

## WHERE TO GO IN 2023

YOUR NEXT TRIP SHOULD BE:

# A Turkish Delight...

A couple of years ago Emily Morrison, a former New Orleans commodities trader, visited Turkey for the first time, sunbathing in Bodrum and hot-air-ballooning over Cappadocia like a later-day Jules Verne. At the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul, that tortuous labyrinth from the 15th century, she had a career epiphany while sorting through textiles, so she left her job and started a lifestyle brand, Elysian by Emily Morrison, back home, collaborating with Turkish artisans on decorative wares, footwear, and clothing. "What I experienced was the people of Turkey," she says. "The hospitality, the craftsmanship, the culture." Now she returns several times a year. It turns out Morrison's not alone: American travel to Turkey in the first half of 2022 skyrocketed 77 percent over the same period in 2019, according to the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Post-pandemic, the number is poised to climb in 2023, as the country marks its 100th anniversary as a republic. "It took many years, but things have definitely changed,"

says Karen Fedorko Sefer, founder of Sea Song Tours, who arrived in Turkey in 1998 and organized Morrison's original visit. "The key was developing infrastructure to accommodate demanding luxury travelers." Turkish Airlines invested in U.S. hubs (three daily flights out of JFK, two from LAX), and elite lodgings boomed: A **Four Seasons** and a **Mandarin Oriental** opened on the Bosphorus, followed by the newly restored **Four Seasons** in historic Sultanahmet. The **Peninsula Istanbul** and Japan's **Okura Spa & Resort Cappadocia** are expected in 2023. And it's not just cities that are thriving: Thanks to Turkish Airlines' vast network of domestic flights, jetsetters are discovering the cradle of civilization in Asia Minor. Though why go by air to the ruins of Kaunos or the shipwrecks of Monastir Bay when a gulet is an option. A very posh option. Turkish sailing yachts are, Sefer says, "second to none." E.M. KAREN FEDORKO SEFER, K.DORR@SEASONS.COM



YOUR NEXT TRIP SHOULD BE:

# A Montenegro Odyssey...

Byron called the 182-mile stretch of Montenegro's Adriatic coast "the most beautiful encounter between land and sea." No wonder. Riven with fjords, dotted with tiny islands and ancient towns (such as Kotor, Budva, and Perast), and lined with 45 miles of beach, the little country has been quietly turning into a niche destination for yachting holidays, a Croatia without the crowds. "It's Norway, but it's warm!" proclaims Paola Scialabino, a charter specialist with Monaco-based Yachtco.

"And it's for people who want beautiful anchorages but don't need to be in port every night, out clubbing." If you want a land perch, **One&Only Portanovi**, near a new marina, is the sole five-star resort option (ever since the Aman Sveti Stefan closed amid a local controversy over beach rights). And, opening this spring, in an 1850s Austro-Hungarian fortress, is the boutique 32-room **Mamula Island**, which comes with a fleet of boats you can use on demand. M.E. AIA OSMOND, ALA@EXETERINTERNATIONAL.COM

ON OUR  
RADAR

This past October, Michelin Guides published its first list of 53 Istanbul restaurants. Why it took this long, given the city's Byzantine and Ottoman epicurean traditions, is a mystery. But never mind: It's a whole new impetus to visit. The star of the list, with two stars, is Turk Faith Tuzak.

TOWNSHIP PHOTO: MICHELIN; MAP: GETTY IMAGES; ILLUSTRATION: CAROLINE WASSER; SUZANI: SEVER WIRRETT (LEFT); LANTERNS: SEVER WIRRETT (RIGHT)

# T&C TRAVEL

March  
March  
March  
March

## Oh, the Places You Should Go!

*These are the signs everyone will be taking in 2021.  
You board it here first.*

BY THE GREAT WESTERN TOURS, WHICH OFFERS A LOT OF INFORMATION & SERVICES, THE WALK AND STAY