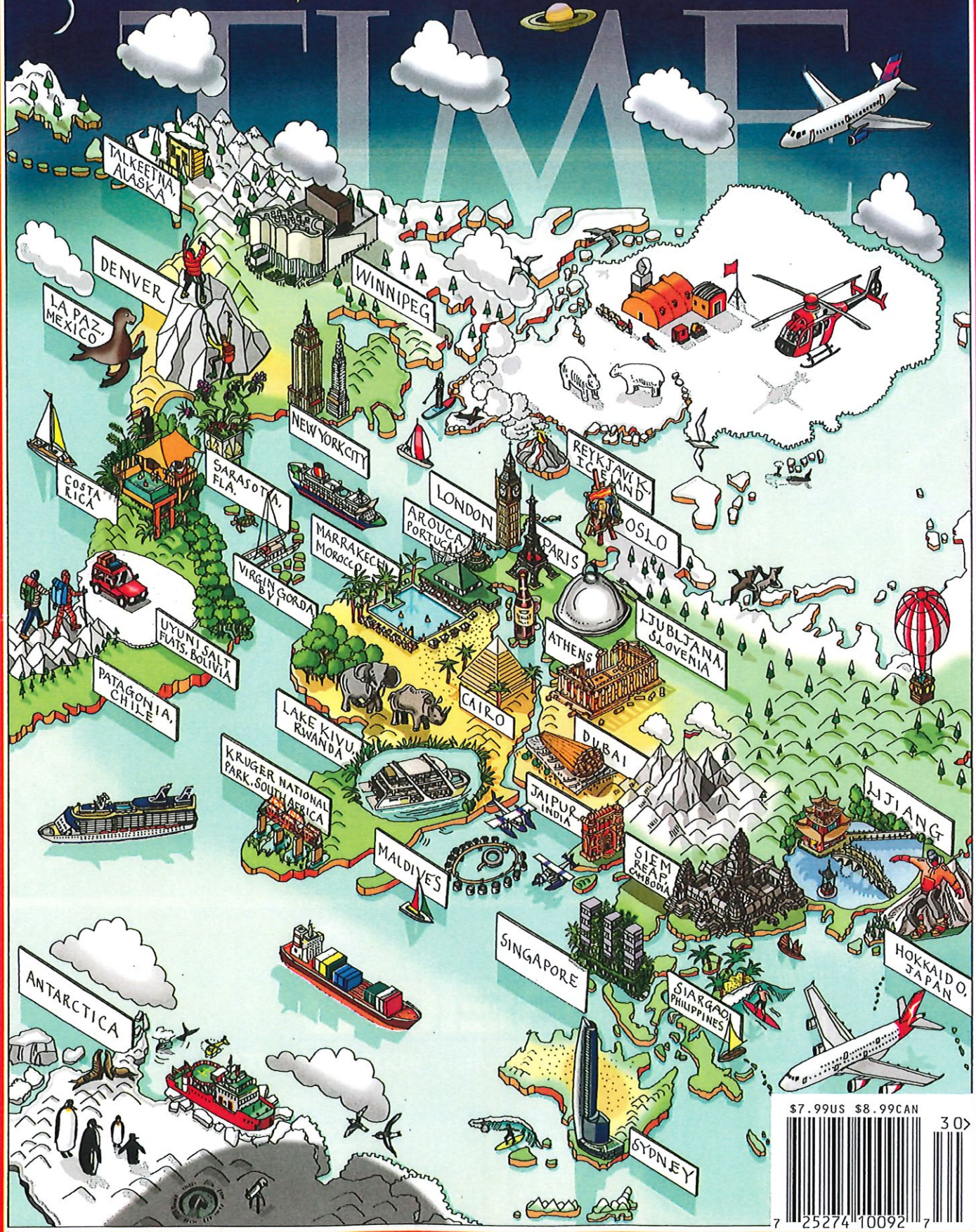


THE WORLD'S 100 GREATEST PLACES | of 2021



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TIME

The World's 100 Greatest Places

The challenges of the past year and a half have transformed our world, and few industries have been as affected as travel, tourism and hospitality. In many ways, our third annual list of the World's Greatest Places is a tribute to the people and businesses at the forefront of those industries who, amid extraordinary circumstances, found ways to adapt, build and innovate. It shines a light on ingenuity, creativity, revitalization and reopenings in destinations across the world. To compile this list, TIME solicited nominations of places from our international network of correspondents and contributors, with an eye toward those offering new and exciting experiences. The result: a list of 100 unique destinations, from the idyllic Portuguese town of Arouca, now home to the world's longest pedestrian suspension bridge, to the continent of Antarctica, which this December will experience a rare total solar eclipse. And while it may not be possible to safely visit each place just yet, they're all well worth reading (and dreaming) about until it's time, once again, to explore.

