

# Wera

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## BRENDAN'S BACK

DOOM PATROL STAR  
BRENDAN FRASER REVS UP FOR  
HIS ON-SCREEN RETURN

### FIZZ UP

Could sparkling  
sake be the new  
champagne?

### WILD AT HEART

Living in the  
jungle with India's  
Pardhi tribe

### DIM VIEW

13 reasons not to be  
a lighthouse keeper



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◆  
**JOHN LEGEND**

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The manual

## CHARACTER BUILDING

Kids' TV and puppets go together like hand and glove, as seen in the heartwarming film **A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood**



WORDS SARAH NEEB; PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES, SHUTTERSTOCK, ALAMY

**J**udging by children's telly, a man's best friend isn't his dog, it's a puppet. Meet some of the weirdest characters to grace our screens...

**1) The wise old bird.** X the Owl from hit '70s show *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* lived in a tree, which also housed a printing press. That seems a little less odd when you consider that Fred also hung around with a tiger who lived in a grandfather clock. **2) The tattle-tale.** We hate to say it but George from *Rainbow* was a massive grass, always dobbing in Zippy and Bungle's misdemeanours to pal Geoffrey. Bit of a hippo-crite if you ask us. **3) The soprano duck.** This

mint green feathered fellow went around clad in nothing but a nappy and stormed the charts with dance single "I wish I could fly" in 1992. Luckily, Orville turned down a duet with R. Kelly on a song of a similar name. **4) The prankster bear.** Sooty was forever wagging his magic wand and dousing victims with his water pistol, which may explain why companion Sweep resorted to speaking in a traumatised squeak. **5) The posh vermin.** Suave, blazer-wearing fox Basil Brush was known for shrieking, "Ha, ha, ha! Boom, boom!" when something tickled him. Just don't mention his nocturnal activities by the rubbish bins. Not funny, Basil.

## The Q&A

# THOSE DAMN CROWS

The Welsh rockers' frontman Shane Greenhall on broken bones, tattoos and hangovers



### How did the band's name come about?

"We found our drummer's 92-year-old dad shouting angrily at some birds which were pecking at the fruit and veg in his allotment. He said the immortal words, 'Those damn crows!' and we thought, 'That'll do nicely.'"

### How would you describe your sound?

"We grew up in the '90s, so bands like Nirvana, Pearl Jam, Soundgarden and Green Day were all influences. There's sleazy pockets and heavy guitar riffs mixed with big, anthemic singalong choruses... Am I selling it to you yet?"

### Who's the biggest liability in the band?

"We all have our moments. Early on, it was probably our bassist Lloyd [Wood]. That guy can party. Truth is we all party hard, but the rule is we have to play hard first."

### Wildest festival moment?

"It has to be Download 2019. The response the band got was immense. The party afterwards and the hangover the next morning were like nothing we'd ever experienced before."

### Any epic on-stage mishaps?

"Oh man! Where do I start? There are multiple sound Armageddons that happen all the time. And I broke my ankle jumping off a speaker

once. I landed on Ronnie [Huxford]'s cymbal stand and knew right away it was bust. It happened in the first song. But I finished the gig, then went out with the boys."

### Apart from you guys, what's the most rock'n'roll thing about Bridgend?

"There are so many killer bands coming out of our town, so much talent in this wonderful little s\*\*thole we call home. Welsh bands like The Alarm and Budgie opened the door, and the Stereophonics, Manics and Super Furry Animals are all still doing their thing. We're not doing too badly!"

**Those Damn Crows are currently touring the UK with their new album Point of No Return**



## The trend

Inspired by **Obit**, which movie characters are we paying tribute to here?

1. A Jedi master who spent his later years in the desert, this grumpy gramps was struck down in combat aboard the Death Star. Rumours that this will only make him more powerful are, so far, totally unsubstantiated.

2. This salty old seadog shivered his last timber during an epic shark-hunting trip around Amity Island. His wish to have his remains scattered at sea was granted, although not quite how he imagined.

3. Having won his passage in a poker game, this cocky commoner loved life on the ocean wave until an iceberg spoiled the party. Despite clinging to a big-enough-for-two door, his heart did not go on.

4. The wizarding world waved off the legend behind the beard, who perished in Hogwarts' Astronomy Tower. His killer probably won't be passed the biscuits in the staffroom.

1 Obit-Wan Kenobi  
2 Sam Quint 3 Jack  
Dawson 4 Albus  
Dumbledore

## The mythbuster

Is *The Sound of Silence* total hokum, or could a sonic tuner improve the mood in your home?

If you don't know where your gnawing malaise is coming from, cast an eye over your home appliances. According to Ed Clarke, MD of noise consultancy Clarke Saunders Acoustics, there's a clear link between our health and annoying sounds. However, blaming your fatigue on the exact pitch of a single appliance – like the toaster that strikes the wrong chord when the bread pops up in *The Sound of Silence*

– is far-fetched. “To suggest this could be a significant subliminal influence on someone's life, well, you'd have to make a hell of a lot of toast!” says Clarke.

He disputes Peter Sarsgaard's “house tuner” using tuning forks to establish the right soundscape, too. “It's nonsense. We use sound level meters.” The verdict? Unlike in the film, the exact pitch of a sound in your home doesn't matter, so long as it's inoffensive.



## The lowdown

# METAL JACKET

We look to *Terminator: Dark Fate* for how to build the ultimate time-travelling assassin

### Phase 1: Brain

Make a cyborg that appears completely inconspicuous, as in the original film – perhaps a bodybuilder with a thick Austrian accent? Give it the ability to learn and a vocabulary that allows for snappy comebacks.

### Phase 2: Arms

Upgrade its robotic skeleton to liquid metal to allow it to shape-shift and ooze through bars, like in *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*. Then turn its limbs into vicious stabbing blades because... well, why not?

### Phase 3: Chest

The female of the species is more deadly than the male. So create a killer femme, as in *Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*, then program her to seduce men with her inflated chest before crushing their skulls.

### Phase 4: Heart

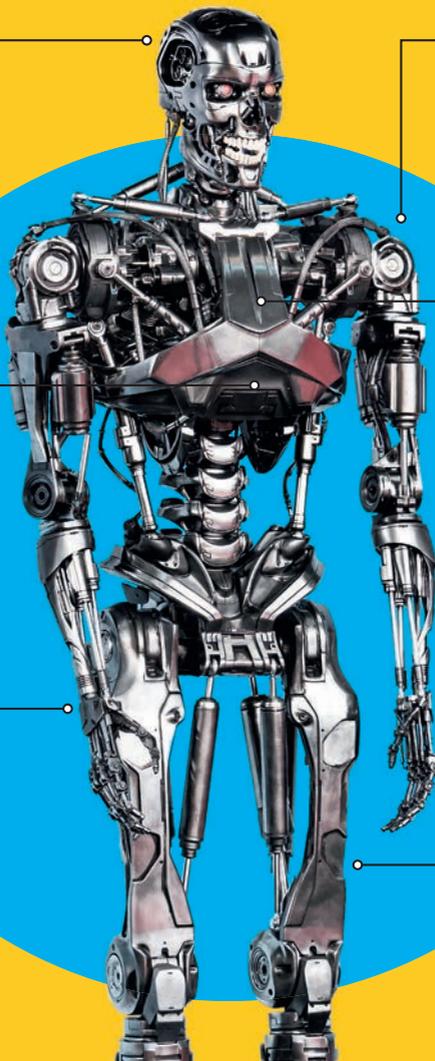
Dial up the robot's empathy and human emotion, giving it the ability to earn people's trust, as per *Terminator Salvation*. If the cyborg doesn't know it's a terminator, neither will its enemy.

### Phase 5: Skin

Ditch the robot approach altogether, and instead transform a human (the leader of the resistance, maybe?) into a killing machine by injecting him with nanoparticles that rewrite his genetic code as in *Terminator Genisys*.

### Phase 6: Legs

Make the assassin twice as deadly by giving it the power to split in two as in *Terminator: Dark Fate*. Side note: if it happens to look like a non-threatening geek to give victims a false sense of security, all the better.



**The one-liner**

"Did I take anything for depression? Four husbands. Didn't work."  
Renée Zellweger in *Judy*

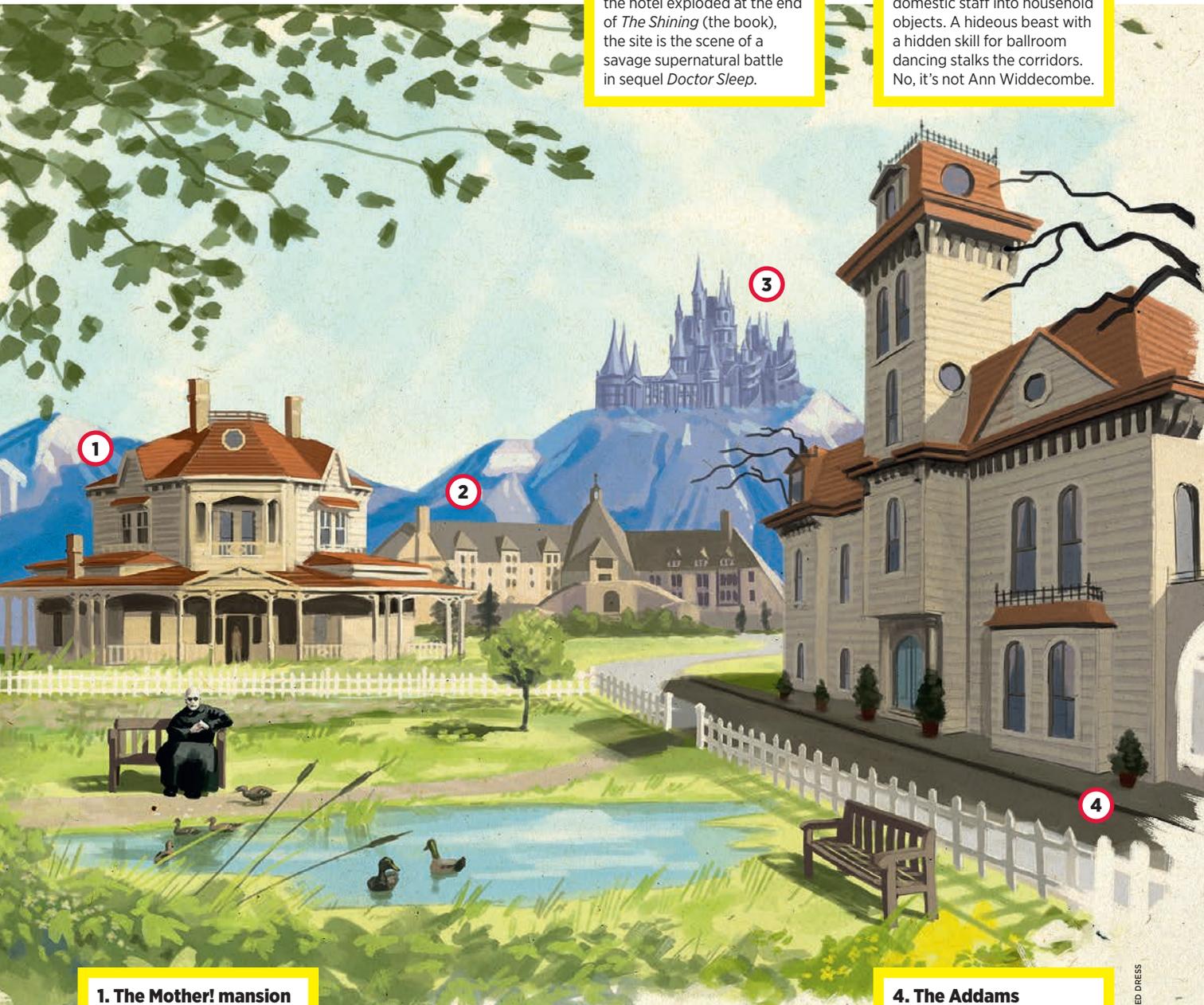


**2. The Overlook Hotel**

When the topiary comes to life you know it's a one-star TripAdvisor review at best. Lock up any axes, and stay out of Room 217. Although the hotel exploded at the end of *The Shining* (the book), the site is the scene of a savage supernatural battle in sequel *Doctor Sleep*.

**3. The Beast's castle**

If a toothless hag comes calling, play nice, or you might spend the next few decades trying to lift a bizarre curse that turns your domestic staff into household objects. A hideous beast with a hidden skill for ballroom dancing stalks the corridors. No, it's not Ann Widdecombe.



**1. The Mother! mansion**

Walls throb creepily like a beating heart, every room you enter signifies a different brutal chapter from history, and there's something hideous lurking in the toilet (and not in a bad kebab kind of way). Ultimately, it all goes up in flames, which, let's face it, is probably for the best.

**The postcode**

**HOT PROPERTY**

Inspired by *Doctor Sleep*, explore our neighbourhood of nightmarish movie residences

**4. The Addams Family abode**

Piercing screams, the sizzle of electric chairs, a disembodied hand scuttling around, and a moustachioed Gomez crooning sweet nothings in French. If you see a giant hairball watering carnivorous plants out front, don't worry, that's just Cousin Itt.



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**The daughter**

*Jamie Lee Curtis in the study with the dagger*

After 42 years of playing the victim in slasher franchise *Halloween*, did the star get fed up of Michael Myers having all the fun? A white mask was found smuggled out in a pumpkin.

**The grandson**

*Chris Evans in the billiard room with the spanner*

A super-soldier gone awry, perhaps Evans finally caved under the pressure of being the wholesome Captain America and having to lug that stupid shield around everywhere with him.

# The puzzle BLAME GAME

Whodunnit out of these A-List suspects in murder mystery *Knives Out*?

**The nurse**

*Ana de Armas in the kitchen with the revolver*

Sitting down to dinner then realising you can't taste your shepherd's pie because you're a hologram is enough to make anyone snap. Was this a hangry crime from the *Bladerunner 2049* star?

**The detective**

*Daniel Craig in the library with the candlestick*

Incensed by the constant mention of *those* trunks, did Craig end up both shaken and stirred? The candlestick also doubled up as a spy camera, rocket launcher and remote BMW controller.

One  
part gin.  
Three parts  
**you.**



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# Dawoud Bey An American Project

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Explore works from photographer Dawoud Bey's extraordinary career, beginning with street photography in 1970s Harlem to recent portraits and landscapes. Learn more and buy tickets at [sfmoma.org](https://sfmoma.org).

Major support for *Dawoud Bey: An American Project* is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Randi and Bob Fisher, and The Bernard Osher Foundation. Dawoud Bey, *Two Boys at a Handball Court*, Syracuse, NY, 1985; courtesy the artist and Sean Kelly Gallery, Stephen Daiter Gallery, and Rena Bransten Gallery; © Dawoud Bey

 THE BERNARD  
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## Ocean House RHODE ISLAND

Kick back like an aristocrat at this evergreen New England bolthole

**T**o the casual observer, this historic hotel might not look as though it's changed much in 150 years. But behind that pale-yellow façade are all manner of modern touches. After all, the past may be endlessly fascinating, but would you really want to live there?

Opened in 1868, just after the Civil War, Ocean House began life as a place where wealthy families came "to summer". It was even immortalised in the 1916 Douglas Fairbanks movie *American Aristocracy*. But by 2003 those sea breezes had taken their toll and the decision was made to close the hotel and rebuild it on the same site. Reopening in 2004, the new Ocean House replicated that famous exterior right down to the tiniest detail, and contains some 5,000 pieces salvaged from the original building.

Today, Ocean House is the very picture of gentility, with 49 rooms and 18 suites mixing old-school sophistication with state-of-the-art touches. The

food offering continues this rarefied vibe, particularly at the signature waterfront restaurant Coast, which serves everything from Maine hake to New York Wagyu beef. There's also a champagne bar sequestered away in a secret garden, an award-winning spa, and an 8,000-bottle wine cellar. Art lovers can take a tour of the hotel's own gallery, while sporty types should check out the putting green and – yes really – croquet lawn.

For those wishing to explore the Rhode Island coast, there are four complimentary Mercedes-Benz cars so guests can travel in style. Or why not charter a boat and head out on the water?

