrietta Loyd,
Africa specialist

VIETNAM

Nathan Lane*Butterfield & Robinson*

His custom-planned trips explore seldom-visited villages like Dalat or Phan Rang.



LATIN AND SOUTH AMERICA



ARGENTINA

Maita Barrenechea*Mai 10*

She'll craft off-road adventures in Patagonia or stays at Mendoza wineries or country estancias.

ARGENTINA AND CHILE

Jordan Harvey*Knowmad Adventures*

Harvey will have you dune-hopping in the Atacama Desert, kayaking near Bariloche, or tangoing in Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL

Martin Frankenberg*Matueté*

He's known for private architecture tours of Rio and out-there adventures through the dunes and lagoons of Lençóis Maranhenses.

Paul Irvine*Dehouche*

Knows the best times to visit Florianópolis and Brazil's most luxurious *pousadas*.

Jill Siegel*South American Escapes*

Arranges bird-watching on the Amazon and guided walks with local artists or filmmakers who'll show you their São Paulo.



Get to Bolivia's Salar de Uyuni salt flats with the help of Marisol Mosquera.

CHILE

Brian Pearson*Upscape*

Pearson's focus is adventure trips—by bike, on skis—but he also knows all the up-and-coming wineries.

COLOMBIA

Boris Seckovic

Amakuna Travel
Builds trips to Cartagena, Medellín, and the rarely visited (but totally amazing) Tatacoa Desert.

**\$15.5
BILLION**

That's how much travelers spent last year on trips arranged by Virtuoso, a network of travel specialists. The figure is up from \$12.5 billion in 2013.

COSTA RICA

Irene and Richard Edwards*GreenSpot Travel*

They plan bird-watching hikes through El Silencio Cloud Forest and the animal-rich Osa Peninsula.

Natalie Ewing and Michael S. Kaye*Costa Rica Expeditions*

Their whitewater-rafting, ultralight-flying, wildlife-watching adventures often include stays at their own lodges.

CUBA

Alison Coelho*InsightCuba*

Coelho can intro you to artists, musicians, and entrepreneurs—or even register you for the Havana Marathon.

ECUADOR AND PERU

Tom Damon*Southwind Adventures*

He plans Machu Picchu trips as well as hikes and horseback rides in mainland Ecuador and the Galápagos.

THE GALÁPAGOS

Allie Almario*Myths and Mountains*

Almario has in-depth knowledge of every luxury ship in the islands.

Eric Sheets*Latin Excursions*

Well versed in the Galápagos, he also knows mainland Ecuador, Colombia, and Panama.

NICARAGUA

Pierre Gedeon*Nicaragua Adventures*

Gedeon does jungle treks, boat excursions, and tours of colonial-era homes in Grenada and León.

PERU

Marisol Mosquera*Aracari*

Dialed in at Machu Picchu, Mosquera also takes travelers to the Peruvian Amazon and Bolivia.

URUGUAY

Paola Perelli*Lares*

Keeps horses for day-or week-long excursions through the countryside.



AUSTRALIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC



AUSTRALIA

Drew Kluska*The Tailor*

He recently started private-plane trips for time-strapped guests who want to see it all.



Pedro O'Connor

Epic Private Journeys
Specializing in back-of-beyond journeys, O'Connor has access to rarely visited Aboriginal rock art sites.

Stuart Rigg

Southern Crossings
Rigg connects you with in-the-know locals: surfers, chefs, and Aboriginal guides.

FIJI AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Lynette Wilson

Destination World
She'll get you beyond the resorts and out to Fiji's 223 uninhabited islands.

NEW ZEALAND

Jean-Michel Jefferson

Ahipara Luxury Travel
Jefferson knows every one—Maori chefs, landscape artists, abalone divers—and he'll make sure you do, too.

Donna Thomas

New Zealand Travel
Plans treks through national parks, wild-life-watching trips, and swimming with seals.

Trevor Thomas

Southern Crossings
Sends you helicoptering over glaciers or golfing on otherwise-members-only greens.

SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS

Kleon Howe

The Art of Travel
Sure, he knows the quietest overwater bungalows, but if you want to meet the best local tattoo artist, he'll make that intro too.



EUROPE



CENTRAL EUROPE

Gwen Kozlowski

Exeter International
Gets her guests private access to wineries

“IF YOU WANT FANTASTIC DIVING—BUT DON'T WANT TO BE NEAR BALI'S OVERCROWDED SITES—GO TO AMANWANA, A LUXURY TENTED CAMP ON A REMOTE ISLAND JUST NORTH OF SUMBAWA.”

Diane Embree, *Indonesia specialist*

and historic sites in Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland.

CROATIA

Wanda S. Radetti

VisitCroatia.com
Knows the ins and outs of gorgeous coastal towns like Dubrovnik and Split.

ENGLAND

Jane McCrum

In Any Event Tours
McCrum opens the gates to Cotswolds gardens and country estates normally closed to the public.

ENGLAND AND WALES

Jonathan Epstein

Celebrated Experiences
He'll lock in the best rooms in the top castle hotels.

FRANCE

Anthony Bay

Anthony Bay Is Europe
He's a certified National Guide of France with expertise in Provence.

Pascale Bernasse

French Wine Explorers
She'll get you into landmark châteaux that don't typically welcome guests.

GREECE

Leftheris Papageorgiou

Hellenic Adventures
Has excellent guides

for historic sites like Epidaurus and Delphi.

Mina Agnos

Travel2Greece
by *Travelive*
An Athens pro, she'll also tip you off to under-the-radar boutique hotels in the islands.

Ronnie Liadis

Liadis Travel
Coordinates cooking classes on Crete or history tours of the Peloponnese.

Christos Stergiou

TrueGreece
Tackles multi-day yacht charters in the Cyclades; sets up private wine tastings on Santorini.

ICELAND

Chris Gordon

Icepedition
He'll have you exploring glacial ice caves—or seeing the Northern Lights from outdoor hot springs.

IRELAND

Geraldine Murtagh

Elegant Ireland
She can plan treks through rural counties, boat trips through the Aran Islands, or falconry lessons at Ashford Castle.

Kathleen Sheridan

Altour
Sheridan's hotel connections can land you upgrades and extras across the country.

GERMANY

Marion Harbison

Brownell Travel
Harbison can arrange crowd-free visits to castles like Schloss Mespelbrunn or find you the right guide in Berlin.

ITALY

Brian Dore and**Maria Gabriella Landers**

Concierge in Umbria
Their expertise extends beyond Umbria:

They know great restaurants, cheese makers, and truffle hunters across the country.

Andrea Grisdale

IC Bellagio
Grisdale will get you behind the scenes with the Vatican's Swiss Guards or a meeting with racers before Siena's Palio.

Adamarie King

Connoisseur's Travel
Opens doors to private country homes, gardens, and kitchens, especially in central Italy, where she lives.

Gary Portuesi

Authentic Italy
Portuesi is plugged into the country's food scene like few others. He's particularly savvy on Sicily.

THE NETHERLANDS

Harmina Mulder

The Travel Society
Has a solid network of clued-in guides in Amsterdam and beyond.

NORWAY AND SWEDEN

Jan Sortland

Norwegian Adventures
He's planned rafting and sea kayaking trips—and low-key sails through fjords.

PORTUGAL

Gonçalo Correia

Tours for You
A former tour guide, he has deep knowledge of Lisbon, the Alentejo, and wine regions.

Mike Korn

Heritage Tours
Private Travel
Korn encourages travelers to explore smaller towns like Marvão and Braga; he also outfits surfing trips in Nazaré and plans road trips in the Douro Valley.

RUSSIA AND EASTERN EUROPE

Greg Tepper

Exeter International
The top fixer for a private tour of the Hermitage or access to the countryside palaces of the czars.

SCOTLAND

Camilla Davidson

NoteWorthy
She'll secure notoriously hard-to-get tee times at Gleneagles's legendary courses or show you Edinburgh Castle without the crowds.

