



LONELY PLANET'S

WHERE TO GO WHEN



THE ULTIMATE TRIP PLANNER FOR EVERY MONTH OF THE YEAR



January

P8-31

Uganda
Florida, USA
Lanzarote & Fuerteventura
Slovenia
Switzerland
British Columbia, Canada
Budapest, Hungary
Tasmania, Australia
Ethiopia
Serengeti, Tanzania
Transylvania, Romania
Sydney, Australia
Trans-Siberian Railway
Colombia
Grenada
Eastern Poland
Bulgaria
Myanmar (Burma)
Catlins Coast, New Zealand
Honshu, Japan
Kerala, India
Vienna, Austria
Andaman Coast, Thailand
Lord Howe Island, Australia
Botswana
Guatemala
Antarctic Peninsula
Colorado, USA
St Lucia
Wellington, New Zealand



February

P32-55

Iceland
Lapland, Finland
Andorra
Ibiza, Spain
The Gambia
Michoacán, Mexico
Dominican, Republic
South Island, New Zealand
Ladakh, India
Indian Ocean, Kenya
Wyoming, USA
Southern Portugal
Québec City, Canada
Cape Verde
Dominica
Donsol, Philippines
Daylesford, Australia
Cambodia
Kilimanjaro, Tanzania
Hokkaido, Japan
Adelaide, Australia
Singapore
Côte d'Azur, France
Gold Coast, Australia
Honduras
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Haiti
Blue Mountains, Australia
Mendoza, Argentina
Venice, Italy



March

P56-79

Sicily, Italy
North Wales, UK
Maldives
Trinidad & Tobago
Republic of Cyprus
San Diego, USA
Tyrol, Austria
Bay of Islands, New Zealand
Mallorca, Spain
Chile
Peninsular Malaysia
Iguazú Falls, Brazil & Argentina
Crete, Greece
Banff & Lake Louise, Canada
Myeik Archipelago, Myanmar
Costa Rica
Barossa Valley, Australia
Vietnam
Sichuan, China
Antigua
Canberra, Australia
Savannah, USA
Madhya Pradesh, India
Baja California, Mexico
Valencia, Spain
Sri Lanka
Austin, USA
Victoria's High Country, Australia
Western Cape, South Africa
South Island, New Zealand



April

P80-103

Jordan
Panama
Luzon, Philippines
Rome, Italy
Hawke's Bay, New Zealand
Alps, France & Switzerland
Palau
California, USA
Belize
Lake District, England
KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Istanbul, Turkey
Yangtze, China
Taranaki, New Zealand
Vanuatu
South West Australia
Appalachian Trail, USA
Thailand
Nepal
Brussels, Belgium
Washington, DC, USA
Melbourne, Australia
Andalucía, Spain
Arnhem Land, Australia
St Lucia
Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
Hawaii, USA
Japan
Mauritius
Boston, USA



May

P104-127

Montenegro
Abruzzo, Italy
Bermuda
Samoa
Uzbekistan
Komodo & Flores, Indonesia
Réunion
Amalfi Coast, Italy
Peru
Morocco
North Island, New Zealand
Cornwall, England
Loire Valley, France
West Coast, Norway
Northern Queensland, Australia
Cappadocia, Turkey
Israel
Cuba
Orient Express, Europe
Newfoundland, Canada
Red Centre, Australia
Prague, Czech Republic
Southern Namibia
Route 66, USA
Inside Passage, USA & Canada
Galicia, Spain
Skye, Scotland
Deep South, USA
Costa Rica
Las Vegas, USA