But the real draw is simply lapping up the timeless luxury, whether in the comfort of your room, or on the 650-foot private beach. Lying on the powder-fine white sands, with cabana service and views of Montauk in the distance, it's hard to think of a better place to summer, aristocracy or not.

✕ *Fly to Boston*



## Staying power

Vintage hotels with Hollywood connections



### The Plaza, New York

Appeared in *North by Northwest*, Alfred Hitchcock's smoothest spy thriller.



### Beverly Wilshire, Los Angeles

Sells £11,500 *Pretty Woman* pampering packages in honour of scenes filmed here.



### Fontainebleau, Miami Beach

The location of *Goldfinger*'s iconic painted lady scene. Don't try this yourself.

Built from

# SCRATCH

An \$80 million hip-hop museum is coming to The Bronx, cementing the neighbourhood's status as the birthplace of the genre



**H**ip-hop started right here in The Bronx, because back then we needed something to take our minds off everything that was happening,” explains veteran DJ Grand Wizzard Theodore. “In those days, there weren’t no jobs, buildings were in disrepair, there was gang activity. But anybody could get hold of some old records – James Brown, Gil Scott-Heron – and a set of decks. Then you had a party.”

If the name isn’t familiar, Grand Wizzard Theodore’s work most definitely will be. Because in 1975, aged

just 13, he invented the record scratch. His now world-famous technique was discovered entirely by accident when his mother burst into his room demanding that he, “Turn off that damn racket!”

And so it was – thanks also to contemporaries such as Grandmaster Flash and DJ Kool Herc – that New York’s northernmost borough became the birthplace of a phenomenon that continues to dominate pop culture and airwaves today. Now, nearly 50

years on, a new high-spec hip-hop museum is being built here, a landmark move that celebrates the ongoing connection between the music and the neighbourhood.

“Our vision is to make the Universal Hip Hop Museum much more than just a collection of dusty old artifacts,” says the project’s executive director and old-school hip-hop promoter Rocky Bucano, who lists handwritten Tupac lyrics and Snoop Dogg’s bicycle from the *Gin and Juice*



video among the exhibits. His team – an impressive roster of hip-hop big-wigs including Kurtis Blow and LL Cool J – wants to take people back in time “to feel what it might’ve been like to take to the stage with Run-DMC, party with Grandmaster Flash, or lay down tracks with Public Enemy.”

To that end, he’s partnered with Microsoft and MIT’s Center for Advanced Virtuality to design some of the most sophisticated immersive experiences you’ll find in any museum, anywhere.

“You just know that when MIT uses the word ‘advanced’ they ain’t playing,” says Bucano proudly. “Hip-hop breaks barriers. It sets trends. This will be the museum that all other museums end up looking up to.”

If you can’t wait until doors open in summer 2023, you can catch a sneak preview at the (R)Evolution of Hip Hop pop-up in The Bronx Terminal



Above The Bronx, hip-hop’s home. Top Grandmaster Flash on the decks. Right LL Cool J spits a verse

Market, where five kiosks transport you through hip-hop history.

And there’s plenty more places in The Bronx for hip-hop pilgrims to get their teeth into ahead of the launch. Bucano is at pains to point out there’s so much more to hip-hop than rap: “It’s a whole culture; the B-boys, the B-girls, the dance, the street art...”

For a graffiti fix, check out the memorial wall on Rogers Place that pays tribute to Hispanic rap giant Big Pun. Or for an unforgettable souvenir, get inked at legendary hip-hop hangout Tuff City tattoos, which was launched by ex-graffiti artists.

Mosey on down to 1520 Sedgwick Avenue, the site of a legendary block party that’s considered to be hip-hop’s first true outing, for a selfie. From there it’s just a short stroll to Cedar Playground where some of the earliest hip-hop events went down, with amps powered by stolen juice from torn-out street lamp cables.

Bucano recommends checking out Sam’s on the Grand Concourse – “It’s a little dive bar, but DJ Hollywood, one of the most iconic names in hip-hop, plays there every Friday...” – and Beatstro restaurant and lounge, where a younger crowd hangs out.

As for Grand Wizzard Theodore, yes he does wish he’d copyrighted the record scratch. “Nowadays you hear it everywhere, on TV shows, cornflake commercials,” he says. “What annoys me is that these people aren’t giving back to the culture. That’s why the museum is important. It’s a home for this Bronx art form, that changed the world and gave voice to the voiceless.”

✖ *Fly to New York*



## Hip-hop or hip-not?

Which of these rappers are genuine, and which have we (maybe) made up?

1

**LIL TOENAIL**

2

**SUSHI SQUAD**

3

**POOH-MAN**

4

**TEA BAG BOYZ**

5

**DR JUICE**

6

**SWOLLEN MEMBERS**

7

**STINKY P**

8

**JAMIE DODGER**

7 Fake 8 Fake  
4 Real 5 Fake 6 Real  
1 Real 2 Fake 3 Real

## Promotion

# High Spirits

Meet the vibrant tequila brand that wants to brighten your day

Forget everything you think you know about tequila – cut-price shots, salt and lemon, sticky student dives – because one distiller is crafting exquisite bottles of the good stuff that are made to be truly savoured. We caught up with Milagro brand ambassador Jaime Salas to find out more.

### So what makes Milagro special?

“We exclusively use agave from the remarkable Jalisco Highlands. Our production process starts when we slow roast piñas – the core of the agave plant – for 36 hours in traditional brick ovens, releasing their sweet, fruity and aromatic flavours. This brings out the natural freshness and soul of the plant. By combining these traditional methods of production with a bit of fresh thinking, we’ve successfully produced an award-winning tequila.”

### Sounds pretty neat

“You can enjoy it neat, in a classic margarita or in a range of cocktails that people don’t often associate with tequila, like the Tequila Old Fashioned. Cocktails are the perfect way to hit that sweet spot where you get the benefit of a softened spirit, without losing any of the nuances and tasting notes of the agave. When your taste has acclimated, progress to sipping it straight.”

### What’s with the different styles?

“Milagro Silver is crisp and clear, with an agave-forward flavour, while Reposado and Añejo are both aged in American oak. Our Select Barrel Reserve expressions – Silver, Reposado and Añejo – are all aged in both American and virgin French oak barrels. And when it comes to style, our newest campaign this year – *Brighter Side of Tequila* – celebrates the “anything-is-possible” spirit upon which Milagro was founded.”

[milagrotequila.com](http://milagrotequila.com)



### ▲ TNT

1½ parts Milagro Silver  
2 parts club soda  
2 parts tonic

**Method** Fill a Collins glass with ice, add Milagro Silver and bitters. Top with club soda and tonic. Garnish with both a lime and grapefruit wheel.

### ◀ The Freshest Margarita

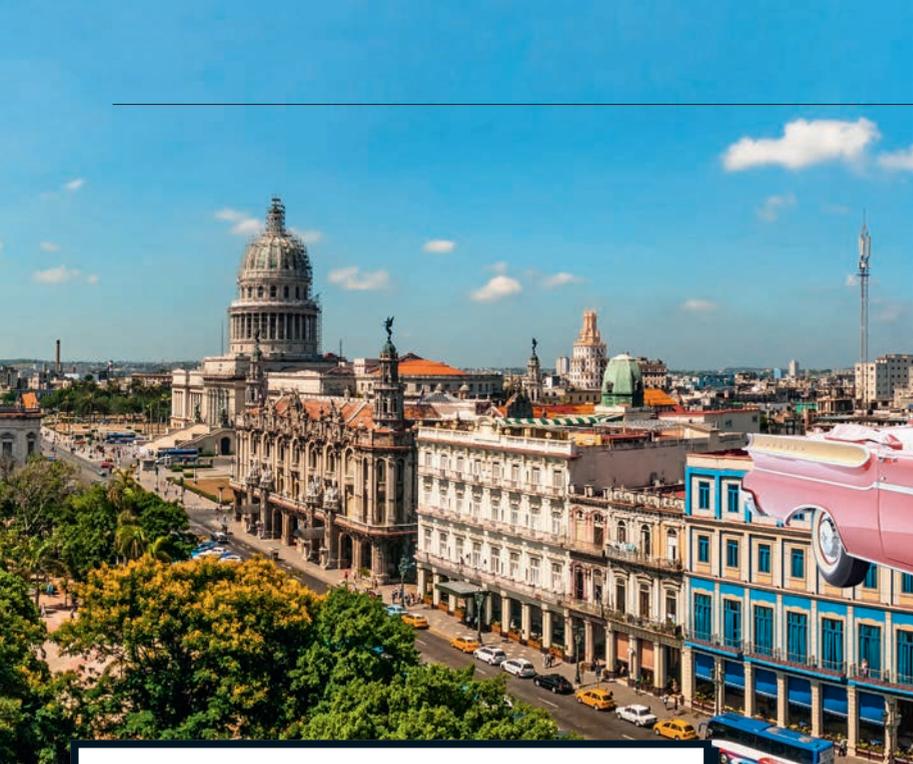
2 parts Milagro Silver  
1 part fresh lime juice  
¾ parts agave nectar

**Method** Combine all ingredients in a shaker and strain over ice in a rocks glass. Garnish with a lime wheel.

### ◀ Celebración (Punch – serves 4)

6 parts Milagro Silver  
12 parts pink guava nectar  
1 part ginger simple syrup  
3 parts lime juice

**Method** Pour all the ingredients into a punch bowl and simply mix. Top with club soda or prosecco, and garnish with candied ginger and a lime wheel.



**Hot wheels**

Diesel caused a stir in a Mercury Turnpike Cruiser convertible – one of many classic US cars on Havana's streets. Hire your own at Rent Classic Car.

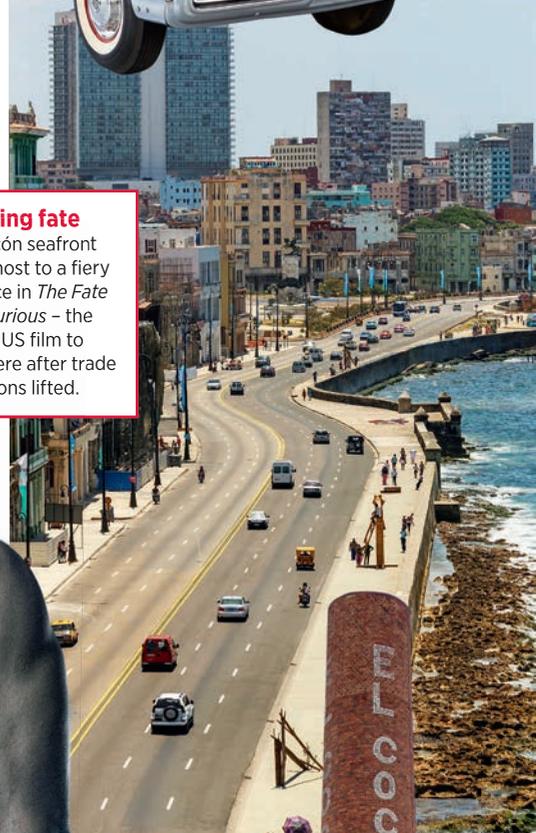


**Vin Diesel's  
HAVANA**

Buckle up for a wild ride in Cuba's car-crazy capital like *The Fast and the Furious* star

**Tempting fate**

El Malecón seafront played host to a fiery drag race in *The Fate of the Furious* – the first big US film to shoot here after trade restrictions lifted.



**Monument man**

Between takes, Diesel chatted to locals at the Monument to the Victims of the USS Maine. The eagle that once stood on top fell off in a hurricane.

**Fuelling station**

The star ate fine Cuban cuisine at El Cocinero, a restaurant set in a refurbished cooking oil factory. Duck in chocolate sauce, anyone?



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## “SPARKLING SAKE HAS A CLEANER, FRESHER FLAVOUR THAN CHAMPAGNE”

ing a first-rate fizz to rival anything to come out of France.

The move was kickstarted when a group of producers formed the Japanese Awasake Association in 2016, establishing an agreed set of standards that producers must follow in order for their sparkling sake to be certified “Awasake”. These measures include using only three ingredients – rice, koji (a starter culture) and water – as well as sourcing all rice exclusively from Japan. Since then, the bubbly’s quality has soared and the international market is sitting up and taking notice.

“It’s a much improved product and the rest of the world is starting to catch on,” says Joju Goto, manager at San Francisco restaurant Kusakabe, which serves sparkling sake as an aperitif “to open up the palate for the more umami flavours found in Japanese cuisine”.

Rick Arline, sommelier at chic eatery Auburn in LA, agrees. “Virtually every guest I give it to goes nuts for it, especially because most of them had no idea it even existed,” he says. “It’s incredibly versatile with food – awesome with sushi, oysters, tempura shrimp and anything in an aromatic sauce, like different curries.”

It’s unlikely to ever replace champagne, but it’s certainly giving it a run for its money, says Arline.

“Champagne is delicious, it has always been delicious and always will be delicious!” he adds. “But sparkling sake has the added fun of being able to blow expectations out of the water. It has a cleaner, fresher flavour than the toasty, yeasty notes you get with champagne. The one we serve has great fresh cucumber and melon notes.”

According to Arline, it’s no cheap gimmick. “I think sparkling sake has a tremendously bright future.”

Fizz

# BANG WALLOP

Could sparkling sake be the new champagne?

**W**e may have been sipping sake as far back as 500 BC, but the Japanese drink, made from fermented rice, is currently undergoing a surprise renaissance. It’s all thanks to a new production method that sees sake-making follow guidelines similar to those used to make champagne.

Sparkling sake was initially dreamed up to give Japan’s Formula Nippon race drivers something to spray jubilantly at the finish line, but the quality tended to be low and the flavour over-sweet. The new method imbues the drink with super-fine bubbles and a more complex flavour, creat-

# HELLO



# PAULO

TAKE A CINEMATIC TOUR OF BRAZIL'S MOST  
COSMOPOLITAN CITY: AN URBAN JUNGLE WITH SOUL

Words KATIE GATENS

SÃO





#### THE INDIE FLICK

The arty neighbourhood of Vila Madalena is the creative soul of the city. Strolling through its leafy streets, past bars humming with live music, is like witnessing an explosion of youth culture. It's *24 Hour Party People* meets *Dazed and Confused* meets *Tron*.

Artists from all over the world flock to graffiti mecca Beco do Batman (Batman alley), to spray its walls with designs that range from swirling Dalíesque surrealism to political commentary on deforestation in the Amazon: in one piece, for example, a tree sprouts from a leafy, pumping heart. Check out artist Luis Bueno's risqué mural *Pelé Beijoqueiro*, which bizarrely shows the revered Brazilian footballer kissing someone different every few months – his past fictional conquests include David Bowie and the *Mona Lisa*.

Pop into Corrutela, a right-on, solar-powered restaurant, to sample futuristic fine dining against an industrial-chic backdrop. Try the grilled courgette, dukkah and cashews: a rare veggie dish in meat-heavy Brazil. Chef Cesar Costa even makes his own flour.

Clockwise from top: Luz Station; the pool at Palácio Tangará; some of the hotel's vibrant cuisine

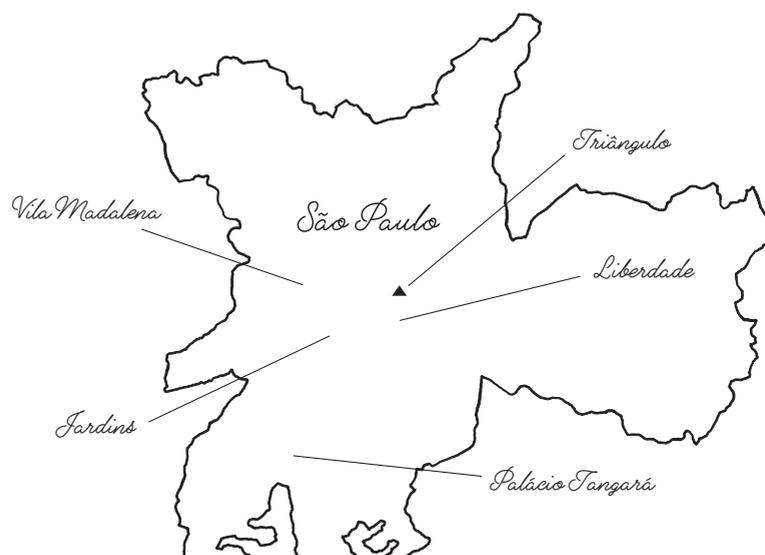
R

io has managed to hog the lion's share of Brazil's lime-light for years. But São Paulo has been quietly drawing an in-the-know crowd to its metropolis, and a new Virgin Atlantic flight route has sealed the city's status as a must-visit destination, opening it up to visitors like never before.

