

# editor's note

## Destinations Abound

Perhaps no other issue has represented such a diverse pairing of truly spectacular destinations to explore. In *Time of the Maya*, Stephen Wheeler visits Chichen Itza, an incredible set of ruins located on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.

Over 5,000 years before the days of puppy calendars and digital watches, the Maya people developed one of the most accurate calendars known to man. They were the masters of time and developed an impressive array of structures, sculptures and other time-keeping instruments. The Maya discovered early on that every year is not exactly 365 days (this accounts for the reason we have leap year every four years).

Sally Moe takes us to Salem, the City of Peace, in Massachusetts. Ghosts aside, the city is a fascinating blend of literary and bewitching history. The architecture and landmarks herald back to the early days of colonialism and contain some of the most beautiful streets in the country.

We take a side tour in a *Weekend in Savannah, GA*, by Lynn Seldon. Explore the streets of this historic destination that boasts some of best Southern cooking anywhere.

No trip would be complete without visiting Paula Deen's famous restaurant "The Lady and Sons of Paula Deen." Even locals can't get enough of her restaurant, which features serious Southern comfort food from fried chicken to cheese biscuits and collard greens. Check out her Sunday brunch for a real treat.

Heading north, we explore Alaska, one of the most pristine areas of the world. Although challenging to visit by land, cruise ships now make this journey easy, fun and awash in luxury and comfort. Travelers will experience unparalleled beauty and spectacular natural wonders, including vast landscapes, glaciers and snow-topped mountains.

Great photo opportunities abound as cruise guests are treated to spectacular wildlife, including humpback

whales, frolicking seals and soaring bald eagles. Shore excursions allow passengers to explore fascinating port cities and become immersed in historic culture and tradition.

There are hundreds—if not thousands—of wonderful destinations for travelers to experience. Spend some

quality time with family and friends and start planning your next great journey today. ■



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