June

P128-151

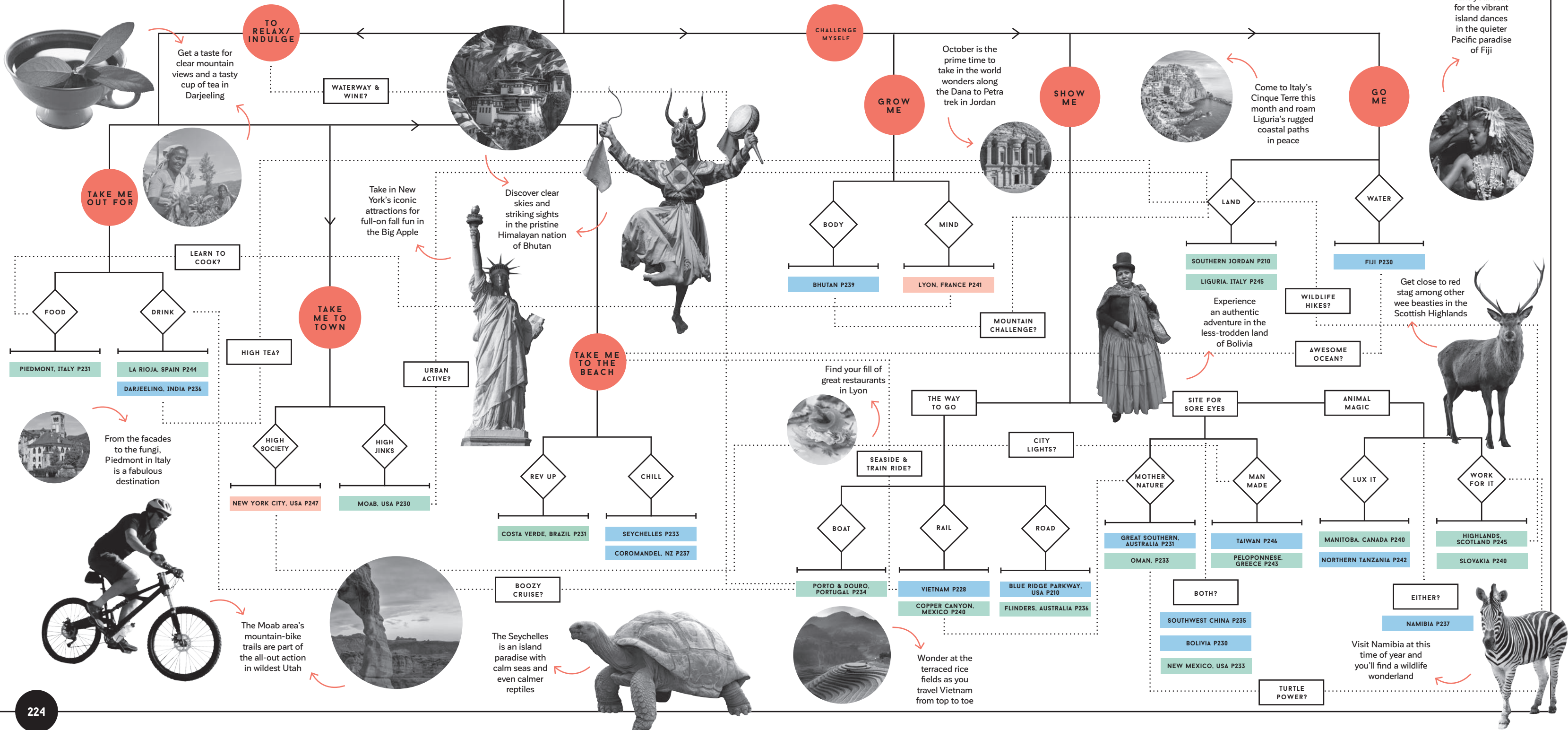
Iran
Albania
Netherlands Antilles
Slovenia
Armenia
Bazaruto Archipelago, Mozambique
Ningaloo Reef, Australia
Darwin, Australia
Normandy, France
Bali & Lombok, Indonesia
Malaysian Borneo
Arctic Norway
Hobart, Australia
Dubrovnik, Croatia
Pacific Northwest, USA
Canadian Rockies
Montana, USA
Rwanda
Cape Cod, USA
Sardinia, Italy
St Petersburg, Russia
Lisbon, Portugal
Yosemite National Park, USA
Bora Bora, French Polynesia
South Luangwa, Zambia
Greenland
Jamaica
Mount Cook, New Zealand
Orkney, Scotland
Verona, Italy

