

ROADS LESS TRAVELED BY TRENDIODS



FROM ARISTOCRATIC AUSTRIA & COOL COPENHAGEN TO COLORFUL CARTAGENA

This past summer I decided to bypass the usual sexy spots like St. Tropez, Sardinia, Ibiza and Mykonos. My destinations of choice were **Worthersee**, **Vienna**, **Copenhagen** and **Cartagena**. I took the route less traveled by jetsetters and opted for beauty and history in healthy, clean and colorful places. But everything is not angelic in these cities. I witnessed nude wakesurfing in Worthersee along with a brothel castle on the lake and a city landmark that looked more like a fallic symbol than a national monument. But that's what makes traveling so interesting....expecting the unexpected. And in Copenhagen where no photos were allowed, hashish was being sold on the streets of hippy town, Christiania. In Vienna I saw a bank vault turned into a swimming pool, but nothing too outrageous, except for perhaps, the numerous naked sculptures.



WHERE IS WORTHERSEE

What and where is this worthy destination? It's where the uppercrust of Austria spend their summers on the lake and it's so lovely, some stay year-round. To get there, you fly to Vienna, then connect to **Klagenfurt**. Klagen...what? It's not quite the Nice to Monaco heli connection, but believe me it's worth the journey to **Worthersee**, a charming lakefront resort town.



Worthersee video:

<https://youtu.be/4lgvNhkYuh4>



I arrived, but my luggage did not. So what's any ordinary fashionista supposed to do? Go shopping of course. What better reason to shop til you drop. I had the Worthersee annual Motor Yacht Gala the next night and could not go in the 'Emperor's new clothes.' I found a cool store called **Woss** that was hip and stylish. To my luck, most items were on sale because unlike Miami, there summer was soon to be over.



The **Motor Yacht Gala** at the iconic **Schlosshotel Velden** was a festive event. My Austrian friend, Gustav who's a Worthersee native and most eligible bachelor was my 'host with the most'. Being two colorful characters, we ended up on Austrian TV. We started with bubbly and ended the night with schnapps. When in Austria....

Next day, I got picked up in a vintage red **Thunderbird** convertible. My host gave me a tour of the lake and his lakeside property, the largest private waterfront land on Worthersee with an overwater boat house. His property is perfect for transforming into a small resort or several villas as it's in the most ideal location on the lake with panoramic views.

Worthersee Property video:

<https://vimeo.com/289333534>

Next we hopped on his boat and had lunch at **"Lakeside"**, a great outdoor spot. Then we cruised onward to see the lake highlights like the home of the **Red Bull** founder as well as the renowned Austrian brothel that is housed in a castle overlooking the lake. Later other Worthersee chaps boarded the boat with us and gave me my first wakesurfing lesson. I gulped a lot of water, but never made it up to surfing status. Then they showed me how one of the locals really does it, sans swimming suit....aka nude **wakesurfing!**

Later, I strolled around the village of **Velden** which has its own casino and an outdoor café to people watch and biked around the lake.



VERY VIENNA

Vienna is very opulent....and you can immediately sense the aristocratic atmosphere everywhere. But by complete contrast, my first sleep was in a newly minted hip hotel called **25Hours at MuseumsQuartier**, with the tagline, "Come as you are". It's the place you go when 24 hours just isn't enough. They have the quirkiest sayings all over the hotel. But my favorite item was the door tag book with 25 reasons to choose from according to your mood. Here are just a few:

- "Remember the movie, Hangover? This is worse."*
- "Please place aspirin in front of the door, and leave."*
- "Police crime scene. Move on."*
- "There's a monster behind this door?"*
- "I'm still dreaming about Fiji."*
- "It's the 25h hotel. I need the extra hour."*



I also loved the ‘pillow talk’ with embroidered letters, “Let’s spend the night together”. Just about everywhere I turned, there were whimsical surprises. The spa is called the Mermaid’s Cave. The breakfast is a hearty buffet coupled with custom egg orders. The rooftop lounge serves up delish delights like pizza with a view. When you need to get around town, you can just walk to the nearby museums or grab a bike (“The bike rack sign says “Put fun between your legs”) or have one of their mini’s shuttle you to your spot. I opted for my own two feet and walked around the museum quarters.



