

James Lane

— Travel —

Holiday 2023

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WYNWOOD, MIAMI

Photo by Juan Carlos Trujillo



Photo by Daniel Lee

The Itinerary

A Weekend In Wynwood, Miami

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Formerly an industrial district, Wynwood, Miami today is known for its colorful murals by street artists that cover its buildings, as well as its entertainment, retail, and restaurants. It's safe to say it's one of the coolest neighborhoods in America. Here's how we'd spend a weekend.

Friday

3 PM: Check in at Arlo, Wynwood. You may know Arlo from its New York City locations. It's the perfect homebase for exploring Wynwood, right in the heart of the neighborhood. In-room amenities include Nespresso coffee machine, blackout shades, under-bed storage, bath products by Pharmacopia, and more. The hotel offers common spaces, rooftop pool and bar, a yoga deck, fitness center, and complimentary bicycles.

Through its Arlo's Cares initiative, the hotel partners with non-profit organizations in each of its communities. In Miami the Arlo team partners with Miami Rescue Mission, which helps women, men, and children with meals, safe shelter, and provides residential programs, employment, and housing, and CARE Elementary, a free private school in Overtown, serving at-risk children.

5 PM: At Arlo you'll find MaryGold's, a restaurant where you can "savor approachable fare with imaginative twists." Happy hour from 5 to 6 PM boasts \$12 cocktails like the Garden Spritz made with Hendricks, sage, grapefruit, and bubbles, or the Miami Boulevardier with Monkey Shoulder, Coconut Campari, and roasted pineapple sweet vermouth. There are bites to share like \$1 oysters or the crudo for \$11.



Photo by Jason Briscoe



Photo by Meric Dagli

9 PM: Dinner at Hiden, a Michelin-starred Japanese fine dining restaurant and a collaboration between restaurateurs Aram Baloyan and Julian Hakim. The omakase experience offers an eight- to 10-course chef's choice menu by Chef Okano. It all happens at an eight-seat counter hiding behind a taco stand.

11 PM: Drinks at Dante's HiFi. It's Miami's first vinyl listening bar, dedicated to analog audiophile music culture.

Saturday

10 AM: It's time for breakfast and coffee. Panther Coffee, founded by Leticia and Joel Pollock, offers small-batch coffee beans and coffee beverages prepared to perfection. Now boasting six locations in the Miami area, Wynwood was its first, opening in 2010. At Zak the Baker, an independent artisan Kosher bakery established in 2012, you can grab a viennoiserie pastry — breakfast pastries made in the style of Vienna, Austria — and enjoy the mouthwatering breads, cakes, and cookies.

11 AM: The Nader Art Museum is a dynamic cultural center that presents exhibitions, films, and music. The Nader Family Collection is one of the most comprehensive in showcasing the works of major Latin American artists.

1 PM: We're off to lunch at Smorgasburg Miami, an outpost of the famous New York open-air food market, to eat from dozens of local vendors.

3 PM: Shopping in Wynwood. Nomad

Tribe supports sustainable brands — it's committed to conscious clothing for a more sustainable future. Frangipani is one of the original tenants in the neighborhood. The independently owned boutique and concept store offers unique products sourced from across the globe. Find hand-made, sustainable, and artistic items.

4 PM: After shopping, treat yourself to an ice cream from Dasher & Crank, a craft ice cream shop in the heart of Wynwood. It's all artisan flavors and made from scratch using premium ingredients sourced locally.

9 PM: Dinner at 1-800-Lucky. This sprawling Asian food hall offers both indoor and outdoor seating. There are vendors offering a variety of Asian cuisines. You'll find rolls, ice cream, poke dishes, ramen, sandos, and so much more.

11 PM: "Come for the food, stay for the karaoke" they say at 1-800-Lucky. The karaoke here has been voted best in Miami. You can also catch a live band or DJ performing.

Sunday

11 AM: Brunch at Maim Cafe. At Maim, meaning "yum" in French, you'll find it's all about simple, fresh, and natural dishes that are made from organic and locally sourced ingredients — from the French toast to the eggs Benedict. There's also a boutique to shop specialty grocery products.

12 PM: After brunch, pop into the Oliver

Cole gallery, which highlights the modern and contemporary art of emerging, mid-career, and established artists.

2 PM: Let's take a tour of the galleries, exhibitions, and solo shows within Wynwood Walls. The space offers a massive collection of large-scale, cutting-edge street art in an urban setting. Curated by Goldman Global Arts, artists like Faile, Peter Tunney, Swoon, and Shepard Fairey are just a few to have decorated the walls of this iconic two-acre, outdoor museum.