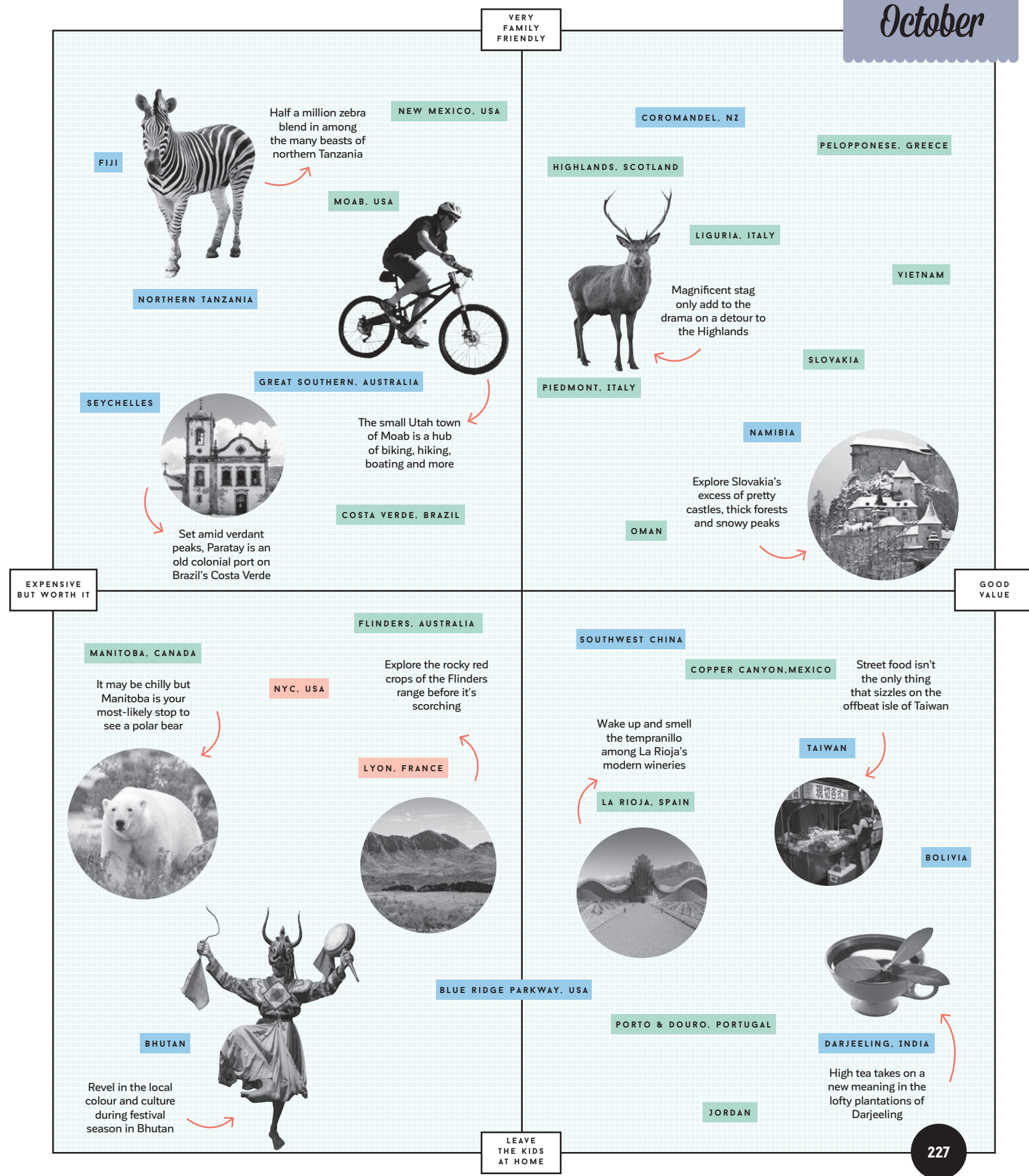
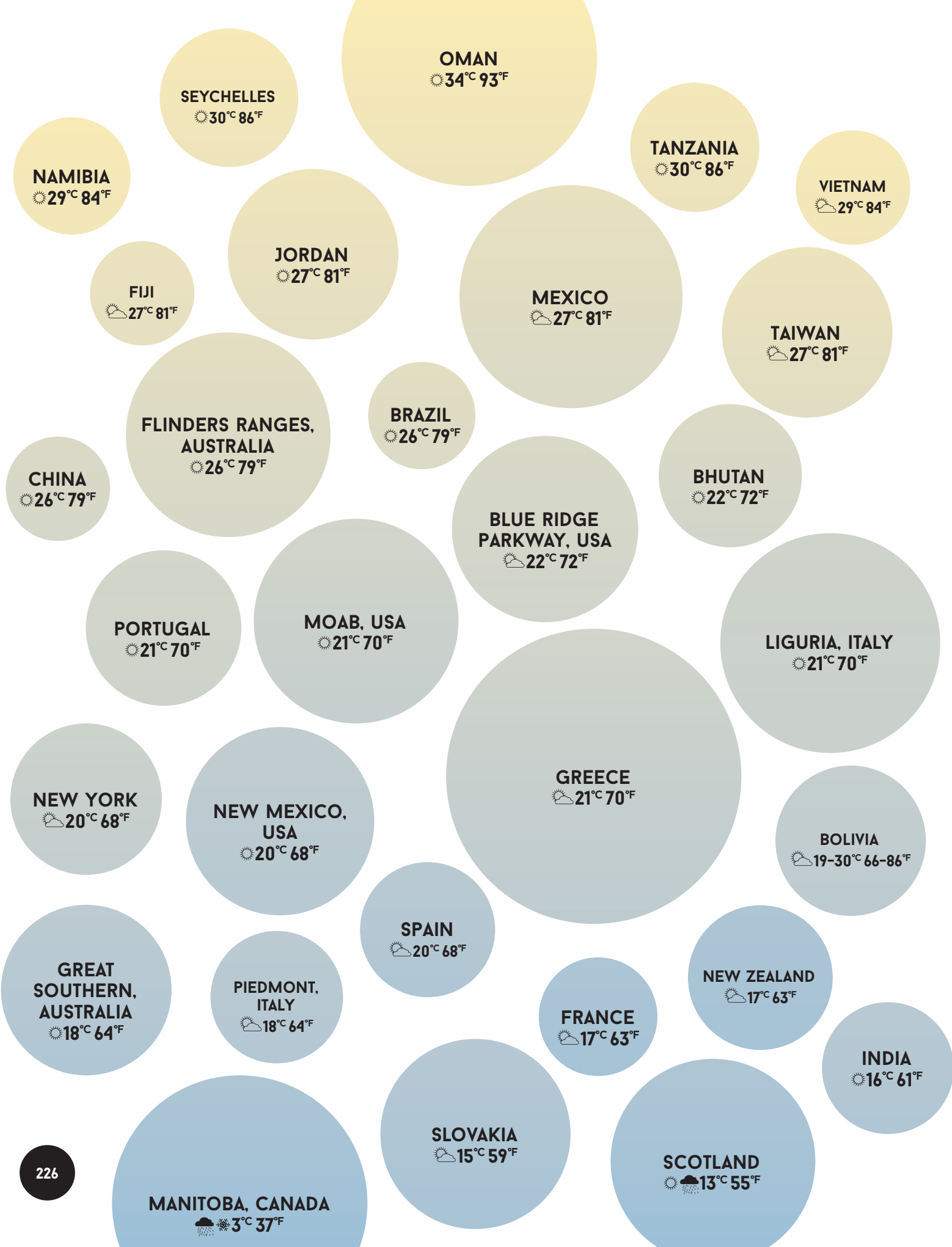