The next day I had meetings to present Miami real estate. When in Vienna....the watering hole of choice is **Schwarzen Kameel** (Black Camel) so off I went. Schnitzel bites are the preferred side to your Austrian wine. **Fabios** is the place to dine, but with my “Fabio past history” (remember that guy with long blonde hair and muscles from Italy, not Brussels who “Can’t Believe it’s not Butter”) I was a bit fearful. But never the less, I entered and had good food, drink and met some friendly Austrians. Wanting to see a bank turned hotel, I took a tour of the **Park Hyatt** where the vault has been transformed into a swimming pool. I also toured the **Hotel Imperial** which is really quite imperial and the place to stay if you are attending one of the Viennese Balls. Of course, you cannot visit Vienna without tasting the **Sacher Torte** so I sprinted to the **Sacher Hotel** to indulge in a few bites of decadent chocolate cake. Outside is the **Vienna State Opera House** where horse drawn buggies stride by. And **Mozart** can be heard in the air if you listen closely. The **Albertina Museum** with great art is also in the hood here.

My next sleep stop was **DO&CO Hotel** across from the famed **St. Stephen’s Cathedral**. This boutique property is in prime position to navigate the key attractions. Shopping streets are right there and not far away is the most famous sweet shop, **Demel** owned by the same company as the DO&CO. The hotel’s Onyx bar has picture windows overlooking the cathedral and the upstairs restaurant also has alfresco dining with the same great view. I had the wok dinner custom cooked for me with my selection of healthy ingredients from the food bar. I also had the best omelet ever in the morning prepared for me by the chef at the buffet table.





I ventured to the **19th District** one night (the district where the elite live) to experience eating authentic Austrian food in a vineyard. After having my fill of sauerkraut and other customary dishes washed down with Austrian wine, it was time to call UBER and make it a night. Beauty sleep was in order as I was headed to my next destination the following day. I finished my Miami ambassadorial tour spreading the good word about our “Magic City”. Hopefully, I helped convince a few more Austrians to find their next place in the sun in Miami. After all, I already had several natives who make Miami their Winter home arriving in time for Art Basel Week which kicks off our high season early December.



COOL COPENHAGEN

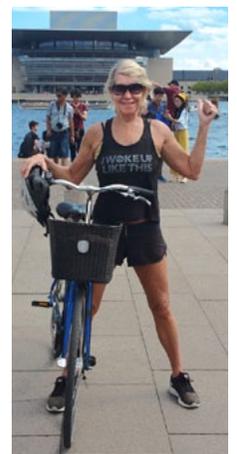
When I arrived in **Copenhagen**, I felt at home. Here bikes outnumber cars as the preferred mode of transportation. In South Beach, I bike everywhere. I was ready to hop on two wheels and see this charming city. I dropped off my luggage at my first Danish place of residence, **SKT. Petri Hotel**, located in the heart of the Latin Quarter, and took to the narrow streets.



First I checked out the **Nyhaven**, a 17th century waterfront, canal and entertainment district which is sprinkled with cool cafes lined up along the waterway. I continued around the **Royal Danish Playhouse** where locals like to sit outside and dangle their legs over the water day & night. Then I biked across the bridge landing in the colorful hippy town of **Cristiana**. On one side of the street photographs were welcomed. While on the other side of the street, where there was a pop up market selling all kinds of weed and/or



hashish, a sign said “No photos allowed”. I continued on my merry way and discovered an area called **Reffen**. Here hand-painted shipping containers (Copenhagen is a shipping capital & home to **Maersk** shipping company) were converted to food stands with culinary delights from just about every country imaginable. No bike ride in Copenhagen is complete without finding and photographing the famous **Little Mermaid** so off I went.