An enormous sprawl of skyscrapers, São Paulo (or Sampa if you want to show off to locals) is the most populous city in the southern hemisphere, and as Brazil's commercial centre it works hard – and plays harder – with countless theatres, buzzing bars and restaurants lining its Manhattan-like avenues. If São Paulo were a film, it'd be a Scorsese epic with a dash of Fellini sophistication and an edgy streak of film noir. And, unlike Rio, there's not a neon thong in sight.

Just down the road, hippy boutique Projeto Terra sells cool crafts made by Amazonian tribes alongside bright screen prints by local artists, while the shelves at nearby Farm are piled high with fashion-forward womenswear in popping tropical designs.

When night falls, sneak through Bar Astor on Rua Delfina and head downstairs to its subterranean cocktail lounge, where a preppy crowd sips concoctions such as the Grana dos Laura: honey, single-malt whisky and erm... parmesan cheese.



Granted, this whacky combination shouldn't work, but somehow the contrast between sweet and umami means it absolutely does.

Carry on the party into the early hours in the neighbourhood of Baixo Augusta, just south of Vila Madalena, where the cool kids flock to booming, bass-heavy 24-hour clubs. Prepare to be completely outclassed on every dance-floor you step on to.

#### THE MANGA MOVIE

Waves of immigration in the 19th century transformed São Paulo into one of the most multicultural cities in the world. As well as having huge Italian and Lebanese communities, one of the most prominent neighbourhoods is Liberdade, which is home to the biggest Japanese population outside of Japan and, until recently, even had its own Japanese-language newspaper.

The postbox-red Japanese street lamps on Rua Galvão Bueno could have been dreamed up by Studio Ghibli, and you half expect to see a pink-haired Scarlett Johansson crooning in the window of one of the neon-lit karaoke bars as in *Lost in Translation*.

Spend the afternoon dipping into the zen Japanese gardens secreted off the main street, some of which have traditional *torii* gates, towering bamboo and Shinto shrines inside. Stop by Lamén Kazu for a bowl of >

*misso tyashu* ramen (pork loin with a soft-boiled egg and dried seaweed), then pop into one of the dozens of wonderful dessert shops in the area to sample some Japanese sweets such as *manju* and *mochi* balls.

At weekends, teenage manga fans in cosplay costumes browse through the comics at the outdoor market that lines the street. You can also pick up everything from block-printed souvenirs to kabocha squash here.

### THE PERIOD DRAMA

An elegant driveway in the chic neighbourhood of Morumbi leads to the brilliant-white Palácio Tangará hotel, which feels a million miles away from the city buzz. The 1940s building was dreamed up by a Brazilian businessman as a present to his fiancé and modelled on ornate European mansions.

Sadly, she ended up leaving him (no reflection on the house) and the villa fell into disrepair. It reopened in 2017 as one of the swankiest hotels in the city, complete with landscaped gardens, a gilded ballroom and a heated outdoor pool hemmed in by the lush Burle Marx Park so birdsong soundtracks your breaststroke.

For more imposing classical architecture, head downtown to Triângulo, the art-deco-styled banking district, and zoom to the



top of the Banespa skyscraper, modelled on New York's Empire State Building. That queue spilling out of the door? It'll be the crowds lining up for a taste of the *doce de leite* gelato from vintage-style ice cream parlour Bacio di Latte – regularly voted the best gelateria in Brazil.

### THE PREHISTORIC EPIC

Away from all the skyscrapers, Sampa has plenty of green pockets you can escape to. Bespoke Brazil organises tours to Cantareira State Park, the world's largest urban forest, less than an hour's drive from the city centre. The journey itself is an eye-opener, taking you past ram-

shackle favela towns reminiscent of *City of God* until you reach the park itself, part of the tropical Atlantic forest which stretches down Brazil's east coast.

Home to an abundance of squawking, screeching, scampering wildlife, it's like a lush jungle scene from *Jurassic Park* or *King Kong*. Watch monkeys swinging between trees, citrus-coloured toucans edging along branches, monitor lizards lazing in the sun and marmosets hugging the palms. Hike all the way up to Pedra Grande for a bird's eye view of the city from above the tree canopy, stopping to cool your weary feet in waterfalls along the way.

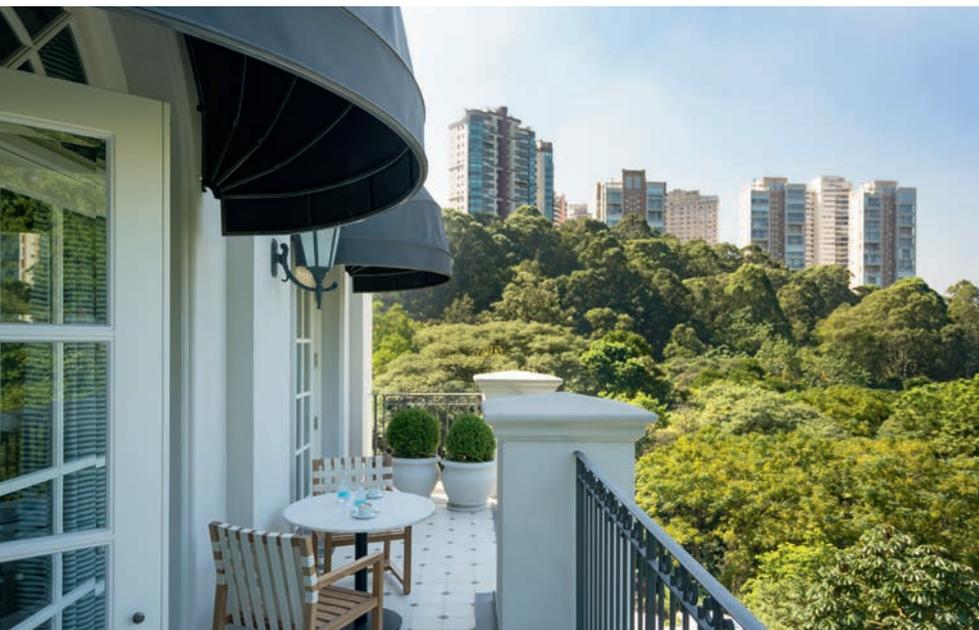
In the neighbouring Jaraguá State Park you can visit Guaraní tribes that still live in the rainforest, though it's best to do so as part of an organised tour.

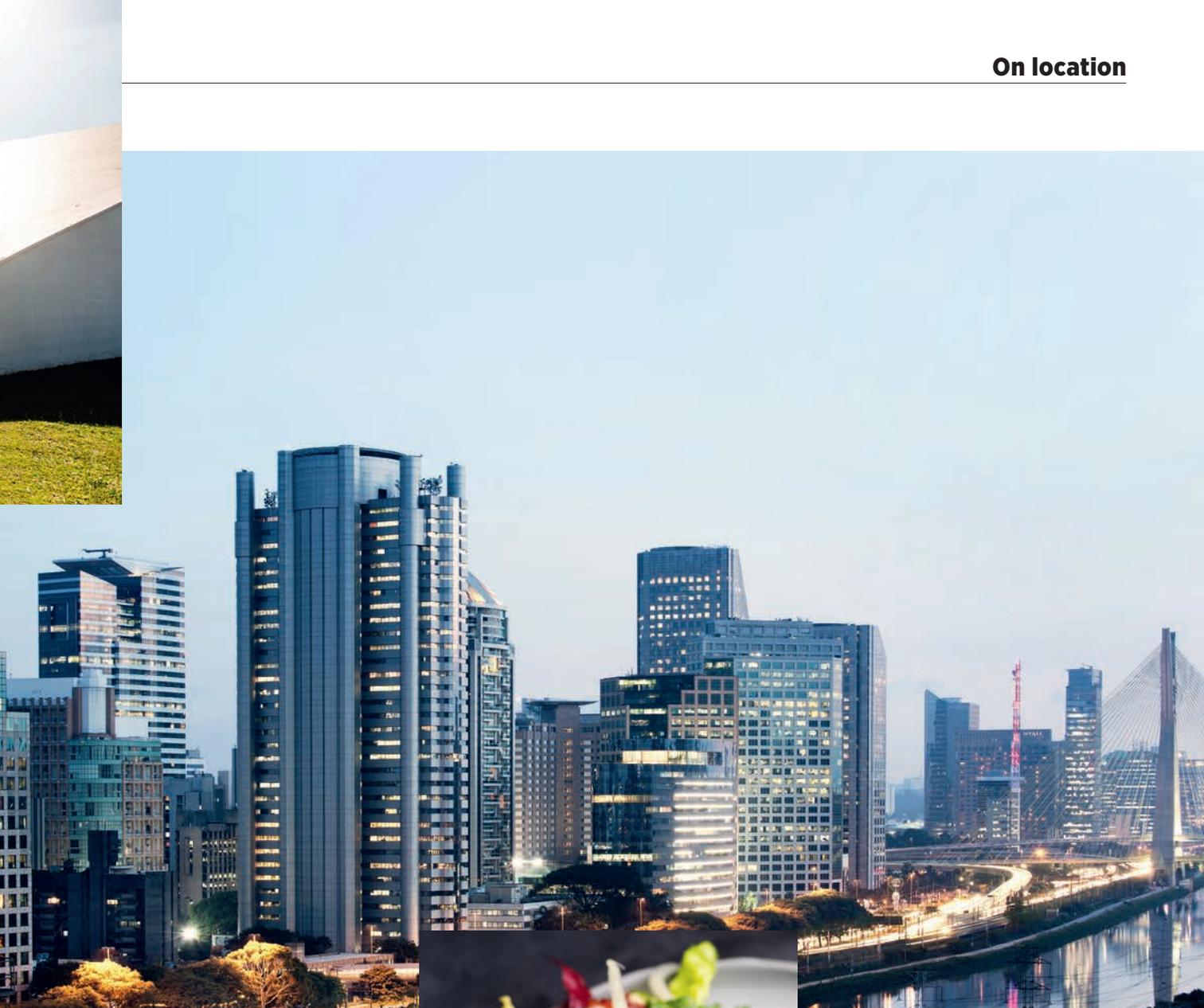
If you're short on time, or less keen to rub shoulders with reptiles, then Ibirapuera, smack bang in the city centre, is São Paulo's answer to Central Park. Rent a bike and cycle along its winding pathways, past glistening lakes, listening to chilled-out samba music from groups playing late into the night.

### THE GLOSSY ROM-COM

The area of Jardins, just north of the park, attracts Sampa's manicured elite. If Carrie Bradshaw were a paulistana, you'd find her in

Clockwise from top Ibirapuera Auditorium; the Sampa cityscape; fine dining at Palácio Tangará hotel; Presidential Suite views





Maní, the chic, Michelin-starred dining room of chef Helena Rizzo. Bag a table here to tuck into experimental dishes such as catch of the day cooked with black *tucupi* – a juice extracted from wild manioc root found in the Amazon jungle.

After eating, it would be rude not to indulge in some retail therapy as you're right on the doorstep of Rua Oscar Freire, a kind of Rodeo Drive that feels more than a little *Pretty Woman*. Paulistanos joke that shopping malls are their beaches, and there are 70 scattered around the city, including Iguatemi, the oldest and arguably the best. Needless to say, you



won't be short of places to whip out that credit card.

Worked up an appetite carrying all those bags? Head to the Consolação district in central São Paulo for hearty fare at the 24-hour Bella Paulista cafe, a Brazilian version of Katz's Delicatessen in *When Harry Met Sally*. You'll find it full of taxi drivers, club-goers and couples chomping on door-stopper sandwiches crammed with mortadella sausage and cheese, as well as the most incredible array of cakes. We'll have what she's having. ■

✕ *Fly to São Paulo*



# Riojan discovery

Over the past three decades, Álvaro Palacios has been instrumental in broadening Spanish wine beyond the classic Tempranillo grape

**W**hen a region becomes renowned for a certain product – say Champagne or Parmigiano-Reggiano – there’s an unfortunate tendency to ignore everything else it has to offer. Look beyond its most famous exports, however, and you’ll often find a wealth of hidden treasures.

Take Spain’s most famous wine region – Rioja – for example. The Tempranillo variety accounts for 88% of the grapes grown in the area, and for good

La Montesa’s Garnacha grapes are grown at Palacios Remondo, which was founded by Álvaro’s father in 1948



reason: they produce a reliable harvest. Yet, it’s not the only grape that thrives in this terroir. On his family’s bodega in Alfaro, Álvaro Palacios has been bottling La Montesa for the past 20 years, using the Garnacha grape. “It has been the queen grape in the region for centuries, having adapted perfectly to the warmer temperatures of Rioja,” Palacios reveals. “It has a proud history in this region.”

The fifth generation of a wine-making family, Palacios left his family’s Rioja estate in 1989 to start his own vineyard in Priorat. At that time, the hilly region close to the north-east Mediterranean coast was an unfashionable place for a wine grower, though Palacios believed in its potential. After toiling away for years, his gamble paid off when his modest plot of land – L’Ermita – received the “Gran Vinya Classificada”, a special certification only given to the finest vineyards in the region, similar to Burgundy’s Grand Cru. Another successful winery on the opposite side of the country in Bierzo followed before Palacios returned home to take over the family business after his father passed away in 2000.

Two decades later, Palacios still enjoys getting stuck in to the daily responsibilities that come with running a successful vineyard, though it means he has little time to focus on getting the end-product to his customers. This is where international wine and spirits merchant Berry Bros. & Rudd comes in.

“They’re incredibly important to us,” Palacios enthuses. “They sell many of our wines around the world, from our most prestigious bottles right down to the entry-level product.”

*Readers can buy La Montesa and other Álvaro Palacios wines at [bbr.com](http://bbr.com)*



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**DOOM PATROL STAR BRENDAN FRASER IS GASSED TO BE BACK**

Words CAMILLE DODERO / Photography JAMES MACARI

**OUT OF  
THE  
WILDERNESS**



# B

Brendan Fraser is not offended. The once omnipresent actor is sitting in the make-up area of a New York City photo studio and we're trying to ask whether his recent roles on prestige TV shows like the Danny Boyle-directed *Trust*, Showtime's *The Affair* or, most recently, DC Universe's *Doom Patrol*, feels the way it does to the rest of us. Namely, that he's making one hell of a comeback.

However, the notion of a "comeback" somewhat implies that one's career may have gone, shall we say, down the tubes. As we struggle to find the right words, he comes to the rescue. "You're not hurting my feelings," he offers helpfully. "The brief answer is," here he holds eye contact for the punchline, "I gotta get a job."

It's a reductive answer for the sake of a laugh, but it's also an indication that Fraser — a man whose movies have grossed more than \$2 billion worldwide — doesn't take himself too seriously. For two decades, his resume read like a Rorschach ink-blot test, where what jumps out reveals more about you than it does about him.

"If you're over 40, I'm the guy from *Encino Man*," he says. "If you're in Asia, it's *The Mummy* trilogy." Europeans want to discuss his more thespian fare like the 1998 Oscar winner *Gods and Monsters* with Ian McKellen or 2002's *The Quiet American* with Michael Caine. "Some



Previous page  
Shirt & jeans  
by Levi's  
T-Shirt by AllSaints  
Boots by Space  
Cowboy NYC  
Hat by Goorin Bros

This page  
Sweater and jacket  
by AllSaints  
Trousers by  
Johnny Bigg

Right Fraser's  
square-jawed  
*Doom Patrol*  
antihero  
Robotman



screwball always has to let me know that I was on *Scrubs* and it made them sad when my character died. Spoiler alert!”

Then there's the young women who want to get a picture with him because it'll make their moms crazy. Brendan seems genuinely amused that the demographic who used to squeal at the sight of him now squeal on their mothers' behalf, but he understands. He's felt that way too. “I worked with Harrison Ford on a picture,” says Fraser, referring to *Extraordinary Measures*. “I was freaking out because it was Harrison Fricking Ford.”

