



Florence Welch at Austin City Limits 2012

## BIGGER IN TEXAS

**October 11-13**

By popular demand, the Austin City Limits music festival expands to two, three-day weekends this fall, as nearly a half-million music lovers gather at Zilker Metropolitan Park in Austin, rocking out to over 140 musical acts across multiple genres, ranging from Lionel Richie to Arctic Monkeys.



BodyHoliday offers spoga—a spinning-yoga hybrid in a studio perched high above the trees.

## BODY-CONSCIOUS

**October 1-November 2**

Like a great luxury summer camp for adults, St. Lucia's BodyHoliday LeSport aims to please a wide audience. Set on a calm sandy cove just outside the capital of Castries, the resort lends itself equally well to hedonism, reform and points in between, offering everything from poolside lounging to theme weeks for marathon training, yoga and family fitness, including Octoba Yoga (through November 2), featuring guest presenter Kathryn Cullen. For spa junkies, the heavenly Wellness Centre combines Eastern and Western therapies, and maintains a staff of more than 50 aestheticians and masseuses, as well as two ayurvedic doctors and four ayurvedic therapists. A daily spa treatment is included in the cost of a stay, with dozens more, from reiki bodywork to pedicures, available for additional fees.



## WINE WITH A VIEW

**Through Mid-November**

Wine tastings at Jordan Vineyard & Winery in Healdsburg are already known for spectacular pairings. Now, with the launch of the Estate Tour and Tasting experience, the surroundings will match the experience: sip award-winning Chardonnays and Cabernets with seasonal bites and estate-grown produce, honey and olive oil while taking in stunning views of the valley, vineyards and Mayacamas Mountains.



# THE FALL SEASON 2013

COMPILED BY TALI JAFFE,  
KATIE MCELVEEN AND PAUL RUBIO

## PARALLEL SHIFT

**October 14**

Want a private tour of the Alhambra palace? How about a visit to Spain's most revered Ibérico ham farm, or heli-hopping through the Greek islands? Those are just a few of the bespoke experiences created by Blue Parallel through their new reach into the Medierranean Basin, the latest addition to its destination offerings.



Untitled by Donald Judd at the Chinati Foundation

## ART UNLIMITED

**October 12-13**

The Chinati Weekend—a two-day event at the 15-building, 340-acre Chinati Foundation in the desert of Marfa, Texas—underscores the work and legacy of its founder, artist Donald Judd, as well as his peers in modern art. Expect fascinating talks by renowned curators, special exhibitions, a benefit gala and insider access to the Foundation's collection.



## THE ROAD WELL-TRAVELED

**November 30**

Bavarian charm meets French wine in Alsace, where the region's 60-year-old wine route—France's oldest—winds through storybook villages populated with half-timber houses and centuries-old wine tasting caves. After sampling local Grand Cru wines, kick off the holiday season with a visit to Obernai, where the Christmas market stalls are filled with handcrafted ornaments, wreaths and ginger- and orange-scented *pain d'épices*. Warm up with *vin chaud*, a local mulled white wine or a glass of fiery *eau-de-vie*.

A private stretch of sand in Corsica



Tony Cragg's *Cast Glances*, 2002

## SCREAM AND SHOUT

**October 24**

Ten years (and \$50 million) in the making, Oslo's edgy Ekebergparken, a sculpture park opened on September 26. Over 30 dramatic female sculptures by prominent artists pepper the mist-shrouded sanctuary, which also hosts art events. On October 24, celebrated provocateur Marina Abramovic performs an interactive video tribute to Edvard Munch's legendary *Scream* painting on the very grounds that inspired him once upon a time in the late 19th century.

## DEVOUT FOLLOWING

**November 16-December 7**

Arguably the world's most anticipated international polo competition, the Argentine Polo Open Championship climaxes with the crowning of a champion at the December 7 finals. Expect the who's-who of polo, plus social and political royalty as the 120-year-old event unfolds on the playing fields of Buenos Aires' legendary "Cathedral of Polo."



Argentine polo player Nacho Figueras



A *mestiza* woman in traditional dress in Cusco, Peru

## NATIVE EYE

**November 20-March 29**

Mario Testino flashes his fashion bulbs—and love of his native Peru—with his latest exhibition, "Alta Moda," at New York's Queen Sofia Spanish Institute. The famed photographer turns his lens to the indigenous beauties of the Andes mountains in traditional dress.