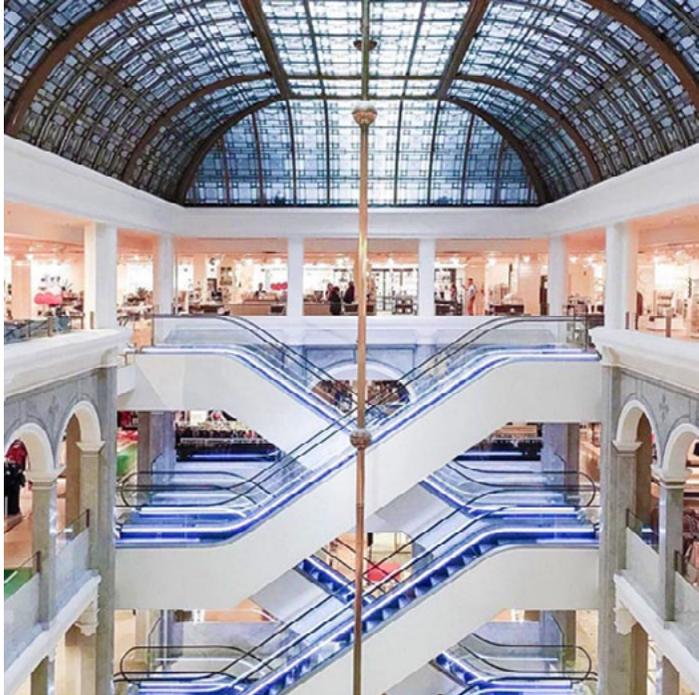


The next day I moved my 'home' to the historic and elegant landmark, **D'Angleterre Hotel** founded in 1755. That makes it over 260 years old. If walls could talk...we could hear the stories of riches and royalty. D'Angleterre embodies the perfect balance between stately Victorian architecture and the simplicity of contemporary Danish design. My oversized room overlooked the main square of **Kongens Nytorv** with Nyhaven beyond. I was invited to an 8-course tasting menu prepared by their Michelin chef, **Andreas Bagh** at **Marchal** restaurant in the hotel. For starters, they greeted me at their bar with a wonderful bottle of bubbly. The hotel's **Balthazar Bar** serves more than 160 champagne varieties. My food extravaganza consisted of unique tasting courses each paired perfectly with a different wine. Wow, what a meal! My Danish friend joined me so we had a great night of numerous bites and libations while reminiscing about our Miami party days and nights. It may not have been **Noma**, the Danish restaurant ranked number 1 in the world, but to me it was tops! Morning came all too soon and I stumbled down to the breakfast buffet where more tasty treats were served. Sadly, I didn't have enough time to luxuriate in D'Angleterre's magnificent spa or pool...next time.



All the biking built up a hearty appetite for me. Luckily I was invited to the **NIMB Hotel** to dine in their **Fru Nimb** restaurant inside the historic amusement park, **Tivoli Gardens** founded in 1843. Here, I tasted typical Danish delights, the mini open-face sandwiches of different varieties (1.Fru Nimb's apple marinated herring with apple, horseradish and warm spices 2.Cold-smoked salmon with pickled pumpkin, lemon mayonnaise and crisp rye bread 3.Butter-fried fillet of plaice with house-made remoulade and lemon 4.Fru Nimb's own creamy chicken salad with mushrooms and bacon). The food was fabulous! My meal was topped off with a plate of desserts from **Cakenhagen**. I sat outside overlooking one of the stages and was serenaded by the evening's performer. Tivoli Gardens is much more than a park full of rides. It's actually an entertainment center for all ages.





I took a quick walk around my new hood checking out the two main shopping stores; **Magasin du Nord**, which at 128 years old, is the oldest and largest in Scandanavia and **illum**, the multi-storied shopping experience with a rooftop food emporium. Afterwards, my Danish friend took me for a private tour of **Carlsberg** beer headquarters. Here they are building a Carlsberg ‘city within a city’ which was quite impressive. That ended my short and sweet trip to Denmark. Cheers!

where we arrived by horse-drawn carriage. While window shopping along the narrow streets of the old city, I found a gown too good to pass up at a shop called **Mariano**. That night, myself and several other ladies all paraded around the wedding in power red dresses. After the gown came off, it was time for some swimming on the rooftop in a unique one-piece suit. My favorite swimwear shop discovery was **Entreaguas** where handcrafted crochet detailing is derigeur.

VIP Wedding & White Party Videos:

<https://youtu.be/9FhsDzeosXU>

<https://youtu.be/FphYBdqIPTU>



COLORFUL CARTEGENA

No sooner did I land back home in Miami, then I had to pack my bags for a wedding in **Cartagena**. This was not just any ordinary couple saying their “I Do’s”. I was honored to be attending the vows and celebrations of one of Colombia’s top entrepreneurs in the cable T.V. industry, aka ‘The Ted Turner of Colombia’. His bride to be is a vivacious and gregarious gal who had fun mingling with all the VIP guests. The first night was the wedding White Party aboard a historic sailing vessel. Then the actual wedding was in the charming walled city of Cartagena in an old mansion



Visiting the old city of **Cartagena**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, is like stepping back in time, but simultaneously forward with modern amenities and designer shops. It is surrounded by a wall built over 500 years ago. Inside **Centro Historico** is a jeweled gem of great republican and colonial architecture and historical preservation. Cobblestone streets are surrounded on both sides by buildings with bougainvillea brocaded balconies. It is super clean and safe. Ladies in traditional costumes stroll the streets posing for photos alongside vendors selling colorful Colombian handicrafts.

Colombia de Indias is a port town founded in 1533 located on the northern coast of Colombia in the Caribbean Coast Region. It is surrounded by a myriad of magical islands easily accessible by boat for day or weekend trips. **Rosario Island** is one of the most renowned in the archipelago. By contrast, **Bocagrande** (big mouth) is the new city of Colombia full of skyscrapers, aka a Miami in the making!