People often say that movie stars seem diminutive in person, shrunken down in the flesh like soaking-wet dogs, but Brendan Fricking Fraser, at 51, is one of those who looms larger. Perched in a tall director's chair and wearing a black leather jacket, he seems broader and, dare

**“THERE'S BOOBS  
AND F-BOMBS,  
SOME PRETTY  
OVERT DRUG  
REFERENCES”**

we say, manlier somehow, like he's spent the last five years snacking on Miracle-Gro and riding horses which, in a way, he has. He's also expressive when he talks, stretching out syllables for entertaining emphasis or lowering his even-deeper-than-you-remember voice for comic effect. Like when he raves about working on his latest project *Doom Patrol*, a DC original series that's in the middle of shooting its second season.

The show is the latest in a string of projects that has TV nerds and ardent movie bloggers excitedly championing the dawn of a “Brenaissance”. *Doom Patrol* is a richly stylised comic-book spin-off about a reluctant team of antihero super-freaks who are tasked with confronting both doomsday-level crises (naturally) and their own monstrous traumas.

“It's an underdog story,” says Fraser, who plays toxically masculine race-car driver Cliff Steele, as well as voicing Steele's meta-human counterpart Robotman. “It's barking mad and it doesn't apologise for it. There's boobs and F-bombs, some pretty overt drug references... It's what 13-year-old me wanted to watch but couldn't.” Fittingly, Fraser's teenage sons — he has three — love it.

It's also especially convenient because he doesn't have to be on set all the time. Much of the voice work takes place in a >

Jacket by GAP 1969  
T-Shirt by  
Scotch & Soda  
Hat by Goorin Bros.





facility located the next town over from where he lives. Says Fraser, “I can wear my Uggs. It’s close to my bagel shop. Best job evvvveeeeeerrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr!”

Fraser lives in Westchester County, about 45 minutes’ drive north of New York City, where he keeps a horse named Pecas. Here’s how he describes him: “He’s big and handsome. Kinda knows it. Won’t let on.” He first encountered the beast in Mexico, on the set of the 2015 miniseries *Texas Rising*, and swiftly adopted the animal as a gift for his eldest son, Griffin, who has autism. “Give him a brush and he’ll brush the horse all afternoon. He’s a really big kid. Like 6ft5in, size 15 shoes.” For contrast, Fraser points to his own size 12 Adidas Sambas, and even these look like paddleboards. “Pecas is a big, strong horse, so he can hold him.”

In the '90s, Fraser’s most visible roles were unthreatening slapstick galoots. In *Encino Man*, known as *California Man* in some countries, he was a recently defrosted Neanderthal indoctrinated in the ways of surfer slang and high-school high-jinks. In Disney’s live-action reimagining of *George of the Jungle*, he was a vine-swinging klutz airlifted from the rainforest and schooled in the ways of Western civilisation. So it was something of a shock for that same guy to turn up as a rotten prison guard on *The Affair* in 2016. As the psychological and physical tormenter of main character Noah, Fraser’s wide-eyed gaze suddenly seemed genuinely terrifying. He says, half-chuckling, “I’m really not that creepy, I swear.”

His road to the small screen was a winding one, having become disenchanted >

**“I CAN WEAR  
MY UGGS. IT’S  
CLOSE TO MY  
BAGEL SHOP.  
BEST JOB EVER”**



Shirt by Theory  
Hat by Goorin Bros.

Stylist  
Michael Fusco at  
See Management

Grooming  
Natasha Leibel using  
BECCA Cosmetics  
and Alterna Haircare

with the mounting pressure of fronting big-ticket films. "I've learned that if a movie gets put in the 'win' column, it belongs to the studio," Fraser told *Entertainment Weekly*. "If it gets put in the 'lose' column... well, you finish the rest."

Talking to him now, it's clear that the physical demands of rigorous action stunts have taken its toll on his body. He underwent multiple back operations, partial knee replacement surgery, and even had work done on his vocal cords. "There's a sense of relief that comes with focusing on more character-based roles," Fraser says now. "You can check your vanity at the door." Does this mean he's done playing the leading man?

"Maybe eight to ten years ago, when a whole new generation of actors came up, it was like, 'Look at all these handsome, cool dudes who've got that spark!'" he says. He doesn't mention any names, but look no further than Hollywood's four action-hero Chrises and their respective blockbuster turns — Evans (who plays Captain America), Hemsworth (Thor), Pine (from *Wonder Woman*), Pratt (*Guardians of the Galaxy*) — as exemplary specimens. "I'm not saying that I was carrying that torch, but I knew which direction things were going and I was glad others could pick up that baton," he explains.

So who is Brendan Fraser now? "I'm a guy who's comfortable in his own skin," he says. He's also a guy who gives honest answers. Asked why he doesn't have any official social media accounts, he says, "I'm

an incredibly lazy person." He laughs. "It's a lot of work. I was busy and I never felt like I had much to say." He is tempted by a platform like Instagram, where he could share images. An amateur photographer, he pulls out a Leica film camera from his bag and says he's been trying to take one or two exposures a day. He might not be on social media himself, but confesses: "I'm not a complete Luddite. I'm prone to lurking." Again, not creepily apparently: he shapes his thumb and index finger into the letter "L" and presses it against his forehead.

He's being judicious about upcoming projects. "I'm needed at home at the moment, which I'm perfectly comfortable with," he says. "I'm being really, really careful about what to get involved with. I honestly just want to be part of projects that I care about. That I feel good about."

He's the first to admit it wasn't always this way. "It used to be like, 'I'll make one for love, one for money,'" he speaks into his jacket collar, feigning abashed. "Then it was more like 'two for money, one for love.'"

I ask if he still harbours a dream role. "I don't really have that brass ring anymore," he says. "I like to make the job I have the one that's the most important when I have it." Coming out of nearly anyone else's mouth, this might sound like polite evasion. But after watching him

## "I'M NOT A COMPLETE LUDDITE. I'M PRONE TO LURKING ON SOCIAL MEDIA"

commit to transforming into *Trust's* good ol' boy fixer — he even kept his character's Stetson hats, at least one of which he still wears — we believe him.

To this day, one of the most meaningful compliments he's received came from a rabbi who approached him at an airport to tell him about the importance of *School Ties*, the 1992 drama in which he plays a football player in the '50s who's forced to hide his Jewishness at an elite prep school. "She said *School Ties* was used as an ice-breaker between Palestinian and Israeli kids, to try to build an alliance between them before they become neurologically baked into an ideology," he says. He seems genuinely touched at the idea. "I appreciated that. I kept that with me."

He's reticent to talk more specifically about politics, but not because he's disengaged: "I'm an avid follower of current events and news feeds. I read until my eyes bleed." He considers himself an optimist and admires young climate activist Greta Thunberg, but admits to feeling frustrated about the state of the world. "I do shout at the television," he says. "It doesn't help."

Archery, however, helps to clear his mind. "I don't shoot animals," he clarifies. "Just targets." As we're wrapping up, he tries to explain the enduring appeal of firing arrows at a bullseye, but it also seems to be the guiding ethos of his new career phase. "It's just you out there trying to do something better than you did previously," he says, fedora in hand. "And there's a lot of dumb luck involved too." ■

 [Watch Doom Patrol](#)

Left Kicking back in full 'droid mode in *Doom Patrol*





**13**

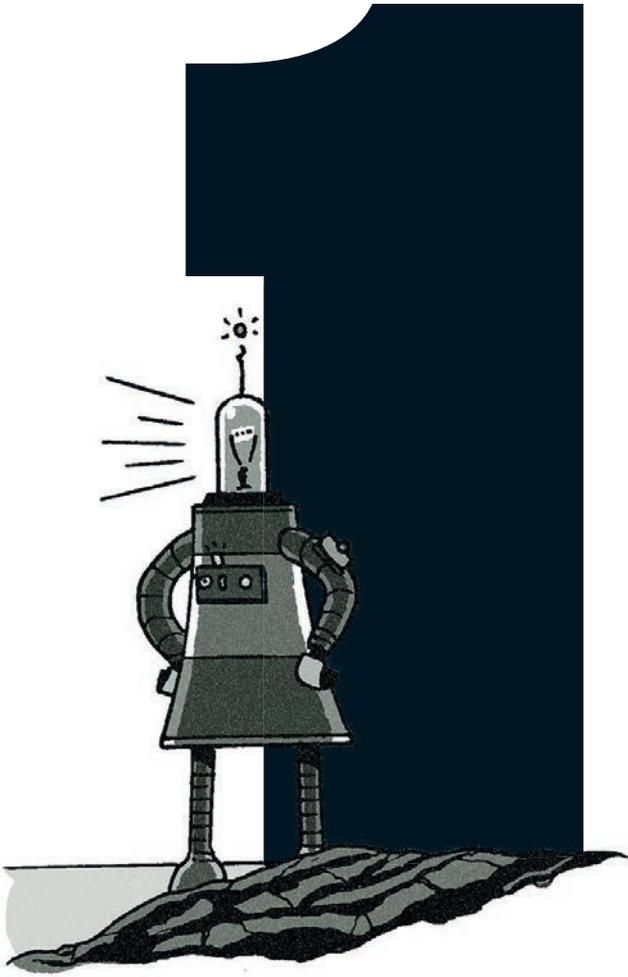
reasons **NOT** to  
be a lighthouse keeper

Giving it all up for a life staring at the sea might sound tempting,

Words AARON WINSLOW  
Illustrations R FRESSON



**but lighthouse keeping isn't all it's cracked up to be...**



## IT ISN'T A GROWING FIELD

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In fact, it's a rapidly shrinking field. Lighthouses have fallen victim to full-scale automation and some experts predict that, by 2030, lighthouses in developed countries will be entirely automated. According to maritime historian and lighthouse expert Jeremy D'Entremont, "Lighthouse keeping is pretty much dead as a profession." And he should know. These days, lighthouses use algorithmic software to control their signal beacons and code patterns, as well as remote-activated foghorns to communicate with ship captains, so there's little use for humans. There's currently only one full-time lighthouse keeper in the US: Sally Snowman, who tends to the Boston Light in the Outer Boston Harbour. "The loss of lighthouse-keeping culture, and so many other trades of bygone days, is really sad," she says.

# 2

## The isolation will drive you potty

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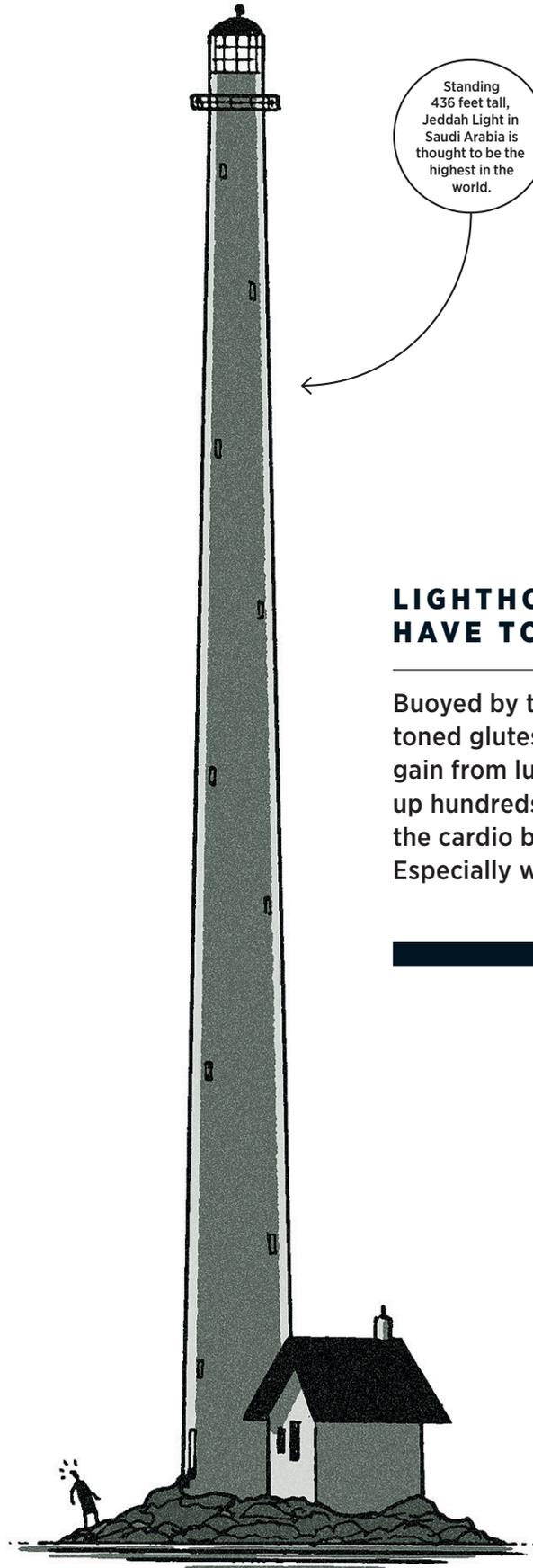
Nothing and no one but water. Endless water. The churning of the waves will slowly send you mad as you gaze into the sea, searching for answers, pondering how the twisted forks of your life brought you to this remote patch of rock on a forgotten coast. They say the sea helps you to forget. But all we know is that inside the lighthouse only you and the seagulls can hear your screams. Take it from Willem Dafoe and Robert Pattinson's characters in new movie *The Lighthouse*, a dark, hallucinatory tale of two keepers descending into alcoholism, madness and barely contained homoeroticism. According to Sally, there's one last unspeakable horror to contend with: giving tours to schoolchildren and New Jerseyites.

# 3

## It will probably make you hate lighthouses

---

"I love lighthouses," you say to yourself, "why don't I just live in one and tend to it for my job?" Sounds smart, but think about it this way: how much do you really love your workplace? If you're hoping to avoid monstrous Excel spreadsheets, you're out of luck. "There's a tonne of paperwork and endless chores," explains Sally. "These old places are often built in the 1800s, and need a lot of work and attention, more than there are hours in the day!"



Standing 436 feet tall, Jeddah Light in Saudi Arabia is thought to be the highest in the world.

# 4

## LIGHTHOUSES ARE REALLY TALL, AND YOU HAVE TO WALK UP THEM AGAIN AND AGAIN

Buoyed by the thought of the toned glutes and biceps you'll gain from lugging shopping bags up hundreds of stairs? Newsflash: the cardio blast gets old. Especially when the Hermes

delivery guy rings the bell and you've got approximately 1.5 seconds to make it downstairs before he disappears, taking your hardback copy of *101 Games to Play by Yourself* with him.

# 5

### You can forget having a day off

Do you love a duvet day? Well, you can go ahead and kiss those goodbye. You'll have to be up at dawn to tend to the hundreds of small maintenance projects that need doing, in between all-important tasks such as flag raising and record keeping. "I'm up with the sun at 4:20am, and I go to bed when the sun sets at around 8:15pm," says Sally. Brutal hours.

# 6

### You'll be taunted by flatpack furniture

The lighthouse's spiral shape makes interior design choices limited. It means you're destined to a life of building flatpack furniture, throwing Allen keys against the wall, and staring forlornly at rogue screws. Better start making room for all those instruction manuals. >

# 7

## You'll need really good black-out blinds

Whale oil is out, replaced by a 2.4-mile-long electrical extension cord. Its sole mission? To power the 24/7 flashing light that's so powerful it can be seen through a howling force nine gale from 20.2 nautical miles away. Frankly, a sleep mask isn't going to cut it, and there's no way to stop the relentlessly blinking eye. "There's no off switch," says Sally, twitching slightly. "It's just always, always on."