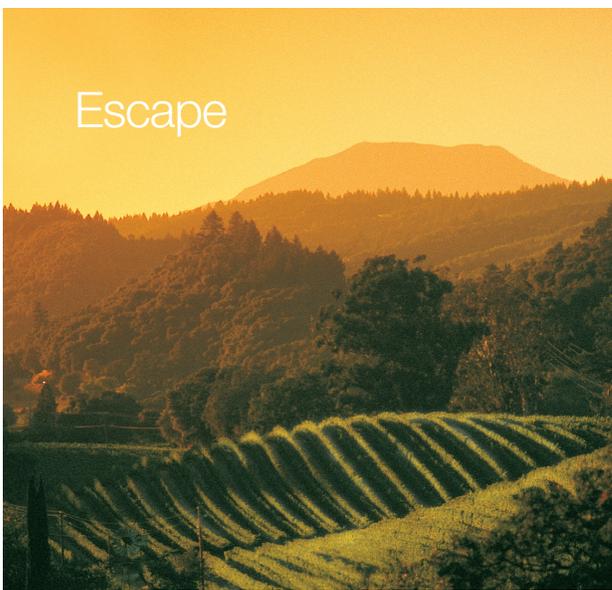
PHOTO BY © MARIO TESTINO (PERU)

## ON THE HUNT

**October 1-November 30**

Agritourism takes a decidedly luxurious turn at the Four Seasons in Florence, where guests can try their hands at the art of truffle-hunting with specially trained truffle dogs at the Savini family *tartufaie*, or truffle grounds, within Tuscany's lush Era Valley. Afterwards, celebrate the earthy treasures with a decadent, truffle-inspired dinner at the hotel's Il Palagio restaurant.

# Escape



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: a view of Mount St. Helena, the Mercantile Social bar at Andaz Napa, al fresco chairs at The Carneros Inn, an outdoor living room within a two-bedroom suite at The Carneros Inn.

## NAPA VALLEY NOW

*The region resurfaces as the ultimate epicurean destination—a scenic California stretch for foodies, oenophiles and sybarites.*

BY PAUL RUBIO

Napa Valley generates a lot of global buzz. And for good reason: its rolling hills—strewn with mustard blossoms, vibrant wildflowers and knotted grape vines—comprise an endless postcard-perfect backdrop for indulging in food and wine fantasies of epic proportions. Unconventional eateries and Michelin-starred powerhouses define the farm-to-table movement, serving experiential eats and matching gastronomy with sensational local wines. Posh resorts, a burgeoning art scene and award-winning spas complement this intoxicating region of over 500 wineries and restaurants.

Ushering the 2013 fall harvest season, Napa has unveiled a slew of hotel and spa renovations, new resto-lounges and a super line-up for its wildly popular Flavor! Napa Valley festival. In dynamic St. Helena, The Restaurant at Meadowood is celebrating its recent three-star Michelin rating with an expansion. The new Restaurant Bar serves up craft cocktails, fine wines and light snacks from chef Christopher Kostow in a chic, wood-hewn micro-lounge. In serene Calistoga, the seven-room Chanric Inn re-opens after a head-to-toe makeover that's transformed the property into a stylish B&B, inclusive of platform beds, Provençal-style gardens, a sumptuous spa and a daily gourmet Champagne brunch.

Over in the West End district of downtown Napa, the Mercantile Social bar at the Andaz Napa is quickly becoming a local institution. The combination of small plates, artisanal wines and an al fresco setting of porch swings, crackling fire pits and live music has branded this lounge a must on the pre-dinner circuit. Also downtown, the Napa River Inn at the Historic Napa Mill has added a full-service day spa, employing hand-milled, organic, local products in all treatments.

From November 20 to 24, the region's food and wine experience reaches new heights as Flavor! returns with globally exalted chefs, vintners, sommeliers and artisan food producers for the annual five-day festival. The likes of Iron Chef Masaharu Morimoto, restaurateur Todd English and wine expert Jon Bonné unite to showcase their prowess through culinary demonstrations, hands-on workshops, wine tastings and dining experiences whilst fundraising for the Culinary Institute of America at Greystone. Choose from over 30 spectacular events, but don't miss "The Appellation Trail: Tasting Napa Valley" on November 22. A single ticket buys a one-night ambush of the senses, sampling delicacies from 25 top local restaurants and 100 wineries, representing all the region's 16 sub-appellations. Now, we'll toast to that!

## VALLE DE GUADALUPE: MEXICO'S NAPA VALLEY

As jet-setters look beyond the Napa Valley to diversify their wine country palates, one region in particular is stealing the spotlight in North America's growing oenophile movement. In the past two years, the Valle de Guadalupe in Mexico has quickly risen to star status with high-design hotels, luxury haciendas, organic farms doubling as restaurants and over 50 wineries. Although viticulture arrived on the scene more than a decade ago in this fertile region of northern Baja California (a mere 90 minutes south of San Diego), the valley lacked upscale lodging to entice A-listers. Enter the likes of the breathtaking, 20-cabin **Endémico** and the six-room **Villa del Valle** retreat, followed by the opening of vineyard-side, farm-to-table bistros helmed by celebrity chefs, such as **Finca Altozano** and **Deckman's**. Nowadays, the Valle de Guadalupe is filled with curious foodies and oenophiles hopping between tasting rooms at regional wineries and indulging in myriad incarnations of Californian-Mexican seaside cuisine.