David Tobin

Dream Escape
Tobin's an expert on whisky-tasting trips (such as to Glenturret or Cardhu) as well as stately castle hotels.

SPAIN

Virginia Iruiria

Made for Spain & Portugal
Our go-to in lesser-traveled regions like Navarre, she's got contacts across the country and knows Portugal, too.

Ally Lewing

Heritage Tours
Private Travel
Can get you schooled in traditional cheesemaking or set up private tastings at wineries like Bodegas Torres and Clos de L'Obac.

SWITZERLAND

Jack Shaw

Epic Europe
Shaw will have you trekking the wildflower-studded Alpine trails of Zermatt or through the lovely waterfall-filled Lauterbrunnen Valley.

TURKEY

Karen Fedorko Sefer

Sea Song Tours
She's the expert on fully staffed *gulets*, the traditional wooden yachts that sail the Aegean and Mediterranean seas.

Earl Starkey

Protravel International
He works with some of the savviest guides in Istanbul and Cappadocia.

5.8

Average number of nights per trip planned by Ovation Vacations, a luxury agency, proving that you don't need to blow all your vacation days when enlisting a specialist.

THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND

Nicola Butler

NoteWorthy

Butler will have you bypassing lines at museums and palaces like Windsor Castle.



NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



AMERICAN NATIONAL PARKS

Marty Behr

National Parks Revealed

The ultimate fixer for the parks, he'll handle the logistics and help you avoid the crowds.

THE AMERICAN WEST

Caroline Bach Wood

Caroline Travel

She'll link you with Navajo guides in Arizona and map out hikes on lesser-known Zion National Park trails.

BERMUDA

Vicky McGlynn

Travelong of Summit

Can clue you in on the island's most appealing hotels, golf courses, and beaches.

CALIFORNIA WINE COUNTRY

Ania Gatto

Wine Country Concierge

A certified somm, Gatto will get you into Napa and Sonoma tasting rooms not open to the public.

CANADA

Marc Telio

Entrée Canada

He will pair you with some of Canada's best guides—and can get you upgrades at lodges along the way.

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

Becky Veith

Becky Veith Travel

She can plan bird-watching, bonefishing, and scuba diving trips.

DISNEY

Susan Kelly

Travel Magic

She knows every inch of the parks—and Disney's cruise ships.

HAWAII

Susan D. Tanzman

Martin's Travel and Tours

Tanzman will show you the way to remote, rarely visited beaches.

MEXICO

Zachary Rabinor

Journey Mexico

Rabinor gets after-hours access to major museums and Mayan ruins and knows the country's best-kept-secret hotels.

Stephanie Schneiderman

Tia Stephanie Tours

She's all about cultural immersion, taking you to meet weavers in Chiapas or chefs in Oaxaca.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Sheri Doyle

Pacific Northwest Journeys

She has encyclopedic knowledge of the region's best hotels (like the Thompson Seattle), where she can often get rates not found elsewhere.



CRUISES



EUROPEAN CANAL BARGES

Ellen Sack

The Barge Lady

Sack recommends the best vessels on popular wine-region routes

in Burgundy and Champagne.

EUROPEAN CANAL BARGES AND RIVER CRUISES

Jill A. Jergel

Frontiers

International Travel

She'll point you to lines with unrivaled shore excursions and wine programs and organize private vessels for charter trips.

EXPEDITION SHIPS

Thomas Lennartz

Quark Expeditions

He'll get you on a standard ship—or plan a fully private polar trip on a charter yacht.



Michael Diamond can help you navigate southern Morocco.

Ashton Palmer

Expedition Trips

A onetime expedition leader, Palmer knows the best small vessels to Antarctica, the Arctic, and the Galápagos Islands.

Todd Smith

AdventureSmith

Explorations

While he's got the polar regions and the Galápagos covered, Smith also organizes trips to Croatia, Cuba, and New Zealand.