# 8

## You're not allowed to change your own lightbulbs

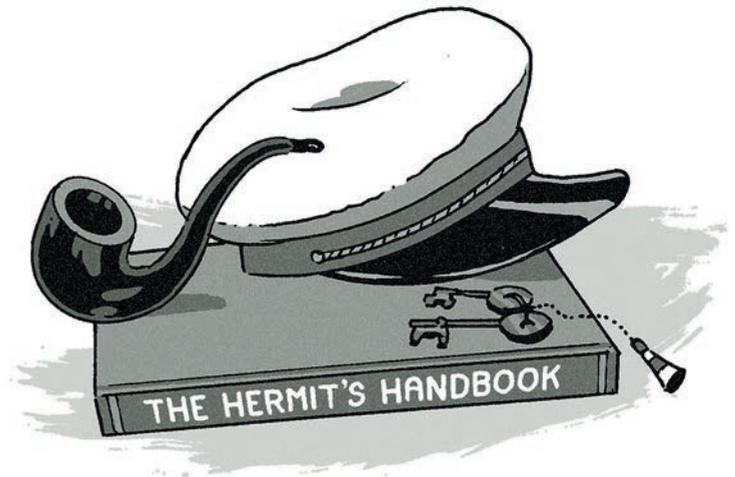
Can't wait to get your hands on one of those eight-tonne, nine-foot Fresnel lenses? Sure, in the time before automation, keepers had to watch over their lights day in and day out like fanatical moths. But not anymore. If a bulb needs replacing, Sally isn't permitted to roll up her sleeves and get on with the job herself — it's down to the US Coast Guard to fix. "The aids to navigation team goes up there quarterly to do maintenance," Sally says. So if there's a power cut, you could have a hideously long wait on your hands. Better get used to sparking two seashells against each other to boil water for a cuppa.

# 9

## IT'S KIND OF EXPENSIVE

With take-home pay of roughly £2,500 per month, it might seem like keepers make a healthy salary. But gone are the days when the lighthouse company provided uniforms free of charge. You can blame privatisation and

government cutbacks on "non-essential spending", but the fact remains: if you want that sexy lighthouse keeper look, you've got to pay for it yourself. That hat, pipe and yellow rain slicker is coming out of your pocket.



## Lone rangers

Working with other people not for you? Try these jobs for some extreme solitude



**Goat herder**  
Fancy strolling the plains on your tod except for Black Phillip and pals? Grand. But if you're feeling horny, don't forget that *Brokeback Mountain* was about sheep herding — which is totally different.



# 10

## MERMAIDS ARE NOT MARRIAGE MATERIAL

As a lighthouse keeper, you'll spend most of your time alone. So when a merperson pops up on a nearby rock, it's tempting to believe you can make a go of things. Opposites attract, right? A word of warning: ye and they be from different worlds entirely. It's a tragedy waiting to happen. Even without the supporting cast of singing lobsters and eccentric seagulls, it's unlikely to go the distance. >



### Astronaut

On the plus side, this job spec means gazing down, *Gravity*-style, at planet Earth from afar - 249,205 miles away is the current record. On the minus side, there's always the fiery asteroids flying at your face.



### Security guard

We've all seen *Night at the Museum*, but forget that fantasy guff and you've got yourself a bone-fide Billy No Mates role. The world is asleep, the exhibits are dead and you get to walk around like you're master of it all.



### Antarctic researcher

Like the sound of working thousands of miles away from home in the freezing cold? Well, good luck to you. Sadly, anyone who's seen *The Thing* knows that this will not end well.

# 11

## You'll head up a global PR campaign

Expert Jeremy D'Entremont, who has penned an incredible 18 books on the subject, notes that lighthouses are "one of the most familiar symbols in our culture, used by churches, schools and in advertising to symbolise hope, strength, guidance and finding safe harbour in troubled times". As a lighthouse keeper, you'd be in charge of managing that PR. Do you tend to give people a sense of safety and belonging? Do you inspire feelings of non-religious spirituality? Even then, you still might not be up to the task.

# 12

## Good luck with that skin-care regime

A beard full of sea salt, starfish and seagull s\*\*t. A diet of hardtack and barnacle soup. Pound upon pound of Fisherman's Friend lozenges. And the ever-present odour of rotting fish around your person. Let's face it, your physical appearance is going to take a bit of a hit if you take this job. Even if you cake yourself in heavy-duty moisturiser on the hour every hour, you'll be hard pushed to halt the weather-beaten lines etching themselves into your face. Yes, you'll enter that lighthouse a fresh-faced young pup and leave looking like a battered old shoe. They do say, however, that seaweed is rich with skin-boosting properties, and there's no shortage of that about. A money-spinning side hustle, perhaps?

# 13

## YOUR BOSS IS ULTIMATELY THE SEA

... and she's a harsh mistress. Want to tone down that nor'easter? Ghost pirates stepped out of the fog again and messing with your chi? Ha! Good luck logging a complaint with HR. Still, while that humpback whale isn't going to give you a detailed performance evaluation, at least you won't have to make agonising small talk by the office microwave with Susan from payroll. Sadly, the only promotion you're likely to get is into an early watery grave when you slip off your lookout point from boredom. ■



📺 *Watch The Lighthouse*



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**W E L C O M E <sup>T O</sup>**

NO ONE KNOWS INDIA'S JUNGLE BETTER THAN THE PARDHI  
TRIBE WHO HAVE LIVED THERE FOR MORE THAN 500 YEARS.  
WE FOLLOW THEM INTO UNCHARTED TERRITORY

# THE JUNGLE

Words  
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**D**

deep in the valley, thick bamboo sticks shoot up around us from the earthy undergrowth. Their vivid green leaves form a natural parasol which shades us from the midday sun as we crouch down to inspect the ground for animal tracks.

Badda Pardhi points out a faint, almost invisible scuff in the dirt, and follows its direction over to a nearby tree. The gnarled trunk is covered with fresh scratch marks.

"A leopard was just here," he whispers, running his palm over the rough indent. Sure enough, he finds a fragment of a claw, not much bigger than a fingernail, embedded in the bark. He moves on stealthily, a fresh look of determination on his face, and just as we begin a steep climb up a forested, rocky hill, an alien sound – something between a roar, a howl and a bark – ricochets around the surrounding gorge's rocky walls. From the knowing smiles of my companions, it's clearly the sound of a

Clockwise from above scanning for wildlife in Panna National Park; cooking in the jungle; ancient temples emerge from the undergrowth

big cat, of the golden and black-spotted variety. Without missing a beat, Badda puts his hands to his mouth and imitates the deafening roar, calling back through the trees, pitch perfect. The uncanny ability to mimic animal calls and communicate with all manner of creatures is just one of the Pardhi tribe's secret weapons.

I'm trekking through the *Jumanji*-like jungle of Panna National Park, a protected area of India's eastern Madhya Pradesh state. The 543sq km reserve draws visitors for one main reason: its incredible wildlife, and one community here knows how to track animals like no other. From sloth



bears, snakes and hyenas to leopards, tigers and monkeys, if anyone can help us navigate this landscape and make it out alive, it's these guys.

The indigenous Pardhi (meaning "hunting") tribe, Badda among them, has lived nomadically in this area for five centuries, its people sustaining themselves through foraging and hunting wild boar, birds and other animals, something they are no longer permitted to do in the protected national park. Indeed, in a remarkable about-turn, the tribe has redirected their unrivalled tracking abilities towards human visitors, offering them an immersive wilderness experience like no other.

Badda is one of 16 Pardhis to be involved with special expeditions, run from Pashan Garh lodge – a luxury-safari outpost of Taj Hotels, and the starting point for our day. The unique project was launched in tandem with wildlife conservation programme Last Wilderness Foundation and the Indian government's Panna Forest Department, in order to give visitors to the region a real taste of jungle life.

The morning of our walk, we're up and at it before sunrise. Over a steaming cup of chai tea, I sign a mildly worrying waiver – one that absolves the lodge from blame if I fall victim to the "real risk of bodily harm by dangerous animals". As I do so, the hotel's on-site naturalist, Dipu Kumar, races into the room to tell me that a tiger was just seen stalking through the lodge site. It's the second time in four days. We rush outside to see deep paw prints pressed into the sandy forest floor, just metres from where we were sitting. Hearts pounding, we agree that it's time to meet up with the Pardhis.

By the time we reach our meeting point, on a hot, dusty road dotted with small settlements, the sun is high enough to hit the tips of the treetops. We set off towards the cavernous Ranipur gorge, which we'll climb down before entering the jungle proper and scaling the towering peak on the other side before sundown. A walk is generally escorted by five or so Pardhis – today we've got Badda, Batal, Reshna and Lallarsi, all, somewhat confusingly, with the same surname, Pardhi.

We've only been walking for a few minutes before Badda begins enthusiastically pointing out signs of wildlife, big and small: hours-old hyena tracks, identifiable by their garlic clove-shaped claws; the teeny paw prints of field mice;





a caterpillar trail that resembles a miniscule tyre track. Batal points out medicinal plants that have been used by the Pardhis for centuries – the community is still reliant on ancient herbal remedies and, apparently, the odd witch doctor.

We chew on *ketha* leaves, a herbal mouth freshener that tastes like aniseed, and run our fingers through the leaves of a mahua tree, the pink flower petals of

Clockwise from above stargazing around the campfire; the Pardhis are expert animal trackers; grinding red bark to make a soothing tea

which can be dried and crushed into the favoured local hooch. Lallarsi strips the red bark off an arjun tree, to be ground into a tea that treats high blood pressure. Batal rubs lantana leaves – a natural antiseptic – between his palms, releasing a potent green juice that I’m told is powerful enough to remedy scorpion stings. “You can also put this in your ear to treat tooth problems,” he advises, “but only on Wednesdays.”

Good to know. Before moving on, it’s time to prepare lunch, by a jade-green river at the bottom of the gorge. Water buffalo laze around us, electric-blue kingfishers swoop overhead and a family of langur monkeys watches with interest as the Pardhis boil rice in fresh river water and crush gooseberries and coriander into a chutney on a large, flat rock.

As we wait for our food, I enjoy front row seats to an epic performance of the Pardhis’ famous animal calls. Lallarsi roars like a jackal and barks like a monkey, before carrying out a surprisingly passionate imitation of the mating calls between a peacock and a peahen. Batal whistles to a partridge perched on a nearby branch – which tweets back in reply – before expelling the guttural, threatening growl of a tiger. He reveals that the very ground we’re sitting on was the site of a tiger-poaching incident in 2000 – one that he was in fact party to.

There’s no escaping the fact that the Pardhis were once prolific and highly skilled hunters. They didn’t have many other options. The tribe had been exiled from mainstream Indian society throughout history, notably by British colonial officials, who labelled them a “criminal tribe” in 1871 due to their outlawed existence in the bush, despite regularly exploiting the Pardhis’ tracking skills to help them trophy-hunt big game. While the tribe was finally denotified of this label in 1952, decades of persecution had made their reputation, and mindset, hard to shift.

Batal was the first of his community to give up hunting, in 2008, when – convinced by the Forest Department – he became an advocate for a different way of life. It wouldn’t have been possible without the support of the Last Wilderness Foundation, which built schools for Pardi children in the Panna region as well as permanent accommodation,











providing security and a glimpse of a future potentially worth leaving the jungle for. The foundation employed Batal and his wife Mahila Bai to teach the Pardhi youngsters how to brush their teeth, cut their nails and generally prepare themselves for a life and education in mainstream society. Astonishingly, the pair managed to convince their entire community to stop hunting for good, a feat which won them a lifetime wildlife award from *Sanctuary* magazine. The villagers came together at their local temple and vowed to no longer hunt, nor let their children hunt. In return, a small pole-making factory was opened by the Last Wilderness Foundation to give the tribe an alternative way of supporting and feeding themselves, with the community being asked to choose its location.

The Pardhis chose a beautifully remote, forested site, surrounded by trees and the wildlife with which they were so accustomed to sharing their days.

“We don’t want them to be ashamed of who they are or what they have done in the past,” says Bhavna Menon, who has been managing the Pardhi community outreach programme for nine years. She’s more interested in focusing on the tribe’s bright future.

It was with this in mind that another big step was taken, when the foundation began recruiting Pardhi members to become trained walking guides for Taj Safaris. Now, five families are entirely supported in these roles, and last year, the first Pardhi women were trained up for the job. Reshna, in her early twenties and kitted out in crisp khakis, is the youngest in our group and the first female in her community to become a trained naturalist.

“It’s a big deal that girls like Reshna can earn their own money,” Bhavna explains.

Clockwise from above the tranquil Taj Pashan Garh lodge; making roti on the rocks; monkeying around



“It means they don’t have to be reliant on men any more.”

Today, nomadic life is rare among the Pardhis, who have settled in various villages. But while the older generation worries that the tribe’s heritage will be forgotten, Bhavna explains that the Walk with the Pardhis programme is actually re-affirming the value of their tracking skills, which might otherwise have been lost.

After a lunch of lentil daal and slow-cooked potatoes, peas and tomatoes, served on stitched-together banyan leaves and enjoyed with bonfire-baked roti bread, we enter the densest part of the jungle. We pass through dark caves, which I’m told are known leopard dens, until the path between the trees becomes steeper, rockier and more difficult to traverse. Luckily, the Pardhis know it like the back of their hands. We scramble up rocks and slash through the coarse thicket, squeezing through a narrow crevice that opens up onto a jaw-dropping view of the gorge below.

Our Pardhi guides’ wives are waiting for us there with baskets full of aromatic dried spices and rice for our evening meal. They sing folk songs as we cook – melodic, haunting odes to the dramatic landscape around us, as the sun disappears and we light lanterns and settle in around the camp fire.

“Who needs a five-star hotel?” asks Hada, reclining back to gaze at the twinkling canopy emerging from the night sky. “We’ve got the best view right here.”

The Pardhis take the idea of living a simple life to the next level. It’s ingrained in their nomadic DNA to own only that which can be carried around from place to place. In their jungle-dwelling days, the tribe would walk long distances, carrying just one small bundle wrapped in cloth (known as *potli* in Hindi), which they would unwind and lay on the ground to sleep on beneath the stars.



At most, a plastic sheet draped over branches provided a temporary shelter from the jungle elements.

As extraordinary as all this sounds, I can’t pretend I’m not glad to arrive back at the safari lodge later on. Sprawled out in my bed in the pitch black I put my new, Pardhi-style tracking skills to the test and tune my ear to the sounds outside. I pick up the rustle of palm squirrels on the roof and the snouts of wild boars rooting in the undergrowth. So far, so peaceful. Then, I hear a distant, panic-stricken series of barks. It’s a family of monkeys, warning of approaching danger, followed by the honk of a sambar deer, prey to the biggest cat of all, and one that’s so far eluded us.

As the monkeys’ calls grow more frenzied, I hear a distant roar. It’s indistinguishable from the sounds made by Batal and Badda, but there’s no mistaking which creature it comes from. This is the real call of the jungle: more visceral and heart-racing than calling out “Jumanji!” at the end of a Hollywood blockbuster. And it sounds extremely close by. My heart’s pumping, the adrenaline racing. But like *Jumanji*’s cast of adventurers, I’m not sure I’m ready to return to real life just yet.

📺 **Watch *Jumanji: The Next Level***



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Due to different entertainment systems on our aircraft, the programming line-up may vary



# Prime cuts

Daniel Craig heads a colourful cast in the super-sharp murder mystery *Knives Out*

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Tune into Vera, our award-winning world of entertainment



## Spoilt for choice

Our What's On Vera show profiles the best onboard this month

Sometimes having too many options can be a little overwhelming. So, to guide you through the huge array of entertainment onboard, check out *What's On Vera*. This monthly show, hosted by film critic Jason Solomons, highlights the best TV, documentaries and movies to watch right now.

This month, check out our exclusive red carpet interviews from the 2019 British Independent Film Awards (Bifas), held in London in December. Movie stars such as Jessie Buckley, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Kristin Scott Thomas all stop by for a chat.

### Say hello to São Paulo

Para apoiar nossa nova rota para São Paulo, agora temos uma seleção dos mais recentes filmes de Hollywood em português do Brasil para você aproveitar a bordo.

To support our new route to São Paulo, we now have a selection of the latest Hollywood movies in Brazilian Portuguese for you to enjoy onboard.

## Screen time

Onboard this month we have

110+

MOVIES

610+

ALBUMS & PODCASTS

300+

HOURS OF TV SHOWS

20+

DESTINATION GUIDES

40+

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### Handset pairing

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## Viewing guide



Not suitable for nervous flyers



Unsuitable for children



Audio descriptive title



English subtitles



Vera Loves

## Language key

Most movies have several language options available. To find them, pick a movie, select the dropdown language box, choose your language and enjoy! We also have a selection of Hindi and Chinese movies onboard.