4 PM: Back at Arlo, Higher Ground is a go-to bar for cocktails. Filled with lush foliage on the third floor courtyard, also try the stone oven pizzas or handhelds like the garden burger.

8 PM: Dinner at Joey's, a modern Italian cafe and a pioneer in the Wynwood dining scene, is unassuming in the best way. It was opened in 2008 by Joey Goldman. Don't miss the specialty pizzas and Italian staples and snag a spot in the outdoor garden terrace for al fresco dining at its finest.



Photo by George Pagan



The Virginia

A Cape May Historic Gem

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Cape Resorts, which you may know for its East End properties Baron's Cove and The Pridwin also has properties in

another beachside community — Cape May, New Jersey. One of these hotels includes The Virginia, and it's the perfect weekend getaway from New York.

Cape May is known as a summer destination, but it also serves as a dreamy holiday destination. No one does the holiday season quite like Cape May. Located on the southern most point of the Jersey Shore, during this season the holiday lights mix with the beachside charm, complete with the area's Victorian home-lined streets.

In the hotel group's magazine in each room, author Jay McInerney writes a comparison between Sag Harbor and Cape May. And how they both stand out from the Hamptons and the Jersey Shore, respectively.

"Improbably enough, there are two towns at the edge of each of these iconic American summer retreats that share DNA and summer visitors; towns that are, if not



Photos courtesy Cape Resorts

quite sister communities, then cousins."

The Virginia Hotel & Cottages, located just a block from the beach, sets the standard for luxury hotels in the region. The beautifully restored 1879 landmark building also boasts four cottages, in addition to its guest rooms. The historic rooms are complete with modern day amenities that bring the hotel into today's age, offering all that a traveler would need and want in a stay.

The Ebbitt Room is the restaurant at The Virginia Hotel, and Chef Jason Hanin's award-winning cuisine is worth the visit. The setting offers the epitome of cozy dining.

The Ebbitt Room also offers interactive dining experiences with a series of wine

dinners that can be planned around a getaway. Over the course of these evenings, guests explore world renowned wine producers accompanied by the restaurant's fine cuisine.

The intimate five-course dinners are hosted in Ebbitt Room's exquisite Richmond private dining room and are led by Cape Resorts' company sommelier Chris John and representatives from each winery. Upcoming dates include Thursday, November 30 with Domaine de Beau-renard, and Thursday, December 21 with Bruno Paillard Champagne.

Tickets begin at \$128 per person and The Virginia Hotel is also offering a special overnight package that includes two tickets to the wine dinner. Rates for these packages begin at \$489 per night.

Exploring Croatia?

Here's Your Perfect Itinerary

By Emily Cappiello

It seems as if everyone is going to Croatia lately. The Balkan country, which is home to many a "Game of Thrones" scene, is stunningly beautiful. From its striking blue-green seas to its stone walls of the Old City, there is no lack of wonder and awe throughout the country, but especially in Dubrovnik.

Unsure how to plan your trip and what to see? We have an itinerary that will help you maximize your time, while bringing out the very best Dubrovnik has to offer.

Day 1: Relax In Style!

Not exactly the easiest place to get to, you'll definitely want to de-stress and chill after plenty of plane travel. Start by checking into the Hotel Excelsior Dubrovnik. With gorgeous balconies and sweeping views of the Adriatic Sea, you'll realize right away what makes Croatia so special. Have lunch at Prora, a seaside restaurant in which you can sit right near the water or inside the stone enclosure. From there, pick your adventure: Pull up a lounge chair, take a dip in the water and sleep the afternoon away, or indulge in services at the hotel's luxury spa.

With a pool, Finnish sauna, and both Turkish and Roman-style baths, there is enough to fill the entire afternoon — and have you feeling refreshed in no time. Freshen up in time for some pre-dinner cocktails at the Abakus Piano Bar, located in the hotel, and then head to dine at Sensus, a fine dining restaurant serving up local oysters, sea urchin risotto, and other unique culinary delicacies.

Day 2: Explore Old Town

After an easy first day, it's time to get your adventure on! Grab breakfast from Salin at the Hotel Excelsior Dubrovnik, picking from the expansive buffet of American, European, and Croatian options, or order up a custom-made omelette or breakfast plate from the kitchen. Once pleasantly full, it's time to head to Old Town. About a 10-minute walk from the hotel, you'll reach the entrance to the city quickly and can take in the sweeping views of the harbor.

