

# BAZAAR<sup>Harper's</sup>

## The 20 Best Places to Travel in 2021

*Here's where we're headed—in the United States and abroad—once travel gets the green light.*

**B** BY BRANDON PRESSER / DEC 30, 2020



It's usually around September—as the last flashes of summer fade into a breezy fall—when we start to brainstorm our annual travel to-do list for the following year. In that sense, this past autumn was no different than the last, except that it followed a summer of no travel, staying put at home, and finding solace wherever we could outdoors. What we had hoped would be a year of checking out new, emerging, and more intrepid destinations turned into many (MANY) months of staring into the pixelated abyss of endless Zoom calls and Instagram feeds instead. Needless to say, our prospecting for 2020 was wholly wrong since, well, nobody went anywhere.

So what does 2021 hold? Hope. Rather than qualifying the following destinations as must-sees-now, we've put together a list of destinations we *hope* to visit—or revisit—this coming year, or maybe the next, as we reemerge from our chrysalis, soon ready to fly. You'll notice that much of our list is based in the United States, given that much of air travel will be determined by each country's individual rules and reopenings. After landing on our top places to visit domestically, we turn our attention abroad. From our research, bucket lists, and ears to the ground, the following destinations are poised to rise from the ashes from the dumpster fire that has been this year. From classic spots worth a pair of fresh eyes to countries championing social and environmental justice, here's our list of where we hope to go in 2021—and where we hope you'll plan to visit too.



## International Destinations

**THE BIG QUESTION ON EVERYONE'S MIND IS: WHEN CAN WE TRAVEL ABROAD AGAIN? AND, ONCE WE DO, HOW WILL TRIPS CHANGE IN THE LATTER PART OF 2021? SURELY EVERYONE WILL BE KEEN TO MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME, AND CROWDS WILL NO DOUBT SWELL—OUR ONE WISH, IF WE'VE LEARNED ANYTHING FROM THIS YEAR, IS THAT THERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT ENJOYING A PLACE SLOWLY. OUR INTERNATIONAL PICKS FOR 2021 ARE A MIX OF OLDIES BUT GOODIES, CLASSIC BUCKET LIST ADVENTURES, AND THE PERFECT DESTINATIONS FOR EXACTLY THAT: A MORE MINDFUL APPROACH TO TRAVEL, DURING WHICH VISITORS CAN DEEPLY ENGAGE RATHER THAN SIMPLY BE A TOURIST FOR A HANDFUL OF DAYS.**



16.  
*Tanzania*



As premier safari operator Singita makes a concerted effort to strip away the trappings of colonial Britain embedded in its decor, so, too, is there an industry-wide attempt to break some of the vestigial bonds that have long kept the area's wealth in specific hands. Teresa Sullivan of Mango Safaris cites Nomad Tanzania's microloans project—which enables guides to purchase their own vehicles outright—as one of the most commendable steps in this direction. Nnko & Smith, a partnership between American safari operator Deeper Africa and a local Tanzanian guiding team, is also setting a new standard of putting tourism dollars directly in the hands of Africans; its first project is a brand-new route up to the top of Kilimanjaro that steers hikers clear of the usual crowds. Sullivan also notes that according to insider intel, only a few mobile camps will be set up in the Serengeti National Park during birthing season of

the wildebeest migration. Act fast though: There's still time to book one of the few remaining beds and be virtually alone as the hordes of animals drop their young.

<https://www.harpersbazaar.com/culture/travel-dining/a35091014/best-places-to-travel-2021/>