October

WHERE TO GO WHEN

I
WANT
TO







Cruise (and swim) the waters along the Musandam Peninsula, Oman

© Andrew Montgomery / Lonely Planet

OMAN



➔ Why now? Mellow fruitfulness, mellow weather. Wonderfully warm climes (30°C; 86°F); markets overflowing with fresh-harvested walnuts and pomegranates; 20,000 turtles laying their eggs... October is an amazing time to visit Oman, the spectacular Gulf state that offers a taste of old Arabia. There is modern development, but mainly it's a land of raw canyons and rippled desert, date plantations, palm-fringed sands, adobe villages and spicy souks. Most trips begin in capital Muscat, where the old port area of Muttrah mixes with urban sprawl and glitzy beach resorts. Southeast lies Ras al Jinz where thousands of green turtles haul ashore to nest (best seen August to November); take a guided night tour. Inland is Sharqiya Sands, a perfect sea of dunes where camel rides, sandboarding and 4WD dune-bashing can be arranged from desert camps. Further west still, the Hajar Mountains rise in craggy splendour, cut by caves and canyons, and speckled with sites such as ancient Nizwa – the spot to explore a fort, buy a goat and strike out into the hills. Trip plan: Allow nine days to loop northern Oman. Add extra to sail around the inlet-notched Musandam Peninsula. Need to know: Muscat's massive Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque is Oman's only mosque open to non-Muslims. Other months: Dec-Feb – coolest; Mar-Apr – warming, quiet; May-Sep – very hot, humid (monsoon in south); Oct-Nov – hot, harvest.