CH = 中文字幕

FR = Français

DE = Deutsch

HEB = עברית

ES = Español

IT = Italiano

PB = Português do Brasil

# Movie highlights

Action



## 47 Meters Down: Uncaged !

**Cast**  
Sophie Nélisse,  
Corinne Foxx

**Runtime**  
90 mins

There are shark-based thrills aplenty as teenage divers find themselves on the menu for a bunch of great whites. With their air supply steadily dwindling, they must navigate an underwater labyrinth.



## Charlie's Angels 12

**Cast**  
Kristen Stewart,  
Naomi Scott

**Runtime**  
119 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE,  
ES, PB, CH

This latest iteration of *Charlie's Angels* stars Stewart, Scott and Ella Balinska as the divine beings of the title: a trio of crime-fighters who frequently find themselves on world-saving duties.



## Jumanji: The Next Level 12

**Cast**  
Dwayne Johnson,  
Jack Black

**Runtime**  
123 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE, ES,  
PB, CH

There was a whopping 22-year gap between the first *Jumanji* film and its 2017 sequel, *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*, so waiting just two years for this one feels like the blink of an eye in comparison. Not wanting to mess with what was clearly unbeatable chemistry, the producers have assembled

the same stellar cast. Nor have they fiddled much with the plot itself, as our wisecracking, mismatched crew enter the world of *Jumanji* once again, this time on a rescue mission. More than that, we can't say. Just that the one-liners come thick and fast and the dial for "action and adventure" is set to very high. Oh, and by the way, we have the previous two *Jumanji* movies onboard as well.

Family



## Abominable U

**Cast**  
Chloe Bennet,  
Albert Tsai

**Runtime**  
97 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE,  
IT, ES,

After finding a yeti on the roof of her apartment building, Yi (Bennet) embarks on an epic quest to reunite him with his family, a trip hindered by a villainous pair who want the creature for their own gain.



## A Shaun the Sheep Movie: Farmageddon U

**Cast**  
Justin Fletcher,  
John Sparkes

**Runtime**  
86 mins

Brilliant sequel in which Shaun (Fletcher) and his woolly pals bump into an alien with extraordinary powers, who crash-lands near the farm at Mossy Bottom.



## Frozen 2 U

**Cast**  
Kristen Bell,  
Idina Menzel

**Runtime**  
103 mins

**Languages**  
FR, ES,  
PB, CH

Set three years after *Frozen*, this sequel has been smashing box office records. It finds Elsa (Menzel), Anna (Bell) and the gang on a mission to discover the origin of Elsa's powers – and save the kingdom.

PHOTOS: COPYRIGHT © 2020 DISNEY



Indie



### Honey Boy

15

Cast	Runtime	Languages
Shia LaBeouf, Lucas Hedges	94 mins	IT, ES

Written by LaBeouf, *Honey Boy* is a semi-autobiographical tale which sees him play a version of his dad, a former rodeo clown who struggles with addiction while bringing up his son (Hedges).



### The Sound of Silence

!

Cast	Runtime	Languages
Peter Sarsgaard, Rashida Jones	88 mins	ES

Quirky drama starring Sarsgaard as a “house tuner” who goes into homes to improve the sonic environment. However, there are some people to whom the idea of harmony is a foreign concept.



### The Wolf Hour

!

Cast	Runtime	Languages
Naomi Watts, Jennifer Ehle	99 mins	IT, ES

Set in sweltering New York in 1977 – the notorious “Summer of Sam” – *The Wolf Hour* is a tense Hitchcockian thriller about June (Watts), a writer who has cut herself off from the outside world.



### In Fabric

15

Cast	Runtime
Fatma Mohamed, Marianne Jean-Baptiste	118 mins

If the idea of cursed clothing doesn't sound that scary, check out *In Fabric*. Peter Strickland's stylish and otherworldly art-horror is all about a “perfect” dress that unleashes a malevolent curse.



### Departures

12

Cast	Runtime	Languages
Asa Butterfield, Maisie Williams	97 mins	FR, IT

In the race to prove that there is life after *Game of Thrones*, Maisie Williams seems to have stolen a march on the rest of her cast members with this big-hearted teen film. The actor formerly known as Arya Stark plays Skye Aitken, who has been told she has entered the final phase of her cancer battle and

has little time left. At a support group she befriends Calvin (Asa Butterfield), a socially awkward baggage handler who has a crush on flight attendant Izzy (Nina Dobrev) but has difficulty talking to her. When Skye asks Calvin to help her achieve her bucket list, she inadvertently forces him to confront his own fears. A comedy-drama that's both funny and moving, *Departures* heralds the arrival of Williams as a movie star.



### The Peanut Butter Falcon

12

Cast	Runtime	Languages
Zack Gottsagen, Shia LaBeouf	97 mins	FR, ES, CH

The kind of film that makes you laugh and cry – often at the same time – this tells the story of Zak (Gottsagen), a young man with Down's syndrome who dreams of becoming a pro wrestler.

# Movie highlights

Drama



## Waves

Cast	Runtime	Languages	
Taylor Russell, Kelvin Harrison Jr	135 mins	FR, ES, PB	

Drama charting the ups and downs of an African-American family in Florida, particularly overbearing dad Ronald (Sterling K Brown from *This is Us*) and his eldest son, Tyler (Harrison Jr), whose life spirals into chaos. Once a promising athlete, things begin to go wrong for Tyler when he's injured. He starts drinking heavily

and using drugs, neglecting his family and his girlfriend, Alexis (Alexa Demie). Suffice to say, this tragic turn of events tests the already hard-pressed family to their limits, forcing them to confront issues of shame, forgiveness and understanding. The result is a beautifully performed, highly potent film – all set to a fine soundtrack courtesy of Nine Inch Nails legend Trent Reznor.



## A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Cast	Runtime	Languages	
Tom Hanks, Matthew Rhys	109 mins	FR, DE, PB	

Hanks has rightly been nominated for every award going for his nuanced portrayal of the real-life US children's TV presenter Fred Rogers.



## Downton Abbey

Cast	Runtime	Languages	
Maggie Smith, Hugh Bonneville	120 mins	FR, DE, IT	

A feature-length version of the beloved TV show finds the collective blood pressure rising at Downton thanks to the imminent arrival of some very special guests. Who? Only the King and Queen.



## Harriet

Cast	Runtime	Languages	
Cynthia Erivo, Leslie Odom Jr	125 mins	ES	

Born into slavery in 1822, Harriet Tubman (Erivo) became a figurehead for the abolitionist movement. Having escaped her chains, she led a series of missions to rescue others – including her own family.



## Joker

Cast	Runtime	Languages	
Joaquin Phoenix, Robert De Niro	122 mins	FR, DE, PB, CH	

Director Todd Phillips (*The Hangover*) explores how Batman's greatest nemesis came to be. Phoenix is extraordinary in the lead role, and the film is a darker-than-dark story of revenge.



## Judy

Cast	Runtime	Languages	
Renée Zellweger, Rufus Sewell	118 mins	FR, DE, ES, PB, CH	

Zellweger gives a luminous performance as the legendary movie star Judy Garland, who arrives in London during the winter of 1968 in order to sing at a series of sell-out concerts.



Drama



**The Last Black Man in San Francisco** 15

**Cast**  
Jimmie Fails, Jonathan Majors

**Runtime**  
121 mins

**Languages**  
ES, CH

Joe Talbot scooped the Best Director going at the Sundance Film Festival for this heartfelt love letter to friendship and the city of San Francisco.



**Le Mans '66** 12

**Cast**  
Matt Damon, Christian Bale

**Runtime**  
152 mins

**Languages**  
FR, IT, PB

**AD**

There's plenty of star power from Damon and Bale in this true story of motor-racing rivalry. The plot sees Ford hire a designer and driver to challenge Ferrari with the ultimate race car for Le Mans '66.



**Midway** 12

**Cast**  
Ed Skrein, Patrick Wilson

**Runtime**  
128 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE, ES

Fought over four days in June 1942, the Battle of Midway marked a turning point for the allies during WWII. Boasting a seriously starry cast, this is a recreation of that epochal skirmish.

Comedy



**The Farewell** PG

**Cast**  
Awkwafina, Zhao Shuzhen

**Runtime**  
100 mins

**Languages**  
FR, ES

Moving and beautifully performed, *The Farewell* is about a Chinese family discovering their beloved grandmother has just weeks left to live. To say goodbye they organise a huge, hasty get-together.



**Jojo Rabbit** 12 ♥

**Cast**  
Roman Griffin Davis, Scarlett Johansson

**Runtime**  
108 mins

**Languages**  
DE

Having helmed the original *What We Do in the Shadows* film and the best of the Marvel movies (that's *Thor: Ragnarok*, just in case you were wondering), writer/director Taika Waititi is clearly one of the most exciting talents working today. Here he trains his eye on Nazi Germany with this adaptation of Christine

Leunens's novel about a lonely lad named Jojo (Griffin Davis) whose world view is shaken when he realises that his single mother (Johansson) is hiding a young Jewish girl (Thomasin McKenzie) in their attic. Forced to confront his previously unassailable ideology, Jojo looks for help. Who can he turn to? Why, his imaginary friend Adolf Hitler (played by Waititi himself) of course...



**Villains** !

**Cast**  
Bill Skarsgård, Maika Monroe

**Runtime**  
88 mins

When their car dies after a petrol station hold-up, two lovestruck crooks break into a nearby house looking for a new set of wheels. What they find instead is a pair of seriously twisted homeowners.

# Movie highlights

Crime



## Knives Out ♡

<b>Cast</b> Daniel Craig, Chris Evans	<b>Runtime</b> 131 mins	<b>Languages</b> FR, ES, PB	<b>AD</b>
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Written and directed by *Star Wars* ace Rian Johnson and conceived as a tribute to Agatha Christie, *Knives Out* sees Craig adopting an outlandish Southern accent and leading a mouth-watering cast as detective Benoit Blanc, called to the mansion of the Thrombey family. Who hired him? That's a puzzle in itself. Why are his

services required? There's been a murder. Famous author and family head Harlan (Plummer) has been found dead in his study and it swiftly becomes clear that virtually everyone in the family is a suspect. Twist follows turn, unexpected alliances are formed and the upshot is a thoroughly modern yet gloriously nostalgic murder mystery that's sharp and fun and gripping and... oh, just watch it already.

12



## Black and Blue ♡

15

<b>Cast</b> Naomie Harris, Nafessa Williams	<b>Runtime</b> 108 mins	<b>Languages</b> FR, DE, IT, PB
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In this action thriller Harris plays a rookie New Orleans cop who, after accidentally capturing the death of a drug dealer on her body cam, realises that the perps are corrupt police officers.



## Motherless Brooklyn ♡

15

<b>Cast</b> Edward Norton, Alec Baldwin	<b>Runtime</b> 144 mins	<b>Languages</b> FR, IT, PB, HEB	<b>AD</b>
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Norton directs and stars in this noirish adaptation of Jonathan Lethem's cult novel set in 1950s New York. He plays a detective with Tourette's trying to solve the murder of his best friend.

Sci-Fi



## Freaks ♡

15

<b>Cast</b> Lexy Kolker, Emile Hirsch	<b>Runtime</b> 106 mins	<b>Languages</b> DE
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Prevented from leaving home by her controlling father (Hirsch), Chloe (Kolker) longs to see the world outside. What follows combines sci-fi and horror in a tale of love and parenthood.



## Paradise Hills !

<b>Cast</b> Emma Roberts, Danielle Macdonald	<b>Runtime</b> 94 mins	<b>Languages</b> DE, ES	<b>AD</b>
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This mix of fantasy, sci-fi and thriller finds Uma (Roberts) waking up in a school for young ladies with the emphasis on reforming her and the other girls. But there's a darker secret within its walls.



## Terminator: Dark Fate ♡

15

<b>Cast</b> Linda Hamilton, Arnold Schwarzenegger	<b>Runtime</b> 128 mins	<b>Languages</b> FR, DE, ES, PB, CH	<b>AD</b>
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The *Terminator* series returns to form with Hamilton back as the ass-kicking Sarah Connor. The plot may be familiar but the action is brilliant and Arnie gets to dust off his catchphrases. No problemo.



Shorts



**Little Hands** !

**Runtime**  
15 mins

**Languages**  
FR

Belgian short about Bruno, a worker at a chemical plant. When he discovers he's about to lose his job, he kidnaps the manager's two-year-old son in protest. Obviously, things do not go well.



**Nefta Football Club** ♥ !

**Runtime**  
17 mins

**Languages**  
ARA

Oscar-nominated short about two lads who, while playing football, happen across a donkey. But why is it wearing headphones and laden down with bags of a strange white powder?



**Sister** ♥ !

**Runtime**  
8 mins

**Languages**  
CH

An amazing airline first for this stunning Chinese short. Using stop-motion animation, it tells the tale of a man reminiscing about his childhood and his relationship with a certain sibling.

Horror



**The Lighthouse** ♥ 15

**Cast**  
Robert Pattinson,  
Willem Dafoe

**Runtime**  
109 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE,  
ES, PB

From the director of *The Witch*, this black-and-white film features Pattinson and Dafoe as lighthouse keepers on an isolated New England island in the 1890s. And they're both going slowly mad...



**Doctor Sleep** ♥ 15

**Cast**  
Ewan McGregor,  
Rebecca Ferguson

**Runtime**  
152 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE, PB,  
CH, HEB

The sequel to Stanley Kubrick's classic horror movie *The Shining* (also showing onboard) is based on another Stephen King novel, so scaredy-cats should look away now. It reintroduces us to Danny Torrance, who you may remember as the lad being terrorised by an axe-wielding Jack Nicholson in the original.

Some 30 years on, Danny's all grown up, and now looks a lot like Ewan McGregor. Still traumatised by the whole axe thing, he's trying to put it behind him, until he meets Abra (Kyliegh Curran), a teen who shares his gift for ESP and needs his help. Now Danny must face up to his fears and confront the demons of the past in order to defeat the merciless Rose the Hat (Ferguson). Scary? Oh yes. And then some.



**Zombieland: Double Tap** 15

**Cast**  
Jesse Eisenberg,  
Woody Harrelson

**Runtime**  
100 mins

**Languages**  
FR, DE, IT

A decade after the original comes this sequel in which our heroes are still battling zombies while coping with the demands of their makeshift and dysfunctional "family" life.

# TV highlights

We've got 33 boxsets onboard! See the full line-up on your screen

Boxsets



## Castle Rock

Episodes 10 | Runtime 50 mins each

Created by JJ Abrams and based on Stephen King's stories, this horror series has an excellent pedigree. We have the second season onboard – and, as it's an anthology show, you don't need to have seen the first to enjoy it. Lizzy Caplan stars as Annie Wilkes, a mentally ill nurse who gets stuck with her teenage daughter Joy (Elsie Fisher) in

the town of Castle Rock, Maine, following a car accident that was caused by Annie digging for her meds while driving. When they book into the Stargazer Lodge, which is owned by the nasty Ace Merrill (Paul Sparks), it sets in motion a series of shocking events. A highly atmospheric, brilliantly acted series that captures the feeling of King's books while expanding on the master storyteller's world.



## Billy Connolly's Great American Trail

Episodes 3 | Runtime 45 mins each

The globe-trotting Scot follows the migratory trail of his countrymen in America, from New York to Nashville. Highlights include a Tartan Day Parade in the Big Apple in front of 30,000 people.



## Brassic

Episodes 6 | Runtime 43 mins each

A cross between *Shameless* and *This is England*, *Brassic* is a gritty and very funny series about grifters in Lancashire. Trust us, nobody can hold a candle to this lot when it comes to getting up to no good and living by their wits.



## Condor

Episodes 10 | Runtime 53 mins each

Acclaimed US series about Joe Turner (Max Irons), a conflicted CIA operative who makes a discovery that leads to the murder of his fellow agents. Now on the run, Joe must work out how to foil a plot that could cost literally millions of lives.



## Gentleman Jack

Episodes 8 | Runtime 60 mins each

Written by Sally Wainwright (*Happy Valley*) and starring Suranne Jones (*Doctor Foster*), this funny but heartfelt period drama tells the true tale of lesbian landowner Anne Lister. Can she restore her estate and win the woman she loves?



## Good Omens

Episodes 6 | Runtime 60 mins each

Based on a book by Neil Gaiman and the late Terry Pratchett, this six-part series stars David Tennant as demon Crowley and Michael Sheen as angel Aziraphale, who form an unlikely alliance to stop the upcoming Armageddon.



