



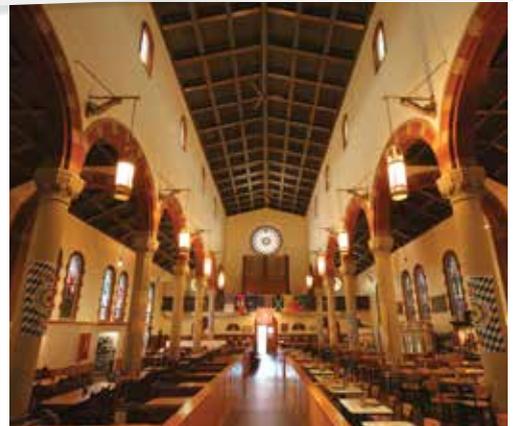
with
PETER
GREENBERG

Rise to the Top



CBS News Travel Editor Peter Greenberg shares his latest favorites, finds and to-dos

Mountain Magic • It's a 25-minute helicopter ride from Queenstown to the **Minaret Station Alpine Lodge** in New Zealand, and well worth the trek. This secluded mountain retreat boasts four deluxe chalets, each equipped with a private deck, hot tub, sheepskin carpets, dressing room, private bathroom and an iPod surround sound system. The chalets connect via raised wooden boardwalks to the Mountain Kitchen, where you'll find two living areas, a library, a cellar, wood-burning fireplaces and the main restaurant. minaretstation.com/alpine-lodge



HEAVENLY EATS

I count among my sacred spaces **Church Brew Works** in Pittsburgh, where owner Sean Casey meticulously converted the 100-plus-year-old St. John the Baptist church into a hip restaurant. Authentic details like the original pews and confessional add to the reverent atmosphere, as do signature dishes like the untraditional pierogies with rattlesnake or buffalo (pictured) and kobe beef cheesesteak. churchbrew.com



TRAVEL TIP

You can catch a flight on a private jet—just look for an “empty leg” on a charter flight. When no passengers are booked, instead of flying empty, companies like **Jet-Smarter** sell one-way seats at discount prices.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 163

◆ Emmy award-winning journalist and CBS News Travel Editor **PETER GREENBERG** appears on CBS This Morning, broadcasts a nationally syndicated radio show each week and hosts the public television series Travel Detective. He is also a New York Times best-selling author, known for titles such as The Best Places for Everything: The Ultimate Insider's Guide to the Greatest Experiences Around the World. petergreenberg.com

LEFT: COURTESY OF MINARET STATION; TOP: COURTESY OF CHURCH BREW WORKS (2)



Green Dream This private resort in the Gulf of Thailand takes sustainable travel to new luxury heights. **Song Saa Island** in Cambodia spans two islands, Koh Ouen and Koh Bong, and is connected by a footbridge over a marine reserve. The 27 upscale villas are made with recycled and repurposed materials—some built over the water and others tucked in the jungle—all carefully integrated into the natural environment. songsaa.com



TOP FLIGHT

Etihad Airlines has a cool, new elevated experience for first-class passengers aboard its latest Airbus A380. As the name implies, “The Residence” on the Abu Dhabi-based airline is your own private apartment in the sky—complete with living room, bedroom (and plush bed!) and en-suite bath. Outside, there’s a lounge and bar, a chef and a Savoy-trained butler. etihad.com/en-us



PHOTO-OP!

G'day mate! The travel detective meets a furry friend while on location in Australia. (Follow Peter Greenberg on Instagram [@petergreenberg](https://www.instagram.com/petergreenberg/).)

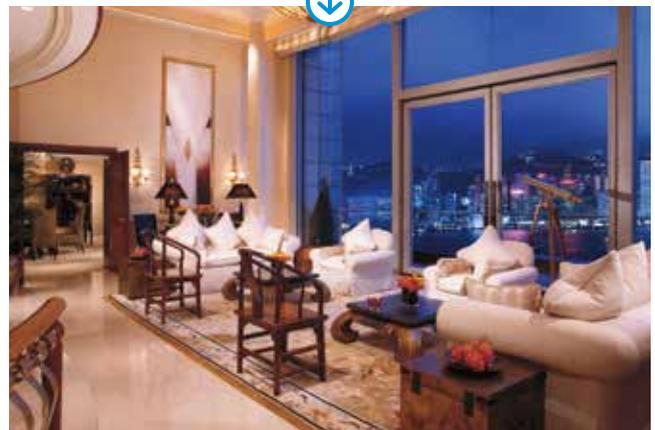


Hit the roof

With a whopping 88 stories, the **Baiyoke Sky Hotel** is an unmissable landmark in the heart of Pratunam, Bangkok's largest shopping area. The rooftop bar is one of Bangkok's most exclusive after-dark venues, with floor-to-ceiling windows that provide stunning views of the city below. The Cocktail of the Month is typically Thai-inspired, and although the bar is limited to serving tapas, the Baiyoke building offers nine separate dining options, with samplings from all major world cuisines. Most noteworthy is Baiyoke's latest culinary concept: a floating market-style buffet on the 75th floor. But be warned: Look out, not down! baiyokehotel.com

High Flier

Ask well-heeled travelers about the most luxurious hotel they've stayed at, and chances are The Peninsula is one of them. The 26th-floor **Peninsula Suite** at **The Peninsula, Hong Kong** boasts a balcony that's hands down the best place in Kowloon to take in views of Victoria Harbour. The 4,000-square-foot, six-room space has soaring ceilings and impeccable European-meets-Asian design—and recently had a facelift to make it even more fabulous. Guests also get full access to a chauffeured Rolls-Royce and 24/7 butler service. Then again, many of the suite's occupants arrive in their own helicopters—there are two landing pads on the roof. peninsula.com/hongkong



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: COURTESY OF SAA ISLAND; COURTESY OF BAIYOKE SKY HOTEL; COURTESY OF PENINSULA HOTEL; COURTESY OF ETIHAD AIRWAYS