SEYCHELLES



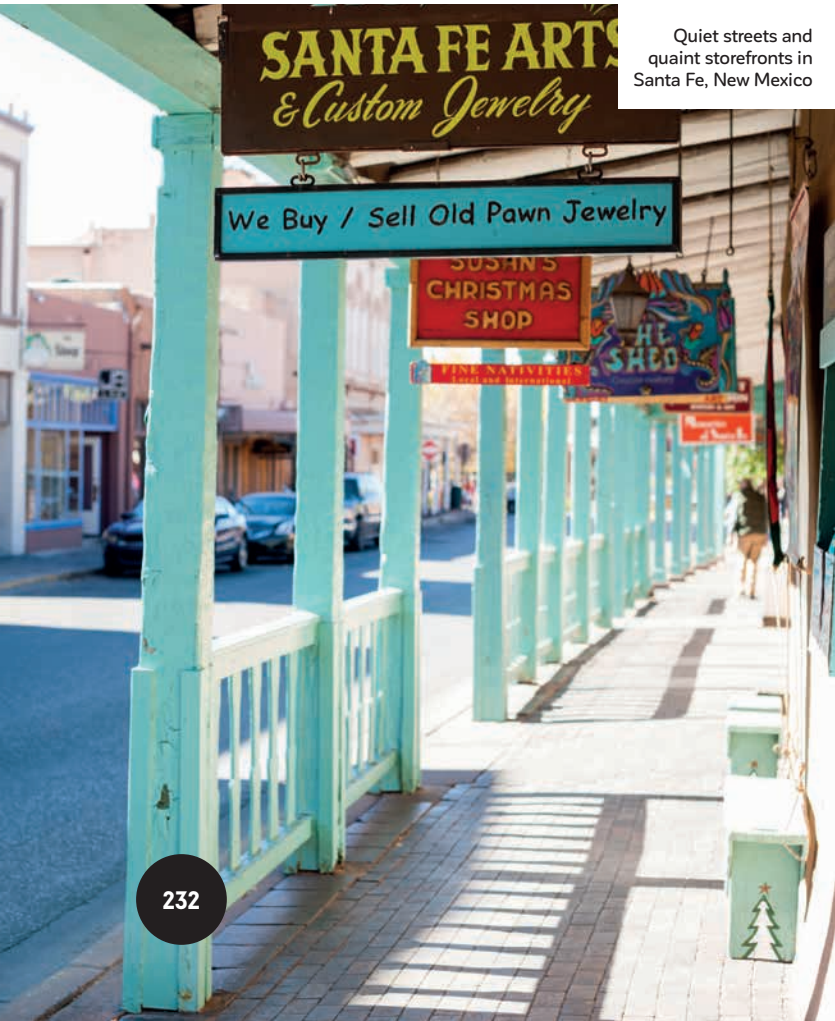
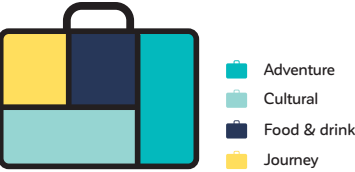
➔ Why now? Calm seas in paradise. The Seychelles is probably how Pixar would draw paradise: swaying palms, supernaturally blue seas, bling-white sand, artfully smoothed and scattered boulders, plus a few cute turtles wriggling ashore. Fantasy made real. Given these high levels of loveliness, and the balmy 25°C to 30°C (77-86°F) year-round temperatures, there's no awful time to visit this Indian Ocean archipelago. However, October, the period between the brisker southeasterly trade winds switching to the lighter northwesterlies, brings especially calm conditions, so is excellent for swimming, snorkelling and diving. The water can be 29°C (84°F), visibility is around 30m and migrating whale sharks have arrived. It's also cheaper than the peak of June to August. Trip plan: The Seychelles has over 100 islands. Use ferries to hop between mountainous, arty Mahé (the main island), car-free La Digue and Praslin, home to the Vallee de Mai's raunchy coco de mer palms. Elsewhere, Bird Island is brilliant for, er, birds. North Island is the world's most exclusive resort. The remote Aldabra Group, 715 miles (1150km) from Mahé and only accessible by boat, is the Indian Ocean's Galápagos, home to over 100,000 giant tortoises. Need to know: Festival Kreol, the Seychelles' biggest cultural event, is held across Mahé in late October. Other months: Nov-Mar – rainier season; Apr & Oct – between trade winds, calm, warm, cheaper; May-Sep – dry, warm, windy



