


TravelBITS




1920'S VIBE

 Buenos Aires, the stylish and affordable capital of Argentina, has become a big hit with growing numbers of foreigners. Long described as the Paris of South America, lately people have begun comparing it to Paris of the 1920s, emblematic as the place where artists, intellectuals and others from around the world pursued their passions.

SOURCE: THE SMITHSONIAN




READY, SET, GO!

 With not one, but three search bars (**what** you'd like to do, **where** and **when**), Goby (www.goby.com) helps travel planners reel in restaurant, activity and hotel recommendations in destinations all over the U.S.

SOURCE: TRAVEL + LEISURE

A PROMISE KEPT

 Dating back to 1634, the people of Oberammergau in the Bavarian Alps promised they would reenact the Passion every decade if God spared them from the bubonic plague. This year from May 15 to Oct. 3 about 2,000 musicians, costume makers, scenery painters and, of course, actors will depict the last days of Christ to an estimated half-million people; www.oberammergau-passion.com.

SOURCE: CHICAGO TRIBUNE


Just Landed



ArrivedOK (www.arrivedok.mobi) tracks air travelers' cell phones in a mobile network when it is turned on after landing and instantly sends those tailored 'Arrived OK' messages to the designated recipients via SMS, email, and social media.

SOURCE: PRNEWswire


COME SEE THE WORLD

 The 2010 World Expo in Shanghai (en.expo2010.cn) is shaping up as one of the year's best travel events. Besides stunning design feats, more than 100 daily events and performances will take place across several dozen sites.

SOURCE: CHICAGO TRIBUNE




CAPSIZED DIGS

 The Capsule Hotel, The Hague, Netherlands (capsulehotel.info) is simply two orange, repurposed escape capsules from an offshore oil rig floating in an urban canal — and not always the same one. Inspired by the James Bond film, "The Spy Who Loved Me," each capsule has a hammock, chemical toilet and a karaoke machine of Bond songs and DVDs of Bond films.


SOURCE: USA TODAY

TOPS IN '10

 With more than 60 percent of its beaches to be preserved forever, Florida's Emerald Coast, encompassing the southern sea towns of Destin, Fort Walton Beach and Okaloosa Island, is the only Continental U.S. Spot in Frommer's "Top Destinations 2010".

SOURCE: PRNEWswire

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ROVER

 PSI's Pet Sitter Locator (www.petsit.com/locate) is a ZIP code-driven search tool that enables pet owners to conduct a criteria-based search of nearly 8,000 independent professional pet-sitting businesses in less than one minute.

SOURCE: INTERNET TRAVEL MONITOR


All a Twitter



#BOARDING is a new Twitter-based app that helps you find other travelers within the airport who perhaps want to share a taxi, have tips about the destination you're traveling to, or may have some good insight on the best shops and food within the terminal. Want to check out more? Log on to www.boarding.fr/ and check out who is where around the world. SOURCE: THE EXPLORATEUR

SLEEPOVER SITES




 **Sleeping in Airports** (www.sleepinginamerica.net) has over 6,300 reviews of how airports around the world rate for sleeping in public areas.


AirportPrivacyHavens.com contains an extensive collection of the best places to find privacy, get work done or simply relax at airports across the U.S.

SOURCE: ETURBONEWS.COM

EXPLORING THE COSMOS

 Do your travel plans for 2010 include the universe? Well, even if they don't, the American Museum of Natural History in New York offers free guided "tours" of the entire known universe on the first Tuesday of each month. SOURCE: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELER


BEST FOR BIZ

 TripIt.com offers a new way to help you manage all of your travel. It's particularly suited for the business traveler who is traveling several times a month and needs a way to keep the details of each trip organized and easily accessible.




SOURCE: PETER GREENBERG WORLDWIDE

WORD FOR THE WISE

 The New Oxford American Dictionary has this quaint tradition of naming its "Word of the Year" from its list of new entries for the upcoming edition. Never mind its 300 million members, Facebook has arrived after inspiring this year's winner: unfriend — as in to "unfriend" someone from your Facebook list of friends.


SOURCE: TRIP INFO

CALL YOUR BLUFF

 Chattanooga, Tenn., may not be high on most travelers' itineraries, but the Bluff View Inn, perched high on an 80-foot bluff overlooking a bend in the Tennessee River, and the clever complex that is the Bluff View Art District, make the city worth a look; www.bluffviewartdistrict.com.

SOURCE: BOSTON GLOBE


CREATURE COMFORTS UNDER THE STARS

 Guests can feel close to the natural wildlife while still enjoying comforts like hot showers and kitchens, not to mention sweeping Caribbean views, at Concordia Eco-Tents, Virgin Islands National Park, St. John. Built from environmentally-friendly materials, these eco-tents employ solar power to heat water and run appliances, and recycle extensively. Elevated walkways help preserve the property, and odorless composting toilets save water.

SOURCE: TRIP ADVISOR


MADE IN ST. LOUIS



 One does not often find a city museum constructed almost entirely of locally found abandoned objects. Sure enough, though, that's just the premise behind St. Louis' City Museum — a hyperlocal attraction that is an eclectic mixture of children's playground, funhouse, surrealistic pavilion and architectural marvel made out of unique, found objects offering a heap- ing helping of (still) made there appeal; www.citymuseum.org.

SOURCE: TRENDSETTERS.COM

GIVE AND GET

 The Give a Day, Get a Disney Day program aims to celebrate and inspire volunteerism. Those who contribute their time need only have it verified by the HandsOn Network (www.handsonnetwork.org/disney); then, in exchange, they'll get a voucher from Disney good for one day admission to a Walt Disney World or Disneyland theme park.

SOURCE: SPRINGWISE.COM