There is no shortage of things to do in Old Town. The shops are plentiful, from bookstores and souvenir shops to outrageous candy stores — there is even a store dedicated to rubber ducks of all kinds. Grab lunch from one of the many outdoor cafes, in the square or down any number of side streets. Explore one of the many churches in Old Town — the Cathedral as well as the Church of St. Blaise, the patron saint of Dubrovnik, have self-guided tours available. When the afternoon slump hits, grab a gelato from Peppino and spend some time people-watching.

Just across the street from Old Town is the Dubrovnik Cable Car, undoubtedly the best place to get a sweeping view of the city and take a little break from all the walking!

For dinner, plan to head to Restaurant 360 in Old Town. What looks like an inconspicuous door leads to a Michelin-starred restaurant with delicious wine, fabulous food, and a charming vibe that cannot be beat. The chef's tasting menu paired with

local Croatian wine is the perfect way to cap off this day.

Day 3: Spend The Day In Ston

While about a 45-minute drive from Dubrovnik's city center, a day trip to Ston is worth the price of admission. (The hotel can help arrange this for you.) After breakfast, the journey to this quaint salt-town begins. Spend some time perusing the town before choosing to take a tour of Ston Salt Works — one of the oldest salt pans in European history. Then, if one dares, it's a walk up to the top of the walls — once used for defense, the walls are now known as European Great Wall Of China. Impressive views await!

From there, take a quick trip to Mali Ston for an oyster boat tour. The tour takes patrons out into the stunning Mali Ston Bay, providing the history behind the famed Ston oyster as well as oyster farming in the area. Feast on oysters fresh from the ocean as well as glasses of Grappa and delicious Buzara-style mussels while taking in the stunning scene. Post-trip, take a seat inside Kapetanova Kuća (a two-minute walk from the boat) for a meal of cheese, shrimp soup, and seafood, finishing with Stonska Torta (or Ston cake), one of the Croatian dishes the town is known for.

While you may be too full for dinner, a cocktail is the perfect end to this day. Head to Cave Bar More for a truly unique drinking experience you won't soon forget. Grab a "Game of Thrones" or "From Croatia With Love" cocktail and take in the magic of your surroundings.

Day 4: See The Elafiti Islands

With all of the islands and breathtaking waters around Dubrovnik, seeing the city by boat is one of the best ways to do it. While you can rent private boats and yachts, you can also see the islands by ferry, as there are no cars allowed.

Start out with a trip to Kolocep, the closest of the islands to Dubrovnik and about 35 minutes by ferry. Take time to explore some of the churches on the island, as some date back as far as the 9th century — but don't forget your swimsuit. The island is home to a blue cave, which can only be explored by swimming inside.

Then, recharge with a multi-course lunch in Lopud Bay, across the island



from Beach Bar. Cafes here are perfectly situated on the edge of the water, allowing one to take in the views as they dine. After that, spend time strolling or biking the streets, exploring the ruins of an old fortress or checking out churches built in the 15th century. Or, head to Sunj Bay and spend the afternoon sipping cocktails and sunning at Cima Beach Bar.

Head back to Dubrovnik and settle in for a delicious dinner in Old Town at Nautika, one of the most romantic destinations in the city, or Lucin Kantun for delicious local fare. Or, head to Hotel Excelsior's sister property, Hotel Bellevue, for a drink at The Spice Lounge or The Wine Bar, followed by dinner at Vapor Restaurant.

Day 5: Explore Lokrum + Cavtat

Directly off the coast of Dubrovnik (you can see it from Hotel Excelsior Dubrovnik) is the island of Lokrum. A respite for those who live in the city itself and only a 10-minute boat ride from Old Town Port, Lokrum is worth at least a half-day visit. Dotted with cafes and swimming holes, Lokrum invites visitors to explore its botanical gardens, home to many different plants and flowers, along with peacocks. Start by grabbing a gin and

tonic made with rosemary grown on the island and walk the cobblestone pathways with reckless abandon, as getting lost is difficult to do. Also on Lokrum are ruins of the Benedictine Monastery, a nude beach, a "dead sea" which allows swimmers to float, and, of course, more "Game of Thrones" scenery. Once you're ready to depart, grab a gelato for the ferry and enjoy the sweeping views back to Old Town Port.

For the evening hours, head to Cavtat, a seaside town snuggled in between Dubrovnik and Montenegro which can be accessed by car or ferry.