NEW MEXICO USA



➔ Why now? For cool weather and hot air. New Mexico, officially the 'Land of Enchantment', is especially enchanting in sunny, mild October – the 20°C (68°F) days are ideal for discovering the historical riches and extraordinary outdoors of this foreign-feeling United State. Sites such as 1000-year-old Taos Pueblo nod to the region's Native American roots, while capital Santa Fe (founded by Spanish missionaries in 1610) combines old adobe houses, Romanesque architecture and a slew of modern-art galleries. Then there's the plentiful wilderness, from the Sangre de Cristos mountains of the north to the blinding-white dunes of the south. Scenic drives cut through these badlands, while there are opportunities for activities and ranch stays aplenty. Trip plan: With one week, loop the north. From Albuquerque, drive the Turquoise Trail to Santa Fe; browse the galleries of Canyon Rd and bird-watch at the Audubon Center. Trek among ancient ruins at Bandelier National Monument then head to boho Taos for margaritas and hikes or horse-rides around Taos Pueblo. Climb Wheeler Peak, New Mexico's highest, then return to Albuquerque on the High Rd, via the arty villages of Cordova and Chimayo. Need to know: Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is held in early October. Other months: Mar-May – mild, windy; Jun-Aug – hot, wettest; Sep-Nov – warm; Dec-Feb – mild (cold at altitude).



Quiet streets and quaint storefronts in Santa Fe, New Mexico

© Justin Foulkes / Lonely Planet



Surreal rock formations and sand at Anse Source d'Argent, La Digue, Seychelles

© Justin Foulkes / Lonely Planet



A bread baker in Porto, and the steeply terraced vineyards rising from the banks of the Rio Douro



PORTO & THE DOURO PORTUGAL



→ Why now? To float down the river at its most intoxicating.

The Douro Valley is the godfather of wine production. This heady region, now listed by Unesco, is the world's oldest *appellation contrôlée*: the Portuguese started authenticating the provenance of their produce 200 years before the French. Take a boat trip down the Douro River and you're assured a fine drop, as well as unrolling pastoral scenes – particularly delightful in autumn, when the sun is still warm and the grape-heavy vines turn golden. Also cruise past traditional *rabelos* (cargo boats), tiny towns plastered with azulejo tiles and numerous *quintas* (wineries) where you can stop for tastings. Tumbling down hills at the river's mouth is historic Porto, first settled by the Romans and now Portugal's second-largest city.