Jim Taylor

Polar Cruises

Taylor and his team only recommend vessels they've personally traveled on, such as the M.S. *Hebridean Sky*.

LARGE SHIPS

Tom Baker

CruiseCenter

He knows which state-rooms to book and plans custom excursions to spots like the Vatican cloisters.

LARGE SHIPS

AND RIVER CRUISES

Linda Allen

Cruises by Linda

Allen focuses on lines like Celebrity, Oceania, and Uniworld and zeroes in on the best cabins on every vessel.

RIVER CRUISES

Richard Bruce Turen

Churchill & Turen

Is an authority on river ship itineraries in Europe and beyond as well as small-ship ocean lines.

SMALL SHIPS

Leslie Fambrini

Personalized Travel Consultants

Fambrini is dialed in to upscale lines like Crystal Cruises, Paul Gauguin, Sea-Dream Yacht Club, and Silversea.

Mary Jean Tully

Tully Luxury Travel

Particularly great with Crystal, Tully crafts next-level shore excursions, like a three-day safari tracked onto a Cape Town trip.

Angela Turen

Churchill & Turen

She specializes in small- and medium-size ships on lines like Oceania, Regent, Seabourn, and SeaDream, and custom-designs in-port activities. She's also a spa vacation expert.

YACHT CHARTERS

Mary T. Crowley

Ocean Voyages

Crowley can find you a yacht, with a crew if you prefer, just about anywhere there's water.



VILLAS



CALIFORNIA WINE COUNTRY

Liza Graves

Beautiful Places

Has rental homes in Napa and Sonoma that are big enough for the extended family.

CARIBBEAN

Timothy Roney

LaCure

He's got villas in Turks and Caicos and beach-front homes on Anguilla.

FRANCE

Erica Bertram

Haven In

Knows every detail about her dozens of vacation rentals in Paris.



For more on the trips these travel specialists can plan, plus details on how to contact them, visit cntraveler.com/travel-specialists.

Gail Boisclair

Perfectly Paris
Her apartments, mostly around Montmartre, are perfect for couples or small families.

Annie Flogaus

Just France
She can book you an apartment in Paris, a chateau in Bordeaux, or a villa on the Côte d'Azur.

Nick Westwood

Red Savannah
He cornered the market on lovely villas and family-size farmhouses across the country.

FRANCE AND ITALY

Carolyn Grote

Ville et Village
Has a portfolio including a seventeenth-century Dordogne castle and an olive oil estate just nine miles from Florence.

FRANCE, ITALY, AND SPAIN

Cédric Reversade and Paul-Maxime Koskas

Unique Properties & Events
They have one-of-a-kind rental properties on the Amalfi Coast and in Andalusia, the Balearics, and Provence.

FRANCE AND SPAIN

Adam Coats

Red Savannah
Specializes in French wine regions and the Balearic Islands.

GREECE

Ileana von Hirsch

Five Star Greece
Helps clients make sense of the many islands, and narrows down whitewashed villa picks on Mykonos and in the Ionians.

HAWAII

Anne Pawsat-Dressler

Hawaii Hideaways
Her luxury rentals span the Big Island, Kauai, Maui, and Oahu.

ITALY

Countess Simonetta Brandolini d'Adda

The Best in Italy
She'll arrange home

▽
"In São Paulo, they're testing Ubercopter, which can get you around the city via helicopter for as little as \$20. Use it to get to Guarulhos Airport from downtown. That drive often takes two hours by car—now it's just ten minutes."

Jill Siegel,
Brazil specialist

and villa stays as well as insider access to art galleries and restoration studios.

Lisa Byrne and Pat Byrne

Italy Perfect
The Byrne sisters have more than 100 properties in Italy, mostly in Florence and Rome.

Patrice M. Salezze

Papavero Villa Rentals
Salezze's properties include historic vineyard estates and stand-alone villas in Rome.

Mara Solomon

Homebase Abroad
Has opulent homes on Lake Como and the Amalfi Coast that are perfect for big groups.