A palm tree-lined promenade brings big French Riviera vibes in a small package. Dotted with cafes, strolling the streets at dusk provides beautiful sunset views. Grab a cocktail at Beach Bar Little Star or head up to the mausoleum and cemetery for another great vantage point. Grab an aperitif at Anokora Wine Bar or at Wine Bar at Hotel Supetar Cavtat, a cozy, intimate spot that shows off the work of local artists, as galleries aren't prevalent in Croatia. If staying for dinner, there is no shortage of places to grab a bite, but if interested in a more fine dining experience, Bugenvila or Ivan Restaurant are highly recommended.



Photo by Eltrash Rivero

Savoring San Sebastián

Spain's Basque Country

By Rachel Bosworth

Backed by strong cultural traditions, distinct cuisine, and its own language of unknown origins — a symbolic source of pride — northern Spain's Basque Country marries history and the modern under the arch of tradition. Narrowing in on the resort town of Donostia-San Sebastián, a combination of the Basque and Spanish names for the city, this coastal area along the Bay of Biscay touts Michelin-starred chefs and restaurants, pintxo bars, fresh seafood straight from the surrounding waters, and incredible natural scenery. All of what draws one to the area is quintessential Basque, one of the oldest cultures in Europe.

Pintxo Bars

Food culture in San Sebastián is best

presented in the form of a pintxo — a snack-sized bite often consisting of a slice of bread topped with various combinations of foie gras, pork belly, cheese, fish, and other signature bites, pierced by a skewer or toothpicks. Pre-pandemic, one would snag bites from a counter, saving the picks for the end to be counted. And while today you still pack into a crowded bar, often standing while you indulge, you order your selections from the bar alongside a small pour of wine, beer, or cider. Duck off the streets and alleyways into top pintxo bars including Ganabara, La Luchera San Telmo, Artari Gatroleku, and Haieza to mingle with locals and tourists alike. Crispy suckling pig, Iberian ham, and razor clams in oil may be among the favorite finds. Heading just outside the Old Town in Gros is Bar Manojó, a must

for natural wine and cider and deliciously fresh, seasonal ingredients. Their house-made focaccia is a must.

Michelin Star Dining

Touting several Michelin stars within a short radius, creative cuisine earns top marks in this northern region. At the forefront of innovative Basque cuisine is Juan Mari Arzak, who was among the chefs that founded a new culinary movement in the 1970s — New Basque Cuisine. The result is revolutionary cooking with incredibly creative dishes that never lose sight of tradition. Arzak's eponymous restaurant boasts three of the coveted stars. For the ultimate experience, try the tasting menu with wine pairing, experiencing the importance and history of each ingredient on dishes as they're presented in eight-plus courses. Indulge in other totally unique gastronomic experiences at

Mugartiz, Elkano, and Martin Berasategui.

Basque History

Euskara, the Basque language, can be heard, read, and even recognized for its famed typeface throughout San Sebastián. While mystery still surrounds the Basque people, it is believed they are descendants of the original European continent inhabitants. Basque history and culture offer an incredible sense of pride to its people, which can be felt in the San Telmo Museoa, a museum on Basque society. Housed in an old Dominican convent from the mid 16th century, the collections hold thousands of ethnographic, fine art, photography, archaeological, and historic pieces. A recent special exhibition on advertising design targeting visitors to the seaside resort town beginning in the 1930s showcases

the progression of its popularity among travelers. After exploring the museum, trek up to the former military fortress at the top of Monte Urgull for more of the city's history while taking in views of the coast and sea.

Explore By Sea

The Basque coast is dotted with tucked away fishing villages, beaches, and coves, places flush with marine wildlife where fishermen making a living. With a profound respect for the sea and sustainability, fishermen highlight conservation in their work. Iñaki Alberdi Les exemplifies San Sebastián fishing, honoring the marine heritage of La Concha Bay with slow fishing and ecotourism tours. Through his company, Oribay Tours, the captain offers a personal approach to the sea, talking about the history of the area, wildlife, and offering incredible views of the coastline. Even if you don't hook a keeper, the Alberdi Les's passion for his work and country, and entertaining demeanor, make a cruise along the coast worth it.

Seawater Therapy

Making a space for wellness abroad may not always make the top of the list traveling, though when in a seaside resort town like San Sebastián, thalassotherapy is somewhat a given. La Perla is something of a wellness complex that offers an intimate feel. Perched on the Bay of La Concha, the spa uses ocean water at different temperatures and intensities for saunas, swimming pools, water bed, steam baths, ice fountains, and more in a relaxing atmosphere. It presents an opportunity to reset during your adventure. Following a range of traditional spa treatments, dining in the various settings with water views is a perfect complement to a day at La Perla, as is a walk or dip at the beach.



Mushroom carpaccio with Parmesan at Manojó



Photo by Vincent Soleil



San Sebastián's Old Town

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