

Hot this month Winston Churchill, cheese tea, smart toys, waterfall climbs

American Airlines 

American Way

DECEMBER 2017

**“MY
INSTRUCTOR
HAD TO CHASE
AFTER ME”**

**PITCH PERFECT'S
BRITTANY SNOW ON
LEARNING TO SKI**



**L.A.'S
ENDURING
DOUGHNUT
SCENE**

**WHERE TRAVEL
IS GOING IN 2018**

**THE BEATING
HEART
OF BEIJING**

**ITALY'S
HIDDEN
TAVERNS**

TOUR DE FORCE

*Mark Hamill's
long journey
back to
Star Wars*



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Snowmass drifts back in time

The ski destination celebrates its 50th anniversary with style

WHEN COLORADO'S SNOWMASS ski resort first opened, it hired Norwegian Olympic gold medalist Stein Eriksen to run the ski school. This year, as the property celebrates its 50th anniversary, his homeland still holds sway—at the time, Eriksen placed an ad looking for “cream-of-the-crop instructors” in Oslo’s main newspaper, *Aftenposten*, resulting in a bit of a Norwegian invasion in Aspen. “Stein’s mom hand-knitted our first uniform sweaters,” recalls Martin Nordhagen, one of several ski instructors from that original ’67 group who still live in the area. To celebrate the resort’s 50th, some of those sweaters will be on view during retro skiwear fashion shows throughout the winter.

Other anniversary flourishes include old-school ski trail signage and \$6.50 lift tickets (the original price) on Dec. 15. The mid-mountain restaurant, Elk Camp, is also reviving the Norwegians’ favorite drink. “Outside of Scandinavia, Aquavit is a no-name liquor,” says Elk Camp’s manager Dieter Schindler, of the black-licorice spirit. “Here, it was legendary.” —PAIGE DARRAH



Throughout the season, vintage ski wear will be on display at Snowmass

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You won't be the only sloth here

A Costa Rican resort now provides a safe haven for the peaceful creatures



Instead of trekking through the Costa Rican jungle to find smiling sloths, guests of Nayara Resort, Spa & Gardens can just look out their bedroom window. The hotel planted 300 Cecropia trees to attract the native Central American critters. “We are protecting them from encroachment by trying to keep a healthy population here,” says Nayara tour guide Juan Pablo. “We have seen baby sloths, which means they are reproducing and will stay here for a long time.”

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