ST. BARTS

Peg Walsh

St. Barth Properties
Walsh has keys to an eye-popping 227 rentals, ranging from one to 12 bedrooms.

ST. MARTIN AND SINT MAARTEN

Sonja van der Drift

Blue Ocean Villas
She works on both sides of the island, with beachy villas for any size group.

SOUTH AMERICA

Luisa Ladron de Guevara

Oasis Collections
Manages contemporary vacation apartments in cities like Buenos Aires, José Ignacio, and Rio.

SPAIN

Mary Vaira

El Sol Villas
She's got a network of helpful guides as well as villas across Spain.

UNITED KINGDOM

Warren de Long*Blandings*

Has a network of private country homes that aren't listed with any other specialist.

Madelyn Byrne Willems

London Perfect
Her flats are in posh London neighborhoods like Chelsea, Kensington, and Notting Hill.

UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND

Andrew Loyd

Loyd & Townsend Rose
Dialed in to the countries' epic estates, like Birkhill Castle in the Cotswolds.

WORLDWIDE

Marina Gratsos

Carpe Diem Luxury Travel
Her highly exclusive roster of homes, castles, and estates can't be booked elsewhere.

Sylvia Delvaile Jones

Villas and Apartments Abroad
If she doesn't already know the perfect home for you, she'll find it.

◎
SPECIAL INTEREST



AIRLINE ASSISTANCE

Brett Snyder

Cranky Concierge
His service monitors weather and flight schedules to quickly rebook you if and when things go wrong.

CURRENT EVENTS

Nicholas Wood

Political Tours
Wood plans journalist- and diplomat-led tours that put destina-

tions like Cuba, Iran, and South Africa in context.

DESTINATION CELEBRATIONS

Jack S. Ezon

Ovation Vacations
Ezon has mastered the personal touch, whether you're planning a destination birthday or a surprise anniversary escape.

DESTINATION WEDDINGS

Harlan deBell and Kara Bebell

The Travel Siblings
They orchestrate the most complicated weddings—and have even closed the Uffizi Gallery for an unforgettable proposal.

FAMILY TRAVEL

Kay Merrill

Are We There Yet? Family Adventures
A pro at multi-generational trips, particularly in Europe.

Leslie Overton

Absolute Travel
The expert to call for family trips to Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

FLY-FISHING

Mollie Fitzgerald

Frontiers International Travel
She's got exclusive

access to prime venues in Argentina, New Zealand, and even Russia.

FREQUENT-FLIER AWARDS

Gary Leff

Book Your Award
Maximizes your unused miles, securing first- and business-class seats for a flat fee of \$150.

LGBT TRIPS

David Rubin

David Travel
Caters to an adventurous gay clientele, specifically helping navigate destinations that aren't necessarily LGBT-friendly.

OVER-THE-TOP TRIPS

Kate Doty

GeoEx
Doty's pulled off helicopter tours over Cambodian temple complexes and one-on-ones with luminaries like Ai Weiwei.

Kathy Obbish

Custom Explorations
She builds see-it-all itineraries for time-pressed jet-setters.

SCUBA DIVING

Meg Austin

The Travel Society
Austin can put you in a dry suit and send you under Antarctica's ice or arrange private visits to Mexican cenotes.

SURFING

Ross Phillips

Tropicsurf
He's who pro riders call for surf safaris in remote destinations.

WALKING TOURS

Paul Bennett

Context Travel
Bennett's team of roughly 1,000 guides, many of them art historians, give walking tours of about 40 cities globally.

WINE

Larry Martin

Food & Wine Trails
His trips often include stays with winemakers and behind-the-scenes cellar access you can't get any other way. ♦

"WE SEND CLIENTS TO THE TOP FLOOR OF THE MILAN AIRPORT, WHERE THERE'S AN AUTOGRILL LIKE THE ONES YOU'D FIND ROADSIDE. IT'S A WHITE-TABLECLOTH RESTAURANT WITH JACKETED WAITERS SERVING PASTA AND WINE."

Patrice M. Salezze, villa specialist