



Lucid Reveries  
Sunni Colón

INTERVIEW ON PG. 17

PG. 8

Holiday Gift Guide

PG. 13

Creature Comforts

PG. 22

Interview: Huy Bui

## TRAVEL

# Creature Comforts

Everyone needs a break every now and then, and when it's time to escape, it's important to know where to go to fully maximize your recreation levels. Here are a couple of relaxation and dining recommendations for the Holiday season.



## Lyle's

LONDON

Located in the always-happening Shoreditch neighborhood, Lyle's is a lovely place to sit and have lunch. Everything from the industrial space to the menu feels stripped-back, so you really get to focus on the details and the subtle twists they offer on each dish. What the menu lacks in description, they absolutely make up for with flavor. The laid-back vibe, set in the heart of a trendy London district, feels grown-up enough so you're just as comfortable grabbing a wine with a friend or diving into a full tasting menu. It's really the best of both worlds.



## SiR Hotel HAMBURG

When travelers talk about visiting Germany, Berlin is the city most mentioned. But Hamburg is a not-so-hidden gem that often gets overlooked. It's a stunning (and wealthy) port city with a lot going for it. It's situated on the scenic Elbe River, and has seven centuries worth of art and architecture to explore and discover. If you do visit, a perfect place to stay is the SiR Nikolai Hotel located in the historic Nikolaifleet Canal in the heart of Hamburg. This modern boutique hotel has 94 rooms and suites, custom-designed furniture, and attractive décor helmed by Dutch design duo, FG Stijl. For dining, there is the sumptuous IZAKAYA Asian Kitchen & Bar, and the dark wood Study for after-dinner drinks and sophisticated leisure.

## Café Mogador NYC

This East Village Café, built in 1983, is about as Manhattan as you can get: high ceilings, exposed brick, and beautiful giant windows that fill the place with natural light. Their lamb dish is incredible, but they're famed for one of the best brunch spots in the city. Serving up signature Moroccan-inspired cuisine, we suggest you go for the Moroccan benedict and wash it down with a blood orange mimosa for a tasty weekend treat. If you want to avoid the brunch crowd and pop in for dinner, they have expertly-braised melt-in-your-mouth tagines that won't disappoint.

## Dream Hollywood LOS ANGELES

Here to take advantage of California's consistently idyllic weather, The Dream Hollywood is a 10-story structure that breathes new life into a pocket of LA that evokes old-school glamor. It features 178 vibrant rooms, with a theme of modern, understated elegance, designed by the award-winning, Rockwell Group. The hotel does an incredible job of combining the perks of having both outdoor and indoor nightlife spaces. Starting with the white, marble-lined common area, you can relax all day at the bar and enjoy a coffee, or even something a bit stronger. Then make your way to the incredible rooftop called The Highlight Room. It comes complete with a 360-view of the city, an enclosed all-day restaurant, and a beautiful lounge chair-lined pool. Other perks include three of Tao Group's restaurants, unparalleled room views, and complimentary Lincoln Continental and Navigator car service.



## Dimes NYC

Situated in NYC's Lower East Side, Dimes has dubbed itself an eclectic eatery with a health conscious menu. The décor has a West Coast Cali-cool flair and minimalist approach, with moments of color that pop for just the right amount of contrast. The menu has a similar approach, with a "less is more" attitude, but presentation (and taste) stand-front and center. That being said, probably the best part of Dimes is the crowd it draws. From local artists to designers to the just downright fashionable—people-watching is a must.

## 21c Museum Hotel NASHVILLE

21c Museum Hotels hit on a goldmine idea when they came up with the concept of combining museums with luxury hotels. It's a perfect pairing—amazing art, first-class amenities, and exquisite dining (and lounging) all on the same premises. The newest addition, 21c Nashville, is located in the bustling downtown hub of the city, situated in close proximity to the Bridgestone Arena, and countless other music and entertainment spots. It has 124 rooms (including 14 suites), rooftop terraces, and 18,500 square feet of exhibition space. It was recently recognized by *Condé Nast Traveler* as one of top hotels in the South, and it'll probably be winning many more accolades.

## Valley Rock Inn NEW YORK

It's no longer a secret that upstate New York is full of beautiful little gems and quick getaway spots if you find yourself itching for a break from Manhattan. Just a quick one-hour train ride outside of New York City, you'll find the urban oasis known as Valley Rock Inn. A destination with outdoor enthusiasts in mind, the village complex is located in the middle of a 70,000 acre park, surrounded by lush, fragrant gardens and serene landscapes. The Inn currently features a local farmer's market, bike shop, and an outdoor garden grill that offers exemplary dining. They opened their doors to the public this fall, with plans to expand through the winter and the following spring.