

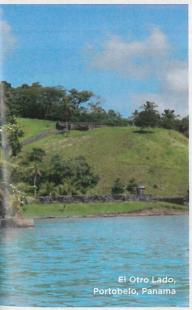
THE GUIDE

50 Secret Places to Visit Now

From far-flung getaways to gems that have been hiding in plain sight, meet your new travel obsessions







of villas that whispers a little midcentury, a little Caribbean, and a whole lot of charm. The verdant wilds of Portobelo National Park and the serene waters of Portobelo Bay add natural gifts to the intoxicating mix. Rates start at \$525; elotrolado.com.

ST HELENA MANTIS ST HELENA

Napoleon's final exile, now the newest remote luxury escape

Used in the 19th century as the place of banishment for the then-most dangerous man on the planet, this volcanic subtropical island's ruggedness is softened by the additions of a 30-room luxury hotel-with select rooms in restored 18thcentury officers' barracksand an airport, and by its 500-plus endemic species and local population of 4,500 people known as Saints. Rates start at \$285; mantissthelena.com.

-USA-

PINE ISLAND, FLORIDA THE TARPON LODGE

A salty dose of Old Florida culture, and surprisingly within reach

Old Florida is having a

serious moment these days, and this island perched off the Gulf Coast feels a million miles—and years—away from the hurly burly of Fort Myers. To make the escape complete, bed down at the gracious, old-school Tarpon Lodge. Rates start at \$115; tarponlodge.com.

NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS WHITE ELEPHANT LOFTS

Hidden apartments right in the middle of Nantucket's historic town center

This may be the best secret in the world:
Thanks to the esteemed
White Elephant on tony,
fabulous Nantucket, you can vacation in town,
right above those shops
that call like sirens to
you by day. Insiders know



3 SECRET RESTAURANTS + BARS

FLOYD'S PELICAN BAR

Parottee Bay, Jamaica The ultimate shack: made of driftwood and perched on stilts over Caribbean shallows

NIDO AT MAR ADENTRO Los Cabos, Mexico

The high-art nest (literally): walls of twiglike latticework floating above a serene pool

THE GROTTO AT RAYAVADEE RESORT

Krabi, Thailand
The hideout cave
(pictured above):
cocktails served
beneath a limestone
cliff —L.P.

that the resort holds a pair of sunlit, modern lofts above the cobblestones, and they're yours to inhabit if, that is, you know to ask. Rates start at \$1,800; whiteelephanthotel.com.

PLUM ISLAND, MASSACHUSETTS BLUE—INN ON THE BEACH

A serene, sophisticated inn on a little-known island

No, this is not the Hamptons. But this little boutique hotel, with its crisp blue-and-white interiors, will make you think you're there. Instead, you've discovered a beachy getaway hidden in plain sight between Boston and the New Hampshire border. Count your blessings you found it early. Rates start at \$269; blueinn.com.