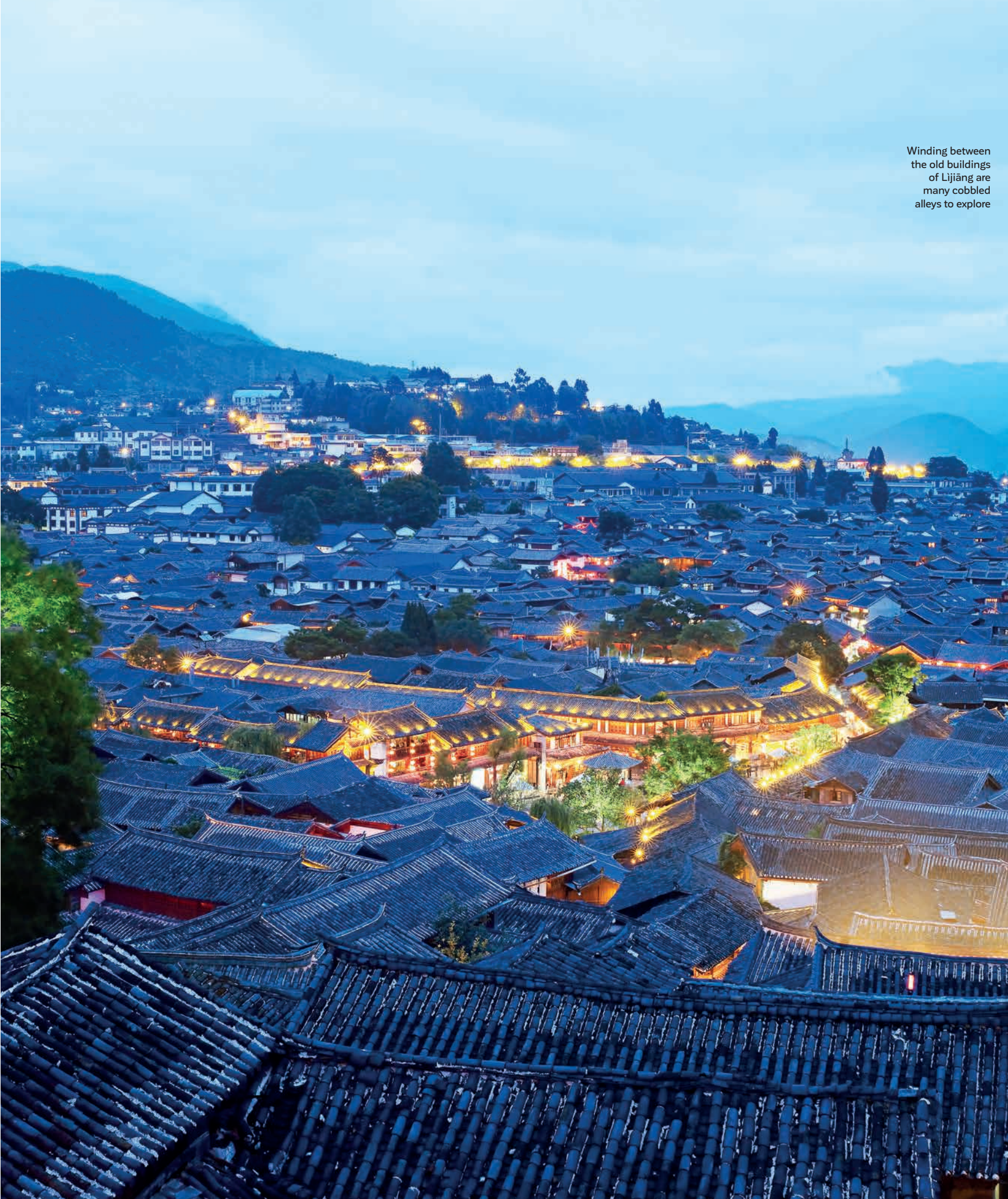
Journey
Relaxation
Cultural
Food & drink

The old, narrow-streeted Ribeira district is a must, as is Vila Nova de Gaia, on the opposite bank, brimful of venerable port wine houses.

Trip planner: Spend a few days in Porto, before a week-long river cruise to Vega de Terron, on the Spanish border (two hours by road from Salamanca).

Need to know: The Douro's best sites are not right by the river; road transfers from boat docks are required.

Other months: Nov-Mar – cool, barren; Apr-Jun – warming, blossom; Jul-Aug – hottest; Sep-Oct – warm, harvest.



Winding between the old buildings of Lijiang are many cobbled alleys to explore



→ Why now? Fine climes in two picture-perfect provinces.

