

TRAVEL SMARTER

UPGRADE YOUR GETAWAY

AIR: EMIRATES AIR BUSINESS CLASS

The Dubai-based airline has a chauffeur to drive you to the airport, where you're brought to a VIP lounge. Onboard, your seat comes with its own mini-bar, and meal service feels like fine dining, with multicourse dinners on request.

CAR: SILVERCAR

This Audi-owned car rental service lets you book an A4, Q5, or A5 for only slightly more than most full-size rentals at a place like Hertz, and picking it up at the airport is a breeze.

CREDIT CARD: CAPITAL ONE VENTURE REWARDS CARD

It's cheaper than most rewards cards (\$95 annually), and it offers 10x points when booking on <u>Hotels.com</u>, an \$89 credit for TSA PreCheck, and \$3,000 in lost-luggage reimbursement.



BEST PLACE TO LAND A KING SALMON



West Coast Fishing Club, Canada On the far northwestern edge of Haida Gwaii, the British Columbian archipelago formerly known as Queen Charlotte Islands, sits the off-grid West Coast Fishing Club. Accessed via helicopter, it's surrounded by miles of

temperate rain forest and rich waters teeming with salmon and halibut. Big ones. Anglers staying at the timber-framed Clubhouse, as they call it, routinely hook king salmon weighing north of 30 pounds—and 50-pound monsters aren't unheard of. And after a day on the water, while sitting in the hot tub with a cold beer, with a five-star meal being prepared inside, it's easy to appreciate just how civilized being off-grid can be. –K.D.

OUR FAVORITE

Arctic Guide

MARCEL SCHÜTZ

Owner of Spitzbergen-Reisen

"If you meet bears without a weapon, you have a big problem." This is how Marcel Schutz, owner of the guiding company Spitzbergen-Reisen, in Norway's Svalbard archipelago, describes the possibility of running into a polar bear. Of course, it's that understated humorand a beet-red beardthat makes him one of the Arctic's iconic guides. The Swede spends most days on the tundra, dogsledding, camping, or snow-kiting with clients, avoiding crevasses and showing off Jurassic fossils and dwarf reindeer. His love for all things Arctic is unmatched—and infectious when you head out with him. "Beautiful place," he says. "But there's always danger lurking. That's why I love it here." -Adam Popescu





BEST WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES

TAIL A TIGER

MADHYA PRADESH, INDIA

The Bengal tiger is one of the largest wild cats on the planet, and the national animal of India, thanks to its unusually charismatic presence when encountered But there are only an estimated 2,000 left on the planet, and witnessing one is like winning the lottery. To increase your odds, head straight to the "tiger state" of Madhya Pradesh, in the central part of India. There's been a healthy rise in tiger population in the state's Pench National Park, the inspiration for the setting of Rudyard Kipling's 1894 The Jungle Book, and there are more than a few outfitters proficient in tracking the big cats. The best of them is Pugdundee Safaris. which has six immaculate lodges spread throughout the region but specializes in tiger trips through Pench's dense teak forests and savanna-like grasslands. Driving bumpy roads through the forest can feel like riding a bull at the rodeo, but if you can keep your binoculars steady. you'll have more than enough opportunities for sightings of leopards, sloth bears, and, yes, rare Bengal tigers-as well as the rest of the Jungle Book crew. -M.J.



The Best Reason to Visit the Jersey Shore The Asbury Hotel, Asbury Pack, New Jersey

The Asbury Hotel, Asbury Park, New Jersey
The 110-room Asbury is a magnet of cool 60 miles south of New
York City, with a rooftop cinema, outdoor pool, and lobby bar
with a huge vinyl collection. A secret passage for select events
takes guests to Asbury Lanes, the legendary bowling alleymusic venue that reopened in May. Its opening act: hometown
boy Bruce Springsteen, naturally.



MEN'S JOURNAL FEBRUARY 2019