

EXTRA

100 WAYS TO TRAVEL BETTER

# TRAVEL+ LEISURE

## SECRET CARIBBEAN



On Our

# Radar

News. Finds. Opinions. Obsessions.

The pool at the new Sparrows Hotel, in Palm Springs, California.

AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE CITIES  
THIS YEAR'S WINNERS



DEBUT

### SPRINGS FEVER

An antidote to Palm Springs' retro resorts, the Sparrows Hotel, set in a former 1950's motor lodge, emits a hip-summer-camp vibe, with reclaimed-redwood walls and concrete floors. Consider it an Ace Hotel gone country; all 20 rooms have rancho-rustic furniture and vintage Swiss Army blankets; some come with horse-trough bathtubs. Despite a no-kids policy, youthful diversions abound—including a horseshoe pitch, splashy saltwater pool, and tennis court with old-timey wooden rackets. [sparrowshotel.com](http://sparrowshotel.com). \$ — DAVID A. KEEPS

Photographed by Roger Davies

TRAVEL+LEISURE DECEMBER 2013 29



ON THE MAP

# What's Up Is Down

Could it be? New York's ever-genteel Upper East Side has found a decidedly downtown groove. By Alexandra Wolfe

Lauded gallerist **Dominique Lévy** just transformed three floors of a former bank building into a dramatic backdrop for contemporary and postwar art. Currently on view: photographer Boris Mikhailov, 909 Madison Ave.; [dominique-levy.com](http://dominique-levy.com).



The 1880's brownstone is classic UES, but one step inside **Fivestory**, and you'll think you're in SoHo. It carries men's and women's pieces from the likes of Thakoon and Marni, plus statement jewelry from Amira Neen, 18 E. 69th St.; [fivestorynyc.com](http://fivestorynyc.com).

The team behind Lower East Side favorite **Fat Radish** keeps the focus on ingeniously prepared vegetables at their new uptown restaurant, the **East Pole**. Carnivores will find solace in the bacon cheeseburger with duck-fat chips, 133 E. 65th St.; [theeastpolenyc.com](http://theeastpolenyc.com).

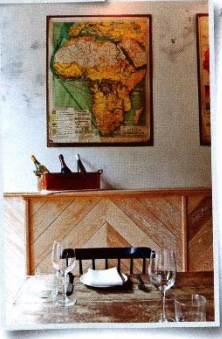


Is Cesare Casella (Beppe, Maremma) the city's most underrated Italian chef? His latest New York spot, **Ristorante Rosi**, makes a persuasive case, not least with a knockout pork lasagna (pictured), 903 Madison Ave.; [salumeriarosi.com](http://salumeriarosi.com). \$\$\$

Parisian *boulangier* Eric Kayser—touted as the best baguette maker in France—picked the neighborhood for the first U.S. outpost of **Maison Kayser**.



If you can make it past the bread-and-pastry counter, there's a café serving sunchoke soup and squash-and-ricotta tartines, 1294 Third Ave.; [maison-kayser-usa.com](http://maison-kayser-usa.com). \$\$



CRUISING

## OCEANS APART

Geneva's **MSC Cruises** ([msccruises.com](http://msccruises.com)) recently shifted its 3,502-passenger *Divina* from the Mediterranean to the Caribbean—the line's first North America-based ship. Below, a few other changes in course. —KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS

Mediterranean Caribbean

### CATCH OF THE DAY



Fillet of turbot. Lobster.

### BOTTLED BEER



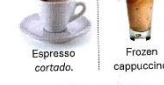
Peroni Nastro Azzurro. Bud Light.

### CASINO RULES



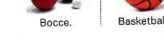
Light up! Stub it out.

### PICK-ME-UP



Espresso cortado. Frozen cappuccino.

### IN THE ARENA



Bocce. Basketball.



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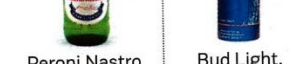
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