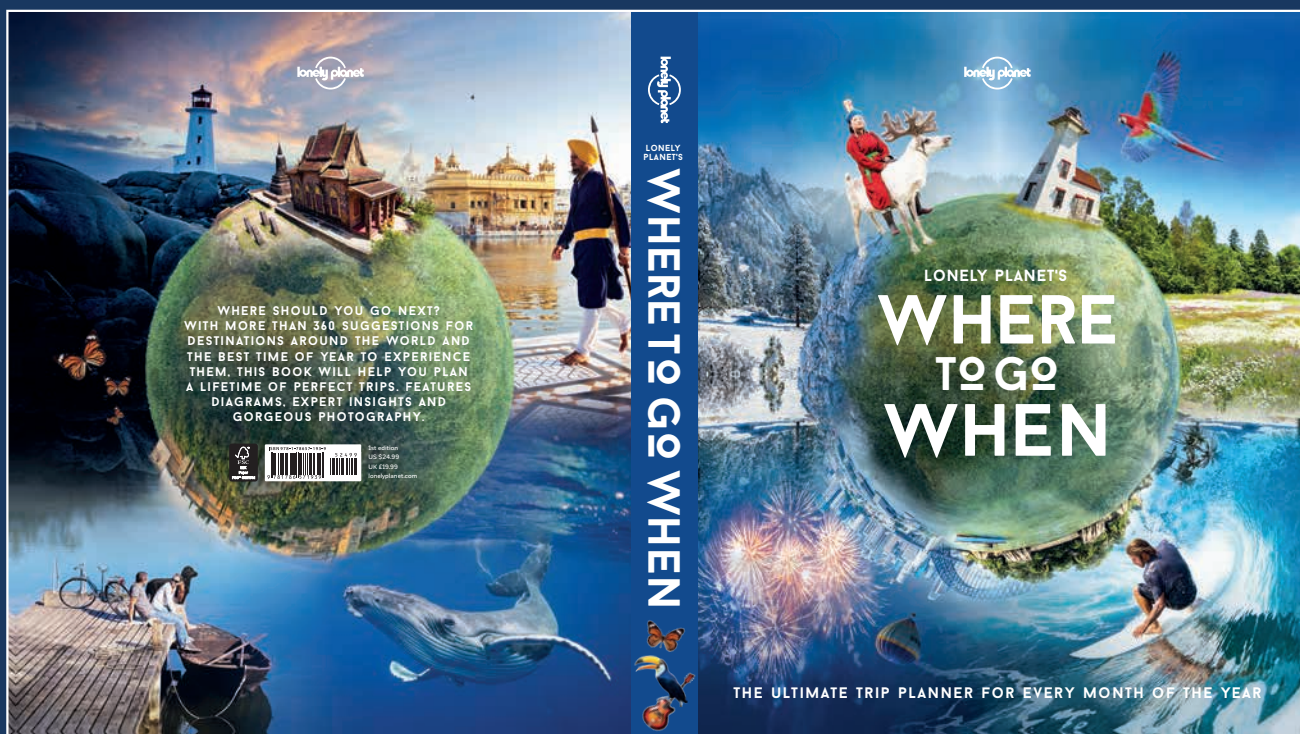
Guāngxī and Yúnnán are China at its most poetic. The rice terraces, karst hills, plunging gorges and snowy peaks of these diverse southwest provinces evoke an ancient land far removed from the nation's forward-thrusting cities. October, with its mild, dry weather and golden colours is a particularly good time to get out into the countryside here, which ranges from the mountainous Tibetan Plateau to tropical lowlands where colourful minority cultures thrive. Guilín is at the heart of Guāngxī's karst country, and is the place to arrange scenic cruises down the Li River to laidback Yángshuò and visits to the Miao, Yao, Dong and Zhuang villages around Lóngshèng. In Yúnnán, find heat, jungle hikes and a more Southeast Asian vibe in the Xīshuāngbǎnnà region, or head north for Lijiang's cobbled alleys, treks along the sheer sides of Tiger Leaping Gorge and the utopian snow-capped highs around Zhōngdiàn, officially renamed Shangri-La.

Trip plan: Allow two to four weeks to visit both Yúnnán and Guāngxī, or focus on one. Handy trains and flights link Guilín, Kūnmíng (Yúnnán's capital) and Lijiang. **Need to know:** There is a national holiday 1–7 Oct – transport/sites will be heaving. Avoid if possible.

Other months: Apr-Sep – hot, humid (Jul-Sep: typhoons); Oct-Nov – warm, dry; Dec-Mar – cooler, cold at altitude.



Cultural
Wildlife & nature
Adventure
Journey



PUBLISHING DECEMBER 2016, 304 PAGES, FULL COLOUR
ISBN 9781786571939, 270MM X 230MM, HARDBACK
PRICE US \$24.99 • UK £19.99 • AUS \$39.99

This hardback answers the perennial question of every travel addict: where is the best place to visit during every season of the year? Using a combination of infographics and insights from Lonely Planet's expert authors, the book will resolve travel dilemmas for every sort of trip and present inspiring ideas for the best places to go in a visually engaging style. There will be up to 30 recommendations, from wilderness adventures to city breaks, for every month of the year.

ASIA & PACIFIC

Chris Zeiher

The Malt Store, Level 3, 551 Swanston St,
 Carlton, Victoria 3053
 Australia

chris.zeiher@lonelyplanet.com.au

Tel +61 1300 133 083 (toll free)

Tel +61 3 8379 8000

Fax +61 3 8379 8079

EMEA

Neil Manders

240 Blackfriars Road
 London SE1 8NW

neil.manders@lonelyplanet.co.uk

Mob +44 7717 897 586

AMERICAS

Patricia Kelly

150 Linden Street, Oakland
 California, 94607
 USA

patricia.kelly@lonelyplanet.com

Tel +1 510 250 6400

FOREIGN RIGHTS

Luan Angel

240 Blackfriars Road
 London SE1 8NW

luan.angel@lonelyplanet.co.uk

Mob +44 7786 424 942