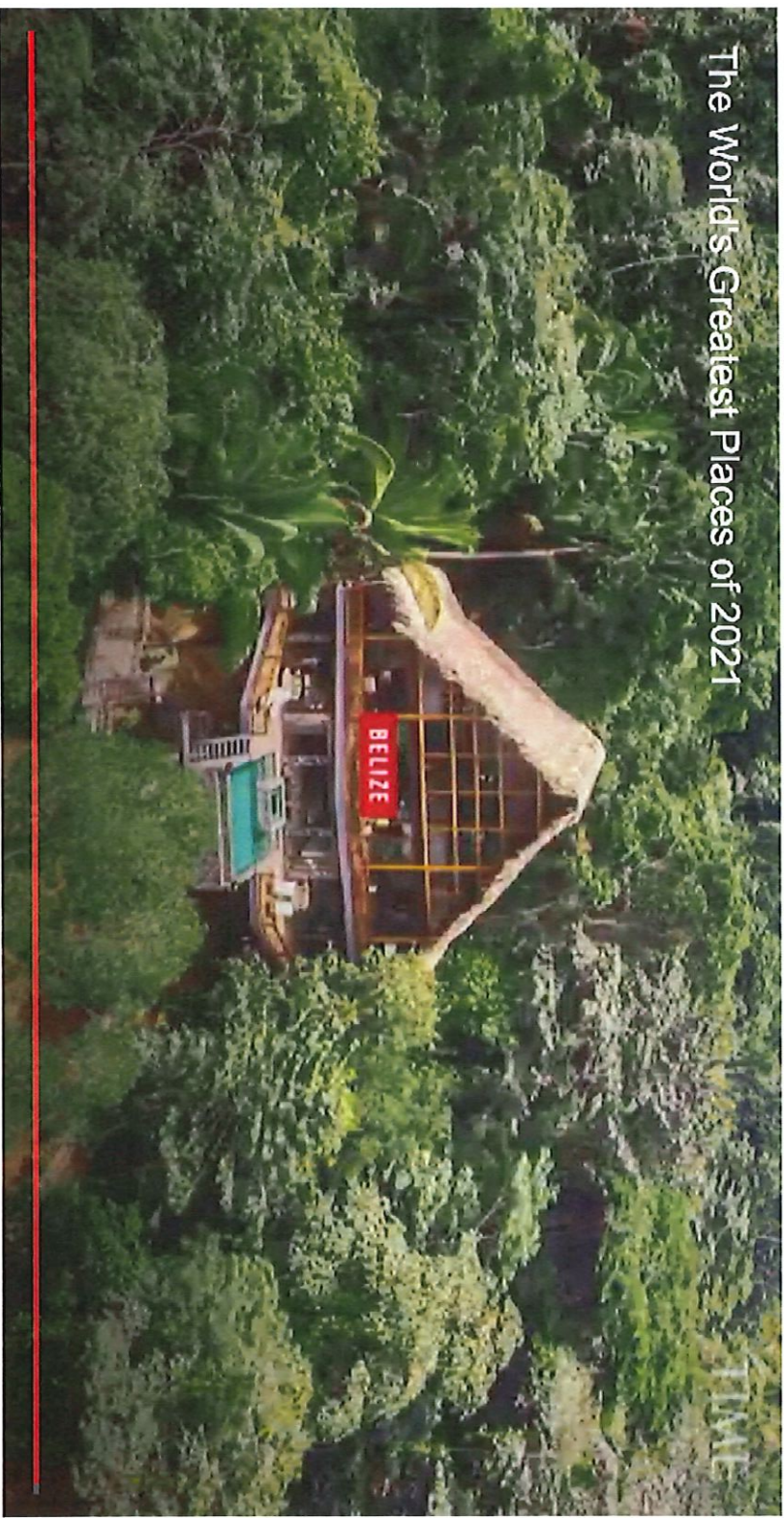
— FEATURING —

ACCRA, GHANA 84 / ANTARCTICA 68 / AROUCA, PORTUGAL 66 / ATHENS 82 / BANGKOK 71 / BATH, U.K. 65 / BEIJING 72 / BELIZE 76 / BENGUERRA ISLAND, MOZAMBIQUE 73 / BERLIN 78 / BIG SKY, MONT. 89 / BODRUM, TURKEY 74 / CÁCERES, SPAIN 83 / CAIRO 62 / CANNES, FRANCE 76 / CHIMANIMANI NATIONAL PARK, MOZAMBIQUE 87 / CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND 78 / COIMBRA, PORTUGAL 62 / COSTA RICA 82 / DENVER 68 / DESARU COAST, MALAYSIA 67 / DESIGN DISTRICT, LONDON 84 / DUBAI 73 / EDINBURGH 62 / FAROE ISLANDS, DENMARK 72 / GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA 69 / GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN 71 / GRENADA 79 / GYEONGJU, SOUTH KOREA 81 / HANOI 84 / HELSINKI 86 / HO CHI MINH CITY 77 / HOKKAIDO, JAPAN 74 / HOUSTON 63 / HUDSON VALLEY, NEW YORK 84 / INDIANAPOLIS 81 / ISLAND OF HAWAII 76 / JAIPUR, INDIA 77 / JASPER, ALBERTA 80 / JOSÉ IGNACIO, URUGUAY 70 / KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK, THAILAND 83 / KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH AFRICA 85 / KWAZULU-NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA 73 / LA PAZ, MEXICO 78 / LAKE KHOVSGOL, MONGOLIA 66 / LAKE KIVU, RWANDA 78 / LAS VEGAS 72 / LIJIANG, CHINA 67 / LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA 65 / LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE 70 / LOS ANGELES 77 / MADRID 66 / MALDIVES 64 / MARRAKECH, MOROCCO 89 / MEMPHIS 85 / MENDOZA, ARGENTINA 76 / NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 64 / NEGEV DESERT, ISRAEL 63 / NEW ORLEANS 79 / NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE, WEST VIRGINIA 76 / NEW YORK CITY 64 / NORTH GOA, INDIA 70 / NORTHLAND, NEW ZEALAND 75 / NUUK, GREENLAND 77 / ODENSE, DENMARK 66 / OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA 80 / ORLANDO 70 / OSAKA, JAPAN 71 / OSLO 84 / PARIS 87 / PATAGONIA NATIONAL PARK, CHILE 86 / PHILADELPHIA 80 / PHU QUOC, VIETNAM 67 / PUERTO ESCONDIDO, MEXICO 66 / QUITO, ECUADOR 71 / REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND 83 / ST. LOUIS 82 / SANTA FE, N.M. 78 / SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN 85 / SÃO VICENTE, CAPE VERDE 75 / SARASOTA, FLA. 72 / SAVANNAH, GA. 64 / SEATTLE 86 / SIARGAO, PHILIPPINES 82 / SICILY, ITALY 65 / SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA 82 / SINGAPORE 88 / SOUTHERN CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS, ROMANIA 85 / SYDNEY 74 / TAIPEI 64 / TALKEETNA, ALASKA 83 / TALLINN, ESTONIA 71 / TOKYO 79 / TUSCANY, ITALY 69 / UYUNI SALT FLATS, BOLIVIA 88 / VENICE 89 / VIRGIN GORDA, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS 67 / WADI DANA, JORDAN 68 / WINNIPEG, MANITOBA 88 / ZURICH 88

With reporting by Leslie Dickstein, Mariah Espada, Alejandro de la Garza, Nik Popli, Madeline Roache and Simone Shah

Belize

Striking a delicate balance