My accommodations for the wedding weekend was a former convent turned 5-star hotel, **Santa Teresa (Hotel Charleston Santa Teresa)**, a member of **The Leading Hotels of the World**. The lobby has many special historical features like the chapel along with the grand courtyard serving as the dining area called **Harry's**. The rooftop pool provided wow views over the city while the spa was a place for tranquil respite. My romantic room had high vaulted ceilings and the bed had a pretty wooden carved headboard with cool side lights hovering over the nightstands. Buffet breakfasts are elaborate with both hot and cold choices. I loved the specially prepared **Arepas de Huevo**, stuffed eggs breaded and deep fried....so decadent and delicious! The wedding family stayed at the noteworthy other former cloister, **Santa Clara Hotel**, another renowned 5-star property.





The first night we went to **Café Havana**, the most happening lounge with live music inside the walled city. Another night we stopped in at **La Vitrola**, an A-list Cuban eatery to say hello to the GM. Then we landed at **Juan del Mar**, owned by a handsome Antonio Banderas look-a-like, Colombian actor, who humbly walks around wearing an apron making sure all his patrons are happy. Our final meal was at the stylish boutique hotel of our Miami based Colombian fashion designer, **Silvia Tcherassi** in her restaurant named **Vera**.



No trip is complete for me without checking out some unique real estate opportunities at my port of call. So besides seeing some magical historic homes in the walled city, I headed outside the walls, north to a more tranquil seaside setting. Here my new Colombian friend has plenty of untouched raw acres perched on a hilltop overlooking the sea just ripe for development. His **Cartagena land for sale** consists of about **250 acres** with over **2400 feet beachfront**. It is only 10 minutes from where the new Cartagena international airport is being built. Full presentation details are available upon request and site visits can be arranged.

Cartagena Beachfront Land Video:
<https://vimeo.com/286725770>

HOME SWEET HOME MIAMI

Miami never ceases to amaze me. No matter where I travel, I am always happy to land back in the “**Magic City**”. It truly is like no other place in the world. There is always something new surfacing. Now we have the first ever bullet train, **Brightline** that transports travelers from **Miami** to **Ft. Lauderdale** to **Palm Beach** in just 30 minutes from city to city in first class style. There is even a wine tasting car aboard.



Talking about speed, **Formula 1** car racing will hit the streets of **Miami** in **2020**. **Redbull** drivers recently tested the terrain both on the beach and up in the sky on Miami’s first helipad atop the soon to be finished, **Zaha Hadid** designed, **One Thousand Museum** residences. Starting at just \$5 million you too can arrive home by heli if you buy one.

Formula 1 Miami Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtIVvQ8sNPw&feature=youtu.be&t=146>

<https://1000museum.com/2018/10/18/formula-one-race-car-doing-donuts-on-1000museum-com-helipad/>

One Thousand Museum Brochure & Videos

<http://www.ehopeinternational.com/OneThousandMuseum.pdf>

<https://vimeo.com/272711482>



On the ground, **Beach Walk** is nearing completion so locals and visitors alike can walk, bike or blade around the beachfront from **South Beach** northward for miles and miles. At the southernmost tip of South Beach called **South Pointe**, there is a new restaurant called **Planta**. As the name implies, here you can get your vegan-fill of healthy bites and cool cocktails, all in a pretty, hip setting. Scenesters are also flocking to the relatively new **Novikov** in downtown Miami. **Sunday Fundays** are still packed along the **Miami River** where party people dance on tables and spray champagne. The top two choices are **Seaspice**, more French St. Tropez style or **Kiki on the River**, a Greek inspired hotspot. Most revelers stray between both on Sundays. After all it's a long party day from noon to midnight!



Wharf Miami is a great new event space along the riverfront always scheduled with fun stuff. The **Wynwood Yard** is sort of a culinary incubator with rotating food offerings served out of streamliners. For satisfying your sweet tooth, Wynwood debuts **Dasher & Crank**, a millennial pink ice cream shop serving one-of-a-kind combo flavors like raspberry-wasabe and Earl Gray chocolate chip. For donut lovers, head to The **Salty Donut**, with local flaves like guava, cheese & maple bacon.



The newest real estate announcement: **Waldorf Astoria** will be having an outpost in Miami in the future future....stand by for details since it's too far too early to buy a residence here. But the renderings show a unique shaped structure that will make the Miami skyline even cooler!

Waldorf Astoria Miami Announcement

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-28/miami-s-first-waldorf-set-for-1-000-foot-tower-over-biscayne-bay>

But if you have money in your pocket to burn now, the first ever **Aston Martin** building is a sexy choice. Perfectly timed to be ready in 2020, the same year as the first Miami Formula 1 race...so you can watch the cars zoom by below from your balcony while **James Bond** watches you from above, perhaps on the Aston Martin mega-amenities deck.

Aston Martin Residences Brochure & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/AstonMartinResidencesBrochure.pdf
<https://vimeo.com/238936865>

*Miami and I are waiting for you!
 Hope to see you soon on our sunny shores.*



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