

# Sunset

**2019**

## Travel Awards

The best new hotels,  
mind-blowing meals,  
easy escapes & more!

*Sequoia  
National  
Park*

THE  
WEST'S MOST  
COLLECTIBLE  
**CRAFTS**

P. 9

THIS FALL'S  
HOTTEST  
**HOME  
MAKEOVER**

**PLANT  
THIS  
NOW**  
IT'S BULB  
SEASON!

**SLEEP  
DEEPER**  
P. 30

+  
**AMAZING  
WINE-COUNTRY  
GETAWAYS**  
OUR GUIDEBOOK  
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VERMEJO: FROM TOP: JACK RICHMOND; SEAN FITZGERALD (1); GETAWAY CABINS: COURTESY OF GETAWAY HOUSE; MOUNTAIN CASCADES NP: CANVA IMAGES (2); VERMEJO: SECLUIA NP: PETER AMENDI/GETTY IMAGES; CLOUD CAMP: MARK REIS; THE GAZETTE/COURTESY OF THE BROADMOOR; TARTINE: MARY CARLOS BRICENO



**BEST SAFARI EXPERIENCE IN THE WEST**  
**VERMEJO, A TED TURNER RESERVE**  
 Raton, NM

Conservationist and media mogul Ted Turner's 585,000-acre reserve straddles the New Mexico-Colorado border and feels like a private national park. The vastness of the land almost guarantees you never see a crowd while mountain biking, hiking or horseback riding. But, safely accompanied by your skilled guide, you almost always will run into the resident bison, elk, black bear, mule deer, and pronghorn and bighorn sheep. From \$1,200, all-inclusive; [tedturnerreserves.com/vermejo](http://tedturnerreserves.com/vermejo)



**EDITOR'S PICK**  
**Cabin Porn: Getaway Cabins**

*Big Bear, CA and Mount Adams, OR* "This collection of minimalist cabins recently debuted its first two outposts in the West. Exact locations are revealed upon booking, and cabins come stocked with purchasable provisions (coffee, firewood) and a lockbox for your phone so you can get lost in nature." From \$89; [getaway.house](http://getaway.house) —Matt Bean, editor-in-chief



**ROOM WITH A VIEW**  
**FIRE TOWER SUITE AT CLOUD CAMP AT BROADMOOR**  
 Colorado Springs, CO

The best vistas require effort, and Cloud Camp, a 9,200-foot elevation wilderness experience from Colorado's historic Broadmoor hotel, is about as off the grid as it gets. Reaching the mountaintop hideaway requires a 3-hour hike, stomach-turning car ride, or retired Grand Canyon mule. For the ultimate view, you'll need to climb 145 more steps to this one-of-a-kind suite, built on the stone foundation of a former fire tower. Wake up in the clouds and take in 360° views of Pikes Peak from the telescope in a dedicated observation room. From \$1,400, all-inclusive; [broadmoor.com/cloud-camp](http://broadmoor.com/cloud-camp)



**BEST NATIONAL PARK**  
**SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK**

There's no more humbling or awe-inspiring experience than standing in a grove of ancient, towering trees. Sequoia N.P. (on this issue's cover) offers an abundance of neck-cracking beauty, along with some of the most jaw-dropping lakes, valleys, and peaks in the West. A vast expanse of wilderness, 84 percent of the park is accessible only by foot or trusty steed, making it a true backpacker's paradise.



**EXPERT PICK**  
**Most Underrated National Park**

"The North Cascades is way up there in terms of low visitation and amazing experiences—rugged peaks, expansive glacial systems, vast forests, and waterways abound. Plus, travel time is short from Seattle." —Keith Eshelman, cofounder Parks Project



**PEOPLE'S CHOICE BEST ART TOWN: Santa Fe**

**ADVENTURERS WE LOVE**  
**Outdoor Vanguards**

We tip our hats to these three women who are helping to break down barriers in the outdoors.

**BROWN FOLKS FISHING**  
 Determined to change the face of fishing, Vietnamese-American Tracy Nguyen-Chung launched this national angler-led initiative last year with the goal of cultivating access and community for black, indigenous, and people of color, and giving them a platform to lead conservation efforts. [brownfolksfishing.com](http://brownfolksfishing.com)

**OUTDOOR AFRO**  
 Oakland resident Rue Mapp started Outdoor Afro as a blog, hoping to connect with people of color who shared her love of nature. A decade later, her nonprofit spans the country, and its board of directors includes people from the Sierra Club, National Wildlife Federation, and Kaiser Permanente. [outdoorafro.com](http://outdoorafro.com)

**BROWN GIRL SURF**  
 Cofounders Farhana Huq and Mira Manickam-Shirley are recasting the tanned, blond-haired surfer stereotype with this Oakland-based nonprofit that cultivates respect for nature and the diverse groups who enjoy it through both surf lessons and beach cleanups. [browngirlsurf.com](http://browngirlsurf.com)

**EDITOR'S PICK**  
**Best Airport Food Court: The Manufactory Food Hall**

*San Francisco International Airport* "Opened in January, The Manufactory Food Hall allows travelers to try three of S.F.'s legacy restaurants without leaving the airport. The space offers coffee, breads, and pastries from Tartine Bakery, tacos from Tacos Cala (the team behind Mexico City-inspired Cala), and fried chicken from Kamin (the team behind Michelin-starred Thai restaurant Kin Khao)." —Maya Wong, assistant editor



**Additional Finalists**

- HOT HOTELS**  
 Proper Hotels & Residences; Virgin Hotels San Francisco; Hotel Amparo, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; Thompson Seattle; Vista Collina Resort, Napa; Woodlark, Portland; Timbers Kauai, HI; Terranea Resort, Ranchos Palos Verdes, CA; Palisociety; Ward Village, Honolulu; The Ranch, Malibu; MacArthur Place, Sonoma; The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas; Lodge at Kukuiula, Kauai, HI; Snowpine Lodge, Alta, UT; SCP Hotels; Casa Mami, Pioneertown, CA; The Ramble, Denver; The Francis House, Calistoga, CA; Eritage Resort, Walla Walla, WA; Atticus Hotel, McMinnville, OR; Gold Diggers, Los Angeles

- ESSENTIAL EATING & DRINKING**  
 Channel Islands Provisioners, CA; Santa Barbara Picnic Co., CA; Jordan Vineyard & Winery, CA; Willamette Valley Vineyards, OR; The Rooftop at Harmon Guest House, CA; Basement Bar at Hoxton Hotel, Portland; Barbershop Cuts & Cocktails at the Cosmopolitan Las Vegas; Raised by Wolves, San Diego; Taub Family Outpost, Sonoma; Dirty Harriet at the Jerome Hotel, Aspen; Porridge & Puffs, Los Angeles

- ULTIMATE EXPERIENCES**  
 Spirit of the West Adventures Whales & Wilderness Glamping, B.C.; Camas Prairie Centennial Marsh Wildlife Management Area Super Bloom, Hill City, ID; Hawaiian Tropical Botanical Garden; Colorado river-front revitalization in Yuma, AZ; Valle de Guadalupe, Mexico; Fly-fishing the North Platte River, Casper, WY; UnCruise Adventures; Denali National Park, AK; Wine tasting in Temecula, CA; Road trip through Southern Idaho; Yosemite National Park, CA.

You voted on the best of the West! Discover our Readers' Choice winners at [sunset.com/readerschoice](http://sunset.com/readerschoice)