BELIZE

Striking a delicate balance

Belize takes protecting its pristine environment seriously. In 2021, an environmental coalition purchased 236,000 acres of the **Belize Maya Forest**, protecting 9% of the Central American country's landmass—as well as the spider monkeys, jaguars and ocelots that call the forest home. But as the economy recovers—having been pummeled by both natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic—striking a balance between conserving the nation's natural environs and increasing tourism revenues will be crucial. Belize is setting the stage for more visitors with the recent opening of the new **Alaia Belize, Autograph Collection**, Marriott International's first resort in the country. Meanwhile, airlines, including United and Alaska, are expanding their route offerings to help accommodate future influxes of tourists. Two new options for private stays near nature are the beachfront villas at the **Itz'ana Resort & Residences** and **Valley Stream**, a new ultra-remote private residence situated within 200 acres of lush rain forest.

—All Wunderman

NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL PARK AND PRÉSERVE, WEST VIRGINIA

Active nature

West Virginia's New River Gorge, encompassing more than 70,000 acres, became the country's newest national park and preserve in December. The main artery of the park is **New River**, which—despite its moniker—is one of the oldest rivers in the world, with 53 miles of free-flowing white water. Towering above the river is **New River Gorge Bridge**, which hosts its annual BASE jumping "Bridge Day" in October—making this the only national park where that daredevil activity is legal. Climbers come for the sandstone cliffs, some 1,200 ft. high, with 1,400 climbing routes, and there are also more than 21 miles for mountain biking.

—Anlesla Williams



Cannes, France

Sea and be seen

This iconic location on the French Riviera is accustomed to the limelight. But as Cannes emerges from pandemic shutdown, the tiny town is honoring its own inhabitants. Submerged up to 5 m below the sea, about a 15-minute ferry ride from Cannes off the coast of Île Ste.-Marguerite, the newly minted **Underwater Eco-Museum** (*above*) features a series of towering sculptures of local residents, including a 7-year-old student and an elderly fisherman. Each is chiseled out of environmentally friendly materials by British underwater artist Jason deCaires Taylor. The return of the in-person Cannes Film Festival in July brought all manner of A-listers to La Croisette, Cannes' main boulevard, though the place to stay is **Hôtel du Cap-Eden-Roc**, in nearby Antibes, which is on its 151st season. And in the fall, look out for the new **Hôtel Belle Plage**, an eco-conscious, wellness-oriented boutique property from the team behind Paris' trendy **Hôtel National des Arts et Métiers**. —Chrissie McClatchie