Boxsets



**Succession** ❤️ !

Episodes 10 | Runtime 60 mins each

Brian Cox and Matthew Macfadyen head the cast of this critically acclaimed HBO show. It revolves around the Roy family, who control one of the world's biggest media conglomerates. But who will take over when Logan Roy (Cox) steps down?



**The Capture** ❤️ !

Episodes 6 | Runtime 55 mins each

Nobody does homegrown crime better than the BBC (*The Bodyguard*, anyone?) and sure enough, this latest miniseries is an absolute treat from start to finish. High-tech but gritty, it's proper edge-of-your-seat stuff as troubled ex-squaddie Shaun Emery (Callum Turner) is accused of kidnap and then arrested. Although CCTV footage suggests

it's an open-and-shut case pointing to Shaun as the guilty party, he swears his innocence - and then goes on the run. Enter DI Rachel Carey (Holliday Grainger) who, as she begins her investigation, starts to wonder if the evidence is quite as watertight as it first seems. Added to that, the more DI Carey digs, the more dirt she finds. Good news for binge-watchers: we have the whole boxset onboard.



**White House Farm** !

Episodes 6 | Runtime 50 mins each

Boasting a talented cast, this is the true-life tale of a crime that gripped and horrified the nation - the 1985 White House Farm murders, in which members of the Bamber family were slaughtered by their adopted son, Jeremy (Freddie Fox).

Sport



**Andy Murray: Resurfacing** 15 !

Runtime 110 mins

In 2017, an incredible winning streak came to an end for Andy Murray when he fell victim to injury and a dramatic loss of form. This intimate documentary details the tennis ace's long and painful journey back from that low ebb.



**Four Four Two** !

Episodes 3 | Runtime 26 mins each

The UK's greatest football mag gets under the skin of the beautiful game with this compelling series, which includes a look at the genius of Lionel Messi, plus tales of the Champions League and how players go from grassroots to the Premiership.



**Goodwood Festival of Speed 2019**

Runtime 45 mins

An annual celebration of classic, modern and future car design held at Goodwood House in West Sussex. This highlights show captures all the best bits from this year's shindig.

# TV highlights

Documentaries



## The Kingmaker ♥

Runtime 101 mins

Imelda Marcos is the ex-Filipino first lady disgraced in the wake of corruption charges. Now, in this brilliant, critically acclaimed documentary, she's on a mission to rehabilitate her family's name as they return to politics in their native Philippines – a tall order with such a controversial legacy. As Marcos grants filmmaker Lauren Greenfield unrivalled

access to herself and her clan, she makes a fascinatingly sinister subject. But what also becomes evident is that she's brazenly rewriting history along the way, attempting to recast her previous misdemeanours as selfless acts of patriotism. It certainly makes for compelling viewing and, in this era of fake news, a salutary tale for the ages. Or, as Marcos puts it, "Perception is real, but the truth is not."

15



## Dior and I !

Runtime 90 mins

Designer Raf Simons took over as Dior's creative director in 2012 with a brief to modernise the brand and oversee the next collection. Filmmaker Frédéric Tcheng was on hand to capture every drop of blood, sweat and tears along the way.



## Mike Wallace is Here !

Runtime 94 mins

Acclaimed documentary that shines a spotlight on the troubled personal life and storied career of Mike Wallace. For over half a century, Wallace was the fearsome frontman for *60 Minutes*, going head to head with some of the 20th century's most influential figures.



## Amazing Grace U

Runtime 86 mins

This documentary about the making of Aretha Franklin's 1972 concert album *Amazing Grace* has been sitting in the vaults for 48 years. Is it worth the wait? Yes indeed – Franklin has never sounded better. Respect due.



## Cartel Land 15

Runtime 100 mins

Executive-produced by the Oscar-winning filmmaker Kathryn Bigelow, this hard-hitting documentary examines the ferocious drug war currently raging along the US-Mexican border – otherwise known as "cartel land".



## Obit !

Runtime 93 mins

No doubt about it, the craft of writing a good obituary requires a special kind of skill. Here's a documentary that lifts the lid on that rarefied trade, taking us behind the scenes with the obit writers at *The New York Times*.



Entertainment



**Michael McIntyre's Big Show !**

Episodes 2 | Runtime 50 mins each

British comedian Michael McIntyre is in his element as he presents an evening's worth of entertainment, surprising celebrities and giving members of the public their time in the spotlight with a series of fun games.



**What's on Vera !**

Runtime 17 mins

Our monthly TV show hosted by critic Jason Solomons highlights the best things to watch onboard right now. As well as profiling our top 10 entertainment picks, we have ace red carpet interviews from the British Independent Film Awards.



**Strictly Come Dancing**

Runtime 88 mins

Those who love *Strictly* will be overjoyed to revisit this first episode of the latest series, when we had a full complement of celebrities and pros, and the public hadn't done anything daft like vote out the best couple. Ah, the nostalgia...

Factual



**Apollo: Back to the Moon**

Episodes 2 | Runtime 45 mins each

The makers of this excellent documentary have remastered footage of the Apollo Moon landings, as well as adding bespoke 3D recreations. The result is the most detailed and visually stunning study of Nasa's finest hour(s) ever.



**Warrior Women with Lupita Nyong'o !**

Runtime 50 mins

*Black Panther* saw Lupita Nyong'o playing Nakia, a warrior from the fictional African nation of Wakanda. So she's the ideal host for this cracking documentary in which she goes in search of the fearsome all-female Agoji tribe. What she discovers as she travels across West Africa is that, although the last Agoji warrior died way back in the 1970s, their

spirit is still very much alive. And, as she claps eyes on a display of human skulls they collected, she also comes to realise that their legacy is far darker than she had anticipated. Ultimately, then, it's as much the story of Lupita's journey as it is the tale of the Agoji, and her honesty and compassion – not to mention her enviable way with the locals – makes this a highly personal, intensely watchable odyssey.



**Jawline** ❤️ !

Runtime 93 mins

"There's no shortage of people wanting to be famous on social media," says 16-year-old rising star Austyn Tester in this feature-length doc: an affecting portrait of teenage dreams, and a meditation on the seductive allure of social media.

# TV highlights

Comedy



## What We Do in the Shadows ♥

Episodes 4 | Runtime 25 mins each

Having started life as a brilliant cult comedy film, *What We Do in the Shadows* has made the transition to brilliant cult TV show. A bleeding marvellous mockumentary, the series follows the night-to-night existence of a group of vampire housemates who have lived together for over 100 years. Leading the blood pack is Nandor the Relentless

(Kayvan Novak), once a soldier of the Ottoman Empire, who is trying to keep order in a household that includes English nobleman Laszlo Cravensworth (Matt Berry) and his wife Nadja (Natasia Demetriou), a Romani with a hair-trigger temper. Gags about "half-drunk" victims, stuck coffin lids, werewolf rivalries and cape mishaps abound in a show that more than lives up to the film that spawned it.



## Curb Your Enthusiasm

Episodes 4 | Runtime 30 mins each

Whether at work, at home or around town, Larry David never fails to take a buttock-clenchingly embarrassing situation and make it, well, worse. Onboard we have cringe-making episodes from season nine.



## Fleabag

Episodes 6 | Runtime 30 mins each

Created by Phoebe Waller-Bridge, this TV phenomenon concerns a chaotic cafe owner trying to keep her head above water in a London that seemingly hates her. Dark, rude and funny – and that's just the central character.



## Frayed ♥

Episodes 6 | Runtime 50 mins each

A superb comedy starring Aussie stand-up Sarah Kendall as Simone, who's forced to return to her Aussie hometown with her reluctant kids in tow when her rich husband suddenly dies. We've got the whole season onboard.



## The Kominsky Method

Episodes 8 | Runtime 33 mins each

This awards-nominated comedy about the perils of getting old follows the fortunes of Sandy Kominsky (Michael Douglas), a former actor who had success years ago, but went on to become an acting coach instead.



## Man Like Mobeen ♥

Episodes 4 | Runtime 25 mins each

Fresh, funny and adored by critics, *Man Like Mobeen* focuses on a Brummie Muslim (Guz Khan) who wants to live a good life and follow his faith. Unfortunately his criminal past – and 15-year-old sister – get in the way.



Comedy



**Mum**

15

Episodes 6 | Runtime 30 mins each

The peerless Lesley Manville takes the lead in this bittersweet and utterly brilliant British sitcom revolving around a recently widowed 59-year-old woman and her faltering will-they-won't-they romance with pal Michael (Peter Mullan).



**GameFace** ❤️

Episodes 6 | Runtime 22 mins each

If you've ever caught any of Roisin Conaty's stand-up on shows such as *Live at the Apollo*, you'll know how good she is. And if you've missed her thus far then you'll just have to trust us, because she's very, very funny indeed. She takes centre stage in this hilarious sitcom, writing and starring as the irrepressible actor Marcella Donoghue,

whose relentless plans to self-improve inevitably end up on the ropes – with gut-bustingly funny consequences. Still, it's not all about making us squirm with laughter as she attends an audition and tries to cry on demand. What elevates Conaty's comedy above and beyond her peers is that most elusive of qualities: heart. We have all six episodes from season one onboard, so get stuck in.



**The Office**

Episodes 3 | Runtime 22 mins each

Remakes aren't supposed to match, let alone surpass, the TV series they're based on. The US version of *The Office* is an exception to the rule, however, and we have episodes from the critically acclaimed season nine onboard.

Wellbeing



**HeadSpace**

Runtime Various

Take some relaxation tips from the experts. Onboard we have everything from soothing sleepcasts to meditation guides for anxious flyers and business travellers – even advice on how to cope with jet lag. Turn on, tune in, drop off.



**Music of the Northern Lights**

Runtime 54 mins

A beautifully calming presentation, as gorgeous visuals taken from the Aurora Borealis – aka the Northern Lights – are combined with the tranquil music of the Norwegian Broadcasting Radio Orchestra.



**Team Body Project**

Runtime 7 mins

Alexandra and Daniel Bartlett of Team Body Project have created a special workout video just for Virgin Atlantic, with easy-to-do exercises you can carry out while in your seat to help boost your physical wellbeing on long-haul flights.

# Music highlights

Vera is on Spotify! Listen to our playlists at Virgin Atlantic Vera



## The Big Moon ♥

**Album** Walking Like We Do | **Genre** Alternative

The Big Moon's Mercury-nominated debut sounded just the way you'd expect from a band who cut their teeth supporting The Vaccines and Pixies. In other words, it rocked. Two years later and the volume has been turned

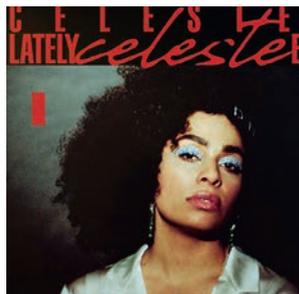
down for this second album, with the London four-piece adopting a shimmering synth sound that foregrounds Juliette Jackson's sumptuous vocals. The result feels like a real progression – and could well earn them another Mercury nomination.



## Brian Eno

**Album** Music for Installations | **Genre** Wellness

The ex-Roxy Music innovator and U2 producer extraordinaire wears his ambient hat for this immersive, transporting set.



## Celeste ♥

**Album** Lately EP | **Genre** Urban & RnB

Lily Allen and Michael Kiwanuka love this LA-born-London-based soul singer. This EP showcases her amazing voice perfectly.



## Emily Burns

**Album** My Town EP | **Genre** Pop

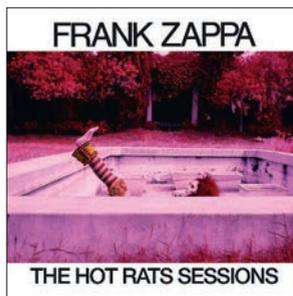
Singer-songwriter Burns hails from Rugby, but this EP is “more than just about Rugby, it’s about my life and heart”, she says.



## Hans Zimmer

**Album** The World of Hans Zimmer | **Genre** Classical

This Vienna concert includes Zimmer's best soundtracks, from *Gladiator* to *The Dark Knight*, in beautiful new arrangements.



## Frank Zappa

**Album** Hot Rats | **Genre** Rock

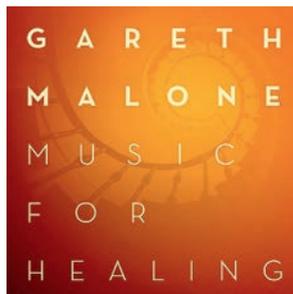
For Zappa newbies, this 1969 album shows his trademark mix of art-rock, psychedelia and jazz at its absolute zenith.



## Harry Styles

**Album** Fine Line | **Genre** Pop

The ex-One Directioner continues to confuse snobs by being rather good indeed on this second album of smart pop.



## Gareth Malone

**Album** Music for Healing | **Genre** Classical

TV choirmaster Gareth Malone takes an organic approach here, mixing solo piano, choir and strings to restorative effect.



## INXS

**Album** The Very Best | **Genre** All Time Greats

Michael Hutchence's Aussie icons had some huge tunes: *Suicide Blonde*, *Mystify*, *Never Tear Us Apart* – and they're all here.



### John Williams

**Album** Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker | **Genre** Classical

Williams's last *Star Wars* score is an awesome soundtrack that sees him go out on a high. You'll have a lump in your throat.



### Mother Love Bone !

**Album** Apple | **Genre** Cult Classics

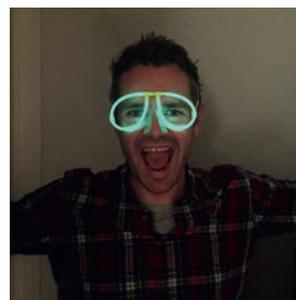
Not only did Mother Love Bone members form Pearl Jam, this 1990 album – the only one they made – is an absolute corker.



### Various Artists

**Album** 1980 – Metal's Mightiest Year | **Genre** Playlist

1980 was a key year for metal, and this playlist features genre-defining tunes that influenced the next wave of fans.



### Virgin People Playlist ❤️

**Chosen by Procurement Manager** Justin Hodges | **Genre** Various

"These are some of the bands I've seen over the last 20 years and the songs that have stuck out to me as being great live."



### Karl Jenkins

**Album** Karl Jenkins: Piano | **Genre** Classical

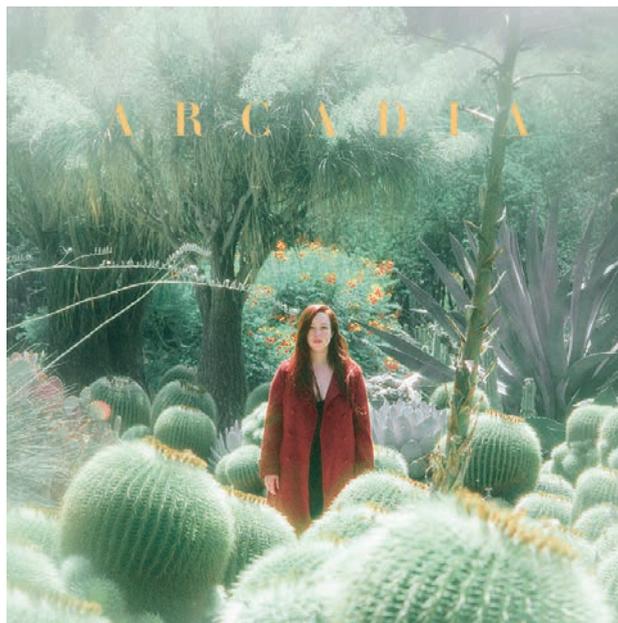
Expect jazz, classical, film scores and more. No wonder Jenkins is one of the most performed living composers in the world.



### Princess Ai !

**Album** Lost and Found | **Genre** Chinese

Princess Ai specialises in the kind of lovelorn pop-rock that seems to reach into your very soul. A whole album of it? Yes, please.

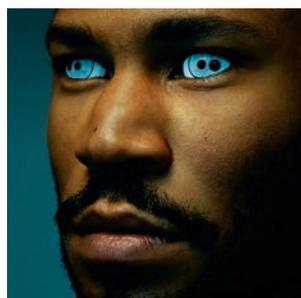


### Lily Kershaw ❤️ !

**Album** Arcadia | **Genre** Pop

LA-born Lily Kershaw was first known as an actress. At the same time, however, she was beaver away as a singer-songwriter, honing a style that owes a little to Kate Bush and Tori Amos, but remains absolutely

unique. Two of her songs appeared in the show *Criminal Minds*, swiftly followed by her signing to a major label and then an acclaimed debut album, *Midnight in the Garden*. This second album features her usual mix of aching arrangements and soaring vocals.



### KAYTRANDA ❤️ !

**Album** BUBBA | **Genre** Dance & Electronic

This Haitian-Canadian DJ/producer's new album of R&B and electronica features Pharrell Williams, Estelle and more.



### Those Damn Crows ❤️

**Album** Point of No Return | **Genre** Rock

Welsh quintet Those Damn Crows mix grunge and classic rock to brilliant, melodious effect on album number two.



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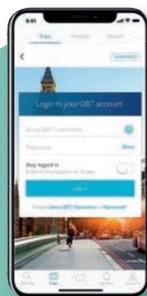
**Heathrow  
Express**

Get there sooner

# A companion in your pocket

Take the strain out of business trips with a one-stop digital solution, courtesy of American Express Global Business Travel

**C**amera? *Check.* Guidebook? *Check.* iPod? *Check.* Those who remember a world before smartphones will be familiar with the ritual of cramming their travel essentials into a carry-on. So when it became possible to squeeze all those items onto one pocket-sized device, we all breathed a sigh of relief. Thanks to Amex Global Business Travel (GBT), corporate jet-setters can enjoy the same ingenuity for all their travel needs, too.



American Express GBT's all-in-one digital platform is invaluable to employees who are tired of juggling the administrative tasks that come with frequent business travel. Staff on the move can check into flights and book ground transport from one mobile app. Meanwhile, companies can oversee every aspect of a business trip, whether pinpointing where their teams are in the world or keeping an eye on travel costs. How's that for a clever carry-on?

[amexglobalbusinesstravel.com](http://amexglobalbusinesstravel.com)

## Still not convinced?

Here are some people who could benefit from an on-the-go travel solution

### The delayed traveller

No one wants to deal with an automated voice over the phone if a flight is disrupted due to unavoidable circumstances. Thankfully, GBT has experienced travel counsellors on the line 24/7, as well as a messaging service, to get you back on schedule.

### The head honcho

When employees are regularly on the move, it may be tricky for companies to monitor their wellbeing. GBT's online tool means bosses may see who's where, while collecting data on booking behaviour and travel spend.

### The procurement pros

Travel costs rack up quickly. With presence in more than 140 countries, GBT's strong relationships with travel suppliers and hotels means clients can enjoy exclusive discounts to help keep travel spend to a minimum.

virgin atlantic 

They say you  
can't choose  
your family.  
But we did.

We couldn't be prouder to partner  
with airlines that share our passion for  
customers. When you travel you will  
enjoy the best experience in the sky,  
whoever you fly, because when you  
fly with one of us, you get  
the best of all of us.





## Reaching great heights

Captain Mike Abu-Nayla bids farewell after flying Boeing 747s for Virgin Atlantic for 31 years

When flight VS28 arrived at London Gatwick on 16 January 2020, it marked the end of an amazing career for Captain Mike Abu-Nayla, 65. Having notched up over 24,500 flight hours in Boeing 747s, Mike may have spent more time flying them than any other pilot in history.

As a young boy growing up in Baghdad, Mike set his sights on becoming a pilot after hearing stories from a cousin in the Iraqi Air Force. He decided to apply for an Iraqi Airways sponsorship programme, which saw him sent to Scotland to earn his commercial pilot's licence.

During training, Mike received word that Saddam Hussein had started one of his notorious purges and his brother had been arrested. He returned to Iraq to be with his family, plan-

ning to continue his flying career there, but was grounded after just one flight and sent to work shuffling papers at a railway company.

Following several attempts to get skyward again, Mike jumped at a relative's offer to smuggle him across the Iraq/Kuwait border. Once there, he landed a job as a Kuwait Airways pilot. However, he first had to travel to the UK to renew his Boeing 747 licence. Bad luck struck again when the airline reneged on its contract and he found himself stranded. Even worse, when he got a replacement gig with new airline Highland Express, they went bankrupt. The silver lining? Highland's founder sold on part of his shares to a partner called Richard Branson.

Mike joined Virgin Atlantic, a tiny start-up airline, in 1989. A year later, at 34, he was promoted to captain – the youngest on our fleet. But the highlight of Mike's career was a relief flight to Iraq in May 2003. Just after the first Gulf War, Virgin Atlantic agreed to fly 60 tonnes of medical aid to the country. Mike was honoured to captain this historic flight, the first time he'd set foot on Iraqi soil since he fled.

Fast forward to January 2020, and Mike's last trip was from Orlando to Gatwick. His cockpit announcement upon landing: "Ladies and gentlemen, after 31 years of flying for Virgin Atlantic and 46 years of flying, it's time to say goodbye. That was my last landing and my last flight. It was my pleasure to serve Virgin Atlantic and the many customers I've flown over the years. So for one last time, thank you."

We wish him a long and happy retirement.



Co-directed with Richard Topping and inspired by her own family's struggles, it looks at how neuro-developmental delay – when children retain the primitive survival reflexes they had as babies in later life – is connected to issues such as dyslexia, ADHD and dyspraxia, among others, and what can be done to treat it without drugs.

“My son was diagnosed with ADHD aged five, and the only option given to me was medication,” says Andrea. “I felt deep down this wasn't right, but I didn't have an alternative to challenge it.”

When she met therapist Bob Allen it was, she recalls, a “game-changer”. Allen offered her son a non-invasive, drug-free programme which tackled the causes of neuro-developmental delay rather than its symptoms.

The documentary explores how this treatment has helped other families looking to understand their children's conditions. Andrea sees it as her way of spreading the word. “When you've been to hell and back and uncover an answer, there is a strong urge and need to share the findings,” she says. “I truly believe that there are countless other parents out there right now feeling exactly as I did and unaware that there are options. And that's why I made this film.”



## Listen up

Don't miss *Attention Please*, a hard-hitting new documentary

British filmmaker Andrea Thornton is a Virgin Atlantic gold card customer who loves flying with us. And her award-winning short, *Attention Please*, may be the most important thing you watch onboard.

## Use the eGates for faster entry to the UK

Millions more travellers can now use the eGates on arrival into the UK – can you?

You can use the eGates if you are:

A citizen of:



+



Your passport has this symbol

+



You are 12+ (those aged 12-17 must be accompanied by an adult)

+



You don't need a stamp in your passport

The UK government has expanded the use of eGates at airports to nationals of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and the United States of America.

The majority of nationals from these seven countries will be eligible to use the eGates. But there are exceptions, including those travellers with children under 12 or those coming to the UK for short-term study or certain types of work.

Please see a Border Force officer to get your passport stamped if you're a citizen of these countries and are:

- Coming for short-term study (for up to six months).
- Or have a Tier 5 Sporting and Arts Certificate of Sponsorship.
- Or are due to carry out Permitted Paid Engagements.
- Or are a family member of an EEA national seeking to join them permanently in the UK.

**For more information, visit [gov.uk/border-force/fastertravel](http://gov.uk/border-force/fastertravel) or watch the eGates eligibility video on V-TV, onboard now.**



## Why I love my job

Michelle Moss is flying the flag for women in tech

"I've always been analytical, and graduated with a degree in chemistry, but equally I love talking to people, which is why my role as Technical Release and Delivery Manager within the Business Systems team is so perfect. It involves working closely with our partner Delta to ensure that any software releases across our airforce systems are seamless and operationally sound. Communication is an important part of the job, and I'm passionate about being the bridge between people who want something to happen and the people who can actually make it happen. It's lots of people and lots of talking!

"I'd tell any women considering a career in tech not to be intimidated by the tech itself. You don't necessarily need to know HTML or JavaScript or to understand the ins and outs of VMware. There are so many other areas you can apply transferable skills from.

"I started my current role with Virgin Atlantic straight from maternity leave after having my daughter five years ago. Any mother returning to work will have her own things to worry about and some self-consciousness about trying to establish a new version of herself. But I now leave work dead on 5pm every day and that's OK. I'm surrounded by working mums and dads, and it's great to enjoy a meaningful career with the option to work flexibly.

"The trust that I have with my manager and colleagues means that I'm measured on what I deliver rather than my presence in the office, and I've been able to build my reputation based on the quality of my work. The thing I love most about Virgin Atlantic is that there is always a willingness to help and a desire to say yes."

# A (not so) ruff ride

A small dog and a big-hearted crew made Lyndsay Rowan's move from Manchester to LA unforgettable



When Lyndsay Rowan made the decision to up sticks and move from Manchester to Los Angeles, the thing she was most concerned about was her four-year-old mini dachshund Oscar.

"I knew that if any of my belongings got broken in transit I could live with it," she says. "But thinking about how Oscar would react to being alone on a plane for 11 hours was heartbreaking."

How he'd cope with the flight was unknown, and Lyndsay hated not being able to tell him what was going on.

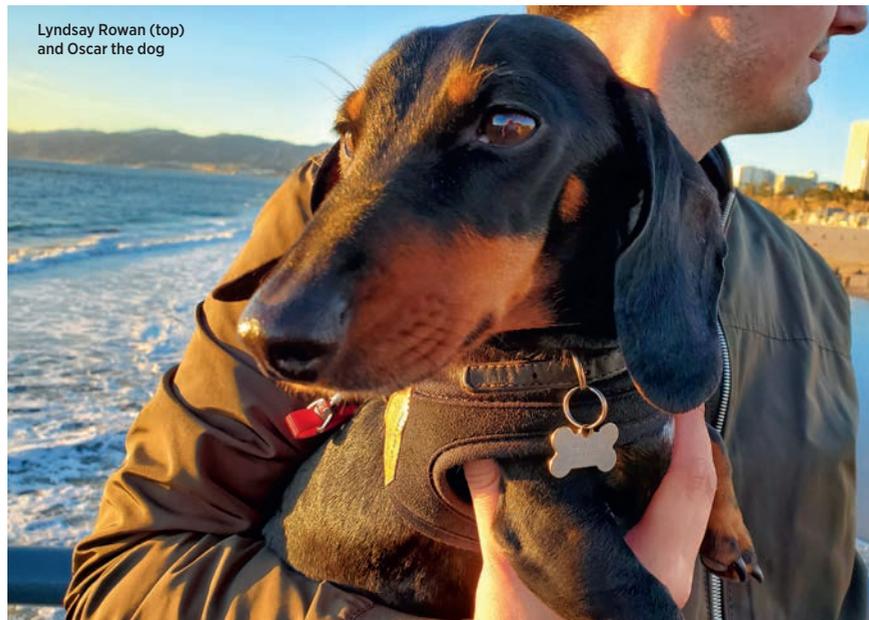
"I chose a pet carrier company that was affiliated with Virgin Atlantic, so we could travel on the same flight, even though Oscar would be in the hold. He was collected from our home the night before, and I felt a little bit emotional queuing up without him to board my flight the next day. All of a sudden I heard my name called by one of the Virgin Atlantic team asking me to make myself known at the front desk."

Unbeknownst to Lyndsay, the crew had taken a photo of Oscar in his crate to let her know he was OK. "They told me how he'd behaved upon boarding - no barking, apparently - and that he seemed calm. It was such a relief."

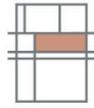
Once Lyndsay was settled in her seat, the crew even notified her on what temperature Oscar's bed was so she knew he was comfortable and warm.

"The little reassurances made all the difference," she says. "All the crew knew about him and genuinely seemed to care. I'd heard horror stories from other people about how their pets were never the same after a long-haul flight - but that wasn't the case with Oscar at all. He's the same happy sausage dog he always was after flying Virgin Atlantic. And now he's loving his new sunny life in Los Angeles - he's one hot dog!"

You can check out how he's settling into stateside living on the pooch's Instagram page [@oscarthehollydog](#).



Lyndsay Rowan (top) and Oscar the dog



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# Pretty fly for a WiFi

Now you can post selfies, binge-read your favourite e-book, brag about your hols to your mates or even catch up on some work while flying above 10,000ft with Virgin Atlantic

## How to connect

- 1 Turn on your WiFi-enabled device and connect to the "Virgin-Atlantic" WiFi network.
- 2 If you don't automatically connect to the WiFi portal, don't worry. Just take a look at the safety card in your seat pocket to see what aircraft you're on. If you're onboard...
  - A B787-9, A330-200 or A350-1000, open your browser and navigate to [virgin-atlantic-wifi.com](http://virgin-atlantic-wifi.com).
  - All other aircraft, open your browser and navigate to [airborne.gogoinflight.com](http://airborne.gogoinflight.com).
- 3 Just follow the onscreen instructions to buy a session, and then get browsing!

## Shout about it

Tweet or take a pic with #LiveFromVirgin and let the world know that you're connected from above the clouds.

## Making the most of your data

Remember to switch off your device's automatic app updates and synchronisations. That way you can avoid using up your data on the boring background stuff while you're busy browsing, tweeting and sharing.



SCAN ME TO  
GET CONNECTED

\*787-9, A330-220, A350 only



# Using your mobile phone

Don't fancy using WiFi on your flight, but want to send a quick message? No problem! On our 747s and A330s you can use your mobile phone account to get connected.

## Getting connected in 4 easy steps

# 1

### Switch on

Once the aircraft has reached cruising altitude, switch on your phone and make sure Airplane Mode is switched off

# 2

### Connect

Your phone should automatically connect to the network. If it doesn't, manually select AeroMobile

# 3

### Welcome

When connected to the network you'll receive a welcome message and pricing info from your a mobile operator

# 4

### Start using your phone

You can now call, SMS, email, Tweet, Facebook and browse the internet. Enjoy.

### How much does it cost?

Billing works in the same way as roaming abroad. The price is set by your home operator and will appear on your mobile phone bill. The cost will be similar to your international roaming tariffs



# Great and small

When it comes to cutting carbon emissions, we look at the big picture and the little details



Reducing our carbon emissions is our number one sustainability priority. And to help us achieve this goal, we've been making changes both large and small. We're continuing to upgrade our fleet with new, more efficient planes, and are also exploring options for more sustainable aviation fuels. What's more, we're lending our support to the new Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA).

But the little things add up too. And we want to celebrate some of the small changes our teams have made that have helped us reduce our aircraft carbon by around 20 per cent since 2007.

Firstly, our inflight team weighs and assesses every single item that goes onboard each flight to ensure that you have everything you need for a comfortable journey, without carrying excess weight. In fact, we've reduced weight onboard by 8 per cent since 2016, saving waste, fuel usage and 4,640 tonnes of carbon.

Even the *Vera* magazine you're reading right now is smaller than it was a year ago. It still contains all the same great content, but this tiny change saved a whopping 66 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2019. And that's not all. By removing other newspapers and magazines from our flights, we've saved an even bigger 685 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> – that's the equivalent to the carbon footprint of more than 80 households in the UK.

From reducing the weight of our drinking glasses, to upgrading our amenity kits, we're continuing to make changes where we can. And you can help too. If all our passengers reduced the weight of their bags by 1kg we could save around 4,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year – that's around the annual emissions of 1,500 cars.

You can keep up to date with everything we're doing at [virginatlantic.com/changeisintheair](http://virginatlantic.com/changeisintheair). Find out more while you're onboard via our sustainability videos on Vera.

## Carbon offset your journey

Our scheme, in partnership with offsetting expert ClimateCare, finances renewable energy and natural resource conservation projects around the world, helping people from poorer communities access cleaner, safer, affordable energy and reduce carbon emissions. Visit [virginatlantic.com/changeisintheair](http://virginatlantic.com/changeisintheair) to offset your flight.



## Change for Children

WE's mission is to create a world where all young people are free to achieve their fullest potential as agents of change. The charity is helping us deliver sustainable change in overseas communities, as well as inspiring young people in the UK to "be the change" they want to

see in the world through an empowering schools programme. To find out more about WE, visit [we.org](http://we.org). To support its work, please place any loose change or foreign currency in the Change for Children envelope and hand it to one of our cabin crew. To keep it safe, please don't leave it in your seat pocket. Thank you!



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